

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON WORKLOAD AND NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURES UPDATE

Each year in June, September, and November, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), the public, and advisory bodies receive an update and have the opportunity to consider changes to the prioritized groundfish topics on the Council's year at a glance (YAG) calendar, based on the workload of the Groundfish Management Team (GMT), Council, and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). This report summarizes for the Council, advisory bodies, and the public what items have been prioritized and what items have yet to be prioritized, based on Council actions and directions through their April 2022 meeting.

Appendix 1 provides the GMT's workload matrix, which shows the progress of ongoing and scheduled projects. The shaded blocks represent the GMT's anticipated timeline for direct involvement with the issue (e.g., through the Council's final action), noting that some GMT members may have additional workload to assist NMFS and Council staff in developing the final regulatory documents.

Appendix 2 shows the most recent groundfish workload prioritization list (items the Council has prioritized; Table A) and those items that are still relevant but not yet prioritized (Table B), based on Council action through April 2022.

Appendix 1. GMT workload matrix, with progress of ongoing and scheduled projects.

Action	Category	Mandated vs. Council's Discretion	Likely GMT Lead Analyst(s)	2022					2023											
				Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Biennial Groundfish Harvest Specifications	Biennial Process	M	All					***												
Biennial Groundfish Management Measures		M	All					***												
Exempted Fishing Permit Applications		M	Joe, Lynn					***												
Stock Assessment Updates and Panels		M	All																	
Inseason Monitoring & Management	Inseason	M	Mel, Whitney, Katie																	
ESA Humpback Whale BiOp Measures	ESA	M	Lynn/TBD																	
Non-Salmon ESA workgroup		M	Lynn/TBD																	
Fixed Gear Catch Share Review	Program Review	M	Katie, Whitney																	
Sablefish Gear Switching	Council Identified Priorities	CD	Whitney, Katie																	
Non-Trawl RCA Adjustments, Emley/Platt EFP, CCA repeal		CD	Mel, Whitney, TBD																	
Whiting Utilization		CD	Whitney, Katie																	
Stock Definitions		M	All																	
Ecosystem Items	Ecosystem	M	Daniel, Lynn																	
Halibut CSP Process	Halibut	M	Lynn, James, Lorna																	
Marine Spatial Planning	Marine Planning	CD	TBD						As needed											

*** notes when regulations are expected to be final

Appendix 2. The most recent groundfish workload prioritization list (April 2022)

Table A. Groundfish management measure items prioritized by Council.

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Mandated or Requested Improvement	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date	Scheduled on YAAG a/
A1	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Non-Trawl RCA Modifications, Emley Platt EFP/ CCA Removal	Area Management	Spatial access	H	Mel/ Whitney/ Brett/Jessi	analysis and background	ROA/PPA Sept 2022
A2	IFQ	Gear Switching and Trawl Sablefish Area Management	Allocation/ Area Management	Fishery performance	Very H	Council staff/ Whitney/Katie	Ongoing	PPA Nov 2022
A3	Fixed Gear	Fixed Gear Catch Share Review	Program Review	MSA Mandated	M	TBD	preliminary analysis and background	Final June 2022
A4	All	Stock Definitions/Stock Complexes	FMP Amendment	Mandated	H	TBD	NMFS paper describing the issue	Further scoping Sept 2022

a/ as show in [Agenda Item H.3., Attachment 1, April 2022](#)

Table B. All other potential groundfish management measure items (not in priority order nor scheduled on YAG). Items bolded are updated or new.

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Mandated or Requested Improvement	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date
B1	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Clarify Catch Accounting Rules for Amendment 21	Catch Accounting	Fishery function	L	Council staff	None
B2	Trawl IFQ	Removal of Selective Flatfish Trawl (SFFT) requirement between 40° 10' and 42° N. lat.	Gear	Fishery performance	Unknown	Council staff	Ongoing EFP (Year 4 of 3 needed per Salmon ITS)
B3	Trawl, Non-Trawl, Rec	Create 60-Mile Bank RCA Lines	Area Management	Spatial access	M	CDFW staff	None
B4	Trawl, Non-Trawl	New Dressed to Round Conversion Factors for Sablefish	Catch Accounting	Fishery performance	L	TBD	Preliminary discussions held at PacFIN meeting
B5	Trawl IFQ	Remove Certain Time and Area-Management Restrictions for Midwater Trawl Gear Targeting Non-whiting	Area Management	Spatial & Temporal Access	H	Council staff/TBD	currently year 5 of EFP
B6	Trawl IFQ	Carryover when Management Units Change	Catch Accounting	Fishery function	M	Council staff	None
B7	Rec	Discard Mortality Rates for the Recreational Fisheries	Catch Accounting	Fishery performance	M	Lynn, Chantel, Daniel, Dr. Budrick	presenting draft report to the SSC in Sept 2022
B8	IFQ	Increasing IFQ Carryover from 10 Percent	Harvest Specifications	Fishery performance	No change from current	TBD	None

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Mandated or Requested Improvement	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date
B9	IFQ	Aggregate Non-whiting QS Control Limits and Individual Species Weighting	Accumulation Limits	Fishery function	M	NWFSC / Council Staff	Pending research
B10	Rec	Permitting Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste	Permitting	Fishery performance	None	NMFS WCR/EC staff	None
B11	Trawl IFQ	Petrals; Guttled/ Head-on conversion factor	Catch Accounting	Fishery performance	L	Katie	None
B12	OA FG	Salmon VMS Ping Rate	Enforcement	Enforcement	L	EC Staff	Preliminary scoping
B13	Trawl	prohibition of directed shortbelly rockfish fishery	Catch prohibition	Fishery prohibition	M/H	TBD	pre-scoping via ODFW report Nov 2021
B14	Salmon troll	lingcod trip limit adjustments north of 40° 10' N lat.	Species Access	Fishery performance	M?	Corey Niles/Whitney	None
B15	LEFG	LEFG follow on: including cost recovery, removal of base permit, allow use of slinky pots, add 4th permit per vessel, allow cumulative non-sablefish landing limit for each permit	Program enhancement	Fishery performance	TBD	TBD	NFMS paper describing cost recovery
B16	Non-trawl	Remove the non-trawl RCA completely	Area Management	Spatial access	TBD	TBD	