

HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2025-2026  
– PART II

Under this agenda item, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduled to consider the management measures for 2025-2026 groundfish fisheries necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Management measures applicable to this action are those that have been previously analyzed, are defined in regulation, or are necessary for annual catch limit (ACL) management or mitigating potential impacts on protected species and/or critical habitats. Decisions made at this meeting will be analyzed during the over-winter period by Council staff and the Groundfish Management Team.

This agenda item has several tasks for the Council to consider. First, the Council should adopt any harvest specifications not adopted under Agenda Item E.5. Second, this item is the opportunity for the Council to consider the preliminary ACL off the top deductions, which account for groundfish mortality resulting from Pacific Coast treaty Tribal harvest, scientific research, non-groundfish fisheries, exempted fishing permits, and unforeseen catch events. Related to the off-the-top deductions, the Council should also identify specific set-aside amounts from the trawl allocations accommodate bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery. Third, this agenda item also provides the opportunity to review sector allocations. Sector allocations include formal long-term allocations specified in the FMP and biennial allocations.

Additionally, the Council should consider adoption of a final range of management measures necessary to implement the harvest specifications for more detailed analyses and provide guidance, as necessary, on routine adjustments to management measures. At the September 2023 meeting, the Council adopted a preliminary range of new management measures which were described in [G.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#), [G.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#), [G.6.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#), and [G.8.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1](#). The list of proposed new management measures is shown in the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item E.7, Attachment 1). The Council should carefully consider the list of potential new management measures proposed by management entities, advisory bodies, and the public when deciding which issues are the highest priorities for more detailed overwinter analyses.

The analysis of management measures adopted under this item will be provided at the April 2024 Council meeting. At that meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt a preliminary preferred suite of management measures. After a public review period, the Council will take final action on 2025-26 biennial management measures at the June 2024 Council meeting, with implementation scheduled for January 1, 2025.

**Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt remaining harvest specifications, as necessary.**
- 2. Adopt ACL deductions, at-sea set-asides for the Pacific whiting at-sea fishery, and annual catch targets for analysis, as appropriate.**
- 3. Adopt preliminary two-year allocations for analysis, as appropriate.**

4. Provide guidance on routine adjustments to fishery sector management measures.
5. Adopt a range of new management measures for more detailed analysis.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.7, Attachment 1: 2025-26 Action Item Checklist.
2. Agenda Item E.7.a, NMFS Report 1: NMFS Report on Directed Open Access Fishery Permit.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- E.7 Biennial Management Measures for 2025-26 – Part II Todd Phillips/Marelene A. Bellman
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Remaining Harvest Specifications, as Necessary; Adopt Preliminary Two-Year Allocations and a Range of Alternative Management Measures for Detailed Analysis

PFMC  
10/12/23