CORRECTION TO DRAFT PACIFIC COAST GROUNDFISH FISHERY 2025-2026 HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES DOCUMENT

In review of <u>F.5</u>, <u>Attachment 2</u>, <u>April 2024</u>, Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) staff was informed a document section was inaccurate and needed to be corrected. Specifically, Chapter 5, Section 2.6.1. page 226 was in error. The following shows the corrected text. The original version is shown on page two, with the edits in red-line. This section will be corrected to reflect these edits for the June 2024 Council meeting briefing book.

2.6 Trip Limits:

2.6.1 Shortspine Thornyhead

Mechanisms to change the allocations from trawl to non-trawl are more involved than the two-year allocation since they were outlined in the initial rationalization of the trawl IFQ program. This program review is anticipated to start in 2024, and a holistic review of all those allocations could inform all potential adjustments (see Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 3, November 2023). However, the Council could also consider making shortspine thornyhead into a species that can be managed in two-year allocations during the harvest specifications and new management measures cycle (which would take effect in the 2027-28 cycle). There is currently no mechanism to share metric tons in a one-time fashion or longer-term above or below the management line. An option to implement a one-time transfer of unused or under attained shortspine thornyhead from the south to the north to allow for higher trip limits was explored; however, the current management structure of area specific ACLs prevents that option. Unused fish cannot be transferred across area specific ACLs, because there is no mechanism in regulation to increase an area specific ACL.

In March, the GMT presented multiple pathways to alleviate constraints on the shortspine thornyhead fishery north of 34° 27′ N. lat. (Agenda Item F.7.a, GMT Report 3, March 2023)

2.6 Trip Limits:

2.6.1 Shortspine Thornyhead

During the overwinter analysis, it was found that a mixed limit of shortspine thornyhead and longspine thornyhead in OAS could be improved for catch accounting by breaking apart the trip limit.

1. Open Access Shortspine Thornyhead South Of 34° 27' N. Lat:

- Option 1:Status Quo:
 - Shortspine thornyhead and longspine thornyhead 100 lb/day, no more than 1,000 lb/2 months
- Option 2:
 - Shortspine thornyhead 100 lb/day, no more than 1,000 lb/2 months

2. Open Access Longspine Thornyhead South Of 34° 27' N. Lat

- Option 1:Status Quo:
 - Shortspine thornyhead and longspine thornyhead 100 lb/day, no more than 1,000 lb/2 months
- Option 2:
 - Longspine thornyhead 100 lb/day, no more than 1,000 lb/2 months

It is highly unlikely the doubling of each trip limit will significantly change the overall landings of shortspine nor longspine thornyheads because attainment is so low, but will enable managers to monitor each species against their respective harvest limits (Table 33). Inseason monitoring will be done to reduce the risk of unintended consequences from increasing both of those values.

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