

TRAWL CATCH SHARE PROGRAM AND INTERSECTOR ALLOCATION REVIEWS— SCOPING

The Magnuson-Stevens Act indicates that catch share programs should be reviewed at least once every seven years after the first review is completed (Section 303A(c)(i)(G)). Time between catch share reviews is counted from the start of the previous review. The previous trawl catch share program review was initiated in June 2016 and completed in November 2017. Integral to the Amendment 20 trawl catch share program are the trawl/nontrawl allocations that were mainly established through Amendment 21. The Council's trawl catch share action committed to a review of these allocations in conjunction with the catch share program review. Additionally, in response to the NMFS intersector allocation review policy, the Council committed to review other allocations in conjunction: sablefish north of 36° N. lat.; Pacific whiting allocation among trawl sectors; and trawl bycatch allowances of Pacific halibut (see Council Operating Procedure [COP] 27).

To avoid overlap with heavy workload on the biennial specifications, at the end of its first review, the Council specified a six-year cycle for future reviews, with reviews to start on even-numbered years. The Council began discussing the second catch share review in September 2022. In November 2022 the Council adopted a series of hearing locations ([November 2022 Decision Document](#)) to be hosted in spring of 2023. The Council most recently discussed the review process in September 2023. However, work and the hosting of hearings was put on hold due to the Council's ongoing consideration of a gear switching limitation. The Council took action on gear switching at its March 2024 Council meeting and now staff are able to begin preparing review materials. A proposed annotated outline of the trawl catch share program review can be found in Attachment 1 and a draft of the intersector allocation review can be found in Attachment 2. The Council should consider these attachments and provide any guidance for development of the documents including priority areas of focus for the review. Additionally, Council staff have proposed a modified set of hearing locations and proposed schedule for the Council to consider in Attachment 3.

Finally, in the process of working on the intersector allocation review, Council staff found that COP 27 has not been updated to reflect the current management of select stocks. Attachment 4 provides a redline of COP 27 for the Council to adopt for public review which would be adopted under the standing COP agenda item in November 2024.

Council staff is proposing to bring drafts of the catch share and intersector allocation program reviews for adoption in June (or potentially September) 2025. This would allow for incorporation of any feedback from the hearings slated for early spring 2025. After the completion of the review, the Council could then consider program changes through follow-on actions, which would be considered for prioritization during the standing Workload and New Management Measures agenda item in March. The Council should consider the proposed process, timing, and involvement of Council advisory bodies and provide appropriate guidance to staff.

Council Action:

1. Provide guidance on proposed scope and outline for trawl catch share review, including priority areas of focus as needed.
2. Provide guidance on proposed scope and outline for intersector allocation review, including priority areas of focus as needed.
3. Provide guidance on proposed hearing locations and adopt hearing officers.
4. Adopt proposed COP 27 changes for public review.
5. Provide any further guidance on process.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 1: Trawl Catch Share Program Review Annotated Outline (*Electronic Only*).
2. Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 2: Draft Intersector Allocation Review.
3. Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 3: Staff Proposed Hearing Schedule.
4. Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 4: Council Operating Procedure 27 Proposed Changes.
5. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- I.7 Trawl Catch Share Program and Intersector Allocation Reviews Jessi Doerpinghaus
—Scoping
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. Council Action: Provide Guidance on the Review Outlines and Identify Primary Focus Areas; Provide Guidance on Hearing Schedule and Appoint Hearing Officers; Adopt Proposed Changes for COP 27 for Public Review

PFMC
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