

UPDATED PROCESS SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPING THE PHASE 2 STOCK DEFINITIONS

The complete Phase 2 process schedule was adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in November 2023 ([Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 2, November 2023](#)). This schedule details the schedule to identify and define stocks of need and conservation and summarizes subsequent steps. Table 1 reflects that proposal, which follows the year-at-a-glance calendar. The Council is scheduled to adopt range of alternatives (ROA)/preliminary preferred alternatives (PPA) in March 2025 and final preferred alternatives (FPA) in June 2025.

Table 1. Process schedule for the activities associated with developing Phase 2 Stock Definitions, Step 1.

Start Date	End Date	Task(s)
Council Meeting November 1, 2023	Council Meeting November 8, 2023	The Council meets and adopts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A process and schedule for development of Phase 2.
November 2023	September 2024	Council staff in coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) staff complete: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Literature review on all remaining undefined groundfish species. Revised Federal/state waters catch proportion methodology for commercial and recreational fisheries.
Council Meeting September 18, 2024	Council Meeting September 24, 2024	The SSC meets and reviews initial deliverables to support Phase 2 scoping: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Literature review on all remaining undefined groundfish species. Federal/state waters catch proportion in commercial and recreational fisheries methodologies and make recommendations as appropriate. Council : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes the scopes for Step 1 of Phase 2 Tasks Council staff and/or Groundfish Management Team (GMT) with development of Phase 2 analyses to support ROA/PPA at the March 2025 meeting.
September 2024	January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMT meets via webinar in October to discuss the process and is tasked with analysis of Phase 2 aspects, as appropriate. Council staff develops relevant documents for ROA/PPA for action, including appropriate analyses. GMT overwinter meeting: Team works, in part, on Phase 2 to complete their tasks for this process

Start Date	End Date	Task(s)
Council Meeting March 5, 2025	Council Meeting March 11, 2025	<p>The Council is presented with the overwinter analysis to support this action.</p> <p>The Council adopts ROA/PPA for Step 1 which could include Alternatives that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies and define groundfish stocks in need of conservation and management, • Identifies species to be removed from the FMP • Identifies ecosystem component species (ECS)
March 2025	June 2025	Council staff/GMT complete any additional analyses, prepares documents for FPA, as appropriate.
Council Meeting June 12, 2025	Council Meeting June 18, 2025	<p>The Council meets and considers adoption of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) FPA stock definitions for groundfish stocks in need of conservation and management 2) FPA for species that will be removed from the FMP and/or designated as ECS
June 2025 and beyond		<p>Council Staff</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Works with NMFS to complete/submit relevant documents to finalize FMP amendment and other implementation needs 2) Develops relevant briefing materials for stock complex revisions and delegation considerations for September 2025 with the GMT, as appropriate 3) Steps 2 and 3 of Phase 2 are considered by the Council and scheduled, as appropriate. Step 1 may also be repeated if the previous action did not include identification of all stocks in need of conservation and management.