

E.7 – Harvest Specifications Flexibility – Scoping

Council Tasks:

1. Further define the problem(s) facing the groundfish fishery that the action intends to solve.
2. Outline the desired outcomes of the action.
3. Provide guidance on developing a range of alternatives.
4. Provide guidance on next steps, including sequencing actions, if necessary.

E.7 MOTION:

I move that the Council:

- Direct staff to develop a concise problem statement using the discussion of fleet impacts in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1;
- Establish the scope of the action to include the following measures, in priority order:
 1. ABC Carryover
 2. Phase-In ABC Control Rule
 3. Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Change (“Green Light”)
 4. Off-the-Top Accounting Change
 5. Annual Specifications
- Task staff with opening a dialogue with the SSC on the scientific aspects of how their fishing level recommendations for preventing overfishing could be established for multi-year periods (e.g. rolling average of catch versus ABC). The purpose of considering overfishing risk over a multi-year period is to facilitate ABC carryover and similar ideas for “pooling” the risk created by the variability in catch experienced within many fishery sectors.

The desired outcome of this action is to mitigate the issues outlined in the problem statement, and provide access and stability for diverse groundfish participants and fishing communities.

Moved by Aja Szumylo

Seconded by Marc Gorelnik

Motion passes unanimously