GROUNDFISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL AND GROUNDFISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FLEXIBILITY – FINAL ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommend the Council select the following as their Final Preferred Alternatives (FPA) for harvest specifications and management measures flexibility. There are two revised options recommended by the GAP and GMT that are noted below regarding Allocation and At-Sea Set Aside Options for Carryover and Green Light. The GAP and GMT will each submit separate reports with our detailed rationale, but we wanted to submit a joint statement early in order for the Council and public to review our FPA recommendations since this is a complex agenda item.

Carryover (All-Sector)
Alternative 1 – ABC Carryover (PPA)
Eligibility Criteria Option D – Assessment: No ABC carryover during the two-year biennial period when there is a new assessment
Alternative 2 – ACL Carryover (PPA) *no eligibility criteria recommended*
Options for Carryover Alternatives
Process Option A (PPA): Council identifies carryover stocks on a stock-by-stock basis
Data Option A (PPA): Use final mortality data from year 1 to determine carryover in year 3
Minimum OFL-to-ABC Buffer Options for ABC Carryover: *no options recommended*
Specifications/Management Measures • Tribal Deduction Option A: Proportional increase upon request • *Revised* Allocation Option: Proportional increases for percentage-based allocations, and proportional increase *upon request* for flat amount/remainder structures • *Revised* At-Sea Set-Aside Option B: Proportional increase *upon request*

Phase-In of Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Changes
Alternative 1 – FMP Framework for Phase-In of ABC Changes (PPA) *no eligibility criteria recommended*

Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Change ("Green Light")
Alternative 1 – Green Light Framework (PPA)
Specifications/Management Measures • Tribal Deduction Option A: Proportional increase upon request • *Revised* Allocation Option: Proportional increases for percentage-based allocations, and proportional increase *upon request* for flat amount/remainder structures • *Revised* At-Sea Set-Aside Option B: Proportional increase *upon request*

Accounting for Off-the-Top Deductions
Alternative 2 – No Revisions to ACL HCR: EFP off-the-top deductions taken from sector-specific trawl/non-trawl allocation if applicable, or from ACL if stock or stock complex does not have allocation

Adjusting Harvest Specifications Frequency
Alternative 1 – Biennial Cycle with Varying Specification Frequency: Maintain the biennial management process while allowing OFLs, ABCs, and ACLs to be established for up to ten years based on available projections
Option A – Stocks with Newly Adopted Assessments or Projections: Each biennium, adopt longer-term harvest specifications only for stocks with newly adopted assessments or projections

PFMC
11/16/26