

## FIVE-YEAR CATCH SHARE FOLLOW-ON ACTION FMP AND REGULATORY AMENDMENTS – FINAL ACTION

At its November 2017 meeting, the Council completed work on the trawl catch share program five-year review and provided preliminary guidance on development of ranges of alternatives to address a number of potential actions following from the review (“follow-on actions”). In March 2018, the Council provided final direction on the ranges of alternatives for analysis, and in September 2018 it identified preliminary preferred alternatives (PPAs). All follow-on actions in the September package were forwarded for final action at this meeting, except for modifying the vessel quota pounds(QP) limit for blackgill rockfish south of 40° 10’ N. latitude. This action would be implemented with Amendment 26, which would split blackgill rockfish from the southern slope rockfish complex. The blackgill vessel QP limit issue was removed from the follow-on package and final action scheduled for the March 2019 Council meeting, to occur concurrent with a Council review of its Amendment 26 recommendation. The follow-on items scheduled for final action at this meeting are:

- at-sea whiting fishery bycatch needs and set-aside management,
- shorebased individual fishing quota sector harvest complex needs (post season trading, post season relief from annual vessel QP limits, and September 1st QP transfer deadline),
- catcher-processor sector accumulation limits, and
- new data collections for catcher processors and quota share owners.

Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 1 identifies the PPAs and provides an impact analysis. The following significant changes were made to the document after the September Council meeting: the designation of the PPAs selected by the Council in September, addition of the specific plan amendment language related to meeting at-sea whiting fishery bycatch needs, and removal of the blackgill issue from the package. National Marine Fisheries Service has determined that these actions will likely qualify for categorical exclusions, in which case a National Environmental Policy Act analysis is not required.

In addition to this follow-on action package, in a separate process the Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee continues to work on development of alternatives related to trawl allocation attainment and gear switching. This issue is slated to come back to the Council at a meeting next spring.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt final preferred alternatives (FPA) for the five-year catch share program follow-on actions.**
- 2. Adopt FMP amendment language for FPA related to at-sea whiting fishery bycatch needs, including housekeeping changes, as appropriate.**
- 3. Provide other guidance, as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 1: Follow-on Actions—Alternatives and Impact Analysis.

Agenda Order:

G.3 Five-Year Catch Share Follow-On Action FMP and Regulatory  
Amendments – Final Action

Jim Seger

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives for the Five-Year Catch Share Program Follow-On Actions, and Provide Further Guidance as Necessary

PFMC  
10/10/18