

INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2018 AND 2019 – FINAL ACTION

Management measures for groundfish are set by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) with the general understanding that these measures will likely need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the annual catch limits. This agenda item will consider progress to date of the groundfish fisheries, including activities under exempted fishing permits, as well as routine inseason adjustments to remaining 2018 fisheries and 2019 fisheries. Potential inseason adjustments include adjustments to Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) boundaries and adjustments to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits. Adjustments are, in part, based on recent landings and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program.

Pacific Whiting Set-Asides

Under this agenda item, the Council is also scheduled to adopt yield set-asides to accommodate the incidental mortality of Pacific whiting in 2019 research activities and in the pink shrimp fishery. This action has historically occurred in March; however, to facilitate National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) rulemaking, Council recommendations are requested in November under this agenda item. Attachment 1 contains information on the historical mortality of Pacific whiting in research and pink shrimp fisheries from 2011 to 2017 for Council review.

Interim Exempted Fishing Permits Results

Exempted fishing permit (EFP) holders are required to provide reports to the Council and NMFS regarding their fishing activities. At the September 2018 meeting, the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) ([Agenda Item I.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2018](#)) recommended applicants from the Emely/Platt EFP to provide summarized data from their EFP to the Council and its advisory bodies. The Council requested an interim activity report of this EFP at the November 2018 meeting. The permit holders submitted Attachment 2, the interim report, and are expected to provide a brief update to the Council on these results.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt final inseason adjustments for 2018 and 2019 as necessary, to achieve, but not exceed, annual catch limits and other management objectives.**
- 2. Adopt Pacific whiting yield set-asides for 2019.**
- 3. Review EFP results.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.6, Attachment 1: Historical Mortality of Pacific Whiting in Research and Pink Shrimp.
2. Agenda Item G.6, Attachment 2: Interim Report Exempted Fishing Permit Testing Commercial Jig Fishing Gear Targeting Yellowtail Rockfish for 2017/2018 Groundfish Fisheries.

Agenda Order:

- G.6 Final Action on Inseason Adjustments for 2018 and 2019 – Final Action Todd Phillips
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Review Exempted Fishing Permit Results, Adopt Pacific Whiting Yield Set-Asides for 2019, and Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2018 and 2019 as Necessary, to Achieve, but Not Exceed, Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives

PFMC
10/10/18