

CONSIDERATION OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Management measures for groundfish are set by the Council with the general understanding these measures will likely need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the total catch limits. This agenda item will consider inseason adjustments to ongoing 2012 fisheries. Potential inseason adjustments include adjustments to rockfish conservation area boundaries and adjustments to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits. Adjustments are, in part, based on catch estimate updates and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program.

At the March and June 2011 Council meetings, the Groundfish Management Team identified issues in the Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network with regard to tracking landings of sablefish north of 36° N. latitude against the daily trip limit fishery and the primary tiers. At the June meeting, the Council requested that the Pacific Coast Fisheries Data Committee (PCFDC) investigate the issues further and explore potential solutions. The PCFDC met in November 2011 in Portland, Oregon and identified options for Council consideration (Agenda Item F.6.b, PCFDC Report). Under this agenda item, the Council should provide guidance on the preferred solution. Additionally, a public comment letter requests increases to nearshore trip limits in California (Agenda Item F.6.c, Public Comment).

Council Action:

- 1. Consider information on the status of 2012 fisheries and adopt final inseason adjustments as necessary.**
- 2. Consider recommendations of the PCFDC and provide guidance as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.6.b, PCFDC Report: Pacific Coast Fisheries Data Committee Report on Tracking Landings of Sablefish North of 36° N. Latitude.
2. Agenda Item F.6.c, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary or Final Recommendations for Adjustments to 2012 Groundfish Fisheries
- Kelly Ames

PFMC
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