

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 annual catch limits. This agenda item will consider inseason adjustments to 2012 and 2013 fisheries. The proposed regulations for 2013 fisheries are expected to be published by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by the November Council meeting. Potential actions include adjustments to rockfish conservation area boundaries and changes 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.

The Council is also expected to receive an update from NMFS regarding the issuance of 2011 surplus carry-over quota pounds into the 2012 shorebased individual fishing quota (IFQ) fishery. In September, the Council considered inseason projections for sablefish north and south of 36° N. latitude ([Agenda Item H.5.b, Supplemental GMT Report, September 2012](#)). The annual catch limits were not projected to be attained or exceeded under any of the scenarios analyzed. The Council recommended that NMFS issue sablefish carryover later this year as the projections are validated.

Agency reports received by the briefing book deadline include an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) report describing yelloweye rockfish mortality in the 2012 fisheries (Agenda Item I.4.b, ODFW Report). Additionally, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submitted a report proposing adjustments to 2013 management measures to reduce yelloweye rockfish bycatch (Agenda Item I.4.b, WDFW Report).

Council Action:

- 1. Consider information on the status of 2012 and 2013 fisheries and adopt final inseason adjustments, as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.4.b, ODFW Report: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Inseason Recreational Fishery Yelloweye Rockfish Impacts.
2. Agenda Item I.4.b, WDFW Report: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Inseason Adjustments for 2013.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Recommendations for Adjustments to 2012 and 2013 Groundfish Fisheries

Kelly Ames