

REPORT FROM THE PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

November 14 - 20, 2017 Costa Mesa, California



SALMON MANAGEMENT

D.4 Preseason Salmon Management Schedule for 2018

The Council adopted the 2018 salmon management schedule and process for developing ocean salmon fishery management measures <u>Attachment 1</u>. Sites and dates of public hearings to review the Council's proposed regulatory options are:

- Westport, Washington (Monday, March 26) Chateau Westport, Fremont Room;
- Coos Bay, Oregon (Monday, March 26) Red Lion Hotel, South Umpqua Room
- Salinas, California (Tuesday March 27). Laurel Inn & Conference Center

GROUNDFISH MANAGEMENT

F.1 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report

In addition to a list of groundfish and halibut actions that have published, NMFS provided a list of rulemakings and other major activities that are currently in progress. <u>Attachment 2</u>

Progress Report on Project to Clarify Confidentiality of Certain State and PacFIN Data

NMFS and NOAA General Counsel (GC) have received several requests to clarify the confidentiality of certain data that are submitted to the states or the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) and, specifically, whether the confidentiality provisions under section 402(b)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) apply to this data. The answer to this question would govern the procedures that NMFS, PacFIN, and the states, use for the protection or release of that data in responding to data requests. NMFS and NOAA GC have been developing an analysis to answer this question and provide guidance to NMFS, PSMFC, and the states, on the handling of this data. This analysis will also outline considerations for NMFS, PSMFC, and the states, for deciding whether modifications or clarifications to existing Federal regulations are needed.

Following completion of the analysis, NMFS intends to set up individual or collective meetings with the states of Washington, Oregon, California, and Idaho, as well as the PSMFC, to discuss findings and next steps. NMFS plans to hold these meetings in the December 2017-January 2018 timeframe.

Following the initial meetings, a final timeline and steps to follow will be decided. NMFS proposes a tentative timeline and steps as follows:

- 1. Completion of NMFS and NOAA GC analysis (November 30, 2017)
- 2. Discuss findings with PSMFC and the states (December 2017-January 2018)
- 3. Update the Council on findings (March or April 2018 Council meeting)
- 4. Compile inventory of affected data (Spring 2018)
- 5. Determine whether changes to Federal regulations are needed based on the data affected (Spring 2018)

- Complete Council action and rulemaking to make changes to Federal regulations, if needed
- 7. Develop joint, uniform procedures for protection and release of this data

F.2 Trawl Catch Share Review – Final Report Adoption and Preliminary Range of Alternatives for Follow-On Actions

At its June meeting, the Council approved the bulk of the catch share five-year review document that was released for public review in mid-August. At its September meeting, the Council approved an additional appendix and two additional sections of the review (Appendix J, containing abbreviated community summaries; Section 4.0, Research and Data Needs; and Section 5.0, Recommendations). Since the September meeting, analysts working on the catch share review had an opportunity to more closely consider research and data needs issues and submitted a replacement to Section 4.0 for Council consideration at this meeting.

In November, the Council:

- Adopted the West Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program Five-Year Review Report with the modifications to Chapter 4. Document authors are allowed to make revisions to address minor edits or data corections that become apparent during final editing.
- Adopted the replacement to <u>Section 4.0, Research and Data Needs</u>.
- For Chapter 5.0, affirm those advisory body recommendations that are in line with a review every six years, and a mandatory survey of QS owners. Finally, include in the Chapter 5 recommendations, a list of the follow-on actions that the Council will be considering coming out of the review process.

The Council recommended the following with regard to the preliminary range of alternatives (ROA):

- 1. Include alternatives for data collection of Catcher-Processor ownership information, and quota share owner cost and revenue data, as recommended in Chapters 4 and 5 of the Five-Year Review Document.
- 2. Consider coordinating the review timing with the biennial specifications process, that is, to schedule the next review to start in 2022 and occur every 6 years thereafter.
- 3. For At-Sea Whiting Fishery Bycatch Needs (Issue 1), as a priority, focus analysis on alternatives for a) Set-aside management, and b) Increasing amounts available for harvest. Consider item c) Between Sector Quota Pound Trading, d) Changing within trawl and trawl/non-trawl FMP allocations, and e) Carryover of at-sea set-asides, as potential additions for the omnibus list.
- 4. For Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Accumulation Limits (Issue 3), Shorebased IFQ Sector Harvest Complex Needs (issue 4), and Adaptive Management Plan QP Pass-Through (Issue 6); Include the complete list of potential actions in <u>Agenda Item F.2.</u> Attachment 6 as alternatives for Council consideration.
- 5. Adopt the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommendations, as follows:
 - a. At-Sea Bycatch Needs:

- i. Move set aside management for canary and widow rockfish forward for over winter analysis.
- ii. Depending on the Agenda Item F.9 action, scope possible changes to the within-trawl allocations for widow rockfish (and the POP and darkblotched rockfish set aside formula, if applicable) within the follow-on actions schedule.
- iii. Delay consideration of the trawl/non-trawl consideration for darkblotched, widow rockfish, and POP until the omnibus prioritization.
- iv. Delay consideration of Shorebased Non-Whiting IFQ Aggregate Limits until the omnibus prioritization process.
- v. Shorebased IFQ Sector Harvest Needs; Collapse the overlapping alternatives under this heading and adopt the preliminary ROA as follows:
 - 1. Alt 1: Status quo.
 - 2. Alt 2: Allow post-season trading for accounts in deficit (include an annual end date).
 - a. Suboption A: Relief from quota pound (QP) limits during post-season trading.
 - b. Suboption B: NMFS converts unused annual catch limit (ACL) to QP and sells to vessels with deficits.
 - 3. In restructuring the Shorebased IFQ sector Harvest alternatives as recommended by the GMT, incorporate the elaborations developed by the Community Advisory Board (CAB), as follows:
 - a. Suboption B-1: Limit the NMFS sale to non-target species.
 - b. Suboption B-2: Set the NMFS sale price to above market rate.
 - c. Suboption B-3: When there are more deficits than there are QP available [develop suboption(s) to handle this situation. An auction might be one option or distributing equally or pro rata to vessels with deficits might be another.] If QP are sold by NMFS, proceeds should go to offsetting cost recovery fees.
 - 4. Alt 3: Eliminate the September 1st QP expiration (applies to QP not transferred to vessel accounts).
- 6. Adopt the following alternatives developed by the CAB for the Catcher-Processor Sector Accumulation Limits as the preliminary range of alternatives for further analysis. These alternatives would replace those previously identified by the Council.
 - 1. Development of permit and processing limits for the CP sector
 - a. No Action
 - b. Apply limits to the existing cooperative program
 - c. Apply limits only if the COOP dissolves and IFQ program is implemented for the CP sector
 - 2. Limits on CP Permit Ownership
 - a. No Action (allow ownership up to ten permits)

- b. Limit CP permit ownership to five permits
- c. Limit CP permit ownership to seven permits
- 3. Limits on CP Sector Processing
 - a. No Action (allow a company to process 100 percent of the CP sector allocation)
 - b. Limit CP processing by a single company to 60 percent of the CP sector allocation
 - c. Limit CP processing by a single company to 80 percent of the CP sector allocation

The Council processes for these possible actions are identified here: Attachment 3.

F.4 Final Stock Assessments and Rebuilding Analysis

The Council adopted the Pacific Ocean Perch (POP) and yelloweye rockfish stock assessments endorsed by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) for use in the 2019 – 2020 management cycle and beyond (AI F.4.a, Supp SSC Report 1, Nov 2017).

The adopted POP stock assessment indicates the stock is at 77 percent of its initial unfished biomass and therefore has been successfully rebuilt. The official declaration of POP stock status will be announced once NMFS confirms the assessment is the best scientific information available for management decision-making.

F.5 Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Adjustments, Final Action

The Council considered a new policy framework that would allow an increase in harvest specifications in the second year of a biennial management cycle when a new assessment indicates a substantial increase in the available harvest of a stock. The Council decided to halt further consideration of this new policy in deference to other higher priority tasks.

F.8 Preliminary Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Approval for 2019-2020

The Council recommended the following groundfish EFP^s for public review, including all the modifications contained in the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) report, as follows

- San Francisco Community Fishing Association and Dan Platt Application Commercial jig fishing targeting yellowtail rockfish in the Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) off California.
- Scott Cook and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Application: Commercial midwater hook-and-line rockfish fishing in the RCA off Oregon. The Council recommended caps be reduced to 0.12 mt for yelloweye rockfish and 3 mt for canary.
- Monterey Bay Fishermen Exempted Fishing Application The Council recommended caps be increased for yelloweye rockfish to 0.06 mt.
- Tom Mattusch Application and Addendum: Recreational long leader gear targeting chilipepper and yellowtail rockfish in the RCA. The Council also recommended vessels under this EFP be identified with a research banner.

The Council is scheduled to take final action on EFPs for 2019-2020 in June 2018.

F.11 Electronic Monitoring (EM) – Final Pacific Halibut Discard Mortality Rates (DMR), Discard Species Lists, and Third Party Review

The Council conditionally adopted the following discard mortality rates (DMR) for Pacific halibut in the bottom trawl and non-whiting midwater trawl fisheries coastwide with the condition the best handling practices are followed:

For Bottom Trawl

Option 2 – Implement a vessel-specific DMR rate for each halibut discarded under EM using the GMT model identified in <u>Agenda Item F.11.a, GMT Report 1</u>. In addition, implement the documentation steps identified in <u>Agenda Item F.11.a, Supp. GMT Report 2</u>.

For Non-Whiting Midwater Trawl

If a vessel declares optimized retention, apply option 1 – Default 90% DMR for all discarded halibut under EM.

If a vessel declares maximized retention, apply option 1 – The halibut must be landed and a 100% DMR is applied.

Implementation Condition

Implementation of the revised DMR^s would be put in effect only after the GMT has communicated with the chairs of the SSC groundfish and economic subcommittees and received their concurrence that the GMT fulfilled the following three conditions:

- 1. The analysts estimate and evaluate an additional model that includes gear type so the Council can consider using this alternative model for assigning DMR^s.
- 2. The analysts determine and correct for bias in the average DMR assigned by this approach relative to the average DMR calculated using conditions noted by observers.
- 3. The analysts adjust the survival rates in the equation used to calculate an overall DMR such that fish categorized by observers as "excellent" have an average overall calculated DMR of 20% and the DMR for fish that are out of water for a long time approaches 100% on average.

Final Preferred Alternative for Electronic Monitoring

- 1. Discard Species List Adjustment, Option 2 as the process to adjust the discard species list:
 - a. Option 2 Option 2 was developed by NMFS to address the Council's request. This option would allow NMFS to make changes to retention requirements within individual Vessel Monitoring Plans (VMPs) after consultation with the Council. In addition, this option provides notice to the public through the Council process of what standard NMFS would use to evaluate any proposed changes to retention requirements "...must be sufficient to provide NMFS with the best available information to determine individual accountability for catch, including discards, of IFQ species, and compliance..." This is the same standard NMFS proposed to apply to evaluating levels of video review, EM units and software, and other flexible provisions of the EM program, and that the Council deemed in April 2016. "(q) Changes to retention requirements. NMFS may specify alternate retention requirements in a NMFS-accepted VMP through the process described at § 660.604(f), after consultation with the Council and issuance of a public

notice notifying the public of the changes. Alternate retention requirements must be sufficient to provide NMFS with the best available information to determine individual accountability for catch, including discards, of IFQ species and compliance with requirements of the Shorebased IFQ Program (§ 660.140) and MS Coop Program (§ 660.150)."

2. Video Review: Third-Party Model. Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and other eligible entities compete to serve as video review provider(s) for the industry.

Finally, the Council adopted the Enforcement Consultants recommendation, that NMFS maintain the maximized retention requirement in the whiting fishery as it finalizes the EM regulations, to disallow discards except as otherwise provided.

F.13 Final Action on Inseason Adjustments for 2017 and 2018

The Council adopted:

1. 2018 Big skate trip limits for the shorebased IFQ fishery as follows:

Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6
5,000	30,000	35,000	40,000	15,000	5,000

In addition, the Council recommended that NMFS clarify that the limited entry (LE) and open access (OA) trip limits for big skate are unlimited.

2. 2018 Sablefish DTL Trip Limits as follows:

Sector	Trip Limit for Periods 1 thru 6	
LE	1,100 lbs per week, not to exceed 3,300 lbs/2 mo	
ОА	300 lbs/day, or 1 landing per week up to 1,000 lbs, not to exceed 2,000 lbs/2 mo	

3. 2018 Lingcod trip limits as follows:

Sector	Jan-Feb	Mar-A	Apr	May-Ju	n	Ju	ıl-Aug	Sep-O	ct	Nov-Dec0
LE	600 lb/2 n	nonths	onths 1,400 lb/2 m		onths	700 lb/month		onth	400 lb/month	
OA		300 lb/month		700 lb/month				300 lb/month		

4. 2018 incidental set-aside of Pacific whiting for the research and pink shrimp sectors: 1,500mt. Based on the most recent five years, this amount should be sufficient to cover catches in both fisheries; the whiting total allowable catch will not be available until March.

In addition, the Council recommended that the NMFS:

Report from the Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting; November 2017

- 1. Amend the LE and OA trip limit tables in Federal Regulations to show that big skate landings are unlimited for non-trawl gear.
- 2. Consider changing the terms and conditions of the Platt/Emley EFP to allow canary rockfish to be sold in 2018

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT

H.2 Recommendations for International Management Activities

The Council endorsed NMFS-proposed trip limits for Pacific bluefin tuna commercial landings in 2018. A 1mt trip limit for all fisheries except for the large mesh drift gillnet fishery, which would be subject to a 2mt trip limit. These limits are intended to prevent rapid attainment of the low 2018 catch limit of approximately 120mt while minimizing regulatory discards due to unavoidable incidental catch on a single trip.

H.3 Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)

The Council reviewed two revised applications (Mintz, Foster) and recommended NMFS issue EFPs to the applicants. It also recommended NMFS issue an EFP based on one new application (Carson) but asked the applicant to submit additional information to NMFS related to his past experience using deep-set buoy gear (correct number of years fishing with deep-set buoy gear).

Finally, the Council asked three applicants (Brockman, Ekstrom, Greyshock) resubmit revised applications that include additional information on how they would address data gaps.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

C.4. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

The next meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council is scheduled for March 8 – 14, 2018, in Rohnert Park, California. The <u>DRAFT Preliminary Proposed March 2018 Agenda</u> is available and represents the agenda expectations for the March 2018 Council meeting.

There are two Briefing Book deadlines for every Council meeting. The first (and main) deadline is two and a half weeks before the Council meeting (Thursday, February 8, 2018). Public comments and reports that are supplied before this deadline are included in the advance Briefing Book. The second deadline, known as the supplemental deadline, is four days prior to the start of the Council meeting (Monday, February 26, 2018). Public comments and reports provided by this deadline are given to Council members on the first day of the Council meeting. Comments can be emailed, mailed, or faxed to the Council.

This report is provided to the Central Coast Community in 2017 via a grant from the Central California Joint Cable Fisheries Liaison Committee. Any interested parties may request an email copy of future reports (as long as funding continues) by contacting Christopher Kubiak at, ckub@sbcglobal.net

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Prepared January 15, 2018
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Fishery Consulting Services
The Power of Being First With
Innovation

Attachment1

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING 2018 OCEAN SALMON FISHERY MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- Nov. 14-20, The Council and advisory entities meet at the Hilton Orange County, Costa 2017 Mesa, California, to consider any changes to methodologies used in the development of abundance projections or regulatory alternatives.
- Jan. 16-19, The Salmon Technical Team (STT) meets in Portland, Oregon to draft the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document *Review of 2017 Ocean Salmon Fisheries*. This report summarizes seasons, quotas, harvest, escapement, socioeconomic statistics, achievement of management goals, and impacts on species listed under the Endangered Species Act. (Available early February.)
- Feb. 20-23 STT meets in Portland, Oregon to complete *Preseason Report I Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1 for 2018 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations.* This report provides key salmon stock abundance estimates and level of precision, harvest, and escapement estimates when recent regulatory regimes are projected on 2017 abundance, and other pertinent information to aid development of management options. (Available early March.)
- Feb. 26 State and tribal agencies hold constituent meetings to review preseason through abundance projections and range of probable fishery options.

 Mar. 5
- Mar. 8-14 Council and advisory entities meet at the DoubleTree by Hilton Sonoma in Rohnert Park, California to adopt 2018 regulatory alternatives for public review. The Council addresses inseason action for fisheries opening prior to May 1 and adopts final alternatives for public review.
- Mar. 15-21 The STT completes Preseason Report II: Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2018 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations. (Available late March.)
- Mar. 15-31 Management agencies, tribes, and the public develop their final recommendations for the regulatory alternatives. North of Cape Falcon Forum meetings are held between the March and April Council meetings.
- Mar. 22 Council staff distributes *Preseason Report II: Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2018 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations* to the public. The report includes the public hearing schedule, comment instructions, alternative highlights, and tables summarizing the biological and economic impacts of the proposed management alternatives.

- Mar. 26-27 Tentative sites and dates of public hearings to review the Council's proposed regulatory options are: Westport, Washington (March 26); Coos Bay, Oregon (March 26); and Salinas, California (March 27). Comments on the alternatives will also be taken during the April Council meeting in Portland, Oregon.
- Apr. 4-11 Council and advisory entities meet to adopt final regulatory measures at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel in Portland, Oregon. *Preseason Report II:**Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2018 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations, results from the public hearings, and information developed and public comment received at the Council meeting are considered during the course of the week.
- Apr. 12-19 The STT and Council staff complete Preseason Report III: Analysis of CouncilAdopted Management Measures and Environmental Assessment Part 3 for 2018 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations. Council and NMFS staff completes required National Environmental Policy Act documents for submission.
- Apr. 20 Council staff distributes adopted ocean salmon fishing management recommendations, and *Preseason Report III* is available to the public. May 1 NMFS implements Federal ocean salmon fishing regulations

Attachment 2

In Progress

	Rule	Timing (Tentative)	Sectors Affected
R1	Midwater Recreational Fishery	Proposed rule – September 2017	Oregon Recreational
	off Oregon	Final rule – November 2017	
R2	Trawl Gear Modifications	Proposed Rule - Summer/Fall 2018	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership
		Final Rule - End of 2018	(MS), Catcher-Processor
			(C/P)
R3	Electronic monitoring	Final rule – TBD (pending	LE Trawl (IFQ)
		Council action in September	
		2017).	
R4	Widow reallocation	Final rule – Fall 2017	LE Trawl
R5	Vessel Movement Monitoring and	Proposed Rule - Fall 2017	LE and OA
	125fm lat./long. changes	(Delayed due to prioritization of	
		R1, R4, and A2)	
R6	Amendment 21 At-Sea Sector	Proposed rule – summer	Mothership (MS), Catcher
	Set-Asides for darkblotched	2017	Processor (CP)
	rockfish and Pacific Ocean	Final rule - Fall 2017	
	perch		
R7	Correction to 2017-2018	Correcting Amendment - Summer	California recreational
	Biennial Harvest Specifications	2017	management measures
	and Management Measures		
R9	Amendment 26 Blackgill	Proposed rule – Spring 2018	Shorebased IFQ Program,
	Rockfish and Minor Slope	Final rule – Summer 2018	LEFG and OA
	Rockfish South Reallocation	(contingent upon available	
		resources)	

Table 2. Major Activities

	Activity	Timing (Tentative)	Sectors Affected
A1	Trawl Gear EFP	February 2017 Modifications in March 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ)
A2	Trawl Gear EFP (2018)	January 2018 (contingent upon Council action in September 2017)	LE Trawl (IFQ)
A3	Electronic Monitoring Nonwhiting Midwater & Bottom Trawl	September 2017 Council agenda.	LE Trawl IFQ)
A4	Trawl Cost Recovery	Ongoing	LE Trawl IFQ, MS, CP, Open Access
A5	Salmon ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP	Final Council recommendations - April 2017; Biological Opinion Completed late 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, MS, CP, Open Access
A6	Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP	Completed April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, MS, CP, Tribal, Open Access, Recreational
A7	ESA Section 7 Consultation on Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan	March 2017 Opinion expires in early 2018. Drafting Biological Opinion - Fall 2017; Biological Opinion to be completed in winter 2018	Non-Treaty directed commercial, incidental catch in salmon troll fishery & sablefish fishery, Treaty Indian commercial & ceremonial/subsistence, WA, OR, & CA recreational, IPHC Survey
A8	Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan	Biological Assessment to USF&WS in Fall 2017 Biological Opinion from USF&WS January 2018	same as above
A9	Inseason Actions	Council decisions: -March 2017 - published, effective May 11th -April 2017 - published, effective May 12 th -June 2017 - published, Effective July 3rd	To be determined
A10	Magnuson-Act Scientific Research Permitting	Ongoing	Unlikely any
A11	EFH/RCA analysis for Draft Environmental Impact Stmt.	Council to adopt final report in November 2017	
A12	5 Year Catch Share Program Review	Council to adopt final report in November 2017	
A13	2019-2020 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures	September, November 2017, March, April June 2018 Council Meetings	All
A14	Challenge to Divestiture (Pacific Choice)	Ongoing	LE Trawl, Mothership(MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)

Attachment 3

Processes through which Five Year Review Actions will be considered are as follows:

Addressed in the biennial groundfish specifications process; may be implemented with the management measures for those specifications at the start of 2019.

- Increasing amounts available for harvest, for example, by using values other than historic maximums to determine set-aside amounts.
- Daily vessel quota pound (QP) limits (though possibly only for rebuilt species, i.e. excluding cowcod, yelloweye) and Pacific halibut.
- Continuation of the adaptive management program pass-through Catch Share Review

Addressed as part of a catch share review follow-on package that will be considered at the March 2018 meeting. At that time, the Council will finalize a range of alternatives to be analyzed over the summer. Final action is expected in the fall of 2018.

- At-sea set-asides. Permanently change bycatch management for the at-sea fishery from catch limits to set-asides for canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, Pacific ocean perch and widow rockfish. Remove from the Fishery Management Plan the formulas for allocation and set-aside amounts for darkblotched rockfish, Pacific ocean perch and widow rockfish.
- Revise individual species annual vessel QP limits.
- Allow post-season QP trading and provide post-season relief from vessel QP limits.
- Eliminate the September 1 expiration for QP that has not been moved to a vessel account.
- Establish catcher-processor accumulation limits for permit ownership and amount of processing, including a decision on whether to apply the limits immediately or only if the catcher-processor co-op reverts to an individual fishing quota program.
- Require the submission of catcher-processor ownership information during the permit review process.
- Require all owners of quota shares (QS) to provide information on their ownership to the Economic Data Collection Program (currently only QS owners that also own vessels or first receiver licenses are required to submit this information).

Catch Share Review Follow-on as a Stand Alone Agenda Item (possibly March 2018): The Council requested some additional information be available in March to help decide on the process for moving forward, as well as provide some guiding principles to whatever group will be working on the following issues:

- Sablefish 36° Line Eliminate the line for the trawl sector management or modify the catch area requirements, including applicable annual vessel QP limits.
- Limit gear switching.
- Reduce sablefish annual vessel QP limit.

Increasing Trawl Carryover and Flexibility in ACL Management: At its March meeting, the Council will take up increasing the QP carryover to some amount above 10 percent as part of its consideration of flexibility in ACL management.

Addressed during the Council's groundfish omnibus prioritization process in the Fall of 2018.

- Between trawl sector QP trading.
- Trawl/nontrawl allocations.
- Carryover of at-sea set-asides.
- Aggregate nonwhiting control limits and the weightings used to calculate aggregate holding.