

Monkfish FMP Amendment 5

*Draft Document and
Environmental Assessment
Consideration for Approval*

November, 2009

Discussion Outline

- Amendment 5 Purpose and Timeline
- Alternatives for Biological & Management Reference Points, including ACL and AMs
- Specification of management measures, options for trip limits and DAS
- Other adjustments to the management program

Amendment 5 – Purpose and Timeline

- Primary purpose: establish ACLs, AMs and other reference points to comply with MSRA and NS1 Guidelines
- Set TTAC/DAS/trip limit specifications to replace expiring Framework 4 specs
- DEIS approval: **Nov. 2009**; Approve final measures: April, 2010; Submit final document: June, 2010; Effective: May, 2011

Reference Points and OY

- Proposed control rules for MSY, OFL & ABC
- **MSY**=**Fthreshold X Btarget**; proxy values: (mt, exploitable B) 17,053 (N), 25,487 (S)
- **OFL**=**Fthreshold X Bcurrent**; 22,729 (N), 28,263 (S) (mt, exploitable B)
- **ABC** (SSC recommendation) = *product of ave. exploitation rate during recent period of stable or increasing trend in biomass and most recent estimate of exp. biomass* = 17,485 (N) and 13,326 (S)
- **OY**= Annual Catch Target (ACT)

ACLs and AMs

- **ACL=ABC**
- **Reactive AM:** pound-for-pound deduction from ACT for second year following overage; RO may implement by notice action if Council does not take action
- **Proactive AM:** set **ACT** at appropriate level to prevent catch from exceeding ACL; used as basis for setting DAS and trip limits; 2 options for each area. 7,500 mt or 10,000 mt (N), 7,140 mt or 8,925 mt (S)

Specification of DAS and Trip Limit Options

- Range of options for DAS and trip limits, based on two ACT options for each area; current DAS, current trip limit; or both variable
- NMA: trip limits (tail wt./DAS) 1,250 lbs. (A&C), 470-950 (B&D); DAS 31-51
- SMA: trip limits 550-700 (A&C); 450-600 (B&D); DAS 15-28

Other Changes to Effort Management Program

- Automatic adjustment for trip limit overage, 3 options: 30 hours, 48 hours, or 24 hours and 1 minute
- Allow C & D vessels to choose when to use a GF DAS in conjunction with a MF DAS
- Eliminate GF DAS usage requirement for sector vessels

No changes to specifications and other management measures (cont'd.)

- Carryover options for RSA DAS
- Changes to RSA program through framework
- Mandatory VMS, with power-down provisions; 3 options: NMA only, SMA only, or both areas
- Allow landing of monkfish heads provided total weight of heads does not exceed 2.32 times total weight of tails on board

What's Next?

- Public hearings Jan.-Feb. 2010
- AP and OS Committee review comments and make recommendation for final measures March 2010
- Councils approve final measures April 2010
- NEFMC approve final document for submission June 2010
- Target implementation date May 1, 2011