

Monkfish FMP

Draft range of alternatives for consideration in Framework Adjustment 8

Sept. 26, 2013

SMA Specifications Alternatives:

SMA Alternative 1 No Action: 28DAS, Trip limits (tail wt. per DAS) 550lbs. (permit categories A &C) lbs.and450 lbs. (permit categories B, D&H)
Results in catch observed in 2011-12 does not achieve OY (the ACT)

SMA Alternative 2: modify trip limit to account for tail-whole weight conversion correction- tail weight trip limits of 610lbs. (permit categories A &C) and 500 lbs. (permit categories B, D&H); adjust DAS accordingly

SMA Alternative 3: Maintain current trip limits (550 lbs. for permit categories A &C, and450 lbs. for permit categories B, D &H) and adjust DAS to achieve the ACT.

SMA Alternative 4: Maintain current DAS (28) and adjust trip limits to achieve the ACT

Other SMA Alternatives:

SMA GF/MF DAS usage Alternative1 No Action: Vessels allocated both monkfish and groundfish DAS must use groundfish DAS in combination with their monkfish DAS until their allocation of groundfish DAS is used up, at which time the vessels may use monkfish-only DAS

SMA GF/MF DAS usage Alternative 2: Vessels allocated both monkfish and groundfish DAS can use monkfish-only DAS (in excess of allocated groundfish DAS) at any time until the allocation of groundfish DAS equals the remaining monkfish DAS, at which time, the vessel must use both monkfish and groundfish DAS in combination

Permit Category H fishery Boundary Alternative 1- No Action: vessels issued a monkfish category H permit may only fish on a monkfish DAS south of 38°40' N Lat.

Permit Category H fishery Boundary Alternative 2; move the permit category H boundary to correspond to the SMA/NMA boundary line

NMA Specifications Alternatives:

NMA Alternative 1- No Action: 40 DAS, Trip limits (tail wt. per DAS) 1,250lbs. (permit categories A & C) and 600 lbs. (permit categories B & D). *Results in catch observed in 2011-12 does not achieve OY (the ACT)*

NMA Alternative 2 -maintain the status quo possession limits of 1,250 lbs. (permit categories A & C) and 600 lbs. (permit categories B, & D) and adjust the NMA DAS to achieve ACT

NMA Incidental Limit Alternative 1 –No action The incidental limit for monkfish when a vessel is on a groundfish, but not a monkfish DAS in the NMA is up to 25% (tail weight basis) of the total weight of fish on board, not to exceed 300 lbs. (tail wt. per DAS)

NMA Incidental Limit Alternative 2- Increase the monkfish incidental limit while on a groundfish but not a monkfish DAS in the NMA to 600 lbs. (permit categories A & C) and 500 lbs. (permit categories B, & D), tail weight 6 per DAS, and eliminate the maximum of 25% of total weight of fish on board