

Monkfish FMP Framework 8

*Proposed Measures for Consideration
Das/trip limit specification for FY 2014-
2016 and other FMP adjustments*

September, 2013

Background

- 2013 stock assessment update concluded that both stock components remain not overfished with overfishing not occurring. SSC does not recommend a change to ABC
- Amendment 5 (2010) adopted ACLs, ACTs, and 2011-2013 DAS/trip limit specifications with automatic extension unless modified (NMA specs adopted in FW 7)

Framework 8 Purpose and Need

- Consider revisions to the DAS and trip limit specifications for FY2014-2016
- Respond to public comment about the impact of the permit category H Fishery boundary line on those vessels' ability to fully utilize their monkfish DAS and trip limit allocations
- Respond to public comment about the groundfish DAS usage requirement for vessels with GF and MF das allocations
- Respond to public comment about the MF incidental limit in the NMA when a vessel is on a GF DAS to more fully utilize the ACT

NMA DAS/ Trip Limit 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). Based on catch observed in 2011-12 does not achieve OY (the ACT), even though trip limit and DAS are not constraining on vessels
- **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 Alternatives

- **NMA Incidental Limit Alternative 1** –No action. The incidental limit for monkfish when a vessel is on a GF, but not a MF 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 GF but not a MF DAS in the NMA to 600 lbs. (permit categories A & C) and 500 lbs. (permit categories B, & D), tail weight per DAS), and eliminate the limit of 25% of total weight of fish on board

SMA DAS/ Trip Limit 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)
- **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 accordingly
- **SMA Alternative 4:** Maintain current DAS (28) and adjust trip limits accordingly

Summary of Specifications Options

Area	Alter-native	AC daily landing limit	BD daily landing limit	DAS	Expe cted landin gs
NMA	1 (No Action)	1250	600	40	
	2	1250	600	TBD	
SMA	1 (No Action)	550	450	28	
	2	610	500	TBD	
	3	550	450	TBD	
	4	TBD	TBD	28	

Framework 8 Timeline

- NEFMC approve range of alternatives for analysis Sept. 2013
- MAFMC approve range of alternatives for analysis Oct. 2013
- MAFMC Final action Dec. 2013
- NEFMC Final action Jan. 2014
- Preliminary submission Feb.-March, 2014
- Submit final EA: April 2014
- Proposed rule comment period (30 days) May-June 2014
- Effectiveness: July 2014