

Timelines for Scallop Actions for 2008-2012

A15 – compliance with new requirements of the MSA (ACL's / AM's), rationalization of the limited access scallop fishery, revisions to the scallop overfishing definition, specific adjustments to the general category program, EFH areas if Phase II is delayed, adjustments to the research set-aside program, and changing the scallop fishing year.

FW21 – specifications for FY2010, adjustments to the observer program, and measure to comply with the turtle biop

FW22 – specifications for FY2011 and FY2012 (under ACL management)

Over the next few years there is significant overlap between some of the scallop action items. This overlap will be very challenging; therefore, the Council needs to be restricted in identifying what can be included in each action so that all three can get through the process on time.

At the October Council meeting staff identified three alternatives that should be considered for removal from Amendment 15 because they were either not strongly supported during scoping and/or will require more development and analysis. From that list the Council decided to move one alternative to the considered but rejected section: *no restriction on the number of permits that can be stacked on one limited access vessel*. Therefore, in terms of stacking alternatives the action would only include No Action (no stacking) and an alternative to allow stacking up to two permits only.

The Council also passed a motion: *to direct the Committee to refine the list of alternatives in draft Amendment 15 in light of new scallop action timelines. For example, the Committee should seriously consider the list below as well as any other alternatives that could impact timing of the action (IFQ program for the limited access fishery and the alternative that would convert open area DAS into access area trips in open areas)*.

The Committee met on November 3 and considered the two alternatives the Council requested. The following motion was passed: *remove IFQ program alternative for LA fishery to the considered and rejected section in A15 (Alternative 3.3.4)*. The Committee discussed the alternative that would convert open area DAS into access area trips, but did not make a motion to remove it from Amendment 15. See Committee meeting summary for details (Document #4).

The Council will consider the Committee motion above and discuss if the range of alternatives needs to be further refined to help ensure that Amendment 15 is approved in time and implemented by March 1 2011, as required by the MSRA.

		A15 longer development	ETA / DEL Review	FW21	FW22 (or spec package)		
2008	Jan	Develop scoping doc					
	Feb	Council approve scoping doc					
	Mar	NOI for scoping					
	Apr	Scoping Hearings					
	May						
	June						
	July						
	Aug						
	Sept			PDT review			
	Oct			Council review (8/7)			
	Nov						
	Dec			Notice if necessary			
2009	Jan		Develop alternatives				
	Feb		Council approve doc for analysis			Initiate action - 2/10	
	Mar						
	Apr						
	May						
	June						
	July		Prepare DEIS and PH doc			Develop and analyze alternatives	
	Aug	ID pref. alts					
	Sept	Council selects pref		Final action - 9/22			
	Oct	Staff submits DSEIS		Staff submits FW21			
	Nov						
	Dec						
2010	Jan						
	Feb	NMFS publish NOA			Initiate FW or start specs		
	Mar	Public hearings		IMPLEMENTATION			
	Apr	Consider input - ID pref alts					
	May						
	June	Council Final action					
	July						
	Aug	Staff submits FSEIS					
	Sept				Final action		
	Oct				Staff submits FW22		
	Nov						
	Dec						
2011	Jan						
	Feb						
	Mar	IMPLEMENTATION			IMPLEMENTATION		
	Apr				(or in May if FY change in A15)		
	May						