

Monkfish FMP Amendment 5

*Oversight Committee
Recommendation to Modify
Proposed Measures for
Consideration*

September, 2009

1

Discussion Outline

- Amendment 5 Purpose and Timeline
- OS Recommendations on Biological & Management Reference Points
- OS Recommendations on specification of management measures
- OS Recommendations on alternative management approaches (catch shares)

2

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
- Consider adopting ITQ and/or sector mgmt. programs, time permitting
- DEIS approval: Nov. 2009; Approve final measures: April, 2010; Submit final document: June, 2010; Effective: May, 2011

3

OS Recommendations Reference Points, ACLs and AMs

- **No changes** to MSY, OFL, ABC and ACL proposals approved by Councils in June
- Committee has added recommendation to set OY=ACT.
- **Committee has recommended ACT Option 1 (ACT=current TTAC) be considered but rejected in light of stock status**
- No changes to Reactive AMs and other ACT options

4

No changes to specifications and other management measures

- **No changes** to range of options for DAS and trip limits, based on two ACT options for each area
- Automatic adjustment for trip limit overage, 3 options
- 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

5

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
- Landing of monkfish heads

6

OS Recommendation Reject further consideration of ACT Option 1

- ACT Option 1 would have set ACT at current TTAC
- In light of stock status, OS concluded that there is no justification for such conservative catch targets
- Recommending “considered but rejected”

7

OS Recommendations Defer action on changes to incidental limits

- Several alternatives would increase the monkfish incidental limit – on trip gillnet vessels in the SMA; on vessels in the NMA on a GF but not a MF DAS; on scallop dredge vessels; on vessels in a GF sector, not on a GF or MF DAS
- Justification for these changes is not clear since current incidental limits do not appear to be constraining
- Since vessels are not constrained by current limits, analysis of impacts of increasing the limits would be uncertain

8

OS Recommendations

Defer action on catch shares

- OS recommends consideration of ITQs and/or sectors be the priority for the next MF action
- Os does not want to delay implementation of MSRA requirements and specifications
- Current catch shares strawman proposal requires further development

9

Catch Share Proposals

Some Outstanding Issues and Questions

- NEPA requires a “reasonable range” alternatives; e.g., currently only one alternative for NMA allocation
- Vessel history calculation – need to resolve discrepancies among vessel records, VTRs and dealer reports
- Appeals process and implementation schedule pending appeals

10

More Issues and Questions

- Catch monitoring program – directed and incidental catch of monkfish in other fisheries
- Cost Recovery – Proposals need a range of cost recovery alternatives; monitoring, administration and enforcement costs likely to be substantial
- Impact on RSA – Current RSA based on DAS; alternatives need to be developed for RSA under catch share programs

11

What's Next?

- Between Sept. and Nov. Council meetings: complete EA and amendment document
- NERO staff review; incorporate comments
- Distribute to NEFMC members by Nov. 1
- MAFMC consider approval of draft document Dec. 8-10

12