



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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4/3/2017	1	North Pacific Council		

Dan Hull, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:
Programmatic Groundfish Objectives - Review

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Armstrong

ACTION REQUIRED:
Review Groundfish Management Policy; action as necessary.

BACKGROUND:

Implementation of the Council's Programmatic Groundfish Management Policy in 2004 amended the BSAI and GOA Groundfish FMPs to establish a management approach statement, nine policy goals and 45 management objectives. While modification to any of these would require an FMP amendment, annual review of the Policy is mandated by the FMPs. A Programmatic Workplan was developed to support the Policy, which serves as a reference tool for identification of actions that are needed, as well as a record of actions that have been taken by the Council in support of that Policy. Prior to each Council meeting the workplan is updated, as needed, and is included in the Council's briefing materials, to maintain a record of continuity. At this year's April meeting, the Council will again conduct an annual review of the Management Policy's Objectives and Workplan.

The Management Objectives established within the Policy were intended to support management actions under the BSAI and GOA Groundfish FMPs. However, the Policy's ecosystem-based perspectives and the comprehensive nature of its objectives have also contributed to a number of forward-thinking actions outside of the Groundfish FMPs. Materials to be provided to the Council for the review will touch on the following issues that are directly or indirectly related to the Programmatic Management Policy:

- Background on the PSEIS and Management Policy
- Programmatic Workplan
 - management actions since the 2016 annual review and their basis in the Policy's Management Objectives.

- transferability of some terminology used in the Policy that is fundamentally consistent with current concepts that use alternative terminology.
- Brief reviews of the relationship between the Policy and the ...
 - Arctic FMP
 - Aleutian Islands FEP
 - Bering Sea FEP

As a part of this year's review, the Council may or may not wish to recommend modification to the Objectives themselves. The Council may also identify specific action items related to objectives that it feels are needed to more completely implement the Groundfish Management Policy. The attachments included under this agenda item - Background (Item 1), Workplan (Item 2), Actions Outside of the Groundfish FMPs (Item 3) are intended to aid the Council in their discussion.