



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: GF 17-008 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
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On agenda: 1/30/2017 **Final action:**
Title: Stock Assessment Prioritization

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. D2 JPT Minutes, 2. D2 National Stock Assessment Prioritization Plan_Methot etal, 3. D2 Local Application of Stock Assessment Prioritization Discussion Paper, 4. PRÉSENTATION: Stock prioritization process to BSAI Crab, 5. PRESENTATION: Stock Prioritization Rec, 6. D2 Public Testimony Sign Up Sheet

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
1/30/2017	1	North Pacific Council		

Dan Hull, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:
Stock Assessment Prioritization

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Armstrong

ACTION REQUIRED:

Review Plan Team Recommendations on Assessment Frequency

BACKGROUND:

In response to Council direction and in the context of the national stock assessment prioritization plan (Item 2) and its local application (Item 3), the groundfish plan teams convened a special meeting on Jan 11-12 at the AFSC in Seattle to develop recommendations relative to Council objectives. The Joint Plan Team (JPT) report is attached.

The Stock Assessment Prioritization Paper generated target frequencies for conducting assessments and "Scenario 4" was selected by the JPT for evaluation relative to status quo frequency. The JPT discussed the relevant issues and developed rationales considering: 1) alignment with survey frequencies, 2) low Catch/ABC ratio, 3) a current management concerns, and/or 4) the relative stability of abundance estimates across years. Where author recommendations, status quo, and scenario 4 were consistent, the Teams recommended no change in assessment frequency. Additionally, the JPT recommended how to proceed during stock assessment "off-years" to ensure that stocks would be appropriately monitored.

The JPT recommended decreasing the frequency of stock assessment for 13 stocks. One annual assessment (Greenland turbot) was recommended to become 2 years, one annual assessment (AI pollock) was recommended to become 4 years, and the remaining 11 stocks changed from 2-year to 4-year frequencies.

Two other main outcomes/recommendations from the meeting were:

- 1) To revisit assessment frequency again (say after 5 years) for evaluation recognizing that special

requests and cases may cause for changes in assessment frequency;

- 2) To emphasize the importance to maintain (or increase) survey frequency and other multi-species data collection programs. The frequency of SAFE report chapter production was considered assuming the current level of fishery independent survey sampling effort.