



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Action Memo

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Dan Hull, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

Halibut Abundance-based PSC Limits; Candidate Performance Metrics

STAFF CONTACT: Diana Stram

ACTION REQUIRED:

Review discussion paper; action as necessary.

BACKGROUND:

The inter-agency Abundance-based management (ABM) workgroup discussion paper is attached. This paper reviews and builds upon several requests from the Council in April 2017. The following materials are provided in this paper with the goals and objectives of this review noted below:

1. Description of indices: A preliminary response to the SSC and Council's request for additional description of the Pacific halibut abundance indices and their qualities is provided. This section of the report shows how several indices are highly correlated and what components of the halibut stock they address. Ideally, based on this information the SSC might suggest a subset of indices to help the WG draft a suite of abundance-based management (ABM) alternatives to be considered in October.
2. Performance metrics: Revised draft performance metrics based on the February workshop along with public input are provided. Further review and input at this meeting will help the Inter-agency workgroup (WG) draft a suite of alternatives to be considered in October. Specifically, do these performance metrics (or additional ones to be brought forward in SSC review and public input) address the concerns the Council is balancing in drafting alternatives for abundance-based halibut PSC limits? These metrics will help the WG evaluate which individual indices (as listed in the description of indices section) might best be used.
3. Outline of October paper: A draft outline of information to be included in the October paper is provided for feedback on the breadth and necessity of including each of these items in a comprehensive discussion paper. A list of information previously provided and links to where it can be downloaded is also attached. The WG is seeking feedback on what information should be brought forward in October to facilitate decision-making on a range of ABM alternatives at that time.