

February 4, 2012

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Motion on Agenda Item C-4(b), Initial Review analysis of designating areas of skate egg concentration as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern:

1. Reformulate Alternative 3 with revised area boundaries consistent with the Enforcement Committee recommendations;
2. Reword current Option e to “suggest” adding further research and monitoring of areas of skate egg concentration to the Council’s annual research priority list;
3. Add to Alternative 2 a statement of Council intent to “discourage fishing in these areas” of skate egg concentration with any fishing gear that makes contact with the sea floor;
4. Incorporate the following bullets from the AP’s motion into the analysis. Expand the analysis to include:
 - Longer history of fishing in proposed HAPC sites;
 - Further discussion with NMFS’ Office of Law Enforcement on the ability to minimize the closure sizes;
 - Economic analysis of impacts on the actual proposed closure sites, including buffer(s);
 - Actual bycatch of egg casings by gear type in each HAPC site;
5. Incorporate the SSC’s recommendations, including consistency of terms, but not the comments on enforcement;
6. Provide for Alternative 2 a discussion of potential industry and agency monitoring, reporting, and accountability mechanisms;
7. Incorporate the comments from the Ecosystem and Enforcement Committees.