



Summer Flounder, Scup, & Black Sea Bass **Commercial/Recreational Allocation Amendment**

Joint Council and Board Meeting
August 10, 2021



Background

- April 2021: Board & Council postponed final action until December 2021
- Allowed for submission of additional alternatives
- Proposals must be within the existing range
- Today's objective: consider approval of additional alternatives

Proposal for Additional Allocation Alternatives

- Proposal submitted by 4 Council/Board members
- Two proposed new alternative sets:
 - 2004-2018 base years with RHL overage years excluded
 - 50/50 weighting of the historical base years and recent base years with RHL overage years excluded

Year	Summer Flounder		Scup		Black Sea Bass	
	RHL	Harvest (old MRIP)	RHL	Harvest (old MRIP)	RHL	Harvest (old MRIP)
2004	11.21	11.02	4.01	7.28	4.01	2.34
2005	11.98	10.92	3.96	2.69	4.13	2.18
2006	9.29	10.50	4.15	3.72	3.99	1.91
2007	6.68	9.34	2.74	4.56	2.47	2.34
2008	6.21	8.15	1.83	3.79	2.11	2.09
2009	7.16	6.03	2.59	3.23	1.14	2.67
2010	8.59	5.11	3.01	5.97	1.83	3.36
2011	11.58	5.96	5.74	3.67	1.84	1.27
2012	8.49	6.49	8.45	4.17	1.32	3.31
2013	7.63	7.36	7.55	5.44	2.26	2.51
2014	7.01	7.39	7.03	4.74	2.26	3.53
2015	7.38	4.72	6.80	4.62	2.33	3.20
2016	5.42	6.18	6.09	4.26	2.82	5.27
2017	3.77	3.19	5.50	5.42	4.29	4.26
2018	4.42	3.35	7.37	5.61	3.66	3.82

Proposed New Alternatives Using 2004–2018 Base Years with RHL Overage Years Excluded

Species	Years Excluded	Landings Based		Catch Based	
		Com	Rec	Com	Rec
Summer flounder	2006-2008, 2014 & 2016 5 out of 15	47%	53%	45%	55%
Scup	2004 & 2007- 2010 5 out of 15	59%	41%	62%	38%
Black sea bass	2009-2010, 2012-2016 & 2018 8 out of 15	37%	63%	36%	64%

Proposed New Alts with 50/50 Weighting of Historical Base Years and 2004–2018 with RHL Overage Years Excluded

Species	Years Excluded	Historical Base Years	Landings Based		Catch Based	
			Com	Rec	Com	Rec
Summer flounder	2006-2008, 2014 & 2016 5 out of 15	1981-1989 Landings only. Landings % applied to catch.	51%	49%	50%	50%
Scup	2004 & 2007-2010 5 out of 15	1988-1992 Can be calculated in landings and catch.	58%	42%	63.5%	36.5%
Black sea bass	2009-2010, 2012-2016 & 2018 8 out of 15	1983-1992 Landings only. Landings % applied to catch.	41%	59%	40.5%	59.5%

Allocation Revision Impacts

- We cannot precisely predict future quotas and RHLs under current or revised allocations
 - Depend on future biomass projections and resulting ABCs
 - Depend on annual projections of sector-specific dead discards (Monitoring Committee recommends, usually based on recent trends)
 - Discarding patterns may change with revised allocations
 - example quotas and RHLs attempt to account for this

Allocation Revision Impacts

- Example quotas and RHLs developed using 2020 ABCs and regression method to predict future discards
 - Discards are positively correlated with landings
- **Should be taken with a grain of salt; actual limits will vary under different ABCs and changes to discard patterns**
- Staff can provide updated examples based on 2023 ABCs prior to final action

Proposed Alternative Analysis

- All proposed alternatives have preliminarily been determined by staff to be “within the existing range”, based on comparing the resulting example quotas and RHLs for each option

Summer Flounder Alternatives

- 1a-1 – 1a-7: existing alternatives
 - No action in bold
- F-1 – F-4: proposed new alternatives in green

Alt.	Catch-Based					Landings-Based					
	1a-1	1a-2	1a-3	F-2	F-4	1a-4	1a-5	1a-6	1a-7	F-1	F-3
Com. allocation	44%	43%	40%	45%	50%	60%	55%	45%	41%	47%	51%
Rec. allocation	56%	57%	60%	55%	50%	40%	45%	55%	59%	53%	49%
Example com. quota	8.79	8.57	7.92	9.01	10.11	11.53	10.20	8.38	7.65	8.75	9.48
Example RHL	10.24	10.47	11.15	10.02	8.89	7.69	8.34	10.25	11.02	9.87	9.10

Scup Alternatives

- 1b-1 – 1b-7: existing alternatives
 - No action in bold
- Sc-1 – Sc-4: proposed new alternatives in green

Alt.	Catch-Based						Landings-Based				
	1b-1	1b-2	1b-3	1b-4	Sc-2	Sc-4	1b-5	1b-6	1b-7	Sc-1	Sc-3
Com. allocation	78%	65%	61%	59%	62%	63.5%	57%	56%	50%	59%	58%
Rec. allocation	22%	35%	39%	41%	38%	36.5%	43%	44%	50%	41%	42%
Example com. quota	22.23	16.90	15.92	15.44	16.17	16.53	16.85	16.56	14.81	17.43	17.14
Example RHL	6.51	11.04	12.37	13.04	12.04	11.54	12.71	13.01	14.81	12.11	12.41

Black Sea Bass Alternatives

- 1c-1 – 1c-7: existing alternatives
 - No action in bold
- BSB-1 – BSB-4: proposed new alternatives in green

Alt.	Catch-Based					Landings-Based					
	1c-1	1c-2	1c-3	BSB-2	BSB-4	1c-4	1c-5	1c-6	1c-7	BSB-1	BSB-3
Com. allocation	32%	28%	24%	36%	40.5%	49%	45%	29%	22%	37%	41%
Rec. allocation	68%	72%	76%	64%	59.5%	51%	55%	71%	78%	63%	59%
Example com. quota	3.31	2.99	2.66	3.63	4.00	5.58	5.04	3.38	2.61	4.23	4.63
Example RHL	8.16	8.65	9.14	7.68	7.13	5.81	6.15	8.28	9.27	7.20	6.67

Decision for the Board & Council

- Should the proposed alternatives be incorporated into the amendment?