



PUBLIC NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Trawl Rationalization Program: **IFQ - Vessel Account Adjustment for Lingcod Carryover**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces adjustments to vessel accounts for lingcod surplus carryover in the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program.

NMFS previously issued surplus carryover for most IFQ species, as announced in the May 7, 2013 public notice (NMFS-SEA-13-08). This week, NMFS will issue surplus carryover from 2012 to 2013 vessel accounts for:

- Lingcod north of 40°10' N. lat., and
- Lingcod south of 40°10' N. lat.

In the May 7th public notice, NMFS announced that it did not issue surplus carryover for lingcod because the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and NMFS needed to consider how reallocations by geographic area affect surplus carryover. In this case, lingcod changed from a coastwide IFQ species to being divided north and south of 40°10' N. lat. The final rule for the 2013/2014 harvest specifications and management measures (78 FR 580, 1/3/2013) highlighted this issue on p.584, stating “the PFMC [Council] and NMFS need to consider how reallocations affect surplus carryover, QS control limits (including aggregate non-whiting groundfish species), and potentially, a different solution to deficit carryover.”



At the Council’s June 2013 meeting, the Council reviewed the issue and recommended the methodology for issuing lingcod surplus carryover from 2012 to 2013 as outlined in Agenda Item F.9.b, NMFS Report, June 2013. http://www.pcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/F9b_NMFS_RPT_JUN2013BB.pdf

Using the Council-recommended methodology, NMFS has credited lingcod quota pounds from surplus carryover to eligible vessel accounts. NMFS will not issue surplus carryover in excess of daily or annual vessel limits and any surplus carryover above vessel limits will be permanently expired.

For answers to frequently asked questions on surplus carryover, please see “Helpful Links” on NMFS vessel account webpage at http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish_trawl_catch_share/vessel_accounts/manage_an_existing_vessel_account.html

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