



## D3 Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program Review Workplan

June 2024 Council Meeting

### Action Memo

- Council Staff: Sarah Marrinan
- Other Presenters: Darrell Brannan, Brannan and Associates, LLC
- Action Required:
1. Review workplan
  2. Provide any feedback on the proposed scope or content of the upcoming program review

### BACKGROUND

Management of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) rockfish fisheries before 2007 was conducted under the License Limitation Program (LLP) and was a short 3-week fishery in July and directly conflicted with the region's pink salmon fishery. To address concerns regarding the pace of the fishery and the conflict with the pink salmon season the Rockfish Pilot Program (RPP) was implemented as a 5-year test program authorized by Congress from 2007-2011. The success of the RPP resulted in the Council implementing the Rockfish Program. The initial Rockfish Program was a 10-year program that was in place from 2012 through 2021. The Council reauthorized the Rockfish Program prior to the 2021 sunset date. The current Rockfish Program does not include a sunset date.

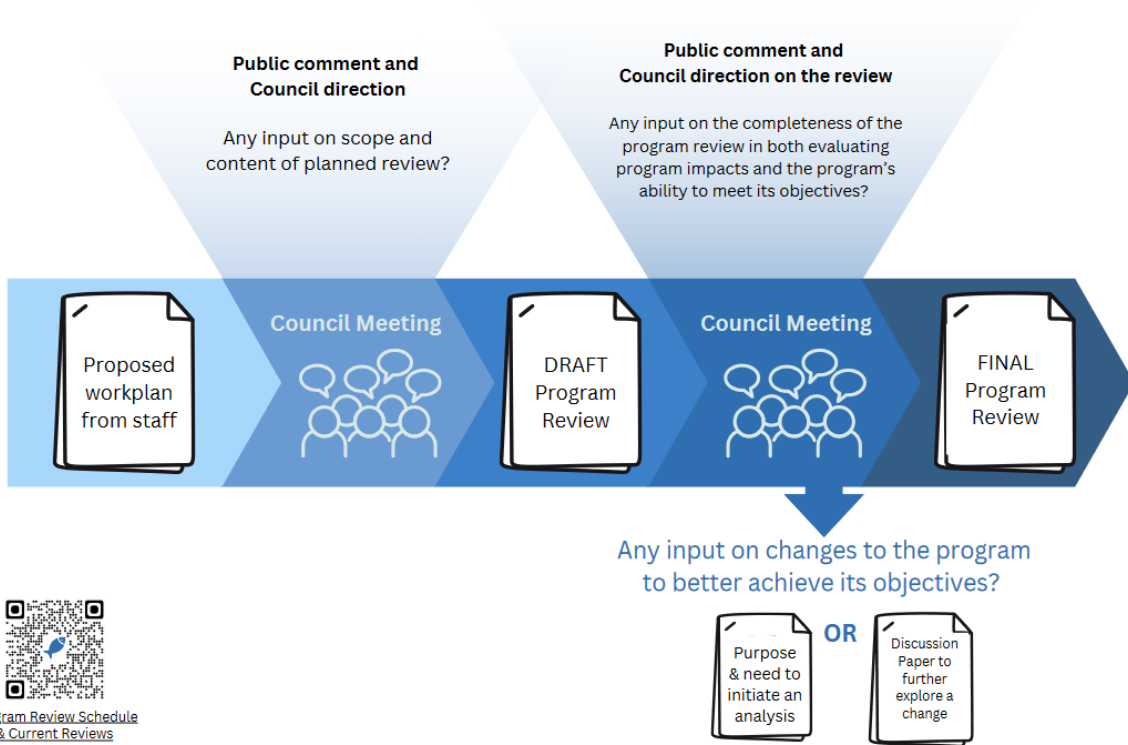
Section 303A of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) requires the Council and NMFS to review all Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs). Reviews are intended to evaluate the program's performance in meeting its goals and objectives as outlined in the MSA. The MSA also specifies that reviews of these LAPPs should occur no less frequently than once every seven years. The last Rockfish Program review was presented to the Council at its October 2017 meeting.

In this stage of the process, a workplan was prepared by staff (see Figure below). **The purpose of a program review workplan is to detail the legal requirements and guidance for the review, outline the proposed scope and content, and perhaps most importantly, provide an opportunity for public comment and Council direction to weigh in on this proposed scope and content.** This feedback will inform the development of the review. The completed review will be considered at a separate Council meeting in 2025. At that point, public and Council direction may provide feedback on the review's evaluation of the program objective and impacts as well as any changes recommended before the document is finalized. A program review is not an "action document"; any changes to the program that may be warranted which are highlighted during the review will be considered for action separately from the review. This could occur through the initiation of a discussion paper or an analysis.

Based on the [approach](#) detailed in the Program and Allocation Review Workplan<sup>1</sup> and approved by the Council in April 2023, this CGOA Rockfish Program review will also satisfy the requirements for reviewing CGOA rockfish allocations that are require by NOAA allocation policy directive 01-119.

## NPFMC Program Reviews

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act requires program reviews initially after the first 5 years and then every 7 years for all Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs).



<sup>1</sup> <https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=56436ad5-c8d8-4383-b42d-7646f3811912.pdf&fileName=E%20Program%20and%20Allocation%20Review.pdf>