

Amendment Style

Use of Amendment to Manage small TAC (overage/underages)

Over the last few years, the WCVI troll fishery has been fishing to extremely small monthly or bi-monthly TACs.

This micro-management is extremely difficult to manage when you get close to the very small numbers.

In many cases, the fishery is shut down with TAC remaining for the time period- on rare occasion, TAC was taken from the following month.

In most cases, the overage/underage is of no concern biologically or in the total TAC. However, in some cases, there may be a desire to stay within the minute monthly quota.

Proposed:

When the fleet is fishing close to a margin where there is discomfort, a trigger could be established that would lead to a short closure. The fishery would then re-open with participants under an amendment style catch for the remaining monthly TAC.

Example: (for modeling and discussion purpose only)

March TAC 20,000

Fleet size: 70

If the fleet CPUE is high and the fleet reaches 18,500 DFO would be concerned and may consider closing

The fishery could re-open with a TAC boat limit of 21

