

Species		Historic range	Vertebrate popu- lation where endan- gered or threatened	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Common name	Scientific name						
MAMMALS							
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Seal, Hawaiian monk	<i>Neomonachus schauinslandi</i> (= <i>Monachus schauinslandi</i> ).	U.S.A. (HI) .....	Entire .....	E	18	226.201	NA
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: February 25, 2015.

**Stephen Guertin,**

*Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 140904754-5188-02]

RIN 0648-BE27

#### Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2015-2016 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Amendment 24

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule would establish the 2015-2016 harvest specifications and management measures for groundfish taken in the U.S. exclusive economic zone off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California, consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (PCGFMP), and approve Amendment 24 to the PCGFMP. This final rule would also revise the management measures that are intended to keep the total catch of each groundfish species or species complex within the harvest specifications. This action also includes regulations to implement Amendment 24 to the PCGFMP, which establishes default harvest control rules for setting harvest specifications after 2015-2016.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective March 10, 2015, except for the modifications to sorting requirements at §§ 660.130(d)(1)(i), 660.230(c)(2)(i), and 660.330(c)(2)(i), which are effective April 1, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Information relevant to this final rule and Amendment 24, which includes a final environmental impact statement (EIS), the Record of Decision (ROD), a regulatory impact review (RIR), final regulatory flexibility analysis (FRFA), and amended PCGFMP, are available from William Stelle, Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070. Electronic copies of this final rule are also available at the NMFS West Coast Region Web site: <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sarah Williams, phone: 206-526-4646, fax: 206-526-6736, or email: [sarah.williams@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.williams@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Electronic Access

This rule is accessible via the Internet at the Office of the Federal Register Web site at <https://www.federalregister.gov>. Background information and documents are available at the NMFS West Coast Region Web site at <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish/index.html> and at the Council's Web site at <http://www.pcouncil.org>.

##### Executive Summary

##### Purpose of the Regulatory Action

This final rule implements the 2015-2016 harvest specifications and management measures for groundfish species taken in the U.S. exclusive economic zone off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. The purpose of this action is to conserve and manage Pacific Coast groundfish fishery resources to prevent overfishing, to rebuild overfished stocks, to ensure conservation, to facilitate long-term protection of essential fish habitats

(EFH), and to realize the full potential of the Nation's fishery resources. The need for this action is to set catch limit specifications for 2015-2016 consistent with existing or revised harvest control rules for all stocks, and establish management measures designed to keep catch within the appropriate limits. These harvest specifications are set consistent with the optimum yield (OY) harvest management framework described in Chapter 4 of the PCGFMP. This final rule also implements Amendment 24 to PCGFMP. Amendment 24 establishes the default harvest control rules used to determine harvest specifications after 2015-2016. This rule is authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1854-55 and by the PCGFMP.

##### Major Provisions

This final rule contains two types of major provisions. The first are the harvest specifications (overfishing limits (OFLs), acceptable biological catches (ABCs), and annual catch limits (ACLs)), and the second are management measures designed to keep fishing mortality within the ACLs. The harvest specifications (OFLs, ABCs, and ACLs) in this rule have been developed through a rigorous scientific review and decision-making process, which is described in detail in the proposed rule for this action (80 FR 687, January 6, 2015) and is not repeated here.

In summary, the OFL is the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) harvest level and is an estimate of the catch level above which overfishing is occurring. OFLs are based on recommendations by the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) as the best scientific information available. The ABC is an annual catch specification that is the stock or stock complex's OFL reduced by an amount associated with scientific uncertainty. The SSC-recommended method for incorporating scientific uncertainty is referred to as the P star-sigma approach and is discussed in detail in the proposed and final rules for the 2011-2012 (75 FR 67810, November 3, 2010 and 76 FR 27508, May 11, 2011)

and 2013–2014 (77 FR 67974, November 12, 2012, and 78 FR 580, January 3, 2013) biennial harvest specifications and management measures. The ACL is a harvest specification set equal to or below the ABC. The ACLs are decided in a manner to achieve OY from the fishery, which is the amount of fish that will provide the greatest overall benefit to the Nation, particularly with respect to food production and recreational opportunities, and considering the protection of marine ecosystems. The ACLs are based on consideration of conservation objectives, socio-economic concerns, management uncertainty, and other factors. All known sources of fishing and scientific research catch are counted against the ACL.

This final rule includes ACLs for the seven overfished species managed under the PCGFMP. For the 2015–2016 biennium only one species, cowcod, requires rebuilding plan changes to its  $T_{MAX}$  and  $T_{TARGET}$  rebuilding parameters.  $T_{MAX}$  is the maximum permissible time period for rebuilding the stock to its target biomass.  $T_{TARGET}$  is the year by which the stock can be rebuilt as soon as possible, taking into account the status and biology of the stock, the needs of fishing communities, and the interaction of the stock of fish within the marine ecosystem. The changes are necessary because the rebuilding analyses prepared showed that the current  $T_{TARGET}$  is 9 years longer than the new  $T_{MAX}$ . Accordingly, for cowcod, the  $T_{TARGET}$  is revised from 2068 to 2020, which is the median time to rebuild based on the established harvest control rule. The remaining overfished species (bocaccio, canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, Pacific ocean perch, petrale sole and yelloweye rockfish) are making adequate progress towards rebuilding or are estimated to be rebuilt in 2015. Therefore, this rule establishes harvest specifications consistent with the existing rebuilding plan provisions for those species.

This action also approves and implements regulations for Amendment 24 to the PCGFMP. Amendment 24 consists of three components: (1) Default harvest control rules; (2) a suite of minor changes, including clarification of routine management measures and adjustments to those measures, clarification to the harvest specifications decision making schedule, changes to the description of biennial management cycle process, updates to make the PCGFMP consistent with SSC guidance on the FMSY proxy for elasmobranchs, and clarifications to definitions; and (3) addition of two rockfish species to the PCGFMP and the

designation of ecosystem component (EC) species.

With respect to the Council's recommendations for EC species, in the preamble to the proposed rule, NMFS noted that reclassification of Pacific grenadier from a stock "in the fishery" to an EC species is arguably inconsistent with the NS 1 Guidelines, which state that EC species should not be a target stock and should generally not be retained. Recent Pacific grenadier landings average about 130 mt per year, and Pacific grenadier is landed, marketed, and possibly targeted in some regions, mainly in central California. However, despite relatively high amounts of catch when compared to catch of other proposed EC species, only about 10 percent of the estimated OFL contribution for Pacific grenadier was caught annually between 2009 and 2011. In addition, because the stocks that are currently in the PCGFMP and are proposed to be reclassified as EC species were previously managed as part of the Other Fish complex rather than as individual species, the EC classification results in very limited changes from existing management practices. Because of this, NMFS believes that the change to EC status will not result in additional fishing pressure on Pacific grenadier. Therefore, NMFS is approving the Council's recommendation to designate Pacific grenadier as an EC species with the understanding that continued monitoring and evaluation of the stocks' classifications will occur.

Like Pacific grenadier, big skate is also currently in the Groundfish FMP as part of the Other Fish complex, and is designated as an EC species through Amendment 24 and this final rule. The information the Council had before it at the time of its recommendations indicated that recent average catches of big skate were only 18 percent of the estimated OFL. However, at its February 2–6, 2015, work session the Council's Groundfish Management Team (GMT) discussed new information about the catch data that was used to review whether big skate was an appropriate stock for EC species classification. The GMT noted that it was recently discovered that the majority of landings contributing to an "unspecified skate" market category were in fact predominantly big skate and that recent catches of big skate were much closer to the estimated OFL. Anecdotal evidence also indicates targeting and marketing exist. The Council and its other advisory bodies have not yet reviewed the preliminary information described by the GMT. However, if accurate, big skate would likely be in need of conservation

and management and not an acceptable candidate for EC species classification. Because this new information came to light after Amendment 24 was submitted for NMFS' review, and only a few weeks before the statutorily-mandated deadline for a decision on the amendment, it was not practicable for the information to be incorporated into Amendment 24. However, NMFS understands that the Council intends to review the new information regarding big skate at its April 2015 meeting. If trip limits in the trawl fishery are needed to prevent overfishing, the Council and NMFS have authority under existing regulations to implement those changes via inseason action. If the GMT verifies this preliminary information, the Council would need to initiate a process to reclassify big skate as a stock in need of conservation and management rather than an EC species.

In order to keep mortality of the species managed under the PCGFMP within the ACLs the Council also recommended management measures for recreational and commercial fisheries. Generally speaking, management measures are intended to rebuild overfished species, prevent ACLs from being exceeded, and allow for the harvest of healthy stocks. Management measures include time and area restrictions, gear restrictions, trip or bag limits, size limits, and other management tools. Management measures may vary by fishing sector because different fishing sectors require different types of management to control catch. Most of the management measures the Council recommended for 2015–2016 were slight variations to existing management measures and do not represent a change from current management practices. These types of changes include changes to trip limits, bag limits, closed areas, etc. Additionally, several new management measures were recommended by the Council and proposed by NMFS. Those measures are described in detail in the proposed rule for this action.

This final rule implements the same regulations that were described in the proposed rule with a few exceptions. All of these changes are discussed in detail below in Changes from the Proposed Rule.

## Background

The Pacific Coast Groundfish fishery is managed under the PCGFMP. The PCGFMP was prepared by the Council, approved on July 30, 1984, and has been amended numerous times. Regulations at 50 CFR part 660, subparts C through G, implement the provisions of the PCGFMP.

The PCGFMP requires the harvest specifications and management measures for groundfish to be set at least biennially. This final rule is based on the Council's final recommendations that were made at its June 2014 meeting with updated harvest specifications for some stocks adopted at its November 2014 meeting. The Notice of Availability for the FEIS for this action was published on January 16, 2015 (80 FR 2414). The final preferred alternative in the FEIS is the same as the Council's preferred alternative from June 2014, and includes the updated harvest specifications that the Council recommended at its November 2014 meeting. The final preferred alternative, including updated harvest specifications from November 2014, was described in the proposed rule for this action. See the preamble to the proposed rule for additional background information on the fishery and the provisions implemented in this final rule.

#### Comments and Responses

NMFS published a proposed rule on January 6, 2015 (80 FR 687) with a comment period that closed on January 26, 2015. NMFS received three letters of comment on the proposed rule. NMFS received one letter from the Department of the Interior stating it had no comment, one letter from an anonymous commenter, and one letter from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

*Comment 1:* An anonymous commenter requested that PCGFMP Amendment 24 incorporate mandatory protocols for when a species is discovered to be overfished or threatened, including reporting of that information.

*Response:* Amendment 24 establishes NMFS' ability to implement harvest specifications based on the harvest control rules from the previous biennium, applied to the best available science, in the absence of Council action. If the best available science indicates that a species is subject to overfishing or is in an overfished condition, Section 4.6 of the PCGFMP describes procedures for the use of precautionary harvest control rules that will apply for that species in the interim until a rebuilding plan can be developed and implemented (e.g. the harvest control rules that applied in the previous biennium would change based on the best available science). Section 4.6.3.7 of the PCGFMP also describes the protocols used with regard to species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Accordingly, the

PCGFMP already addresses the issues raised by the commenter and this action does not change those protocols. Development of new rebuilding plans and steps taken to ensure the conservation of species listed under the ESA are considered through the Council process, which is open to the public.

*Comment 2:* The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife requested that NMFS delay the addition of shortraker and blackspotted/rougheye rockfish to the list of species that must be sorted coastwide because data is collected on a quarterly basis and April 1st is the beginning of a quarter.

*Response:* NMFS supports this delay in effectiveness and therefore has modified the effective date of the sorting requirement changes. This delay does not change the current sorting requirements, only the addition of the new species. NMFS does not believe that the short delay in effectiveness will result in conservation concerns.

#### Changes From the Proposed Rule

For the recreational fishery in California, the Council recommended changes for California scorpionfish and black rockfish which are incorporated into this rule. NMFS requested comments on these changes in the proposed rule but did not include the necessary regulatory text at that time. Therefore, this rule will modify regulations at § 660.360(c)(3)(v)(A)(1) through (4) to prohibit retention of California scorpionfish in the California recreational fisheries from September through December. Additionally, this rule will add a 5 fish sub-bag limit for black rockfish within the Rockfish-Cabazon-Greenling limits at § 660.360(c)(3)(ii)(B). These changes are consistent with the Council's recommendations at the November 2014 meeting and with the description of these changes in the proposed rule for this action.

#### Classifications

The Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, determined that the 2015–2016 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures and Amendment 24 to the PCGFMP, which this final rule implements, are necessary for the conservation and management of the Pacific Coast Groundfish fishery and are consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and other applicable laws.

NMFS finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in effectiveness pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), so that this final rule may become effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**,

except in the case of the sorting requirements for rougheye/blackspotted and shortraker rockfish, which will become effective on April 1, 2015. Because this final rule increases the catch limits for several species for 2015, leaving 2014 harvest specifications in place could unnecessarily delay fishing opportunities until later in the year, potentially reducing the total catch for these species in 2015. Thus, a delay in effectiveness could ultimately cause economic harm to the fishing industry and associated fishing communities or result in harvest levels inconsistent with the best available scientific information. This final rule also approves the Council's 2015–2016 management measures, which respond to the needs of the fisheries in each state. Therefore, allowing the 2014 management measures to remain in place would not respond to the needs of the fishery and would be in conflict with the Council's final recommendation for 2015 management measures. For example, due to higher than expected catches in California, the Council recommended implementing a 5 fish sub-bag limit for black rockfish in order to slow catches and provide for year round opportunity while managing to the California harvest guideline for black rockfish. Because of the potential harm to fish stocks and fishing communities that could be caused by delaying the effectiveness of this final rule, NMFS finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in effectiveness.

NMFS prepared an FEIS for the 2015–2016 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures and Amendment 24 to the PCGFMP. The Environmental Protection Agency published a notice of availability for the FEIS on January 16, 2015 (80 FR 2414.) A copy of the FEIS is available online at <http://www.pcouncil.org/>. In approving the 2015–2016 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures, NMFS issued a Record of Decision (ROD) identifying the selected alternatives. A copy of the ROD is available from NMFS (see **ADDRESSES**).

This final rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

A final regulatory flexibility analysis (FRFA) was prepared. The FRFA incorporates the IRFA, a summary of the significant issues raised by the public comments in response to the IRFA, NMFS' responses to those comments, and a summary of the analyses completed to support the action. A copy of the FRFA is available from NMFS (see **ADDRESSES**) and a summary of the FRFA, per the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 604(a), follows:

NMFS received no comments to the RIR/IRFA. NMFS agrees that the Council's choice of preferred alternatives would best achieve the Council's objectives while minimizing, to the extent practicable, the adverse effects on harvesters, processors, fishing support industries, and associated communities. The preamble above provides a statement and need for, and objective of this rule. The MSA provides the statutory basis for this rule. No duplicative, overlapping, or conflicting Federal rules have been identified. This final rule would not introduce any changes to current reporting, recordkeeping, and other compliance requirements.

This rule regulates businesses that harvest groundfish. This rule directly affects limited entry fixed gear permit holders, trawl Quota Share (QS) and whiting catch history endorsed permit holders (which includes shorebased whiting processors), tribal vessels, charterboat vessels, and open access vessels. QS holders are directly affected because the amount of Quota Pounds (QP) they receive based on their QS are affected by the ACLs. Vessels that fish under the trawl rationalization program receive their QP from the QS holders, and thus are indirectly affected if they only own vessel accounts rather than QS. Similarly, Mothership processors are indirectly affected as they receive the fish they process from limited entry permits that are endorsed with whiting catch history assignments.

According to the Small Business Administration (SBA), a small commercial harvesting business is one that has annual receipts under \$20.5 million (including its affiliates), a small charterboat business is one with receipts under \$7.5 million, and a small processor employs less than 500 employees. Small non-profit organizations must be independently owned and operated and not dominant in its field. Small government jurisdictions must have populations less than 50,000. For purposes of rulemaking, NMFS is applying the \$20.5 million standard to catcher processors because whiting catcher processors are involved in the commercial harvest of finfish.

To determine the number of small entities potentially affected by this rule, NMFS reviewed analyses of fish ticket data and limited entry permit data. NMFS also reviewed the EIS associated with this rulemaking. The EIS includes information on charterboat, tribal, and open access fleets, available cost-earnings data developed by Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC). NMFS also reviewed responses

associated with the permitting process for the trawl rationalization program—applicants were asked if they considered themselves a small business based on SBA definitions. This rule would regulate businesses that harvest groundfish.

NMFS makes the following conclusions based primarily on analyses associated with fish ticket data, limited entry permit data, previous analysis of the charterboat and tribal fleets, NMFS expertise, and the EIS associated with this rule making. As part of the permitting process for the Trawl rationalization program or to participate in non-trawl limited entry permit fisheries, applicants were asked if they considered themselves a small business. NMFS reviewed the ownership and affiliation relationships of quota share permit holders, vessel account holders, catcher processor permits, Mothership processing, and first receiver/shore processor permits. Based on this review, there are an estimated 102 unique small businesses and 21 large businesses that participate in this Trawl Rationalization Program. In the non-trawl limited entry program, there are 222 small businesses.

Open access vessels are not federally permitted so counts based on landings can provide an estimate of the affected. The Draft EIS analysis for the 2013–14 Pacific Groundfish Specifications and Management Measures contained the following assessment, which is deemed reasonable estimates for this rule, as these fisheries have not changed significantly in recent years. In 2011, 682 directed open access vessels fished while 284 incidental open access vessels fished for a total of 966 vessels. Over the 2005–2010 period, 1583 different directed open access vessels fished and 837 different incidental open access vessels fished for a total of 2420 different vessels. According to the Draft EIS, over the 2008–2010 period, 447 to 470 charterboats participated in the groundfish fishery, 447 in 2010. The four tribal fleets sum to a total of 54 longline vessels, 5 whiting trawlers, and 5 non-whiting trawlers, for a grand total of 64 vessels. Available information on average revenue per vessel suggests that all the entities in these groups can be considered small.

These regulations implement the Council's preferred alternative. The key economic effects of the Council's preferred alternative and the other alternatives were described in detail in the proposed rule for this action. The economic effects of the Council's preferred alternative were compared with the no action alternative where the no action alternative reflects maintaining 2013–2014 harvest

specifications and management measures into 2015–2016. Total shoreside sectors' ex-vessel revenue under the Preferred Alternative is projected to be the highest among the action alternatives. Compared with No Action, total non-whiting shoreside ex-vessel revenue under the preferred alternative is projected to increase by \$16 million (20 percent) in 2015. Projected revenues are higher than under No Action for every shorebased groundfish sector. The greatest absolute and percentage increase in revenue is projected for the IFQ sector: \$12.8 million (45 percent) in 2015. There is no projected change from No Action for the incidental Open Access Sector. Future rulemaking will address the amount of whiting that is to be harvested by shoreside IFQ, mothership catcher vessels, catcher-processors, and tribal fleets. This rule making does affect the amount of bycatch that these fleets will have for their directed whiting fisheries.

Under the Preferred Alternative, an increase of 11,600 angler trips is projected from No Action coastwide. All of the increase occurs in California. Trips increase by 1,600 (20 percent) in the Mendocino region, 5,600 (11 percent) in the San Francisco region and 4,400 (4 percent) in the Central region. No change from No Action is projected for California's Northern and Southern management areas or for recreational fisheries in Washington and Oregon. This represents a coastwide income increase of \$1,471,000 compared to No Action alternative.

NMFS issued Biological Opinions under the ESA on August 10, 1990, November 26, 1991, August 28, 1992, September 27, 1993, May 14, 1996, and December 15, 1999 pertaining to the effects of the PCGFMP fisheries on Chinook salmon (Puget Sound, Snake River spring/summer, Snake River fall, upper Columbia River spring, lower Columbia River, upper Willamette River, Sacramento River winter, Central Valley spring, California coastal), coho salmon (Central California coastal, southern Oregon/northern California coastal), chum salmon (Hood Canal summer, Columbia River), sockeye salmon (Snake River, Ozette Lake), and steelhead (upper, middle and lower Columbia River, Snake River Basin, upper Willamette River, central California coast, California Central Valley, south/central California, northern California, southern California). These biological opinions have concluded that implementation of the PCGFMP is not expected to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species under the jurisdiction of NMFS, or

result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat.

NMFS issued a Supplemental Biological Opinion on March 11, 2006 concluding that neither the higher observed bycatch of Chinook in the 2005 whiting fishery nor new data regarding salmon bycatch in the groundfish bottom trawl fishery required a reconsideration of its prior “no jeopardy” conclusion. NMFS also reaffirmed its prior determination that implementation of the PCGFMP is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any of the affected ESUs. Lower Columbia River coho (70 FR 37160, June 28, 2005) and Oregon Coastal coho (73 FR 7816, February 11, 2008) were relisted as threatened under the ESA. The 1999 biological opinion concluded that the bycatch of salmonids in the Pacific whiting fishery were almost entirely Chinook salmon, with little or no bycatch of coho, chum, sockeye, and steelhead.

NMFS has reinitiated section 7 consultation on the PCGFMP with respect to its effects on listed salmonids. In the event the consultation identifies either reasonable and prudent alternatives to address jeopardy concerns or reasonable and prudent measures to minimize incidental take, NMFS would exercise necessary authorities in coordination, to the extent possible, with the Council to put such additional alternatives or measures into place. After reviewing the available information, NMFS has concluded that, consistent with sections 7(a)(2) and 7(d) of the ESA, this action will not jeopardize any listed species, would not adversely modify any designated critical habitat, and will not result in any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources that would have the effect of foreclosing the formulation or implementation of any reasonable and prudent alternative measures.

On December 7, 2012, NMFS completed a biological opinion concluding that the groundfish fishery is not likely to jeopardize non-salmonid marine species including listed eulachon, green sturgeon, humpback whales, Steller sea lions, and leatherback sea turtles. The opinion also concludes that the fishery is not likely to adversely modify critical habitat for green sturgeon and leatherback sea turtles. The opinion also concluded that the fishery is not likely to adversely affect green sea turtles, olive ridley sea turtles, loggerhead sea turtles, sei whales, North Pacific right whales, blue whales, fin whales, sperm whales, Southern Resident killer whales, Guadalupe fur seals, or the critical habitat for Steller sea lions.

On November 21, 2012, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued a biological opinion concluding that the groundfish fishery will not jeopardize the continued existence of the short-tailed albatross. The (FWS) also concurred that the fishery is not likely to adversely affect the marbled murrelet, California least tern, southern sea otter, bull trout, or bull trout critical habitat.

This final rule would not alter the effects on marine mammals over what has already been considered for the fishery. West Coast pot fisheries for sablefish are considered Category II fisheries under the MMPA’s List of Fisheries, indicating occasional interactions. All other West Coast groundfish fisheries, including the trawl fishery, are considered Category III fisheries under the MMPA, indicating a remote likelihood of or no known serious injuries or mortalities to marine mammals. On February 27, 2012, NMFS published notice that the incidental taking of Steller sea lions in the West Coast groundfish fisheries is addressed in NMFS’ December 29, 2010, Negligible Impact Determination (NID) and this fishery has been added to the list of fisheries authorized to take Steller sea lions (77 FR 11493, February 27, 2012). On September 4, 2013, based on its negligible impact determination dated August 28, 2013, NMFS issued a permit for a period of three years to authorize the incidental taking of humpback whales by the sablefish pot fishery (78 FR 54553, September 4, 2013).

Pursuant to Executive Order 13175, this final rule was developed after meaningful collaboration with Tribal officials from the area covered by the PCGFMP. Under the MSA at 16 U.S.C. 1852(b)(5), one of the voting members of the Pacific Council must be a representative of an Indian Tribe with Federally recognized fishing rights from the area of the Council’s jurisdiction. In addition, regulations implementing the PCGFMP establish a procedure by which the Tribes with treaty fishing rights in the area covered by the PCGFMP request new allocations or regulations specific to the Tribes, in writing, before the first of the two meetings at which the Council considers groundfish management measures. The regulations at 50 CFR 660.50(d)(2) further state “the Secretary will develop Tribal allocations and regulations under this paragraph in consultation with the affected Tribe(s) and, insofar as possible, with Tribal consensus.” The Tribal management measures in this final rule have been developed following these procedures.

## List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 660

Fisheries, Fishing, and Indian fisheries.

Dated: March 3, 2015.

**Eileen Sobeck,**

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 660 is amended as follows:

## PART 660—FISHERIES OFF WEST COAST STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 660 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*

■ 2. In § 660.11, in the definition for “Groundfish,” revise paragraphs (1), (2), (5), (7) introductory text, (7)(i) introductory text, (7)(ii), (7)(iii), (9) and (10); in the definition for “North-South management area” revise paragraph (2)(v) and revise the definitions for “Office of Law Enforcement or OLE”, “Regional Administrator”, and “Sustainable Fisheries Division or SFD” to read as follows:

### § 660.11 General definitions.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Groundfish* \* \* \*

(1) *Sharks*: Leopard shark, *Triakis semifasciata*; soupfin shark, *Galeorhinus zyopterus*; spiny dogfish, *Squalus suckleyi*.

(2) *Skates*: “Skates” in the PCGFMP include all genera and species in the family Arhynchobatidae that occur off Washington, Oregon, and California, including but not limited to Aleutian skate, *Bathyraja aleutica*; Bering/sandpaper skate, *B. interrupta*; big skate, *Raja binoculata*; California skate, *R. inornata*; longnose skate, *R. rhina*; roughtail/black skate, *B. trachura*.

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) *Grenadiers*: “Grenadiers” in the PCGFMP include all genera and species in the family Macrouridae that occur off Washington, Oregon, and California, including but not limited to Giant grenadier, *Albatrossia pectoralis*; Pacific grenadier, *Coryphaenoides acrolepis*.

\* \* \* \* \*

(7) *Rockfish*: “Rockfish” in the PCGFMP include all genera and species of the family Scorpaenidae that occur off Washington, Oregon, and California, even if not listed below, including longspine thornyhead, *Sebastolobus altivelis*, and shortspine thornyhead, *S. alascanus*. Where species below are listed both in a geographic category (nearshore, shelf, slope) and as an area-specific listing (north or south of 40°10’

N. lat.) those species are managed within a “minor” rockfish complex in that area-specific listing.

(i) *Nearshore rockfish* includes black rockfish, *Sebastes melanops* and the following nearshore rockfish species managed in “minor rockfish” complexes:

\* \* \* \* \*

(ii) *Shelf rockfish* includes bocaccio, *Sebastes paucispinis*; canary rockfish, *S. pinniger*; chilipepper, *S. goodei*; cowcod, *S. levis*; shortbelly rockfish, *S. jordani*; widow rockfish, *S. entomelas*; yelloweye rockfish, *S. ruberrimus*; yellowtail rockfish, *S. flavidus* and the following shelf rockfish species managed in “minor rockfish” complexes:

(A) *Shelf Rockfish North of 40°10' N. lat.*: Bronzespotted rockfish, *S. gilli*; bocaccio, *S. paucispinis*; chameleon rockfish, *S. phillipsi*; chilipepper, *S. goodei*; cowcod, *S. levis*; dusky rockfish, *S. ciliatus*; dwarf-red rockfish, *S. rufianus*; flag rockfish, *S. rubrivinctus*; freckled rockfish, *S. lentiginosus*; greenblotched rockfish, *S. rosenblatti*; greenspotted rockfish, *S. chlorostictus*; greenstriped rockfish, *S. elongatus*; halfbanded rockfish, *S. semicinctus*; harlequin rockfish, *S. variegatus*; honeycomb rockfish, *S. umbrosus*; Mexican rockfish, *S. macdonaldi*; pink rockfish, *S. eos*; pinkrose rockfish, *S. simulator*; pygmy rockfish, *S. wilsoni*; redstripe rockfish, *S. proriger*; rosethorn rockfish, *S. helvomaculatus*; rosy rockfish, *S. rosaceus*; silvergray rockfish, *S. brevispinis*; speckled rockfish, *S. ovalis*; squarespot rockfish, *S. hopkinsi*; starry rockfish, *S. constellatus*; stripetail rockfish, *S. saxicola*; sunset rockfish, *S. crocotulus*; swordspine rockfish, *S. ensifer*; tiger rockfish, *S. nigrocinctus*; vermilion rockfish, *S. miniatus*.

(B) *Shelf Rockfish South of 40°10' N. lat.*: Bronzespotted rockfish, *S. gilli*; chameleon rockfish, *S. phillipsi*; dusky rockfish, *S. ciliatus*; dwarf-red rockfish, *S. rufianus*; flag rockfish, *S. rubrivinctus*; freckled rockfish, *S. lentiginosus*; greenblotched rockfish, *S. rosenblatti*; greenspotted rockfish, *S. chlorostictus*; greenstriped rockfish, *S. elongatus*; halfbanded rockfish, *S. semicinctus*; harlequin rockfish, *S. variegatus*; honeycomb rockfish, *S. umbrosus*; Mexican rockfish, *S. macdonaldi*; pink rockfish, *S. eos*; pinkrose rockfish, *S. simulator*; pygmy rockfish, *S. wilsoni*; redstripe rockfish, *S. proriger*; rosethorn rockfish, *S. helvomaculatus*; rosy rockfish, *S. rosaceus*; silvergray rockfish, *S. brevispinis*; speckled rockfish, *S. ovalis*; squarespot rockfish, *S. hopkinsi*; starry

rockfish, *S. constellatus*; stripetail rockfish, *S. saxicola*; sunset rockfish, *S. crocotulus*; swordspine rockfish, *S. ensifer*; tiger rockfish, *S. nigrocinctus*; vermilion rockfish, *S. miniatus*; yellowtail rockfish, *S. flavidus*.

(iii) *Slope rockfish* includes darkblotched rockfish, *S. crameri*; Pacific ocean perch, *S. alutus*; splitnose rockfish, *S. diploproa*; and the following slope rockfish species managed in “minor rockfish” complexes:

(A) *Slope Rockfish North of 40°10' N. lat.*: Aurora rockfish, *Sebastes aurora*; bank rockfish, *S. rufus*; blackgill rockfish, *S. melanostomus*; blackspotted rockfish, *S. melanostictus*; redbanded rockfish, *S. babcocki*; rougheye rockfish, *S. aleutianus*; sharpchin rockfish, *S. zacentrus*; shortraker rockfish, *S. borealis*; splitnose rockfish, *S. diploproa*; yellowmouth rockfish, *S. reedi*.

(B) *Slope Rockfish South of 40°10' N. lat.*: Aurora rockfish, *Sebastes aurora*; bank rockfish, *S. rufus*; blackgill rockfish, *S. melanostomus*; blackspotted rockfish, *S. melanostictus*; Pacific ocean perch, *S. alutus*; redbanded rockfish, *S. babcocki*; rougheye rockfish, *S. aleutianus*; sharpchin rockfish, *S. zacentrus*; shortraker rockfish, *S. borealis*; yellowmouth rockfish, *S. reedi*.

(9) “Other fish”: kelp greenling (*Hexagrammos decagrammus*), leopard shark (*Trakis semifasciata*), and cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) in waters off Washington.

(10) “Ecosystem component species” means species that are included in the PCGFMP but are not “in the fishery” and therefore not actively managed and do not require harvest specifications. Ecosystem component species are not targeted in any fishery, not generally retained for sale or personal use, and are not determined to be subject to overfishing, approaching an overfished condition, or overfished, nor are they likely to become subject to overfishing or overfished in the absence of conservation and management measures. Ecosystem component species include: All skates listed here in paragraph (2), except longnose skate; all grenadiers listed here in paragraph (5); soupfin shark; ratfish; and finescale codling.

\* \* \* \* \*

*North-South management area* \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(v) Columbia River—46°16.00' N. lat.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Office of Law Enforcement or OLE* refers to the National Marine Fisheries

Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Western Division.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Regional Administrator* means the Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Sustainable Fisheries Division or SFD* means the Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, West Coast Regional Office, NMFS, or a designee.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 3. In § 660.40, revise paragraph (c) to read as follows:

**§ 660.40 Overfished species rebuilding plans.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) *Cowcod*. Cowcod was declared overfished in 2000. The target year for rebuilding the cowcod stock south of 40°10' N. lat. to B<sub>MSY</sub> is 2020. The harvest control rule to be used to rebuild the cowcod stock is an annual SPR harvest rate of 82.7 percent.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 4. In § 660.50, revise paragraphs (f)(2)(ii), (f)(5) and (7), and add paragraph (f)(8) to read as follows:

**§ 660.50 Pacific Coast treaty Indian fisheries.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(ii) The Tribal allocation is 479 mt in 2015 and 524 mt in 2016 per year. This allocation is, for each year, 10 percent of the Monterey through Vancouver area (North of 36° N. lat.) ACL. The Tribal allocation is reduced by 1.6 percent for estimated discard mortality.

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) *Pacific cod*. There is a tribal harvest guideline of 500 mt of Pacific cod per year. The tribes will manage their fisheries to stay within this harvest guideline.

\* \* \* \* \*

(7) *Yellowtail rockfish*. Yellowtail rockfish taken in the directed tribal mid-water trawl fisheries are subject to a catch limit of 1,000 mt for the entire fleet, per year.

(8) *Spiny dogfish*. Spiny dogfish taken in the treaty fisheries are subject to an overall expected total spiny dogfish catch of 275 mt per year.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 5. In § 660.60, add paragraphs (b)(1) and reserved (b)(2) and revise paragraph (c)(1)(i) to read as follows:

**§ 660.60 Specifications and management measures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(1) Except for Pacific whiting, every biennium, NMFS will implement OFLs, ABCs, and ACLs, if applicable, for each species or species group based on the harvest controls used in the previous biennium (referred to as default harvest control rules) applied to the best available scientific information. The default harvest control rules for each species or species group are listed in Appendix F to the PCGFMP and the biennial SAFE document. NMFS may implement OFLs, ABCs, and ACLs, if applicable, that vary from the default harvest control rules based on a Council recommendation.

(2) [Reserved]

(c) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(i) *Trip landing and frequency limits, size limits, all gear.* Trip landing and frequency limits have been designated as routine for the following species or species groups: Widow rockfish, canary rockfish, yellowtail rockfish, Pacific ocean perch, yelloweye rockfish, black rockfish, blue rockfish, splitnose rockfish, blackgill rockfish in the area south of 40°10' N. lat., chilipepper, bocaccio, cowcod, minor nearshore rockfish or shallow and deeper minor nearshore rockfish, shelf or minor shelf rockfish, and minor slope rockfish; Dover sole, sablefish, shortspine thornyheads, and longspine thornyheads; petrale sole, rex sole, arrowtooth flounder, Pacific sanddabs, and the other flatfish complex, which is composed of those species plus any other flatfish species listed at § 660.11; Pacific whiting; lingcod; Pacific cod; spiny dogfish; longnose skate; cabezon in Oregon and California and "other fish" as a complex described at § 660.11. In addition to the species and species groups listed above, sub-limits or aggregate limits may be specified, specific to the Shorebased IFQ Program, for the following species: Big skate, California skate, California scorpionfish, leopard shark, soupfin shark, finescale codling, Pacific rattail (grenadier), ratfish, kelp greenling, shortbelly, and cabezon in Washington. Size limits have been designated as routine for sablefish and lingcod. Trip landing and frequency limits and size limits for species with those limits designated as routine may be imposed or adjusted on a biennial or more frequent basis for the purpose of keeping landings within the harvest levels announced by NMFS, and for the other purposes given in paragraphs (c)(1)(i)(A) and (B) of this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 6. In § 660.72:

■ a. Revise paragraph (c);

■ b. Redesignate paragraphs (f)(199) through (211) as paragraphs (f)(200) through (212);

■ c. Add new paragraph (f)(199); and

■ d. Revise newly redesignated paragraph (f)(207);

The revisions and addition read as follows:

**§ 660.72 Latitude/longitude coordinates defining the 50 fm (91 m) through 75 fm (137 m) depth contours.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(1) 34°08.40' N. lat., 120°33.78' W. long.;

(2) 34°07.80' N. lat., 120°30.99' W. long.;

(3) 34°08.42' N. lat., 120°27.92' W. long.;

(4) 34°09.31' N. lat., 120°27.81' W. long.;

(5) 34°05.85' N. lat., 120°17.13' W. long.;

(6) 34°05.73' N. lat., 120°05.93' W. long.;

(7) 34°06.14' N. lat., 120°04.86' W. long.;

(8) 34°05.70' N. lat., 120°03.17' W. long.;

(9) 34°05.67' N. lat., 119°58.98' W. long.;

(10) 34°06.34' N. lat., 119°56.78' W. long.;

(11) 34°05.57' N. lat., 119°51.35' W. long.;

(12) 34°07.08' N. lat., 119°52.43' W. long.;

(13) 34°04.49' N. lat., 119°35.55' W. long.;

(14) 34°04.73' N. lat., 119°32.77' W. long.;

(15) 34°02.02' N. lat., 119°19.18' W. long.;

(16) 34°01.03' N. lat., 119°19.50' W. long.;

(17) 33°59.45' N. lat., 119°22.38' W. long.;

(18) 33°58.68' N. lat., 119°32.36' W. long.;

(19) 33°56.43' N. lat., 119°41.13' W. long.;

(20) 33°56.04' N. lat., 119°48.20' W. long.;

(21) 33°57.32' N. lat., 119°51.96' W. long.;

(22) 33°59.32' N. lat., 119°55.59' W. long.;

(23) 33°57.52' N. lat., 119°55.19' W. long.;

(24) 33°56.26' N. lat., 119°54.29' W. long.;

(25) 33°54.30' N. lat., 119°54.83' W. long.;

(26) 33°50.97' N. lat., 119°57.03' W. long.;

(27) 33°50.25' N. lat., 120°00.00' W. long.;

(28) 33°50.03' N. lat., 120°03.00' W. long.;

(29) 33°51.06' N. lat., 120°03.73' W. long.;

(30) 33°54.49' N. lat., 120°12.85' W. long.;

(31) 33°58.90' N. lat., 120°20.15' W. long.;

(32) 34°00.71' N. lat., 120°28.21' W. long.;

(33) 34°02.20' N. lat., 120°30.37' W. long.;

(34) 34°03.60' N. lat., 120°30.60' W. long.;

(35) 34°06.96' N. lat., 120°34.22' W. long.;

(36) 34°08.01' N. lat., 120°35.24' W. long.; and

(37) 34°08.40' N. lat., 120°33.78' W. long.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) \* \* \*

(199) 32°56.00' N. lat., 117°19.16' W. long.;

\* \* \* \* \*

(207) 32°44.89' N. lat., 117°21.89' W. long.;

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 7. In § 660.73, revise paragraph (a)(123) to read as follows:

**§ 660.73 Latitude/longitude coordinates defining the 100 fm (183 m) through 150 fm (274 m) depth contours.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(a) \* \* \*

(123) 43°56.07' N. lat., 124°55.41' W. long.;

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 8. In § 660.74:

■ a. Remove paragraphs (l)(80) through (82);

■ b. Redesignate paragraphs (l)(83) through (245) as (l)(87) through (249); and

■ c. Add paragraphs (l)(80) through (l)(86).

The additions read as follows:

**§ 660.74 Latitude/longitude coordinates defining the 180 fm (329 m) through 250 fm (457 m) depth contours.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(l) \* \* \*

(80) 44°48.25' N. lat., 124°40.61' W. long.;

(81) 44°42.24' N. lat., 124°48.05' W. long.;

(82) 44°41.35' N. lat., 124°48.03' W. long.;

(83) 44°40.27' N. lat., 124°49.11' W. long.;

(84) 44°38.52' N. lat., 124°49.11' W. long.;

(85) 44°21.73' N. lat., 124°49.82' W. long.;

(86) 44°17.57' N. lat., 124°55.04' W. long.;

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 9. In subpart C, tables 1a through 1d are revised to read as follows:

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**Table 1a. to Part 660, Subpart C- 2015, Specifications of OFL, ABC, ACL, ACT and Fishery Harvest Guidelines (Weights in Metric Tons).**

	OFL	ABC	ACL a/	Fishery HG b/
BOCACCIO S. of 40°10' N. lat. c/	1,444	1,380	349	341
CANARY ROCKFISH d/	733	701	122	107
COWCOD S. of 40°10' N. lat. e/	67	60	10	8
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH f/	574	549	338	317
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH g/	842	805	158	143
PETRALE SOLE h/	2,946	2,816	2,816	2,579
YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH i/	52	43	18	12
Arrowtooth flounder j/	6,599	5,497	5,497	3,410
Black rockfish (OR-CA) k/	1,176	1,124	1,000	999
Black rockfish (WA) l/	421	402	402	388
Cabazon (CA) m/	161	154	154	154
Cabazon (OR) n/	49	47	47	47
California scorpionfish o/	119	114	114	112
Chilipepper S. of 40°10' N. lat. p/	1,703	1,628	1,628	1,604
Dover sole q/	66,871	63,929	50,000	48,406
English sole r/	10,792	9,853	9,853	9,640
Lingcod N. of 40°10' N. lat. s/	3,010	2,830	2,830	2,552
Lingcod S. of 40°10' N. lat. t/	1,205	1,004	1,004	995
Longnose skate u/	2,449	2,341	2,000	1,927
Longspine thornyhead (coastwide) v/	5,007	4,171	NA	NA
Longspine thornyhead N. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	3,170	3,124
Longspine thornyhead S. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	1,001	998
Pacific Cod w/	3,200	2,221	1,600	1,091
Pacific whiting x/	x/	x/	x/	x/
Sablefish (coastwide)	7,857	7,173	NA	NA
Sablefish N. of 36° N. lat. y/	NA	NA	4,793	See Table 1c
Sablefish S. of 36° N. lat. z/	NA	NA	1,719	1,714
Shortbelly aa/	6,950	5,789	500	498
Shortspine thornyhead (coastwide) bb/	3,203	2,668	NA	NA
Shortspine thornyhead N. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	1,745	1,686
Shortspine thornyhead S. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	923	881
Spiny dogfish cc/	2,523	2,101	2,101	1,763
Splitnose S. of 40°10' N. lat. dd/	1,794	1,715	1,715	1,705
Starry flounder ee/	1,841	1,534	1,534	1,524
Widow rockfish ff/	4,137	3,929	2,000	1,880
Yellowtail N. of 40°10' N. lat. gg/	7,218	6,590	6,590	5,560
Minor Nearshore Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. hh/	88	77	69	69
Minor Shelf Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. ii/	2,209	1,944	1,944	1,872
Minor Slope Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. jj/	1,831	1,693	1,693	1,629
Minor Nearshore Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. kk/	1,313	1,169	1,114	1,110
Minor Shelf Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. ll/	1,918	1,625	1,624	1,575
Minor Slope Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. mm/	813	705	693	673
Other Flatfish nn/	11,453	8,749	8,749	8,545
Other Fish oo/	291	242	242	242

a/ Annual catch limits (ACLs), annual catch targets (ACTs) and harvest guidelines (HGs) are specified as total catch values.

b/ Fishery harvest guidelines means the harvest guideline or quota after subtracting Pacific Coast treaty Indian tribes allocations

and projected catch, projected research catch, deductions for fishing mortality in non-



groundfish fisheries, and deductions for EFPs from the ACL or ACT.

c/ Bocaccio. A bocaccio stock assessment update was conducted in 2013 for the bocaccio stock between the U.S.-Mexico border and Cape Blanco. The stock is managed with stock-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. and within the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. A historical catch distribution of approximately 6 percent was used to apportion the assessed stock to the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The bocaccio stock was estimated to be at 31.4 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 1,444 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 1,380 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The 349 mt ACL is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2022 and an SPR harvest rate of 77.7 percent. 8.3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (0.7 mt), EFP catch (3.0 mt) and research catch (4.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 340.7 mt. The California recreational fishery has an HG of 178.8 mt.

d/ Canary rockfish. A canary rockfish stock assessment update was conducted in 2011 and the stock was estimated to be at 23.2 percent of its unfished biomass coastwide in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 733 mt is projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 701 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 122 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2030 and an SPR harvest rate of 88.7 percent. 15.2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (7.7 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), EFP catch (1.0 mt) and research catch (4.5 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 106.8 mt. Recreational HGs are: 3.4 mt (Washington); 11.7 mt (Oregon); and 24.3 mt (California).

e/ Cowcod. A stock assessment for the Conception Area was conducted in 2013 and the stock was estimated to be at 33.9 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The Conception Area OFL of 55.0 mt is projected in the 2013 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The OFL contribution of 11.6 mt for the unassessed portion of the stock in the Monterey area is based on depletion-based stock reduction analysis. The OFLs for the Monterey and Conception areas were summed to derive the south of 40°10' N. lat. OFL of 66.6 mt. The ABC for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. is 59.9 mt. The assessed portion of the stock in the Conception Area is considered category 2, with a Conception area contribution to the ABC of 50.2 mt, which is an 8.7 percent reduction from the Conception area OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ). The unassessed portion of the stock in the Monterey area is considered a category 3 stock, with a contribution to the ABC of 9.7 mt, which is a 16.6 percent reduction from the Monterey area OFL ( $\sigma=1.44/P^*=0.45$ ). A single ACL of 10.0 mt is being set for both areas combined. The ACL of 10.0 mt is based on the rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2020 and an SPR harvest rate of 82.7 percent, which is equivalent to an

exploitation rate (catch over age 11+ biomass) of 0.007. 2.0 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate EFP fishing (less than 0.02 mt) and research activity (2.0 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 8.0 mt. Any additional mortality in research activities will be deducted from the ACL. A single ACT of 4.0 mt is being set for both areas combined.

f/ Darkblotched rockfish. A 2013 stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 36 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 574 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 549 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 338 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2025 and an SPR harvest rate of 64.9 percent. 20.8 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (0.2 mt), the incidental open access fishery (18.4 mt), EFP catch (0.1 mt) and research catch (2.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 317.2 mt.

g/ Pacific Ocean Perch. A POP stock assessment was conducted in 2011 and the stock was estimated to be at 19.1 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 842 mt for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. is projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 805 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 158 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2051 and an SPR harvest rate of 86.4 percent. 15 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (9.2 mt), the incidental open access fishery (0.6 mt), and research catch (5.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 143.0 mt.

h/ Petrale sole. A 2013 stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 22.3 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 2,946 mt is projected in the 2013 assessment using an  $F_{30\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 2,816 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is based on the 25–5 harvest control rule specified in the current rebuilding plan; since the stock is projected to be rebuilt at the start of 2014, the ACL is set equal to the ABC. 236.6 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (220 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2.4 mt), and research catch (14.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 2,579.4 mt.

i/ Yelloweye rockfish. A stock assessment update was conducted in 2011. The stock was estimated to be at 21.4 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The 52 mt coastwide OFL was projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 43 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The 18 mt ACL is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2074 and an SPR harvest rate of 76.0 percent. 5.8 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2.3 mt), the incidental open access fishery (0.2 mt), EFP catch (0.03 mt) and research catch (3.3 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 12.2 mt. Recreational HGs are: 2.9 mt (Washington); 2.6 mt (Oregon); and 3.4 mt (California).

j/ Arrowtooth flounder. The arrowtooth flounder stock was last assessed in 2007 and was estimated to be at 79 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL of 6,599 mt is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{30\%}$  proxy. The ABC of 5,497 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 2,087 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2,041 mt), the incidental open access fishery (30 mt), and research catch (16.4 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 3,410 mt.

k/ Black rockfish south (Oregon and California). A stock assessment was conducted for black rockfish south of 45°46' N. lat. (Cape Falcon, Oregon) to Central California (*i.e.*, the southern-most extent of black rockfish, Love et al. 2002) in 2007. The biomass in the south was estimated to be at 70 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL from the assessed area is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$  plus 3 percent of the OFL from the stock assessment conducted for black rockfish north of 45°46' N. lat., to cover the portion of the stock occurring off Oregon north of Cape Falcon (the 3% adjustment is based on historical catch distribution). The resulting OFL for the area south of 46°16' N. lat. is 1,176 mt. The ABC of 1,124 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The 2015 ACL is 1,000 mt, which maintains the constant catch strategy designed to keep the stock above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 1 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate EFP catch, resulting in a fishery HG of 999 mt. The black rockfish ACL, in the area south of 46°16' N. lat. (Columbia River), is subdivided with separate HGs for waters off Oregon (579 mt/58 percent) and for waters off California (420 mt/42 percent).

l/ Black rockfish north (Washington). A stock assessment was conducted for black rockfish north of 45°46' N. lat. (Cape Falcon, Oregon) in 2007. The biomass in the north was estimated to be at 53 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL from the assessed area is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The resulting OFL for the area north of 46°16' N. lat. is 421 mt and is 97 percent of the OFL from the assessed area based on the area distribution of historical catch. The ABC of 402 mt for the north is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 14 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery, resulting in a fishery HG of 388 mt.

m/ Cabezon (California). A cabezon stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The cabezon spawning biomass in waters off California was estimated to be at 48.3 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL of 161 mt is calculated using an  $F_{50\%}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 154 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . There are no

deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is equal to the ACL of 154 mt.

n/ Cabezon (Oregon). A cabezon stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The cabezon spawning biomass in waters off Oregon was estimated to be at 52 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL of 49 mt is calculated using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 47 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 species. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . There are no deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is also equal to the ACL of 47 mt.

o/ California scorpionfish was assessed in 2005 and was estimated to be at 79.8 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005. The OFL of 119 mt is projected in the 2005 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 114 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery, resulting in a fishery HG of 112 mt.

p/ Chilipepper. The coastwide chilipepper stock was assessed in 2007 and estimated to be at 70 percent of its unfished biomass in 2006. Chilipepper are managed with stock-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. and within the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. Projected OFLs are stratified north and south of 40°10' N. lat. based on the average 1998–2008 assessed area catch, which is 93 percent for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. and 7 percent for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The OFL of 1,703 mt for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. is projected in the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 1,628 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 24 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (5 mt), EFP fishing (10 mt), and research catch (9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,604 mt.

q/ Dover sole. A 2011 Dover sole assessment estimated the stock to be at 83.7 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 66,871 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 63,929 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL could be set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . However, the ACL of 50,000 mt is set at a level below the ABC and higher than the maximum historical landed catch. 1,594 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (1,497 mt), the incidental open access fishery (55 mt), and research catch (41.9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 48,406 mt.

r/ English sole. A 2013 stock assessment was conducted, which estimated the stock to be at 88 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 10,792 mt is projected in the 2013 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 9,853 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) as

it is a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 213 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (200 mt), the incidental open access fishery (7 mt) and research catch (5.8 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 9,640 mt.

s/ Lingcod north. A lingcod stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The lingcod spawning biomass off Washington and Oregon was estimated to be at 62 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL for Washington and Oregon of 1,898 mt is calculated using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The OFL is re-apportioned by adding 48% of the OFL from California, resulting in an OFL of 3,010 mt for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The ABC of 2,830 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) for the area north of 42° N. lat. as it's a category 1 stock, and an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) for the area between 42° N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat. as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC. 278 mt is deducted from the ACL for the Tribal fishery (250 mt), the incidental open access fishery (16 mt), EFP catch (0.5 mt) and research catch (11.7 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 2,552 mt.

t/ Lingcod south. A lingcod stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The lingcod spawning biomass off California was estimated to be at 74 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL for California of 2,317 mt is projected in the assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The OFL is re-apportioned by subtracting 48% of the OFL, resulting in an OFL of 1,205 mt for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. The ABC of 1,004 mt is based on a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 9 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (7 mt), EFP fishing (1 mt), and research catch (1.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 995 mt.

u/ Longnose skate. A stock assessment was conducted in 2007 and the stock was estimated to be at 66 percent of its unfished biomass. The OFL of 2,449 mt is derived from the 2007 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 2,341 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 2,000 mt is a fixed harvest level that provides greater access to the stock and is less than the ABC. 73 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (56 mt), incidental open access fishery (3.8 mt), and research catch (13.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,927 mt.

v/ Longspine thornyhead. A 2013 longspine thornyhead coastwide stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 75 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. A coastwide OFL of 5,007 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 4,171 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. For the portion of the stock that is north of 34°27' N. lat., the ACL is 3,170 mt, and is 76 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the

NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 47 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (30 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3 mt), and research catch (13.5 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 3,124 mt. For that portion of the stock south of 34°27' N. lat. the ACL is 1,001 mt and is 24 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), and research catch (1 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 998 mt.

w/ Pacific cod. The 3,200 mt OFL is based on the maximum level of historic landings. The ABC of 2,221 mt is a 30.6 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=1.44/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 3 stock. The 1,600 mt ACL is the OFL reduced by 50 percent as a precautionary adjustment. 509 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (500 mt), research catch (7 mt), and the incidental open access fishery (2.0 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,091 mt.

x/ Pacific whiting. Pacific whiting are assessed annually. The final specifications will be determined consistent with the U.S.-Canada Pacific Whiting Agreement and will be announced after the Council's April 2015 meeting.

y/ Sablefish north. A coastwide sablefish stock assessment was conducted in 2011. The coastwide sablefish biomass was estimated to be at 33 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 7,857 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 7,173 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.40$ ). The 40–10 adjustment is applied to the ABC to derive a coastwide ACL value because the stock is in the precautionary zone. This coastwide ACL value is not specified in regulations. The coastwide ACL value is apportioned north and south of 36° N. lat., using the 2003–2010 average estimated swept area biomass from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey, with 73.6 percent apportioned north of 36° N. lat. and 26.4 percent apportioned south of 36° N. lat. The northern ACL is 4,793 mt and is reduced by 479 mt for the tribal allocation (10 percent of the ACL north of 36° N. lat.). The 479 mt Tribal allocation is reduced by 1.6 percent to account for discard mortality. Detailed sablefish allocations are shown in Table 1c.

z/ Sablefish south. The ACL for the area south of 36° N. lat. is 1,719 mt (26.4 percent of the calculated coastwide ACL value). 5 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (2 mt) and research catch (3 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,714 mt.

aa/ Shortbelly rockfish. A non-quantitative shortbelly rockfish assessment was conducted in 2007. The spawning stock biomass of shortbelly rockfish was estimated to be 67 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005. The OFL of 6,950 mt is based on the estimated MSY in the 2007 stock assessment. The ABC of 5,789 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction of the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The 500 mt ACL is set to accommodate incidental catch when fishing for co-occurring healthy stocks and in recognition of the stock's importance as a

forage species in the California Current ecosystem. 2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate research catch, resulting in a fishery HG of 498 mt.

bb/ Shortspine thornyhead. A 2013 coastwide shortspine thornyhead stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 74.2 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. A coastwide OFL of 3,203 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The coastwide ABC of 2,668 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. For the portion of the stock that is north of 34°27' N. lat., the ACL is 1,745 mt. The northern ACL is 65.4 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 59 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (50 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), and research catch (7 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 1,686 mt for the area north of 34°27' N. lat. For that portion of the stock south of 34°27' N. lat. the ACL is 923 mt. The southern ACL is 35.6 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 42 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (41 mt) and research catch (1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 881 mt for the area south of 34°27' N. lat.

cc/ Spiny dogfish. A coastwide spiny dogfish stock assessment was conducted in 2011. The coastwide spiny dogfish biomass was estimated to be at 63 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 2,523 mt is derived from the 2011 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The coastwide ABC of 2,101 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 338 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (275 mt), the incidental open access fishery (49.5 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (12.5 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,763 mt.

dd/ Splitnose rockfish. A splitnose rockfish coastwide assessment was conducted in 2009 that estimated the stock to be at 66 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. Splitnose rockfish in the north is managed in the Minor Slope Rockfish complex and with species-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. The coastwide OFL is projected in the 2009 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The coastwide OFL is apportioned north and south of 40°10' N. lat. based on the average 1916–2008 assessed area catch resulting in 64.2 percent of the coastwide OFL apportioned south of 40°10' N. lat., and 35.8 percent apportioned to the contribution of splitnose rockfish to the northern Minor Slope Rockfish complex. The southern OFL of 1,794 mt results from the apportionment described above. The southern ABC of 1,715 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the southern OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is estimated to be above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 10.5 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate

research catch (9 mt) and EFP catch (1.5 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,705 mt.

ee/ Starry Flounder. The stock was assessed in 2005 and was estimated to be above 40 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005 (44 percent in Washington and Oregon, and 62 percent in California). The coastwide OFL of 1,841 mt is derived from the 2005 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 1,534 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is estimated to be above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 10.3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2 mt), and the incidental open access fishery (8.3 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,524 mt.

ff/ Widow rockfish. The widow rockfish stock was assessed in 2011 and was estimated to be at 51.1 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 4,137 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 3,929 mt is a 5 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.41/P^*=0.45$ ). A unique sigma of 0.41 was calculated for widow rockfish since the variance in estimated biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The ACL could be set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . However, the ACL of 2,000 mt is less than the ABC due to high uncertainty in estimated biomass, yet this level of allowable harvest will allow access to healthy co-occurring species, such as yellowtail rockfish. 120.2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (100 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3.3 mt), EFP catch (9 mt), and research catch (7.9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,880 mt.

gg/ Yellowtail rockfish. A 2013 yellowtail rockfish stock assessment was conducted for the portion of the population north of 40°10' N. lat. The estimated stock depletion is 69 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 7,218 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 6,590 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) as it is a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 1,029.6 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (1,000 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3 mt), EFP catch (10 mt), and research catch (16.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 5,560 mt.

hh/ Minor Nearshore Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Nearshore Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 88 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species managed in the complex. The ABCs for the minor rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blue rockfish in California, brown rockfish, China rockfish, and copper rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 77 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 69 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks plus the ACL contributions for blue rockfish in California and China rockfish

where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contributions for these two stocks, because those stocks are in the precautionary zone. No deductions are made to the ACL, thus the fishery HG is equal to the ACL, which is 69 mt. Between 40°10' N. lat. and 42° N. lat. the Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex north has a harvest guideline of 23.7 mt. Blue rockfish south of 42° N. lat. has a species-specific HG, described in footnote kk/.

ii/ Minor Shelf Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Shelf Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 2,209 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the minor rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, greenspotted rockfish between 40°10' and 42° N. lat. and greenstriped rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,944 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,944 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of greenspotted rockfish in California where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution because the stock is in the precautionary zone (the ACL is slightly less than the ABC but rounds to the ABC value). 72 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (30 mt), the incidental open access fishery (26 mt), EFP catch (3 mt), and research catch (13.4 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,872 mt.

jj/ Minor Slope Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Slope Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,831 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the Minor Slope Rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.39 for aurora rockfish, a sigma value of 0.36 for other category 1 stocks (*i.e.*, splitnose rockfish), a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, rougheye rockfish, blackspotted rockfish and sharpchin rockfish), and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. A unique sigma of 0.39 was calculated for aurora rockfish since the variance in estimated spawning biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The resulting ABC of 1,693 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because all the assessed component stocks are above the target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 64 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (36 mt), the incidental open access fishery (19 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (8.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,629 mt.

kk/ Minor Nearshore Rockfish south. The OFL for the Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,313 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABC for the southern Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.36 for category 1 stocks (*i.e.*, gopher rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat.), a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blue rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat., brown rockfish, China rockfish, and copper

rockfish), and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,169 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,114 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution for blue rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat. where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 4 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (1.4 mt) and research catch (2.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,110 mt. Blue rockfish south of 42° N. lat. has a species-specific HG set equal to the 40–10-adjusted ACL for the portion of the stock north of 34°27' N lat. (133.6 mt) plus the ABC contribution for the unassessed portion of the stock south of 34°27' N lat. (60.8 mt). The California (*i.e.*, south of 42° N. lat.) blue rockfish HG is 194.4 mt.

ll/ Minor Shelf Rockfish south. The OFL for the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,918 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the southern Minor Shelf Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, greenspotted and greenstriped rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,625 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,624 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of greenspotted rockfish in California where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC

contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 49 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (9 mt), EFP catch (30 mt), and research catch (9.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,575 mt.

mm/ Minor Slope Rockfish south. The OFL for the Minor Slope Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. of 813 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABC for the southern Minor Slope Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.39 for aurora rockfish, a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blackgill rockfish, rougheye rockfish, blackspotted rockfish, and sharpchin rockfish), and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. A unique sigma of 0.39 was calculated for aurora rockfish since the variance in estimated biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The resulting ABC of 705 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 693 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of blackgill rockfish where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 20 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (17 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 673 mt. Blackgill rockfish has a species-specific HG set equal to the species' contribution to 40–10-adjusted ACL. The blackgill rockfish HG is 114 mt.

nn/ Other Flatfish. The Other Flatfish complex is comprised of flatfish species managed in the PCGFMP that are not

managed with species-specific OFLs/ABCs/ACLs. Most of the species in the Other Flatfish complex are unassessed and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab (assessed in 2013 but the assessment results were too uncertain to inform harvest specifications), rock sole, sand sole, and rex sole (assessed in 2013). The Other Flatfish OFL of 11,453 mt is based on the sum of the OFL contributions of the component stocks. The ABC of 8,749 mt is based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, rex sole) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.40. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since all of the assessed stocks (*i.e.*, Pacific sanddabs and rex sole) were above their target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 204 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (60 mt), the incidental open access fishery (125 mt), and research catch (19 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 8,545 mt.

oo/ Other Fish. The Other Fish complex is comprised of kelp greenling coastwide, cabezon off Washington, and leopard shark coastwide. These species are unassessed. The OFL of 291 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for kelp greenling off California (the SSC has not approved methods for calculating the OFL contributions for kelp greenling off Oregon and Washington), cabezon off Washington, and leopard shark coastwide. The ABC of 242 mt is the sum of ABC contributions for kelp greenling off California, cabezon off Washington and leopard shark coastwide calculated by applying a  $P^*$  of 0.45 and a sigma of 1.44 to the OFL contributions for those stocks. The ACL is set equal to the ABC. There are no deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is equal to the ACL of 242 mt.

**Table 1b. to Part 660, Subpart C – 2015, Allocations by Species or Species Group. (Weight in Metric Tons)**

Species	Area	Fishery HG or ACT	Trawl		Non-trawl	
			%	Mt	%	Mt
BOCACCIO a/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	340.7	N/A	81.9	N/A	258.8
CANARY ROCKFISH a/ b/	Coastwide	106.8	N/A	56.9	N/A	49.9
COWCOD a/ c/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	4.0	N/A	1.4	N/A	2.6
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH d/	Coastwide	317.2	95%	301.3	5%	15.9
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH e/	N of 40°10' N. lat.	143.0	95%	135.9	5%	7.2
PETRALE SOLE a/	Coastwide	2,579.4	N/A	2,544.4	N/A	35.0
YELLOWWEYE ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	12.2	N/A	1.0	N/A	11.2
Arrowtooth flounder	Coastwide	3,410	95%	3,239	5%	170
Chilipepper	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,604	75%	1,203	25%	401
Dover sole	Coastwide	48,406	95%	45,986	5%	2,420
English sole	Coastwide	9,640	95%	9,158	5%	482
Lingcod	N of 40°10' N. lat.	2,552	45%	1,148	55%	1,404
Lingcod	S of 40°10' N. lat.	995	45%	448	55%	547
Longnose skate a/	Coastwide	1,927	90%	1,734	10%	193
Longspine thornyhead	N of 34°27' N. lat.	3,124	95%	2,967	5%	156
Pacific cod	Coastwide	1,091	95%	1,036	5%	55
Pacific whiting	Coastwide	TBD	100%	TBD	0%	TBD
Sablefish	N of 36° N. lat.	0	See Table 1 c			
Sablefish	S of 36° N. lat.	1,714	42%	720	58%	994
Shortspine thornyhead	N of 34°27' N. lat.	1,686	95%	1,601	5%	84
Shortspine thornyhead	S of 34°27' N. lat.	881	NA	50	NA	831
Splitnose	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,705	95%	1,619	5%	85
Starry flounder	Coastwide	1,524	50%	762	50%	762
Widow rockfish f/	Coastwide	1,880	91%	1,711	9%	169
Yellowtail rockfish	N of 40°10' N. lat.	5,560	88%	4,893	12%	667
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex a/	N of 40°10' N. lat.	1,872	60.2%	1,127	39.8%	745
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex a/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,575	12.2%	192	87.8%	1,383
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	N of 40°10' N. lat.	1,629	81%	1,319	19%	309
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	S of 40°10' N. lat.	673	63%	424	37%	249
Other Flatfish complex	Coastwide	8,545	90%	7,691	10%	855

a/ Allocations decided through the biennial specification process.

b/ 13.7 mt of the total trawl allocation of canary rockfish is allocated to the at-sea whiting fisheries, as follows: 5.7 mt for the mothership fishery, and 8.0 mt for the catcher/processor fishery.

c/ The cowcod fishery harvest guideline is further reduced to an ACT of 4.0 mt.

d/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 9 percent (27.1 mt) of the total trawl allocation for darkblotched rockfish is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 11.4 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 6.5 mt for the mothership fishery, and 9.2 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

e/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 30 mt of the total trawl allocation for POP is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 12.6 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 7.2 mt for the mothership fishery, and 10.2 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

f/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 500 mt of the total trawl allocation for widow rockfish is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 210 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 120 mt for the mothership fishery, and 170 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

**Table 1c. to Part 660, Subpart C – Sablefish North of 36° N. lat. Allocations, 2015**

Year	ACL	Set-asides		Recreational Estimate	EFP	Commercial HG	Limited Entry HG		Open Access HG	
		Tribal a/	Research				%	Mt	%	MT b/
2015	4,793	479	26	6.1	1	4,281	90.6%	3,878	9.4%	402
Year	LE All	Limited Entry Trawl c/			Limited Entry Fixed Gear d/					
		ALL Trawl	At-sea Whiting	Shorebased IFQ	ALL FG	Primary		DTL		
2015	3,878	2,249	50	2,199	1,629	1,385		244		
a/ The tribal allocation is further reduced by 1.6% for discard mortality resulting in 471.6 mt in 2015.										
b/ The open access HG is taken by the incidental OA fishery and the directed OA fishery.										
c/ The trawl allocation is 58% of the limited entry HG.										
d/ The limited entry fixed gear allocation is 42% of the limited entry HG.										

**Table 1d. to Part 660, Subpart C – At-Sea Whiting Fishery Annual Set-Asides, 2015**

<b>Species or Species Complex</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Set Aside (mt)</b>
BOCACCIO	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
CANARY ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	Allocation
COWCOD	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	Allocation
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH a/	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	Allocation
PETRALE SOLE	Coastwide	5
YELLOWEYE	Coastwide	0
Arrowtooth Flounder	Coastwide	45
Chilipepper	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Dover Sole	Coastwide	5
English Sole	Coastwide	5
Lingcod	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	15
Lingcod	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Longnose Skate	Coastwide	5
Longspine Thornyhead	N. of 34°27 N. lat.	5
Longspine Thornyhead	S. of 34°27 N. lat.	NA
Minor Nearshore Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Nearshore Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Shelf Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	35
Minor Shelf Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Slope Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	100
Minor Slope Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Other Fish	Coastwide	NA
Other Flatfish	Coastwide	20
Pacific Cod	Coastwide	5
Pacific Halibut b/	Coastwide	10
Pacific Whiting	Coastwide	Allocation
Sablefish	N. of 36° N. lat.	50
Sablefish	S. of 36° N. lat.	NA
Shortspine Thornyhead	N. of 34°27 N. lat.	20
Shortspine Thornyhead	S. of 34°27 N. lat.	NA
Starry Flounder	Coastwide	5
Widow Rockfish a/	Coastwide	Allocation
Yellowtail	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	300

a/ See Table 1.b., to Subpart C, for the at-sea whiting allocations for these species.

b/ As stated in §660.55 (m), the Pacific halibut set-aside is 10 mt, to accommodate bycatch in the at-sea Pacific whiting fisheries and in the shorebased trawl sector south of 40°10 N. lat. (estimated to 5 mt each).



■ 10. In subpart C, tables 2a through 2d are revised to read as follows:

**Table 2a. to Part 660, Subpart C- 2016, and Beyond, Specifications of OFL, ABC, ACL, ACT and Fishery harvest guidelines (weights in metric tons).**

	OFL	ABC	ACL a/	Fishery HG b/
BOCACCIO S. of 40°10' N. lat. c/	1,351	1,291	362	354
CANARY ROCKFISH d/	729	697	125	110
COWCOD S. of 40°10' N. lat. e/	68	62	10	8
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH f/	580	554	346	325
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH g/	850	813	164	149
PETRALE SOLE h/	3,044	2,910	2,910	2,673
YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH i/	52	43	19	13
Arrowtooth flounder j/	6,396	5,328	5,328	3,241
Black rockfish (OR-CA) k/	1,183	1,131	1,000	999
Black rockfish (WA) l/	423	404	404	390
Cabazon (CA) m/	158	151	151	151
Cabazon (OR) n/	49	47	47	47
California scorpionfish o/	117	111	111	109
Chilipepper S. of 40°10' N. lat. p/	1,694	1,619	1,619	1,595
Dover sole q/	59,221	56,615	50,000	48,406
English sole r/	7,890	7,204	7,204	6,991
Lingcod N. of 40°10' N. lat. s/	2,891	2,719	2,719	2,441
Lingcod S. of 40°10' N. lat. t/	1,136	946	946	937
Longnose skate u/	2,405	2,299	2,000	1,927
Longspine thornyhead (coastwide) v/	4,763	3,968	NA	NA
Longspine thornyhead N. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	3,015	2,969
Longspine thornyhead S. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	952	949
Pacific Cod w/	3,200	2,221	1,600	1,091
Pacific whiting x/	x/	x/	x/	x/
Sablefish (coastwide)	8,526	7,784	NA	NA
Sablefish N. of 36° N. lat. y/	NA	NA	5,241	See Table 2c
Sablefish S. of 36° N. lat. z/	NA	NA	1,880	1,875
Shortbelly aa/	6,950	5,789	500	498
Shortspine thornyhead (coastwide) bb/	3,169	2,640	NA	NA
Shortspine thornyhead N. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	1,726	1,667
Shortspine thornyhead S. of 34°27' N. lat.	NA	NA	913	871
Spiny dogfish cc/	2,503	2,085	2,085	1,747
Splitnose S. of 40°10' N. lat. dd/	1,826	1,746	1,746	1,736
Starry flounder ee/	1,847	1,539	1,539	1,529
Widow rockfish ff/	3,990	3,790	2,000	1,880
Yellowtail N. of 40°10' N. lat. gg/	6,949	6,344	6,344	5,314
Minor Nearshore Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. hh/	88	77	69	69
Minor Shelf Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. ii/	2,218	1,953	1,952	1,880
Minor Slope Rockfish N. of 40°10' N. lat. jj/	1,844	1,706	1,706	1,642
Minor Nearshore Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. kk/	1,288	1,148	1,006	1,002
Minor Shelf Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. ll/	1,919	1,626	1,625	1,576
Minor Slope Rockfish S. of 40°10' N. lat. mm/	814	705	695	675
Other Flatfish nn/	9,645	7,243	7,243	7,039
Other Fish oo/	291	243	243	243

a/ Annual catch limits (ACLs), annual catch targets (ACTs) and harvest guidelines (HGs) are specified as total catch values.

b/ Fishery harvest guidelines means the harvest guideline or quota after subtracting Pacific Coast treaty Indian tribes allocations and projected catch, projected research catch, deductions for fishing mortality in non-groundfish fisheries, and deductions for EFPs from the ACL or ACT.

c/ Bocaccio. A bocaccio stock assessment update was conducted in 2013 for the bocaccio stock between the U.S.-Mexico border and Cape Blanco. The stock is managed with stock-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. and within the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. A historical catch distribution of approximately 6 percent was used to apportion the assessed stock to the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The bocaccio stock was estimated to be at 31.4 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 1,351 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 1,291 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The 362 mt ACL is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2022 and an SPR harvest rate of 77.7 percent. 8.3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (0.7 mt), EFP catch (3.0 mt) and research catch (4.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 353.7 mt. The California recreational fishery has an HG of 185.6 mt.

d/ Canary rockfish. A canary rockfish stock assessment update was conducted in 2011 and the stock was estimated to be at 23.2 percent of its unfished biomass coastwide in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 729 mt is projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 697 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 125 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2030 and an SPR harvest rate of 88.7 percent. 15.2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (7.7 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), EFP catch (1.0 mt) and research catch (4.5 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 109.8 mt. Recreational HGs are: 3.5 mt (Washington); 12.0 mt (Oregon); and 25.0 mt (California).

e/ Cowcod. A stock assessment for the Conception Area was conducted in 2013 and the stock was estimated to be 33.9 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The Conception Area OFL of 56.4 mt is projected in the 2013 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The OFL of 12.0 mt for the unassessed portion of the stock in the Monterey area is based on depletion-based stock reduction analysis. The OFLs for the Monterey and Conception areas were summed to derive the south of 40°10' N. lat. OFL of 68.4 mt. The ABC for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. is 61.5 mt. The assessed portion of the stock in the Conception Area is considered category 2, with a Conception Area contribution to the ABC of 51.5 mt, which is an 8.7 percent reduction from the Conception area OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ). The unassessed portion of the stock in the Monterey area is considered a category 3

stock, with a contribution to the ABC of 10.0 mt, which is a 17 percent reduction from the Monterey area OFL ( $\sigma=1.44/P^*=0.45$ ). A single ACL of 10.0 mt is being set for both areas combined. The ACL of 10.0 mt is based on the rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2020 and an SPR harvest rate of 82.7 percent, which is equivalent to an exploitation rate (catch over age 11+ biomass) of 0.007. 2.0 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate EFP fishing (less than 0.02 mt) and research activity (2.0 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 8.0 mt. Any additional mortality in research activities will be deducted from the ACL. A single ACT of 4.0 mt is being set for both areas combined.

f/ Darkblotched rockfish. A 2013 stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 36 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 580 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 554 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 346 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2025 and an SPR harvest rate of 64.9 percent. 20.8 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (0.2 mt), the incidental open access fishery (18.4 mt), EFP catch (0.1 mt) and research catch (2.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 325.2 mt.

g/ Pacific Ocean Perch. A POP stock assessment was conducted in 2011 and the stock was estimated to be at 19.1 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 850 mt for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. is projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 850 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 164 mt is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2051 and an SPR harvest rate of 86.4 percent. 15 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (9.2 mt), the incidental open access fishery (0.6 mt), and research catch (5.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 149.0 mt.

h/ Petrale sole. A 2013 stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 22.3 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 3,044 mt is projected in the 2013 assessment using an  $F_{30\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 2,910 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is based on the 25–5 harvest control rule specified in the current rebuilding plan; since the stock is projected to be rebuilt at the start of 2014, the ACL is set equal to the ABC. 236.6 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (220 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2.4 mt), and research catch (14.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 2,673.4 mt.

i/ Yelloweye rockfish. A stock assessment update was conducted in 2011. The stock was estimated to be at 21.4 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The 52 mt coastwide OFL was projected in the 2011 rebuilding analysis using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 43 mt is a 16.77 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The 19 mt ACL is based on the current rebuilding plan with a target year to rebuild of 2074 and an SPR

harvest rate of 76.0 percent. 5.8 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2.3 mt), the incidental open access fishery (0.2 mt), EFP catch (0.03 mt) and research catch (3.3 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 13.2 mt. Recreational HGs are being established: 3.1 mt (Washington); 2.8 mt (Oregon); and 3.7 mt (California).

j/ Arrowtooth flounder. The arrowtooth flounder stock was last assessed in 2007 and was estimated to be at 79 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL of 6,396 mt is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{30\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 5,328 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 2,087 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2,041 mt), the incidental open access fishery (30 mt), and research catch (16.4 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 3,241 mt.

k/ Black rockfish south (Oregon and California). A stock assessment was conducted for black rockfish south of 45°46' N. lat. (Cape Falcon, Oregon) to Central California (*i.e.*, the southern-most extent of black rockfish, Love et al. 2002) in 2007. The biomass in the south was estimated to be at 70 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL from the assessed area is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$  plus 3 percent of the OFL from the stock assessment conducted for black rockfish north of 45°46' N. lat., to cover the portion of the stock occurring off Oregon north of Cape Falcon (the 3% adjustment is based on historical catch distribution). The resulting OFL for the area south of 46°16' N. lat. is 1,183 mt. The ABC of 1,131 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The 2016 ACL is 1,000 mt, which maintains the constant catch strategy designed to keep the stock above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 1 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate EFP catch, resulting in a fishery HG of 999 mt. The black rockfish ACL, in the area south of 46°16' N. lat. (Columbia River), is subdivided with separate HGs for waters off Oregon (579 mt/ 58 percent) and for waters off California (420 mt/42 percent).

l/ Black rockfish north (Washington). A stock assessment was conducted for black rockfish north of 45°46' N. lat. (Cape Falcon, Oregon) in 2007. The biomass in the north was estimated to be at 53 percent of its unfished biomass in 2007. The OFL from the assessed area is derived from the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The resulting OFL for the area north of 46°16' N. lat. is 423 mt and is 97 percent of the OFL from the assessed area based on the area distribution of historical catch. The ABC of 404 mt for the north is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 14 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery, resulting in a fishery HG of 390 mt.

m/ Cabezon (California). A cabezon stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The cabezon spawning biomass in waters off

California was estimated to be at 48.3 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL of 158 mt is calculated using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 151 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . There are no deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is equal to the ACL of 151 mt.

n/ Cabezon (Oregon). A cabezon stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The cabezon spawning biomass in waters off Oregon was estimated to be at 52 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL of 49 mt is calculated using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 47 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 species. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . There are no deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is also equal to the ACL of 47 mt.

o/ California scorpionfish was assessed in 2005 and was estimated to be at 79.8 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005. The OFL of 117 mt is projected in the 2005 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  harvest rate proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 111 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery, resulting in a fishery HG of 109 mt.

p/ Chilipepper. The coastwide chilipepper stock was assessed in 2007 and estimated to be at 70 percent of its unfished biomass in 2006. Chilipepper are managed with stock-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. and within the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. Projected OFLs are stratified north and south of 40°10' N. lat. based on the average 1998–2008 assessed area catch, which is 93 percent for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. and 7 percent for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The OFL of 1,694 mt for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. is projected in the 2007 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 1,619 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 24 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (5 mt), EFP fishing (10 mt), and research catch (9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,595 mt.

q/ Dover sole. A 2011 Dover sole assessment estimated the stock to be at 83.7 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 59,221 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 56,615 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL could be set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . However, the ACL of 50,000 mt is set at a level below the ABC and higher than the maximum historical landed catch. 1,594 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (1,497 mt), the incidental open access fishery (55 mt), and research catch (41.9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 48,406 mt.

r/ English sole. A 2013 stock assessment was conducted, which estimated the stock to be at 88 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 7890 mt is projected in the 2013 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 7,204 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) as it is a category 2 stock. The ACL could be set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 213 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (200 mt), the incidental open access fishery (7 mt) and research catch (5.8 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 6,991 mt.

s/ Lingcod north. A lingcod stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The lingcod spawning biomass off Washington and Oregon was estimated to be at 62 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL for Washington and Oregon of 1,842 mt is calculated using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The OFL is re-apportioned by adding 48% of the OFL from California, resulting in an OFL of 2,891 mt for the area north of 40°10' N. lat. The ABC of 2,719 mt is based on a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) for the area north of 42° N. lat. as it's a category 1 stock, and an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) for the area between 42° N. lat. and 40°10' N. lat., as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 278 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (250 mt), the incidental open access fishery (16 mt), EFP catch (0.5 mt) and research catch (11.7 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 2,441 mt.

t/ Lingcod south. A lingcod stock assessment was conducted in 2009. The lingcod spawning biomass off California was estimated to be at 74 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. The OFL for California of 2,185 mt is projected in the assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The OFL is re-apportioned by subtracting 48% of the OFL, resulting in an OFL of 1,136 mt for the area south of 40°10' N. lat. The ABC of 946 mt is based on a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 9 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (7 mt), EFP fishing (1 mt), and research catch (1.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 937 mt.

u/ Longnose skate. A stock assessment was conducted in 2007 and the stock was estimated to be at 66 percent of its unfished biomass. The OFL of 2,405 mt is derived from the 2007 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 2,299 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL of 2,000 mt is a fixed harvest level that provides greater access to the stock and is less than the ABC. 73 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (56 mt), incidental open access fishery (3.8 mt), and research catch (13.2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,927 mt.

v/ Longspine thornyhead. A 2013 longspine thornyhead coastwide stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 75 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. A

coastwide OFL of 4,763 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 3,968 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. For the portion of the stock that is north of 34°27' N. lat., the ACL is 3,015 mt, and is 76 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 46 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (30 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3 mt), and research catch (13.5 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 2,969 mt. For that portion of the stock south of 34°27' N. lat. the ACL is 952 mt and is 24 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), and research catch (1 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 949 mt.

w/ Pacific cod. The 3,200 mt OFL is based on the maximum level of historic landings. The ABC of 2,221 mt is a 30.6 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=1.44/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 3 stock. The 1,600 mt ACL is the OFL reduced by 50 percent as a precautionary adjustment. 509 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (500 mt), research catch (7 mt), and the incidental open access fishery (2.0 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,091 mt.

x/ Pacific whiting. Pacific whiting are assessed annually. The final specifications will be determined consistent with the U.S.-Canada Pacific Whiting Agreement and will be announced after the Council's April 2016 meeting.

y/ Sablefish north. A coastwide sablefish stock assessment was conducted in 2011. The coastwide sablefish biomass was estimated to be at 33 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 8,526 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{45\%}$ . The ABC of 7,784 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.40$ ). The 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC to derive a coastwide ACL value because the stock is in the precautionary zone. This coastwide ACL value is not specified in regulations. The coastwide ACL value is apportioned north and south of 36° N. lat., using the 2003–2010 average estimated swept area biomass from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey, with 73.6 percent apportioned north of 36° N. lat. and 26.4 percent apportioned south of 36° N. lat. The northern ACL is 5,241 mt and is reduced by 524 mt for the tribal allocation (10 percent of the ACL north of 36° N. lat.). The 524 mt Tribal allocation is reduced by 1.6 percent to account for discard mortality. Detailed sablefish allocations are shown in Table 1c.

z/ Sablefish south. The ACL for the area south of 36° N. lat. is 1,880 mt (26.4 percent of the calculated coastwide ACL value). 5 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (2 mt) and research catch (3 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,875 mt.

aa/ Shortbelly rockfish. A non-quantitative shortbelly rockfish assessment was conducted in 2007. The spawning stock biomass of shortbelly rockfish was estimated

to be 67 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005. The OFL of 6,950 mt is based on the estimated MSY in the 2007 stock assessment. The ABC of 5,789 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction of the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The 500 mt ACL is set to accommodate for incidental catch when fishing for co-occurring healthy stocks and in recognition of the stock's importance as a forage species in the California Current ecosystem. 2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate research catch, resulting in a fishery HG of 498 mt.

bb/ Shortspine thornyhead. A 2013 coastwide shortspine thornyhead stock assessment estimated the stock to be at 74.2 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. A coastwide OFL of 3,169 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The coastwide ABC of 2,640 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. For the portion of the stock that is north of 34°27' N. lat., the ACL is 1,726 mt. The northern ACL is 65.4 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey 59 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (50 mt), the incidental open access fishery (2 mt), and research catch (7 mt) resulting in a fishery HG of 1,667 mt for the area north of 34°27' N. lat. For that portion of the stock south of 34°27' N. lat. the ACL is 913 mt. The southern ACL is 35.6 percent of the coastwide ABC based on the average swept-area biomass estimates (2003–2012) from the NMFS NWFSC trawl survey. 42 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (41 mt) and research catch (1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 871 mt for the area south of 34°27' N. lat.

cc/ Spiny dogfish. A coastwide spiny dogfish stock assessment was conducted in 2011. The coastwide spiny dogfish biomass was estimated to be at 63 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The coastwide OFL of 2,503 mt is derived from the 2011 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The coastwide ABC of 2,085 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 338 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (275 mt), the incidental open access fishery (49.5 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (12.5 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,747 mt.

dd/ Splitnose rockfish. A splitnose rockfish coastwide assessment was conducted in 2009 that estimated the stock to be at 66 percent of its unfished biomass in 2009. Splitnose rockfish in the north is managed in the Minor Slope Rockfish complex and with species-specific harvest specifications south of 40°10' N. lat. The coastwide OFL is projected in the 2009 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The coastwide OFL is apportioned north and south of 40°10' N. lat. based on the average 1916–2008 assessed area catch resulting in 64.2 percent of the coastwide OFL apportioned south of 40°10' N. lat., and 35.8 percent apportioned for the contribution of splitnose rockfish to the northern Minor

Slope Rockfish complex. The southern OFL of 1,826 mt results from the apportionment described above. The southern ABC of 1,746 mt is a 4.4 percent reduction from the southern OFL ( $\sigma=0.36/P^*=0.45$ ) as it's a category 1 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is estimated to be above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 110.5 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate research catch (9 mt) and EFP catch (1.5 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,736 mt.

ee/ Starry Flounder. The stock was assessed in 2005 and was estimated to be above 40 percent of its unfished biomass in 2005 (44 percent in Washington and Oregon, and 62 percent in California). The coastwide OFL of 1,847 mt is derived from the 2005 assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{30\%}$ . The ABC of 1,539 mt is a 16.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.40$ ) as it's a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is estimated to be above its target biomass of  $B_{25\%}$ . 10.3 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (2 mt), and the incidental open access fishery (8.3 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,529 mt.

ff/ Widow rockfish. The widow rockfish stock was assessed in 2011 and was estimated to be at 51.1 percent of its unfished biomass in 2011. The OFL of 3,990 mt is projected in the 2011 stock assessment using an  $F_{50\%}$   $F_{MSY}$  proxy. The ABC of 3,790 mt is a 5 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.41/P^*=0.45$ ). A unique sigma of 0.41 was calculated for widow rockfish since the variance in estimated biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The ACL could be set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . However, the ACL of 2,000 mt is less than the ABC due to high uncertainty in estimated biomass, yet this level of allowable harvest will allow access to healthy co-occurring species, such as yellowtail rockfish. 120.2 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (100 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3.3 mt), EFP catch (9 mt), and research catch (7.9 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,880 mt.

gg/ Yellowtail rockfish. A 2013 yellowtail rockfish stock assessment was conducted for the portion of the population north of 40°10' N. lat. The estimated stock depletion is 69 percent of its unfished biomass in 2013. The OFL of 6,949 mt is projected in the 2013 stock assessment using an  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{50\%}$ . The ABC of 6,344 mt is an 8.7 percent reduction from the OFL ( $\sigma=0.72/P^*=0.45$ ) as it is a category 2 stock. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because the stock is above its target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 1,029.6 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (1,000 mt), the incidental open access fishery (3 mt), EFP catch (10 mt) and research catch (16.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 5,314 mt.

hh/ Minor Nearshore Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Nearshore Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 88 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species managed in the complex. The ABCs for the minor rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blue rockfish in California, brown rockfish,

China rockfish, and copper rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 77 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 69 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contributions for blue rockfish in California and China rockfish where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contributions for these two stocks because they are in the precautionary zone. No deductions are made to the ACL, thus the fishery HG is equal to the ACL, which is 69 mt. Between 40°10' N. lat. and 42° N. lat. the Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex north has a harvest guideline of 23.7 mt. Blue rockfish south of 42° N. lat. has a species-specific HG, described in footnote kk/.

ii/ Minor Shelf Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Shelf Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 2,218 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the minor rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, greenspotted rockfish between 40°10' and 42° N. lat. and greenstriped rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,953 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,952 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of greenspotted rockfish in California where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 72 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (30 mt), the incidental open access fishery (26 mt), EFP catch (3 mt), and research catch (13.4 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,880 mt.

jj/ Minor Slope Rockfish north. The OFL for Minor Slope Rockfish north of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,844 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the Minor Slope Rockfish complexes are based on a sigma value of 0.39 for aurora rockfish, a sigma value of 0.36 for other category 1 stocks (*i.e.*, splitnose rockfish), a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, rougheye rockfish, blackspotted rockfish and sharpchin rockfish), and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a  $P^*$  of 0.45. A unique sigma of 0.39 was calculated for aurora rockfish since the variance in estimated spawning biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The resulting ABC of 1,706 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL is set equal to the ABC because all the assessed component stocks are above the target biomass of  $B_{40\%}$ . 64 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (36 mt), the incidental open access fishery (19 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (8.1 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,642 mt.

kk/ Minor Nearshore Rockfish south. The OFL for the Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,288 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The

ABC for the southern Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.36 for category 1 stocks (*i.e.*, gopher rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat.), a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blue rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat., brown rockfish, China rockfish and copper rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a P\* of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,148 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,006 mt is the sum of the contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution for blue rockfish north of 34°27' N. lat. where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 4 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (1.4 mt) and research catch (2.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,002 mt. Blue rockfish south of 42° N. lat. has a species-specific HG set equal to the 40–10-adjusted ACL for the portion of the stock north of 34°27' N. lat. (137.5) plus the ABC contribution for the unassessed portion of the stock south of 34°27' N. lat. (60.8 mt). The California (*i.e.* south of 42° N. lat.) blue rockfish HG is 198.3 mt.

ll/ Minor Shelf Rockfish south. The OFL for the Minor Shelf Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. of 1,919 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABCs for the southern Minor Shelf Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, greenspotted and greenstriped rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a P\* of 0.45. The resulting ABC of 1,626 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 1,625 mt is the sum of contributing ABCs of healthy

assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of greenspotted rockfish in California where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 49 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (9 mt), EFP catch (30 mt), and research catch (9.6 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 1,576 mt.

mm/ Minor Slope Rockfish south. The OFL of 814 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for the component species within the complex. The ABC for the southern Minor Slope Rockfish complex is based on a sigma value of 0.39 for aurora rockfish, a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, blackgill rockfish, rougheye rockfish, blackspotted rockfish, sharpchin rockfish) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a P\* of 0.45. A unique sigma of 0.39 was calculated for aurora rockfish since the variance in estimated biomass was greater than the 0.36 used as a proxy for other category 1 stocks. The resulting ABC of 705 mt is the summed contribution of the ABCs for the component species. The ACL of 695 mt is the sum of the contributing ABCs of healthy assessed stocks and unassessed stocks, plus the ACL contribution of blackgill rockfish where the 40–10 adjustment was applied to the ABC contribution for this stock because it is in the precautionary zone. 20 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the incidental open access fishery (17 mt), EFP catch (1 mt), and research catch (2 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 675 mt. Blackgill rockfish has a species-specific HG set equal to the species' contribution to the 40–10-adjusted ACL. The blackgill rockfish HG is 117 mt.

nn/ Other Flatfish. The Other Flatfish complex is comprised of flatfish species managed in the PCGFMP that are not

managed with species-specific OFLs/ABCs/ACLs. Most of the species in the Other Flatfish complex are unassessed, and include: Butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab (assessed in 2013, but the assessment results were too uncertain to inform harvest specifications), rock sole, sand sole, and rex sole (assessed in 2013). The Other Flatfish OFL of 9,645 mt is based on the sum of the OFL contributions of the component stocks. The ABC of 7,243 mt is based on a sigma value of 0.72 for category 2 stocks (*i.e.*, rex sole) and a sigma value of 1.44 for category 3 stocks (all others) with a P\* of 0.40. The ACL is set equal to the ABC. The ACL is set equal to the ABC since all of the assessed stocks (*i.e.*, Pacific sanddabs and rex sole) were above their target biomass of B<sub>25%</sub>. 204 mt is deducted from the ACL to accommodate the Tribal fishery (60 mt), the incidental open access fishery (125 mt), and research catch (19 mt), resulting in a fishery HG of 7,039 mt.

oo/ Other Fish. The Other Fish complex is comprised of kelp greenling coastwide, cabezon off Washington, and leopard shark coastwide. These species are unassessed. The OFL of 291 mt is the sum of the OFL contributions for kelp greenling off California (the SSC has not approved methods for calculating the OFL contributions for kelp greenling off Oregon and Washington), cabezon off Washington, and leopard shark coastwide. The ABC of 243 mt is the sum of ABC contributions for kelp greenling off California, cabezon off Washington and leopard shark coastwide calculated by applying a P\* of 0.45 and a sigma of 1.44 to the OFL contributions for those stocks. The ACL is set equal to the ABC. There are no deductions from the ACL so the fishery HG is equal to the ACL of 243 mt.

**Table 2b. to Part 660, Subpart C – 2016, and Beyond, Allocations by Species or Species Group (Weights in Metric Tons).**

Species	Area	Fishery HG or ACT	Trawl		Non-trawl	
			%	Mt	%	Mt
BOCACCIO a/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	353.7	N/A	85.0	N/A	268.7
CANARY ROCKFISH a/ b/	Coastwide	109.8	N/A	58.5	N/A	51.3
COWCOD a/ c/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	4.0	N/A	1.4	N/A	2.6
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH d/	Coastwide	325.2	95%	308.9	5%	16.3
PETRALE SOLE a/	Coastwide	2,673.4	N/A	2,638.4	N/A	35.0
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH e/	N of 40°10' N. lat.	149.0	95%	141.6	5%	7.5
YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	13.2	N/A	1.1	N/A	12.1
Arrowtooth flounder	Coastwide	3,241	95%	3,079	5%	162
Chilipepper	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,595	75%	1,196	25%	399
Dover sole	Coastwide	48,406	95%	45,986	5%	2,420
English sole	Coastwide	6,991	95%	6,642	5%	350
Lingcod	N of 40°10' N. lat.	2,441	45%	1,098	55%	1,342
Lingcod	S of 40°10' N. lat.	937	45%	422	55%	515
Longnose skate a/	Coastwide	1,927	90%	1,734	10%	193
Longspine thornyhead	N of 34°27' N. lat.	2,969	95%	2,820	5%	148
Pacific cod	Coastwide	1,091	95%	1,036	5%	55
Pacific whiting	Coastwide	TBD	100%	TBD	0%	TBD
Sablefish	N of 36° N. lat.	0	See Table 1 c			
Sablefish	S of 36° N. lat.	1,875	42%	788	58%	1,088
Shortspine thornyhead	N of 34°27' N. lat.	1,667	95%	1,583	5%	83
Shortspine thornyhead	S of 34°27' N. lat.	871	NA	50	NA	821
Splitnose	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,736	95%	1,649	5%	87
Starry flounder	Coastwide	1,529	50%	764	50%	764
Widow rockfish f/	Coastwide	1,880	91%	1,711	9%	169
Yellowtail rockfish	N of 40°10' N. lat.	5,314	88%	4,677	12%	638
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex a/	N of 40°10' N. lat.	1,880	60.2%	1,132	39.8%	748
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex a/	S of 40°10' N. lat.	1,576	12.2%	192	87.8%	1,384
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	N of 40°10' N. lat.	1,642	81%	1,330	19%	312
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	S of 40°10' N. lat.	675	63%	425	37%	250
Other Flatfish complex	Coastwide	7,039	90%	6,335	10%	704

a/ Allocations decided through the biennial specification process.

b/ 14.0 mt of the total trawl allocation of canary rockfish is allocated to the at-sea whiting fisheries, as follows: 5.8 mt for the mothership fishery, and 8.2 mt for the catcher/processor fishery.

c/ The cowcod fishery harvest guideline is further reduced to an ACT of 4.0 mt.

d/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 9 percent (27.8 mt) of the total trawl allocation for darkblotched rockfish is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 11.7 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 6.7 mt for the mothership fishery, and 9.4 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

e/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 30 mt of the total trawl allocation for POP is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 12.6 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 7.2 mt for the mothership fishery, and 10.2 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

f/ Consistent with regulations at §660.55(c), 500 mt of the total trawl allocation for widow rockfish is allocated to the whiting fisheries, as follows: 210 mt for the shorebased IFQ fishery, 120 mt for the mothership fishery, and 170 mt for the catcher/processor fishery. The tonnage calculated here for the whiting portion of the shorebased IFQ fishery contributes to the total shorebased trawl allocation, which is found at 660.140(d)(1)(ii)(D).

Table 2c. to Part 660, Subpart C – Sablefish North of 36° N. lat. Allocations, 2016 and Beyond.

Year	ACL	Set-asides		Recreational Estimate	EFP	Commercial HG	Limited Entry HG		Open Access HG	
		Tribal a/	Research				%	Mt	%	MT b/
2016	5,241	524	26	6.1	1	4,684	90.6%	4,244	9.4%	440
Year	LE All	Limited Entry Trawl c/				Limited Entry Fixed Gear d/				
		ALL Trawl	At-sea Whiting	Shorebased IFQ		ALL FG	Primary		DTL	
2016	4,244	2,461	50	2,411		1,782	1,515		267	
a/ The tribal allocation is further reduced by 1.6% for discard mortality resulting in 515.7 mt in 2016.										
b/ The open access HG is taken by the incidental OA fishery and the directed OA fishery.										
c/ The trawl allocation is 58% of the limited entry HG										
d/ The limited entry fixed gear allocation is 42% of the limited entry HG										



**Table 2d. to Part 660, Subpart C – At-Sea Whiting Fishery Annual Set-Asides, 2016 and Beyond.**

Species or Species Complex	Area	Set Aside (mt)
BOCACCIO	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
CANARY ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	Allocation
COWCOD	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH a/	Coastwide	Allocation
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH a/	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	Allocation
PETRALE SOLE	Coastwide	5
YELLOW EYE	Coastwide	0
Arrowtooth Flounder	Coastwide	45
Chilipepper	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Dover Sole	Coastwide	5
English Sole	Coastwide	5
Lingcod	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	15
Lingcod	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Longnose Skate	Coastwide	5
Longspine Thornyhead	N. of 34°27 N. lat.	5
Longspine Thornyhead	S. of 34°27 N. lat.	NA
Minor Nearshore Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Nearshore Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Shelf Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	35
Minor Shelf Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Minor Slope Rockfish	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	100
Minor Slope Rockfish	S. of 40°10 N. lat.	NA
Other Fish	Coastwide	NA
Other Flatfish	Coastwide	20
Pacific Cod	Coastwide	5
Pacific Halibut b/	Coastwide	10
Pacific Whiting	Coastwide	Allocation
Sablefish	N. of 36° N. lat.	50
Sablefish	S. of 36° N. lat.	NA
Shortspine Thornyhead	N. of 34°27 N. lat.	20
Shortspine Thornyhead	S. of 34°27 N. lat.	NA
Starry Flounder	Coastwide	5
Widow Rockfish a/	Coastwide	Allocation
Yellowtail	N. of 40°10 N. lat.	300

a/ See Table 1.b., to Subpart C, for the at-sea whiting allocations for these species.

b/ As stated in §660.55 (m), the Pacific halibut set-aside is 10 mt, to accommodate bycatch in the at-sea Pacific whiting fisheries and in the shorebased trawl sector south of 40°10 N. lat. (estimated to 5 mt each).

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 11. In § 660.130, revise paragraphs (d)(1)(i) and (e)(4)(iv) to read as follows:

**§ 660.130 Trawl fishery—management measures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(i) *Coastwide*. Widow rockfish, canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, shortbelly rockfish, black rockfish, blue rockfish, minor nearshore rockfish, minor shelf rockfish, minor slope rockfish, shortraker rockfish, rougheye/blackspotted

rockfish, shortspine and longspine thornyhead, Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, starry flounder, English sole, other flatfish, lingcod, sablefish, Pacific cod, spiny dogfish, other fish, longnose skate, and Pacific whiting;

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) \* \* \*

(4) \* \* \*

(iv) If a vessel fishes in the trawl RCA, it may not participate in any fishing on that trip that is prohibited within the trawl RCA. Nothing in these Federal regulations supersedes any state

regulations that may prohibit trawling shoreward of the fishery management area (3–200 nm).

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 12. In § 660.140, revise paragraph (d)(1)(ii)(D) to read as follows:

**§ 660.140 Shorebased IFQ Program.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(ii) \* \* \*

(D) For the trawl fishery, NMFS will issue QP based on the following shorebased trawl allocations:

IFQ Species	Management Area	2015 Shorebased Trawl Allocation (mt)	2016 Shorebased Trawl Allocation (mt)
Arrowtooth flounder		3,193.93	3,033.38
BOCACCIO	South of 40°10' N. lat.	81.89	85.02
CANARY ROCKFISH		43.26	44.48
Chilipepper	South of 40°10' N. lat.	1,203.00	1,196.25
COWCOD	South of 40°10' N. lat.	1.44	1.44
DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH		285.61	292.81
Dover sole		45,980.80	45,980.80
English sole		9,153.19	6,636.64
Lingcod	North of 40°10' N. lat.	1,133.32	1,083.37
Lingcod	South of 40°10' N. lat.	447.71	421.61
Longspine thornyhead	North of 34°27' N. lat.	2,962.33	2,815.08
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex	North of 40°10' N. lat.	1,091.70	1,096.52
Minor Shelf Rockfish complex	South of 40°10' N. lat.	192.20	192.32
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	North of 40°10' N. lat.	1,219.41	1,229.94
Minor Slope Rockfish complex	South of 40°10' N. lat.	423.99	425.25
Other Flatfish complex		7,670.50	6,315.10
Pacific cod		1,031.41	1,031.41
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH	North of 40°10' N. lat.	118.45	124.15
Pacific Whiting		—	—
PETRALE SOLE		2,539.40	2,633.40
Sablefish	North of 36° N. lat.	2,199.37	2,411.24
Sablefish	South of 36° N. lat.	719.88	787.50
Shortspine thornyhead	North of 34°27' N. lat.	1,581.49	1,563.44
Shortspine thornyhead	South of 34°27' N. lat.	50.00	50.00
Splitnose rockfish	South of 40°10' N. lat.	1,619.28	1,648.73
Starry flounder		756.85	759.35
Widow rockfish		1,420.62	1,420.62
YELLOW EYE ROCKFISH		1.00	1.08
Yellowtail rockfish	North of 40°10' N. lat.	4,593.15	4,376.67

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 13. In subpart D, tables 1 (North) and 1 (South) to 660 are revised to read as follows:

**Table 1 (North) to Part 660, Subpart D -- Limited Entry Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Landing Allowances for non-IFQ Species and Pacific Whiting North of 40°10' N. Lat.**

This table describes Rockfish Conservation Areas for vessels using groundfish trawl gear. This table describes incidental landing allowances for vessels registered to a Federal limited entry trawl permit and using groundfish trawl or groundfish non-trawl gears to harvest individual fishing quota (IFQ) species.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.10 - § 660.399 before using this table

3/1/15

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)1/:							
1	North of 48°10' N. lat.	shore - modified2/ 200 fm line1/	shore - 200 fm line 1/	shore - 150 fm line1/		shore - 200 fm line1/	shore - modified2/ 200 fm line1/
2	48°10' N. lat. - 45°46' N. lat.	100 fm line1/ - 150 fm line1/					
3	45°46' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	100 fm line1/ - modified2/ 200 fm line1/					
<p>Selective flatfish trawl gear is required shoreward of the RCA; all bottom trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA. Large footrope and small footrope trawl gears (except for selective flatfish trawl gear) are prohibited shoreward of the RCA. Midwater trawl gear is permitted only for vessels participating in the primary whiting season. <b>Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry groundfish trawl fishery landing allowances in this table, regardless of the type of fishing gear used. Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry fixed gear non-trawl RCA, as described in Tables 2 (North) and 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E.</b></p>							
See § 660.60, § 660.130, and § 660.140 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.70-660.74 and §§ 660.76-660.79 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
4	Minor Nearshore Rockfish & Black rockfish	300 lb/month					
5	Whiting3/						
6	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season: CLOSED. -- During the primary season: mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA. See §660.131 for season and trip limit details. -- After the primary whiting season: CLOSED.					
7	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season: 20,000 lb/trip. -- During the primary season: 10,000 lb/trip. -- After the primary whiting season: 10,000 lb/trip.					
8	Cabazon4/						
9	North of 46°16' N. lat.	Unlimited					
10	46°16' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	50 lb/ month					
11	Shortbelly	Unlimited					
12	Spiny dogfish	60,000 lb/month					
13	Longnose skate	Unlimited					
14	Other Fish 4/	Unlimited					

TABLE 1 (NORTH)

TABLE 1 (NORTH)

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours, and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to the RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ The "modified" fathom lines are modified to exclude certain petrale sole areas from the RCA.

3/ As specified at §660.131(d), when fishing in the Eureka Area, no more than 10,000 lb of whiting may be taken and retained, possessed, or landed by a vessel that, at any time during the fishing trip, fished in the fishery management area shoreward of 100 fm contour.

4/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabazon in Washington

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

**Table 1 (South) to Part 660, Subpart D -- Limited Entry Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Landing Allowances for non-IFQ Species and Pacific Whiting South of 40°10' N. Lat.**

This table describes Rockfish Conservation Areas for vessels using groundfish trawl gear. This table describes incidental landing allowances for vessels registered to a Federal limited entry trawl permit and using groundfish trawl or groundfish non-trawl gears to harvest individual fishing quota (IFQ) species.									
Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.10 - § 660.399 before using this table									
3/1/15									
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC		
Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)1/:									
1	South of 40°10' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/ 2/</sup>							
Small footrope trawl gear is required shoreward of the RCA; all trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, midwater trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA. Large footrope trawl gear and midwater trawl gear are prohibited shoreward of the RCA. <b>Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry groundfish trawl fishery landing allowances in this table, regardless of the type of fishing gear used. Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry fixed gear non-trawl RCA, as described in Tables 2 (North) and 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E.</b>									
See § 660.60, § 660.130, and § 660.140 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.70-660.74 and §§ 660.76-660.79 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).									
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.									
2	Longspine thornyhead								
3	South of 34°27' N. lat.	24,000 lb/ 2 months							
4	Minor Nearshore Rockfish & Black rockfish	300 lb/ month							
5	Whiting								
6	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season: CLOSED. -- During the primary season: mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA. See §660.131 for season and trip limit details. -- After the primary whiting season: CLOSED.							
7	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season: 20,000 lb/trip. -- During the primary season: 10,000 lb/trip. -- After the primary whiting season: 10,000 lb/trip.							
8	Cabezon	50 lb/ month							
9	Shortbelly	Unlimited							
10	Spiny dogfish	60,000 lb/ month							
11	Longnose skate	Unlimited							
12	California scorpionfish	Unlimited							
13	Other Fish <sup>3/</sup>	Unlimited							

TABLE 1 (South)

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours, and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to the RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ South of 34°27' N. lat., the RCA is 100 fm line - 150 fm line along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm line around islands.

3/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

TABLE 1 (South)

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 14. In § 660.230, revise paragraph (c)(2)(i) to read as follows:

**§ 660.230 Fixed gear fishery—management measures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(i) *Coastwide*—widow rockfish, canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, shortbelly rockfish,

black rockfish, blue rockfish, minor nearshore rockfish, minor shelf rockfish, minor slope rockfish, shortraker rockfish, rougheye/blackspotted rockfish, shortspine and longspine thornyhead, Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, starry flounder, English sole, other flatfish, lingcod, sablefish, Pacific cod, spiny dogfish, other fish, longnose skate, and Pacific whiting;

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 15. In § 660.231, revise paragraph (b)(3)(i) to read as follows:

**§ 660.231 Limited entry fixed gear sablefish primary fishery.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(3) \* \* \*

(i) A vessel participating in the primary season will be constrained by

the sablefish cumulative limit associated with each of the permits registered for use with that vessel. During the primary season, each vessel authorized to fish in that season under paragraph (a) of this section may take, retain, possess, and land sablefish, up to the cumulative limits for each of the permits registered for use with that vessel (*i.e.*, stacked permits). If multiple limited entry permits with sablefish endorsements are registered for use with a single vessel, that vessel may land up to the total of all cumulative limits announced in this paragraph for the tiers for those permits, except as limited by paragraph (b)(3)(ii) of this section. Up to 3 permits may be registered for use with a single vessel during the primary season; thus, a single vessel may not take and retain, possess or land

more than 3 primary season sablefish cumulative limits in any one year. A vessel registered for use with multiple limited entry permits is subject to per vessel limits for species other than sablefish, and to per vessel limits when participating in the daily trip limit fishery for sablefish under § 660.232. In 2015, the following annual limits are in effect: Tier 1 at 41,175 (18,677 kg), Tier 2 at 18,716 lb (8,489 kg), and Tier 3 at 10,695 lb (4,851 kg). For 2016 and beyond, the following annual limits are in effect: Tier 1 at 45,053 lb (20,436 kg), Tier 2 at 20,479 lb (9,289 kg), and Tier 3 at 11,702 lb (5,308 kg).

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 16. In subpart E, tables 2 (North) and 2 (South) to part 660 are revised to read as follows:

**Table 2 (North) to Part 660, Subpart E -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table							3/1/15
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	North of 46° 16' N. lat.				shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
2	46° 16' N. lat. - 42° 00' N. lat.			30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>			
3	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.			30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>			
See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
4	Minor Slope Rockfish <sup>2/</sup> & Darkblotched rockfish			4,000 lb/ 2 months			
5	Pacific ocean perch			1,800 lb/ 2 months			
6	Sablefish <sup>7/</sup>			1,025 lb/ week, not to exceed 3,075 lb/ 2 months			
7	Longspine thornyhead			10,000 lb/ 2 months			
8	Shortspine thornyhead		2,000 lb/ 2 months			2,500 lb/ 2 months	
9							
10	Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish <sup>3/</sup>			5,000 lb/ month			
11				South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line, are not subject to the RCAs.			
12							
13							
14							
15	Whiting			10,000 lb/ trip			
16	Minor Shelf Rockfish <sup>2/</sup> , Shortbelly, Widow & Yellowtail rockfish			200 lb/ month			
17	Canary rockfish			CLOSED			
18	Yelloweye rockfish			CLOSED			
19	Minor Nearshore Rockfish & Black rockfish						
20	North of 42° 00' N. lat.		5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish or blue rockfish <sup>4/</sup>				
21	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.		8,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish				
22	Lingcod <sup>5/</sup>	200 lb/ 2 months		1,200 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ month	200 lb/ month
23	Pacific cod			1,000 lb/ 2 months			
24	Spiny dogfish	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months		100,000 lb/ 2 months	
25	Longnose skate			Unlimited			
26	Other Fish <sup>6/</sup> & Cabezon in Oregon and California			Unlimited			

TABLE 2 (North)

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish and splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish.

3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

4/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. (46°38.17' N. lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lb or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.

5/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

6/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.

7/ Beginning on January 1, 2016, the following trip limits are in effect for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. from January through December 1,275 lb/week, not to exceed 3,375 lb/ 2 months

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.



**Table 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear South of 40° 10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table							3/1/15
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
2	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	60 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> (also applies around islands)					
<b>See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b>							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
3	<b>Minor Slope rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	40,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,375 lb may be blackgill rockfish					
4	<b>Splitnose rockfish</b>	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
5	<b>Sablefish<sup>6/</sup></b>						
6	40° 10' N. lat. - 36° 00' N. lat.	1,025 lb/ week, not to exceed 3,075 lb/ 2 months					
7	South of 36° 00' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ week					
8	<b>Longspine thornyhead</b>	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
9	<b>Shortspine thornyhead</b>						
10	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months			2,500 lb/ 2 months		
11	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months					
12	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	5,000 lb/ month					
13		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line, are not subject to the RCAs.					
14							
15							
16							
17							
18	<b>Whiting</b>	10,000 lb/ trip					
19	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow rockfish (including Bocaccio and Chilipepper between 40° 10' - 34° 27' N. lat.)</b>						
20	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish, bocaccio & chilipepper: 2,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 500 lb may be any species other than chilipepper.					
21	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	4,000 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	4,000 lb/ 2 months			
22	<b>Chilipepper</b>						
23	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	Chilipepper included under minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish and bocaccio limits - - See above					
24	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months, this opportunity only available seaward of the non-trawl RCA					
25	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
26	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
27	<b>Cowcod</b>	CLOSED					
28	<b>Bronzespotted rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
29	<b>Bocaccio</b>						
30	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	Bocaccio included under Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish & chilipepper limits - - See above					
31	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	750 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	750 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 2 (South)

TABLE 2 (South)

Table 2 (South). Continued		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	TABLE 2 (South)	
32	Minor Nearshore Rockfish & Black rockfish								
33	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	1,000 lb/ 2 months		
34	Deeper nearshore								
35	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months		1,000 lb/ 2 months		
36	South of 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months					
37	California scorpionfish	1,200 lb/ 2 months <sup>6/</sup>	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months	1,200 lb/ 2 months				
38	Lingcod <sup>4/</sup>	200 lb/ 2 mo	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months			400 lb/mo		200 lb/mo
39	Pacific cod	1,000 lb/ 2 months							
40	Spiny dogfish	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months				
41	Longnose skate	Unlimited							
42	Other Fish <sup>5/</sup> & Cabezon	Unlimited							

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ POP is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish. Blackgill rockfish have a species specific trip sub-limit within the Minor Slope Rockfish cumulative limit. Yellowtail rockfish are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish. Bronzespotted rockfish have a species specific trip limit.

3/ "Other Flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

4/ The commercial minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

5/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.

6/ Beginning on January 1, 2016, the following trip limits are in effect for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. from January through December 1,275 lb/week, not to exceed 3,375 lb/ 2 months

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

- 17. In § 660.330, revise paragraphs (c)(2)(i) and (d)(13)(iii) to read as follows:

**§ 660.330 Open access fishery—management measures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(i) *Coastwide*—widow rockfish, canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, shortbelly rockfish, black rockfish, blue rockfish, minor nearshore rockfish, minor shelf rockfish, minor slope rockfish, shortraker rockfish, rougheye/blackspotted rockfish, shortspine and longspine

thornyhead, Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, starry flounder, English sole, other flatfish, lingcod, sablefish, Pacific cod, spiny dogfish, longnose skate, other fish, Pacific whiting, and Pacific sanddabs;

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

(13) \* \* \*

(iii) The non-groundfish trawl RCA restrictions in this section apply to vessels taking and retaining or possessing groundfish in the EEZ, or landing groundfish taken in the EEZ. Unless otherwise authorized by Part 660, it is unlawful for a vessel to retain any groundfish taken on a fishing trip

for species other than groundfish that occurs within the non-groundfish trawl RCA. If a vessel fishes in a non-groundfish fishery in the non-groundfish trawl RCA, it may not participate in any fishing on that trip that is prohibited within the non-groundfish trawl RCA. Nothing in these Federal regulations supersedes any state regulations that may prohibit trawling shoreward of the fishery management area (3–200 nm).

\* \* \* \* \*

- 18. In subpart F, tables 3 (North) and 3 (South) to part 660 are revised to read as follows:

Table 3 (North) to Part 660, Subpart F -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Open Access Gears North of 40°10' N. lat.

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table							3/1/15
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	North of 46°16' N. lat.				shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
2	46°16' N. lat. - 42°00' N. lat.				30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
3	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.				30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
<b>See §§660.60, 660.330 and 660.333 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b>							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
4	<b>Minor Slope Rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
5	<b>Pacific ocean perch</b>	100 lb/ month					
6	<b>Sablefish<sup>7/</sup></b>	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 900 lb, not to exceed 1,800 lb/ 2 months					
7	<b>Shortpine thornyheads and longspine thornyheads</b>	CLOSED					
8	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, stary flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs.					
9		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
10							
11							
12							
13	<b>Whiting</b>	300 lb/ month					
14	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow &amp; Yellowtail rockfish</b>	200 lb/ month					
15	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
16	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
17	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>						
18	North of 42°00' N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish					
19	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	8,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb may be species other than black rockfish					
20	<b>Lingcod<sup>5/</sup></b>	100 lb/ month	600 lb/ month				100 lb/month
21	<b>Pacific cod</b>	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
22	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	200,000 lb/ 2 months	150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
23	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited					
24	<b>Other Fish<sup>6/</sup> &amp; Cabezon in Oregon and California</b>	Unlimited					
25							

TABLE 3 (North)

TABLE 3 (North)



**Table 3 (South) to Part 660, Subpart F -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Open Access Gears South of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table

3/1/15

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> (also applies around islands)					
See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
3	<b>Minor Slope Rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	10,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 475 lb may be blackgill rockfish					
4	<b>Splitnose rockfish</b>	200 lb/ month					
5	<b>Sablefish<sup>6/</sup></b>						
6	40°10' N. lat. - 36°00' N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 900 lb, not to exceed 1,800 lb/ 2 months					
7	South of 36°00' N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,600 lb, not to exceed 3,200 lb/ 2 months					
8	<b>Shortpine thornyheads and longspine thornyheads</b>						
9	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED					
10	South of 34°27' N. lat.	50 lb/ day, no more than 1,000 lb/ 2 months					
11	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs.					
12		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
13							
14							
15							
16							
17	<b>Whiting</b>	300 lb/ month					
18	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow rockfish and Chilipepper</b>						
19	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	200 lb/ 2 months	300 lb/ 2 months		
20	South of 34°27' N. lat.	1500 lb/ 2 months		1500 lb/ 2 months			
21	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
22	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
23	<b>Cowcod</b>	CLOSED					
24	<b>Bronzespotted rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
25	<b>Bocaccio</b>						
26	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	100 lb/ 2 months	200 lb/ 2 months		
27	South of 34°27' N. lat.	250 lb/ 2 months		250 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 3 (South)

TABLE 3 (South)

Table 3 (South). Continued		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
28	Minor Nearshore Rockfish & Black rockfish							
29	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	1,000 lb/ 2 months	
30	Deeper nearshore							
31	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months		1,000 lb/ 2 months	
32	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months				
33	California scorpionfish	1,200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months				
34	Lingcod <sup>4/</sup>	100 lb/month	CLOSED	400 lb/ month				100 lb/month
35	Pacific cod	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
36	Spiny dogfish	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
37	Longnose skate	Unlimited						
38	Other Fish <sup>5/</sup> & Cabezon	Unlimited						
39	RIDGEBACK PRAWN AND, SOUTH OF 38° 57.50' N. LAT., CA HALIBUT AND SEA CUCUMBER NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL							
40	NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for CA Halibut, Sea Cucumber & Ridgeback Prawn:							
41	40° 10' N. lat. - 38° 00' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>				100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	
42	38° 00' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
43	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> around islands						
44		Groundfish: 300 lb/trip. Species-specific limits described in the table above also apply and are counted toward the 300 lb groundfish per trip limit. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of the target species landed, except that the amount of spiny dogfish landed may exceed the amount of target species landed. Spiny dogfish are limited by the 300 lb/trip overall groundfish limit. The daily trip limits for sablefish coastwide and thornyheads south of Pt. Conception and the overall groundfish "per trip" limit may not be multiplied by the number of days of the trip. Vessels participating in the California halibut fishery south of 38° 57.50' N. lat. are allowed to (1) land up to 100 lb/day of groundfish without the ratio requirement, provided that at least one California halibut is landed and (2) land up to 3,000 lb/month of flatfish, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, sand sole, starry flounder, rock sole, curfin sole, or California scorpionfish (California scorpionfish is also subject to the trip limits and closures in line 31).						
45	PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL GEAR (not subject to RCAs)							
46	South	Effective April 1 - October 31: Groundfish: 500 lb/day, multiplied by the number of days of the trip, not to exceed 1,500 lb/trip. The following sublimits also apply and are counted toward the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits: lingcod 300 lb/month (minimum 24 inch size limit); sablefish 2,000 lb/month; canary, thornyheads and yelloweye rockfish are PROHIBITED. All other groundfish species taken are managed under the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits. Landings of all groundfish species count toward the per day, per trip or other species-specific sublimits described here and the species-specific limits described in the table above do not apply. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.						

TABLE 3 (South) cont'd

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish. Blackgill rockfish have a species specific trip sub-limit within the minor slope rockfish cumulative limits. Yellowtail rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish. Bronzespotted rockfish have a species specific trip limit.

3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

4/ The commercial minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

5/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and includes kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.

6/ Beginning on January 1, 2016, the following trip limits are in effect for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. 300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 2,000 lb/ 2 months

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

TABLE 3 (South) cont'd

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-C**

■ 19. In § 660.360, revise paragraphs (c)(1)(i)(D)(1) through (3), (c)(1)(iii)(B), (c)(1)(iv)(A) and (B), (c)(2)(iii)(A), (D), and (E), (c)(3)(i)(A)(2) through (5), (c)(3)(ii)(A)(2) through (4), (c)(3)(ii)(B), (c)(3)(iii)(A)(2) through (4), (c)(3)(iii)(B), and (c)(3)(v)(A)(1) through (4) to read as follows:

**§ 660.360 Recreational fishery—management measures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

- (c) \* \* \*
- (1) \* \* \*
- (i) \* \* \*
- (D) \* \* \*

(1) West of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line between the U.S. border with Canada and the Queets River (Washington state

Marine Area 3 and 4), recreational fishing for groundfish is prohibited seaward of a boundary line approximating the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour from May 9 through Labor Day, except on days when the Pacific halibut fishery is open in this area it is lawful to retain, lingcod, Pacific cod and sablefish seaward of the 20 fm (37 m) boundary. Days open to Pacific halibut recreational fishing off Washington are announced on the NMFS hotline at (206) 526-6667 or (800) 662-9825. Coordinates for the boundary line approximating the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour are listed in § 660.71, subpart C.

(2) Between the Queets River (47°31.70' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Point (46°38.17' N. lat.) (Washington state

Marine Area 2), recreational fishing for groundfish, is prohibited seaward of a boundary line approximating the 30 fm (55 m) depth contour from March 15 through June 15 with the following exceptions: Recreational fishing for lingcod is permitted within the RCA on days that the primary halibut fishery is open; recreational fishing for rockfish is permitted within the RCA from March 15 through June 15; recreational fishing for sablefish and Pacific cod is permitted within the recreational RCA from May 1 through June 15. In addition to the RCA described above, between the Queets River (47°31.70' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Point (46°38.17' N. lat.) (Washington state Marine Area 2), recreational fishing for lingcod is

prohibited year round seaward of a straight line connecting all of the following points in the order stated: 47°31.70' N. lat., 124°45.00' W. long.; 46°38.17' N. lat., 124°30.00' W. long. with the following exceptions: On days that the primary halibut fishery is open lingcod may be taken, retained and possessed within the lingcod area closure. Days open to Pacific halibut recreational fishing off Washington are announced on the NMFS hotline at (206) 526-6667 or (800) 662-9825. For additional regulations regarding the Washington recreational lingcod fishery, see paragraph (c)(1)(iv) of this section. Coordinates for the boundary line approximating the 30 fm (55 m) depth contour are listed in § 660.71.

(3) Between Leadbetter Point (46°38.17' N. lat.) and the Columbia River (Marine Area 1), when Pacific halibut are onboard the vessel, no groundfish may be taken and retained, possessed or landed, except sablefish and Pacific cod from May 1 through September 30. Except that taking, retaining, possessing or landing incidental halibut with groundfish on board is allowed in the nearshore area on days not open to all-depth Pacific halibut fisheries in the area shoreward of the boundary line approximating the 30 fathom (55 m) depth contour extending from Leadbetter Point, WA (46°38.17' N. lat., 124°15.88' W. long.) to the Columbia River (46°16.00' N. lat., 124°15.88' W. long.) and from there, connecting to the boundary line approximating the 40 fathom (73 m) depth contour in Oregon. Nearshore season days are established in the annual management measures for Pacific halibut fisheries, which are published in the **Federal Register** and are announced on the NMFS halibut hotline, 1-800-662-9825. Between Leadbetter Point (46°38.17' N. lat.) and 46°28.00' N. lat., recreational fishing for lingcod is prohibited year round seaward of a straight line connecting all of the following points in the order stated: 46°38.17' N. lat., 124°21.00' W. long.; and 46°28.00' N. lat., 124°21.00' W. long.

\* \* \* \* \*

(iii) \* \* \*

(B) Between 48°10' N. lat. (Cape Alava) and 46°16' N. lat. (Columbia River) (Washington Marine Areas 1-3), there is a 2 cabezon per day bag limit.

(iv) \* \* \*

(A) Between the U.S./Canada border and 48°10' N. lat. (Cape Alava) (Washington Marine Area 4), recreational fishing for lingcod is open, for 2015, from April 16 through October 15, and for 2016, from April 16 through

October 15. Lingcod may be no smaller than 22 inches (61 cm) total length.

(B) Between 48°10' N. lat. (Cape Alava) and 46°16' N. lat. (Columbia River) (Washington Marine Areas 1-3), recreational fishing for lingcod is open for 2015, from March 14 through October 17, and for 2016, from March 12 through October 15. Lingcod may be no smaller than 22 inches (56 cm) total length.

\* \* \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(iii) \* \* \*

(A) *Marine fish*. The bag limit is 10 marine fish per day, which includes rockfish, kelp greenling, cabezon and other groundfish species. There is a 1 fish sub-bag limit per day for canary rockfish (of the total marine bag limit, no more than 1 fish may be canary) from January 1 through December 31. The bag limit of marine fish excludes Pacific halibut, salmonids, tuna, perch species, sturgeon, sanddabs, flatfish, lingcod, striped bass, hybrid bass, offshore pelagic species and baitfish (herring, smelt, anchovies and sardines). The minimum size for cabezon retained in the Oregon recreational fishery is 16 in (41 cm) total length. The minimum size for kelp greenling retained in the Oregon recreational fishery is 10 in (25 cm).

\* \* \* \* \*

(D) *In the Pacific halibut fisheries*. Retention of groundfish is governed in part by annual management measures for Pacific halibut fisheries, which are published in the **Federal Register**. Between the Columbia River and Humbug Mountain, during days open to the "all-depth" sport halibut fisheries, when Pacific halibut are onboard the vessel, no groundfish may be taken and retained, possessed or landed, except sablefish and Pacific cod. "All-depth" season days are established in the annual management measures for Pacific halibut fisheries, which are published in the **Federal Register** and are announced on the NMFS Pacific halibut hotline, 1-800-662-9825.

(E) Taking and retaining yelloweye rockfish is prohibited at all times and in all areas.

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) \* \* \*

(i) \* \* \*

(A) \* \* \*

(2) Between 40°10' N. lat. and 38°57.50' N. lat. (Mendocino Management Area), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except "other flatfish" as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour along the mainland coast and

along islands and offshore seamounts from May 15 through October 31 (shoreward of 20 fm is open), and is closed entirely from January 1 through May 14 and from November 1 through December 31.

(3) Between 38°57.50' N. lat. and 37°11' N. lat. (San Francisco Management Area), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except "other flatfish" as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of the boundary line approximating the 30 fm (55 m) depth contour along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts from April 15 through December 31; and is closed entirely from January 1 through April 14. Closures around Cordell Banks (see paragraph (c)(3)(i)(C) of this section) also apply in this area. Coordinates for the boundary line approximating the 30 fm (55 m) depth contour are listed in § 660.71.

(4) Between 37°11' N. lat. and 34°27' N. lat. (Central Management Area), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except "other flatfish" as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of a boundary line approximating the 40 fm (73 m) depth contour along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts from April 1 through December 31; and is closed entirely from January 1 through March 31 (*i.e.* prohibited seaward of the shoreline). Coordinates for the boundary line approximating the 40 fm (73 m) depth contour are specified in § 660.71.

(5) South of 34°27' N. lat. (Southern Management Area), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except California scorpionfish as specified below in this paragraph and in paragraph (c)(3)(v) of this section and "other flatfish" as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of a boundary line approximating the 60 fm (109.7 m) depth contour from March 1 through December 31 along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts, except in the CCAs where fishing is prohibited seaward of the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour when the fishing season is open (see paragraph (c)(3)(i)(B) of this section). Recreational fishing for all groundfish (except California scorpionfish and "other flatfish") is closed entirely from January 1 through February 28 (*i.e.*, prohibited seaward of the shoreline). Recreational fishing for California scorpionfish south of 34°27' N. lat. is prohibited seaward of a boundary line approximating the 60 fm (109.7 m) depth contour from January 1 through December 31, except in the CCAs where fishing is prohibited seaward of the 20



fm (37 m) depth contour when the fishing season is open.

\* \* \* \* \*

(ii) \* \* \*

(A) \* \* \*

(2) Between 40°10' N. lat. and 38°57.50' N. lat. (Mendocino Management Area), recreational fishing for the RCG Complex is open from May 15 through October 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through May 14 and November 1 through December 31).

(3) Between 38°57.50' N. lat. and 37°11' N. lat. (San Francisco Management Area), recreational fishing for the RCG complex is open from April 15 through December 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through April 14).

(4) Between 37°11' N. lat. and 34°27' N. lat. (Central Management Area), recreational fishing for the RCG complex is open from April 1 through December 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through March 31).

\* \* \* \* \*

(B) *Bag limits, hook limits.* In times and areas when the recreational season for the RCG Complex is open, there is a limit of 2 hooks and 1 line when fishing for the RCG complex and lingcod. The bag limit is 10 RCG Complex fish per day coastwide. Retention of canary rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, bronzespotted rockfish and cowcod is prohibited. Within the 10 RCG Complex fish per day limit, no

more than 5 may be black rockfish, no more than 3 may be bocaccio, and no more than 3 may be cabezon. Multi-day limits are authorized by a valid permit issued by California and must not exceed the daily limit multiplied by the number of days in the fishing trip.

\* \* \* \* \*

(iii) \* \* \*

(A) \* \* \*

(2) Between 40°10' N. lat. and 38°57.50' N. lat. (Mendocino Management Area), recreational fishing for lingcod is open from May 15 through October 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through May 14 and November 1 through December 31).

(3) Between 38°57.50' N. lat. and 37°11' N. lat. (San Francisco Management Area), recreational fishing for lingcod is open from April 15 through December 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through April 14).

(4) Between 37°11' N. lat. and 34°27' N. lat. (Central Management Area), recreational fishing for lingcod is open from April 1 through December 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through March 31).

\* \* \* \* \*

(B) *Bag limits, hook limits.* In times and areas when the recreational season for lingcod is open, there is a limit of 2 hooks and 1 line when fishing for lingcod. The bag limit is 3 lingcod per day. Multi-day limits are authorized by

a valid permit issued by California and must not exceed the daily limit multiplied by the number of days in the fishing trip.

\* \* \* \* \*

(v) \* \* \*

(A) \* \* \*

(1) Between 40°10' N. lat. and 38°57.50' N. lat. (Mendocino Management Area), recreational fishing for California scorpionfish is open from May 15 through August 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through May 14 and from September 1 through December 31).

(2) Between 38°57.50' N. lat. and 37°11' N. lat. (San Francisco Management Area), recreational fishing for California scorpionfish is open from April 15 through August 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through April 14 and September 1 through December 31).

(3) Between 37°11' N. lat. and 34°27' N. lat. (Central Management Area), recreational fishing for California scorpionfish is open from April 1 through August 31 (*i.e.*, it's closed from January 1 through March 31 and September 1 through December 31).

(4) South of 34°27' N. lat. (Southern Management Area), recreational fishing for California scorpionfish is open from January 1 through December 31.

\* \* \* \* \*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**