

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON BLACKGILL AND SLOPE  
ROCKFISH QUOTA SHARE ALLOCATION

The Council is considering an action to remove blackgill rockfish from the Slope Rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. latitude to manage it as a single species instead of within the complex. As part of this action, the Council is also considering how to reallocate blackgill rockfish and Slope Rockfish south of 40° 10' N. between the various groundfish sectors, and how to reallocate blackgill and Slope Rockfish south of 40° 10' N. shares to quota share permit owners in the shorebased individual fishing quota (IFQ) program. The purpose of this action is to reduce the risk of exceeding the blackgill rockfish overfishing limit contribution south of 40° 10' N. and ensure an equitable allocation of the harvestable surplus of blackgill rockfish and the Slope Rockfish south of 40° 10' N.

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel notes that a reallocation process for IFQ species subdivision already exists in the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan and regulation at 50 CFR 660.140 (c)(3)(vii)(B) that was not acknowledged in the Council discussion at the April Council meeting. The GAP believes that Amendment 20 is the only viable option that could be used should the Council decide to reallocate blackgill rockfish.

PFMC  
06/14/15