

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM (GMT) REPORT ON NATIONAL MARINE
FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS) REPORT

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) was briefed on Agenda Item F.1, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report on their April 4th webinar. Specifically, the GMT discussed the update on the widow reallocation rulemaking ([NMFS Report 3](#)) and the planned proposal by NMFS to remove the daily vessel limit for widow rockfish through that rulemaking process. The GMT supports NMFS' recommendation to remove the daily vessel limit for widow rockfish, as the stock/species is rebuilt. NMFS staff also suggested that the Council consider creating a process to remove the daily vessel limit once a species is declared rebuilt, as a few are projected to be in the near future (canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, and bocaccio). The GMT recommends that the Council and NMFS create an item within the biennial harvest specification process (i.e., added to the action item checklist) to consider the removal of the daily vessel limit when an overfished individual fishing quota (IFQ) species is declared rebuilt. For canary rockfish, the GMT recommends the Council include the removal of the daily vessel limit in the 2017-2018 biennial specifications process under Agenda Item F.6.

PFMC
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