

## ADOPT FINAL STOCK ASSESSMENTS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) process for setting groundfish harvest levels and other specifications depends on periodic assessments of the status of groundfish stocks and a report from an established assessment review body or Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panel. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviews this information and makes a recommendation relative to the standards of 1) the best available science, and 2) soundness for use in groundfish fishery management decision-making by the Council. The Council then approves the new assessments and relevant analyses used to set groundfish harvest levels and other specifications for the following biennial management period.

The SSC reviewed six assessments in August for lingcod, Pacific ocean perch, yelloweye rockfish, yellowtail rockfish, blue and deacon rockfishes, and California scorpionfish. The SSC will complete their review at this meeting. The Executive Summaries of these assessments and the corresponding Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel reports are provided in Attachments 1 through 12, respectively. **The assessments in their entirety are available on the Council website (electronic only).**

The Council should consider the assessments, as well as the advice of the SSC, other advisory bodies, and the public before adopting the new stock assessments for use in groundfish management in 2019 and beyond.

### **Council Action:**

**Adopt the stock assessments endorsed by the SSC.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 1: Executive Summary of “DRAFT 2017 Lingcod Stock Assessment.”
2. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 2: Lingcod Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.
3. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 3: Executive Summary of “Status of Pacific ocean perch (*Sebastes alutus*) along the U.S. west coast in 2017.”
4. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 4: Pacific Ocean Perch Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.
5. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 5: Executive Summary of “Stock assessment of the yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) in state and Federal waters off California, Oregon and Washington.”
6. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 6: Yelloweye Rockfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.
7. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 7: Executive Summary of “Status of Yellowtail Rockfish (*Sebastes flavidus*) Along the U.S. Pacific Coast in 2017.”
8. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 8: Yellowtail Rockfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.

9. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 9: Executive Summary of “The Combined Status of Blue and Deacon Rockfishes in U.S. Waters off California and Oregon in 2017.”
10. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 10: Blue and Deacon Rockfishes Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.
11. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 11: Executive Summary of “Status of California Scorpionfish (*Scorpaena guttata*) Off Southern California in 2017.”
12. Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 12: California Scorpionfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report.
13. Agenda Item E.8.a, WDFW Report 1.

Agenda Order:

- E.8 Adopt Final Stock Assessments John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Approve Final Stock Assessments for 2019-2020 Management

PFMC  
08/22/17