



Groundfish Science Report

Michelle McClure and Jim Hastie
Northwest Fisheries Science Center

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Overview

- Stock Assessment prioritization for 2015 ('17/'18 spex)
- Economic data collection
- Bycatch reduction projects
- Observer data delivery to Vessel Account system

2015 Stock Assessment Priorities

- Formal Council consideration will begin in June; final decision in September
- Preparation for 2015 assessments will be best served if Full/Update assessments are pretty settled in June
- We are initiating discussions with advisors at this meeting
- As in prior years, NWFSC has assembled a list of potential species
- This year, we have included more supplemental information than has been the case, previously.

Candidates for 2015 Stock Assessments

Species	Suggestions for 2015 Assessments				Most Recent Assessment and Current Status					PSA	Fleet rank (2008-2012):					Survey info
	Full	Up D	D-M	Dat Rpt	Cur Tier	Last year	Type	Last Dep.	Rblld?		Comm. \$		Rec. mt			
											All	H & L	All	CA	OR-WA	
arrowtooth fl.			x		2	2007	F	79%		1.21	8	48	52		26	
bank rf			x		2	2000	F			2.02	30	42	47	44		
black rf	X				1	2007	F	65%		1.94	6	3	1	1	1	
blue rf			x		2	2007	F	30%		2.01	33	17	4	9	5	
bocaccio	X				1	2013	U	31%	Y	1.93	42	26	7	5	13	
CA scorpionfish			x		1	2005	F	80%		1.41	36	20	5	4		
canary rf	X				1	2011	U	23%	Y	2.01	46	67	17	19	12	
chilipepper	x	x			1	2007	F	71%		1.35	14	27	30	29	39	
China rf	x		x		2	2013	D-M	55%		2.23	25	12	16	15	10	
cowcod	x			x	2	2013	F	34%	Y	2.13	73	56	45	42		
darkblotched rf	X				1	2013	F	36%	Y	1.92	22	24				
gopher rf			x		1	2005	F	97%		1.76	12	7	10	7		
kelp greenling	x		x		1	2005	F	49%		1.56	18	10	15	17	6	
lingcod	x	x			1	2009	Full	67%		1.55	7	5	2	2	2	
longnose skate	x				1	2007	F	66%		1.68	9	25	61		32	
olive rf			x		3					1.87	47	31	13	13	31	
POP	x	x		x	1	2011	U	19%	Y	1.69	31	43				
petrale sole	X	X			1	2013	F	22%	Y	1.94	3	44	40	40	19	
quillback rf	x		x		3					2.22	35	18	20	28	7	
sablefish	X	X			1	2011	F	33%		1.64	1	1	42	48	15	
widow rf	X				1	2011	F	51%		2.05	28	41	33	32	17	
yelloweye rf	x			X	2	2011	F	21%	Y	2.00	61	45	27	33	11	

Other Stocks, Including Previously-Assessed

Species	Most Recent Assessment and Current Status					PSA	Fleet rank (2008-2012):					Survey info
	Cur Tier	Last year	Type	Last Dep.	Rbld?		Comm. \$		Rec. mt			
							All	H & L	All	CA	OR-WA	
starry flounder	2	2005	Full	50%		1.02	41	49	41	39	24	
cabezon	1	2009	Full	49%		1.48	10	4	11	12	4	
greenstriped rf	2	2009	Full	81%		1.88	45	60	38	36	26	
splitnose rf	1	2009	Full	66%		1.82	34	46				
blackgill rf	1	2011	Full	30%		2.08	15	9				
Dover sole	1	2011	Full	84%		1.54	2	33	57	53	37	
greenspotted rf	2	2011	Full	35%		1.98	53	34	18	16	32	
spiny dogfish	1	2011	Full	63%		2.13	29	23	31	30	23	
vermilion/sunset	3	2005				2.05	27	13	3	3	8	
black and yellow r	3					1.70	21	11	21	20	34	
grass rf	3					1.89	17	8	23	22	25	
starry rf	3					2.09	50	32	14	14		

2015 Stock Assessment Priorities

- Likely Assessment Capacity:
 - 3-4 STARs with Full assessments
 - 1 STAR with 3-4 Data-Moderate assessments
 - Multiple areas and modeling approaches to review
 - 3-4 Update assessments
 - Data reports for remaining rebuilding species
- Council and Stakeholder Input welcomed

Science, Service, Stewardship



Economic and Social Science Research

Economic Data Collection Update

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2013 EDC Data Submissions

- Option to complete the EDC forms through a web form.
 - In May – paper forms and instructions for web submission
- New question -- number of employees (crew and workers) directly engaged in fishing and processing.
 - Better track employment changes

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Bycatch Reduction Research Projects

Waldo Wakefield (NWFSC) and Mark Lomeli (PSMFC)

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Hake retention & rockfish escapement among excluder designs tested by the NWFSC and PSMFC under normal fishing conditions

Excluder design	Year	Hake retention (% weight)	Rockfish escapement (% weight)	Rockfish species encountered
Open escape window BRD	2011	98.8	8.3	yellowtail, widow
Flexible sorting grid A	2012	96.7	15.4	widow, canary
Flexible sorting grid B	2012	93.9	70.2	yellowtail, widow, rougeye
Flexible sorting grid C	2013	92.7	26.2	widow



Issues Surrounding the Flexible Sorting Grid Excluder designs - Clogging

Since 2012, modifications have been made to improve the gear's performance under moderate to high fish volumes; *however*, under heavy fish volumes (e.g., over 90 mt of Pacific hake being caught in haul durations <45 minutes) clogging is still an issue.





Upcoming Research in 2014

- The NWFSC and PSMFC will likely continue their excluder research during the 2014 Pacific hake fishery.
- Within the next month the NWFSC and PSMFC will likely be having discussions with industry to begin developing an alternative excluder design for testing.

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Observer Data Delivery

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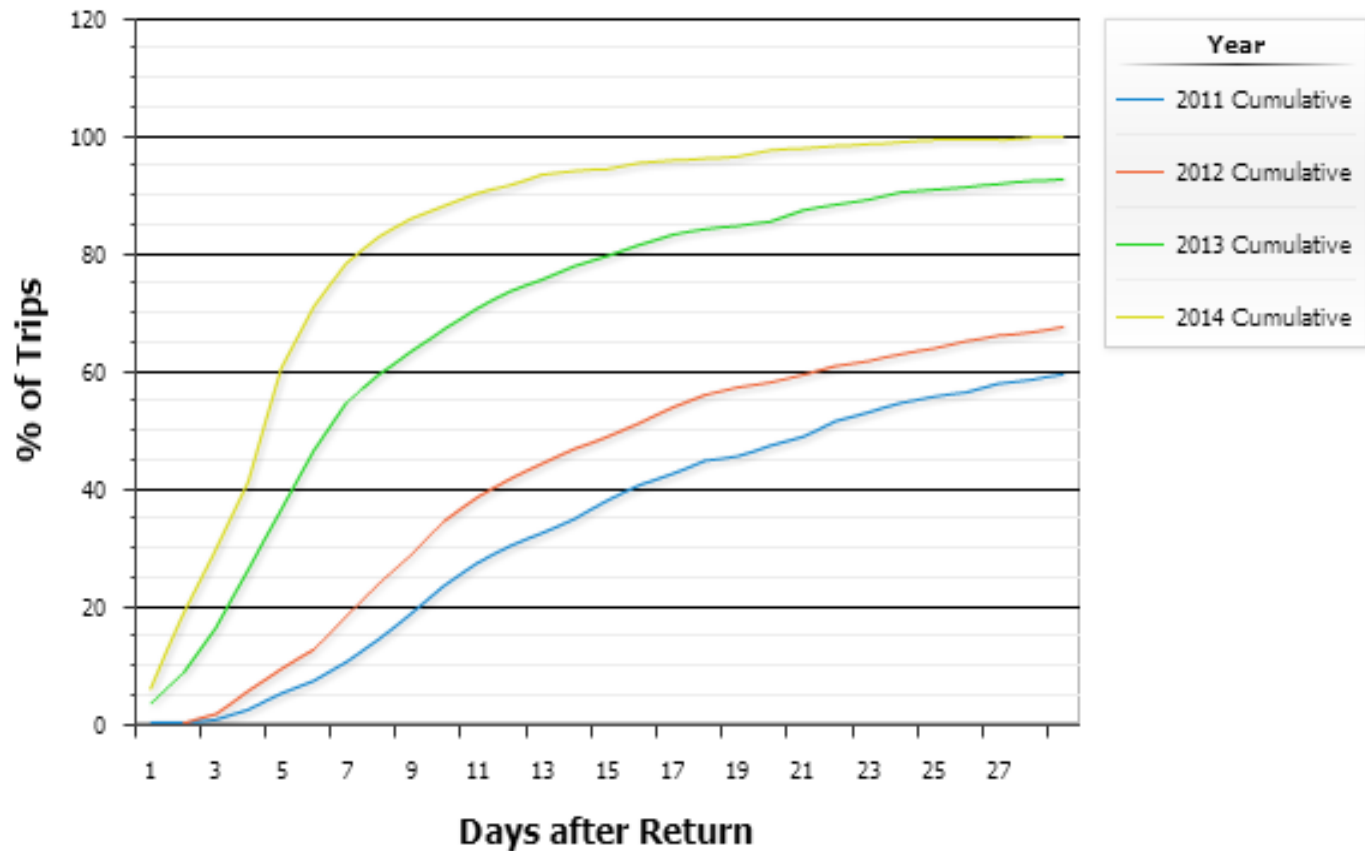
Discard data reporting for IFQ/IBQ

- Observer discard data is submitted to the Vessel Account System (VAS) as soon as it is available in the observer database.
- 94% of 2014 trips reported to VAS w/in 14 days.
- Data is only uploaded to the VAS 4x week (M-Th).
 - ❖ OLE and industry concern – avoid deficits on weekends.
- Discard numbers reported to the VAS may change after they are loaded due to data errors found during the debriefing process.



Improving Observer Data Processing

Days to Post to IFQ VA (Percent of Total Trips)





Projects in 2014

Each of these projects have or will shorten the timelines for data submission and finalization.

- Offline database entry program
- Trip Error Report expansion and build
- Data Digitization Project
- Data Form Redesign