

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFF-THE-TOP DEDUCTIONS (SET-ASIDES) FOR OVERFISHED SPECIES

Deductions to the annual catch limits (ACLs) or annual catch targets (ACTs) are made to account for fishing-related mortality resulting from scientific research, non-groundfish fisheries (also called incidental open access fisheries), Pacific Coast treaty Indian tribal harvest, and, as necessary, exempted fishing permits (EFPs). These deductions are important accountability measures that increase the likelihood that catches will remain below the ACLs or ACTs. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) discussed the available data and provides the following recommended updates to information contained in the [2011-2012 Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix B](#).

Exempted Fishing Permits

The Council will adopt preliminary EFPs and their associated set-asides of overfished species under Agenda Item E.3. At that time, the GMT will update the set-aside table and provide a Supplemental Report for Council adoption. In the interim, the GMT has left the 2011-2012 set-aside values as place holders.

Scientific Research

The Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) do not have direct management control over scientific research activities, nevertheless, the catch must be considered in the ACL or ACT. For the 2011-2012 process, the Council adopted set-aside values equal to the maximum historical scientific research catch from 2005-2008, except for canary and yelloweye rockfish. The Council considered the high canary rockfish research impacts of 7.2 metric ton (mt) in 2006 a rare event. The largest impacts came from the NMFS trawl survey and surveys in later years encountered significantly less canary. The Council adopted a 4.5 mt canary rockfish set aside for 2011-2012, which is slightly higher than the average research catch from 2006-2008 (Table 1). For yelloweye rockfish, the Council adopted a 3.3 mt research set aside for 2011-2012 based on anticipated research needs of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (1.1 mt), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (1 mt), Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (1 mt), and other (0.2 mt).

For the 2013-2014 process, the Northwest Region provided an update on research catches of overfished species for 2009 and 2010 (Table 1). The GMT reviewed the new data and did not find a compelling reason to modify the approach used in setting the 2011-2012 set-asides, since the 2013-2014 research activities are anticipated to be similar. **The GMT recommends the Council adopt the overfished species research set-asides in Attachment 1 for the 2013-2014 cycle.** The values are equal to the maximum historical scientific research catch, with the exception of canary and yelloweye rockfish. The rationales for the canary and yelloweye rockfish values are provided above.

Table 1. Research catches of overfished rockfish species (mt) from 2005-2010 and the median, average, maximum and minimum by species (provided by NMFS NWR).

| Year | Bocaccio | Canary | Cowcod | Dkbl | POP | Petrale | Widow | YE |
|---------|----------|--------|--------|------|-----|---------|-------|-----|
| 2005 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.6 |
| 2006 | 0.2 | 7.2 | 0 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 2.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 2007 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 2 |
| 2008 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 2009 | 1 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 5.3 | 0.7 |
| 2010 a/ | 0.7 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 1 | 1.7 | 3 | 1.4 | 0.5 |

| Summary Statistics | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Median | 1.0 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| Average | 1.0 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 4.7 | 1.6 | 0.8 |
| Max | 1.7 | 7.2 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 17 | 5.3 | 2 |
| Min | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.9 | 1 | 1.7 | 0 | 0.1 |

a/Preliminary numbers from NMFS NWR

Non-Groundfish Fisheries (Incidental Open Access)

Pink Shrimp Trawl Fishery

The pink shrimp trawl fishery is not restricted by any rockfish conservation areas, but approved bycatch reduction devices or fish excluders in shrimp trawls are mandated to minimize incidental groundfish bycatch. Observer discard ratios from the pink shrimp fishery were used to estimate fleet-wide amounts of groundfish discards starting in 2007. **The GMT recommends adopting the maximum catch, as described by the 2007, 2008, and 2009 Total Mortality reports (Table 2), for the 2013-2014 set-asides (Attachment 1).**

Table 2. Overfished species impacts (in mt) from the pink shrimp trawl fishery, as determined from the Total Mortality Reports, 2007-2009. The GMT recommends adopting the maximum value for the 2013-2014 set-asides .

| Year | Canary | Darkblotched | POP | Petrale | Widow | Yelloweye |
|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2007 | 0.4 | 18.4 | 0.1 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 2008 | 0.3 | 11.3 | 0.1 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 2009 | 0.4 | 18.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Maximum | 0.4 | 18.4 | 0.4 | 2.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 |

All Other Open Access Incidental Fisheries

Recent information on all other open access incidental fisheries is consistent with the estimates provided in the [2011-2012 Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix B](#). **Therefore, the GMT recommends the Council adopt the set-asides for the incidental open access fisheries, as displayed in Attachment 1.**

Tribal

The Tribal fisheries consist of trawl (bottom, mid-water, and whiting), fixed gear, and treaty troll. The GMT's current best estimate (Table 3) of the set-asides needed for Tribal fisheries in 2013-2014 is based on the estimates used to calculate set-asides in 2011-2012 ([2011-2012 Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix B](#)). However, we anticipate new information may come forward that updates the estimate needed for some fisheries.

Table 3. Overfished species projected impacts from Tribal fisheries from the September 2011 scorecard.

| Tribal | | Canary | Dkbl | POP | Petrals | Widow | Yelloweye |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Trawl | Bottom | 0.8 | 0.1 | 3.7 | 45.4 | | 0.0 |
| | Mid-water | 3.6 | | | | | 0.0 |
| | Whiting | 4.3 | | | | | 0.0 |
| Fixed gear | | 0.3 | | | | 40.0 | 2.3 |
| Troll | | 0.5 | | 7.2 | | 5.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | | 9.5 | 0.1 | 10.9 | 45.4 | 45 | 2.3 |

GMT Recommendations

For the 2013-14 cycle,

- 1. Adopt revised EFP set-aside amounts, based on Council action under Agenda Item E.3 (to be provided in a Supplemental Report.**
- 2. Adopt research set-asides in Attachment 1.**
- 3. Adopt incidental open access fishery set asides as displayed in Attachment 1.**
- 4. Adopt Tribal set asides in Attachment 1, or update, as necessary, based on Tribal needs.**

Attachment 1. GMT proposed set-asides for overfished species for the 2013-2014 harvest specifications (in mt). Note that EFP values are from 2011-2012 and will be updated after Agenda Item E.3 is completed.

| <i>Fishery</i> | Bocaccio | Canary | Cowcod | Dkbl | POP | Petrale | Widow | Yelloweye |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Sum of the Off the Top Deductions | 13.4 | 19.7 | 0.3 | 22.1 | 14.1 | 64.5 | 62.3 | 5.9 |
| EFP | 11.0 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 2.0 | 8.7 | 0.1 |
| Research | 1.7 | 4.5 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 17.0 | 5.3 | 3.3 |
| IPHC Survey | | | | | | | | 1.1 |
| WDFW rockfish | | | | | | | | 1.0 |
| ODFW rockfish | | | | | | | | 1.0 |
| Other | | | | | | | | 0.2 |
| Incidental Open Access | 0.7 | 2.0 | -- | 18.4 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 3.3 | 0.2 |
| CA Halibut | | | | | | | | |
| CA Gillnet | 0.3 | | | | | | 2.9 | |
| CA Sheephead | | | | | | | | |
| CPS- wetfish | 0.1 | | | | | | | |
| CPS- squid | | | | | | | | |
| Dungeness crab | | | | | | | | |
| HMS | 0.1 | | | | | | | |
| Pacific Halibut | | | | | | | | |
| Pink shrimp | | 0.4 | | 18.4 | 0.4 | 2.3 | 0.1 | |
| Ridgeback prawn | | | | | | | | |
| Salmon troll | 0.2 | 1.6 | | | | | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Sea Cucumber | | | | | | 0.1 | | |
| Spot Prawn (trap) | | | | | | | | |
| Tribal | | 9.5 | | 0.1 | 10.9 | 45.4 | 45.0 | 2.3 |
| Bottom Trawl | | 0.8 | | 0.1 | 3.7 | 45.4 | | 0.0 |
| Troll | | 0.5 | | | | | | 0.0 |
| Fixed gear | | 0.3 | | | | | | 2.3 |
| Mid-water | | 3.6 | | | | | 40.0 | 0.0 |
| Whiting | | 4.3 | | | 7.2 | | 5.0 | |