



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

Agenda Item E 9.c
Supplemental Pub Cmt 2
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Marine Resources Program
2040 SE Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 867-4741
Fax: (541) 867-0311
www.dfw.state.or.us



Memorandum

To: Jeff Miles

Date: 11/1/2011

Re: Request for information

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) conducted a preliminary analysis in response to your request for information about discard of lingcod by vessels with Oregon Limited-Entry Nearshore Commercial Groundfish Fishery (Nearshore Fishery) during the federal spawning season seasonal closure for lingcod retention. The Oregon Nearshore Fishery is considered part of the federal open access fixed gear fishery under federal regulations and is subject to the limits and closures for lingcod retention summarized in Table 1. The sport groundfish fishery and the IFQ program currently have exceptions to the spawning season closure.

Table 1: 2005-2011 Trip Limit Regulations for Open Access Fixed Gear Fisheries north of 40° 10' N. latitude.

Year	Open Access Trip Limits	Closed Months
2005	300 lbs/mo	Nov – Apr
2006	300 lbs/mo	Nov – Apr
2007	400 lbs/mo	Dec – Apr
2008 – 2011	400 lbs/mo	Dec – Apr

ODFW compared information recorded by fishermen in Nearshore logbooks received by the Department with data provided by the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program run by the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Science Center. Total pounds of lingcod discard recorded during the current spawning closure period each year from January thru April and also in December were examined for years that comparable data were available, 2005 through 2008. Note that there are fundamental differences between these two data sets. For example, weights are measured by the West Coast

Groundfish Observer Program whereas weights recorded in logbooks are estimated by fishermen. Preliminary results for each data set are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2: Summary of 2005-2008 West Coast Groundfish Observer Program lingcod discards during winter spawning closure (Dec – Apr) for Oregon vessels in the Nearshore Fishery.

Year Trips Observed	2005 (22)	2006 (26)	2007 (21)	2008 (44)
Percent of trips observed with lingcod encountered	91%	77%	76%	87%
Average lbs lingcod discarded on trips encountered	117	55	57	78
Median lbs lingcod discarded on trips encountered	93	44	48	50
Percent of lingcod encounter trips with ≤50 lbs discarded	60%	65%	50%	51%

Table 2: Summary of 2005-2008 Logbook information on lingcod discards during winter spawning closure (Dec – Apr) for the Oregon Nearshore Fishery.

Year Logbook Trips Received	2005 (729)	2006 (285)	2007 (274)	2008 (370)
Percent of trips with lingcod reported to be encountered	65%	52%	63%	62%
Average lbs lingcod reported to be discarded when encountered	71	53	42	61
Median lbs lingcod reported to be discarded when encountered	40	34	28	30
Percent of lingcod encounter trips with ≤50 lbs discarded reported	58%	65%	74%	70%

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the ODFW Marine Resources Program.