

Proposed 2015-2016 Tribal Management Measures

Black Rockfish - The 2015 and 2016 tribal harvest guidelines will be set at 30,000 pounds for the management area between the US/Canada border and Cape Alava, and 10,000 pounds for the management area located between Destruction Island and Leadbetter Point. No tribal harvest restrictions are proposed for the management area between Cape Alava and Destruction Island.

Sablefish - The 2015 and 2016 tribal set asides for sablefish will be set at 10 percent of the Monterey through Vancouver area ACL minus approximately 1.5 percent to account for estimated discard mortality. Allocations among tribes and among gear types, if any, will be determined by the tribes.

Pacific cod - The tribes will be subject to a 400 mt harvest guideline for 2015 and 2016.

For all other tribal groundfish fisheries the following trip limits will apply:

Thornyheads - Tribal fisheries will be restricted to 17,000 lbs/2 months for shortspine thornyheads and 22,000 lbs/2 months for longspine thornyheads. Those limits would be accumulated across vessels into a cumulative fleetwide harvest target for the year. The limits available to individual fishermen will then be adjusted inseason to stay within the overall harvest target as well as estimated impacts to overfished species

Canary Rockfish - Tribal fisheries will be restricted to a 300 pound per trip limit.

Other Minor Nearshore, Shelf and Slope Rockfish - Tribal fisheries will be restricted to a 300 pound per trip limit for each species group, or the Limited Entry trip limits if they are less restrictive than the 300 pound per trip limit.

Yelloweye Rockfish - The tribes will continue developing depth, area, and time restrictions in their directed Pacific halibut fishery to minimize impacts on yelloweye rockfish. Tribal fisheries will be restricted to 100 pounds per trip.

Lingcod - Tribal fisheries will be subject to a 250 mt harvest guideline for 2015 and 2016.

Spiny Dogfish – Tribal fisheries for dogfish in 2015 and 2016 would be restricted to 200,000 lbs/2 months. Targeting of dogfish by treaty fishermen in 2015 and 2016 would be conducted while staying within current estimates of impacts on overfished species.

Full Retention - The tribes will require full retention of all overfished rockfish species as well as all other marketable rockfishes during treaty fisheries.

Makah Trawl Fisheries for 2015 and 2016

Midwater Trawl Fishery - Treaty midwater trawl fishermen will be restricted to a cumulative limit of yellowtail rockfish, based on the number of vessels participating, not to exceed 250,000 lbs/2 month period for the entire fleet for a total catch of 677 mt. Their landings of widow rockfish must not exceed 10 percent of the cumulative poundage of yellowtail rockfish landed by a given vessel for the year. The tribe may adjust the cumulative limit for any two-month period to minimize the incidental catch of canary and widow rockfish, provided the average cumulative limit does not exceed 250,000 pounds for the fleet.

Bottom Trawl Fishery - Treaty fishermen using bottom trawl gear will be subject to trip limits similar to those applied in recent years for shortspine and longspine thornyhead, Dover sole, English sole, rex sole, arrowtooth flounder, and other flatfish. These are 110,000 lbs/2 months for Dover sole, English sole, and Other Flatfish; 150,000 lbs/2 months for arrowtooth flounder; 17,000 lbs/2 months for shortspine thornyhead; and 22,000 lbs/2 months for longspine thornyhead. For Dover sole, longspine thornyheads, and arrowtooth flounder, these bi-monthly limits in place at the beginning of the season will be combined across periods and the fleet to create a cumulative harvest target. The limits available to individual fishermen will then be adjusted inseason to stay within the overall harvest target as well as estimated impacts to overfished species. For petrale sole, fishermen would be restricted to 220 mt for the entire year. Because of the relatively modest expected harvest, all other trip limits for the tribal fishery will be those in place in recent years and will not be adjusted downward, nor will time restrictions or closures be imposed, unless in-season catch statistics demonstrate that the tribe has taken ½ of the harvest in the tribal area. Fishermen will be restricted to small footrope (\leq 8 inches) trawl gear. Exploration of the use of selective flatfish trawl gear may be conducted.

Observer Program - The Makah Tribe has an observer program in place to monitor and enforce the limits proposed above.