

## GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

At the June 2012 meeting, the Council requested the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) provide landings information by sector for aurora, rougheye, shortraker, China, copper, and quillback rockfish under the inseason agenda item (see Council meeting minutes at <http://tinyurl.com/ldaaqo>). Blackspotted rockfish will be reported along with rougheye rockfish beginning in 2015. The purpose of presenting this data is to gain a better understanding of how catch accrues by sector throughout the year for these species. This information is not intended to inform inseason action. Per the Council request, the GMT prepared a landings report (Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3) of these selected species. The query date for these tables was October 24, 2014.

*Data and Methods.*—This report originates from a database reporting tool housed within PacFIN, and is a collaborative effort among staff of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and GMT members. The current report includes landings estimates from commercial fisheries sectors (PacFIN VDRFD table, see PacFIN data completeness estimates in next paragraph), retained and discarded catch estimates for the at-sea sectors (NORPAC 4900 Species Comp. table in PacFIN), and retained and dead discard estimates from recreational fisheries (via RecFIN). The PacFIN commercial landings data were more than 90 percent complete through August in Washington, September in Oregon, and June in California, at the time of this query (October 24, 2014). NORPAC data were loaded to repository for this database tool on October 24, 2014 and RecFIN data were loaded on October 21, 2014. RecFIN data were complete through August 31, and NORPAC data run only two days behind, which would make these data complete through October 22.

The reason we use individual fishing quota (IFQ) landings from PacFIN is because “real-time” IFQ e-tickets don’t have species compositions applied within rockfish complexes. Therefore, we must reference the PacFIN VDRFD table, where these compositions have been applied. These data then run at the completion dates and rates listed in the preceding paragraph for PacFIN commercial landings data.

Average annual discard estimates for the shorebased sectors are included in Tables 1 through 3 and calculated from the most recent two years of available data (West Coast Groundfish Observer Program, 2011 and 2012) as a proxy. The GMT notes that it has not had the time to update the discard estimates with the most recent WCGOP data as of this statement.

*Results and Table Description.*— Three tables are presented in this report. Table 1 summarizes catch by species and management area, Table 2 summarizes catch by species and sector; for the area north of 40°10' N. latitude only, and Table 3 does the same for the area south of 40°10' N. latitude. Footnotes in Table 1 include the anticipated 2015 component overfishing limits (OFLs) to inform how current catches relate to potential future harvest specifications (i.e., 2015).

Component OFLs were taken from the 2013-14 and 2015-16 Biennial Harvest Specifications Final Environmental Impact Statement. The catch estimates given here may not match exactly with every sector estimate obtained separately from independent databases, due to reporting time lags and data capture date.

It is important to note that since OFLs are set for stock complexes, rather than for individual stocks within a complex, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) recommends against using these OFL contribution values to evaluate whether overfishing is occurring for component stocks (see Agenda Item I.3.b., Supplemental SSC Report, April 2012 ). In addition, NMFS pointed out in Agenda Item H.4.b., Supplemental NMFS Report, November 2013, that although the Minor Slope North and Minor Slope South complexes are divided at 40°10' N. latitude, combining northern and southern individual stock contributions to the OFL is more informative when determining management performance of these stocks coastwide (also see Agenda Item F.8.b. Supplemental SSC Report, June 2013 ). Also note that in Table 1, total mortality is compared to the 2014 component OFL whereas comparisons with the 2015 component OFL are provided in the footnotes, if different from the 2014 component OFL.

**Table 1.** Inseason 2014 catch estimates for selected species identified at the June 2012 PFMC meeting. Estimates include 2014 commercial landings for shorebased fisheries as well as 2014 landings and discards for at-sea and recreational sectors. Average annual observer discard over the most recent two years of available data is presented as a proxy for shorebased commercial sectors. For informational purposes; not intended for inseason Council action. Query date: October 24, 2014. See text for data source descriptions, completeness information, and other important information.

Species a/	North/ South of 40°10'	2014 inseason retained (mt)	2014 at-sea & recreational inseason discard (mt)	Average annual shorebased observer discard (mt)	Total mortality (mt)	2014 component OFL	% of the 2014 component OFL	
							North/ South of 40°10'	Areas combined
Aurora rockfish <sup>b/</sup>	North	10.13	0.00	3.04	13.17	15.40	86%	40%
	South	0.89	0.00	2.39	3.29	26.10	13%	
China rockfish <sup>c/</sup>	North	7.52	0.35	0.16	8.04	9.80	82%	61%
	South	6.26	0.31	1.48	8.06	16.60	49%	
Copper rockfish <sup>d/</sup>	North	5.85	0.30	0.03	6.18	26.00	24%	45%
	South	66.72	2.11	0.11	68.94	141.50	49%	
Quillback rockfish	North	6.38	0.22	0.13	6.73	7.40	91%	57%
	South	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.58	5.40	11%	
Rougheye rockfish <sup>e/</sup>	North	73.22	1.10	14.88	89.20	71.10	125%	126%
	South	1.08	0.00	0.15	1.23	0.40	307%	
Shortraker rockfish	North	25.67	0.01	2.23	27.91	18.70	149%	148%
	South	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	1%	
Shortraker/rougheye <sup>f/</sup>	North	0.00	0.00	19.43	19.43	NA	NA	NA

a/ Blackspotted rockfish landings in the northern area were 0.33mt, and in the South they were 0.11mt. Average annual discard was estimated at 0.00mt from WCGOP data (2011-2012). Blackspotted is included as a footnote because it will be combined with rougheye rockfish reporting in 2015 and was included with rougheye rockfish in the most recent (2013) stock assessment.

b/ Aurora rockfish 2015 component OFLs are 17.4 mt north of 40°10' and 74.3 mt south of 40°10'; percentage of 2015 component OFLs are 76 percent and 4 percent, respectively

c/ China rockfish 2015 component OFL is 7.2 mt north of 40°10' and 55.2 mt south of 40°10'; percentage of 2015 component OFLs are 112 percent and 15 percent, respectively.

d/ Copper rockfish 2015 component OFL is 10.6 mt north of 40°10' and 301.1 mt south of 40°10'; percentage of 2015 component OFLs are 58 percent and 30 percent, respectively.

e/ Rougheye rockfish 2015 component OFLs are 201.9 mt north of 40°10' and 4.1 mt south of 40°10'; percentage of 2015 component OFLs are 44 percent and 30 percent respectively

f/ Shortraker/rougheye rockfish market category: If we assume that this category is composed of the same proportions of shortraker and rougheye rockfish as if we were to combine their individual values in the "Total mortality" column (0.28 and 0.72 respectively), then the new rougheye estimate for the northern area would be 103.2mt, or 116 percent of its component OFL, and shortraker would be 33.3mt, or 178 percent of its component OFL.

**Table 2.** Inseason 2014 catch estimates of selected species, in the management area *North of 40°10' N. latitude only*, identified in the June 2012 PFMC meeting. Estimates include commercial landings for shorebased fisheries as well as 2014 landings and discards for at-sea and recreational sectors. Average annual observer discard over the most recent two years of available data is presented as a proxy for shorebased commercial sectors. For informational purposes; not intended for inseason Council action. Query date: October 24, 2014. See text for data source descriptions, completeness information, and other important information.

Species a/	Sector	2014 inseason retained (mt)	2014 at-sea & recreational inseason discard (mt)	Average annual shorebased observer discard (mt)	Total mortality (mt)	Sector distribution (%)
Aurora rockfish	At-sea hake CP	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.07	1%
	IFQ fixed gear	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0%
	IFQ trawl gear	9.58	0.00	2.84	12.42	94%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.40	0.00	0.12	0.53	4%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	0.04	0.00	0.08	0.12	1%
	Shoreside hake	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0%
	Treaty	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
China rockfish	CA recreational	0.63	0.01	0.00	0.64	8%
	Nearshore fixed gear	3.59	0.00	0.16	3.75	47%
	OR recreational	1.39	0.07	0.00	1.46	18%
	WA recreational	1.92	0.27	0.00	2.19	27%
Copper rockfish	CA recreational	1.32	0.03	0.00	1.36	22%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05	1%
	Nearshore fixed gear	0.91	0.00	0.03	0.94	15%
	OR recreational	2.06	0.02	0.00	2.08	34%
	WA recreational	1.52	0.25	0.00	1.76	28%

a/ Blackspotted rockfish landings in the North were reported as 0.33mt, 76 percent of which was in the Non-nearshore fixed gear sector, 17 percent was from the IFQ fixed gear sector, four percent from IFQ trawl, and three percent Treaty.

Table 2. Continued.

Species a/	Sector	2014 inseason retained (mt)	2014 at-sea & recreational inseason discard (mt)	Average annual shorebased observer discard (mt)	Total mortality (mt)	Sector distribution (%)
Quillback rockfish	CA recreational	1.23	0.03	0.00	1.26	19%
	IFQ trawl gear	0.17	0.00	0.01	0.18	3%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05	1%
	Nearshore fixed gear	1.10	0.00	0.12	1.22	18%
	OR recreational	2.79	0.12	0.00	2.91	43%
	WA recreational	1.04	0.07	0.00	1.11	17%
Rougheye rockfish	At-sea hake CP	2.91	0.89	0.00	3.80	4%
	At-sea hake MS	0.46	0.21	0.00	0.68	1%
	IFQ fixed gear	1.98	0.00	6.22	8.21	9%
	IFQ trawl gear	33.21	0.00	0.05	33.26	37%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.52	0.00	0.01	0.53	1%
	Nearshore fixed gear	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	18.72	0.00	8.55	27.27	31%
	Shoreside hake	7.80	0.00	0.01	7.81	9%
Treaty	7.61	0.00	0.04	7.65	9%	
Shortraker rockfish	At-sea hake ms	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0%
	IFQ fixed gear	0.15	0.00	0.62	0.77	3%
	IFQ trawl gear	21.20	0.00	0.02	21.22	76%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.16	1%
	Nearshore fixed gear	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	3.70	0.00	1.59	5.30	19%
	Shoreside hake	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.15	1%
Treaty	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.32	1%	
Shortraker/rougheye rockfish	IFQ fixed gear	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.17	6%
	IFQ trawl gear	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	0.00	0.00	18.26	18.26	94%

Table 3. Inseason 2014 catch estimates of selected species, in the management area *South of 40°10' N. latitude only*, identified in the June 2012 PFMC meeting. Estimates include commercial landings for shorebased fisheries as well as 2014 landings and discards for at-sea and recreational sectors. Average observer discard over the most recent two years of available data is presented as a proxy for shorebased commercial sectors. For informational purposes; not intended for inseason Council action. Query date: October 24, 2014. See text for data source descriptions, completeness information, and other important information.

<b>Species a/</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>2014 inseason retained (mt)</b>	<b>2014 at-sea &amp; recreational inseason discard (mt)</b>	<b>Average annual shorebased observer discard (mt)</b>	<b>Total mortality (mt)</b>	<b>Sector distribution (%)</b>
Aurora rockfish	IFQ fixed gear	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0%
	IFQ trawl gear	0.83	0.00	2.11	2.94	90%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	0.06	0.00	0.27	0.33	10%
China rockfish	CA recreational	5.99	0.31	0.00	6.30	78%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0%
	Nearshore fixed gear	0.26	0.00	1.48	1.74	22%
Copper rockfish	CA recreational	64.71	2.11	0.00	66.81	97%
	Incidental/miscellaneous	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.14	0%
	Nearshore fixed gear	1.88	0.00	0.11	1.99	3%
Quillback rockfish	CA recreational	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.56	96%
	Nearshore fixed gear	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	4%
Rougheye rockfish	IFQ trawl gear	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
	Non-nearshore fixed gear	1.08	0.00	0.15	1.23	100%
Shortraker rockfish	IFQ trawl gear	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100%

a/ Blackspotted rockfish rockfish landings were reported in the South at the level of 0.11 in the non-nearshore fixed gear sector.