

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY

ABC	acceptable biological catch. The ABC is a scientific calculation of the sustainable harvest level of a fishery, and is used to set the upper limit of the annual total allowable catch. It is calculated by applying the estimated (or proxy) harvest rate that produces maximum sustainable yield to the estimated exploitable stock biomass (the portion of the fish population that can be harvested).
B_{MSY}	The biomass that allows maximum sustainable yield to be taken.
BO	Biological Opinion
B_0	Unfished biomass; the estimated size of a fish stock in the absence of fishing.
BRD	bycatch reduction device
CalCOFI	California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations. A codification of the regulations published in the <i>Federal Register</i> by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government. The CFR is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to federal regulation Title 50 contains wildlife and fisheries regulations.
Council	Pacific Fishery Management Council
CPFV	commercial passenger fishing vessel
CPS	coastal pelagic species. Coastal pelagic species are schooling fish, not associated with the ocean bottom, that migrate in coastal waters. They usually eat plankton and are the main food source for higher level predators such as tuna, salmon, most groundfish, and humans. Examples are herring, squid, anchovy, sardine, and mackerel.
CPUE	catch per unit effort
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DBCA	Darkblotched Rockfish Conservation Area
DEIS	draft environmental impact statement
DTS	Dover sole, thornyhead(s), and trawl-caught sablefish complex
EA	environmental assessment. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, an EA is a concise public document that provides evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact.
EDCP	Enhanced Data Collection Project

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone. A zone under national jurisdiction (up to 200 nautical miles wide) declared in line with the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea, within which the coastal state has the right to explore and exploit, and the responsibility to conserve and manage, the living and non-living resources.
EFH	essential fish habitat. Those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity.
EFP	exempted fishing permit
EIS	environmental impact statement. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, an EIS is an analysis of the expected impacts resulting from the implementation of a fisheries management or development plan (or some other proposed action) on the environment. EISs are required for all fishery management plans as well as significant amendments to existing plans.
ENSO	El Niño southern oscillation
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act. An act of federal law that provides for the conservation of endangered and threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants. When preparing fishery management plans, councils are required to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine whether the fishing under a fishery management plan is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of an ESA-listed species, or to result in harm to its critical habitat.
F	The instantaneous rate of fishing mortality. The term “fishing mortality rate” is a technical fishery science term that is often misunderstood. It refers to the rate at which animals are removed from the stock by fishing. The fishing mortality rate can be confusing because it is an “instantaneous” rate that is useful in mathematical calculations, but is not easily translated into the more easily understood concept of “percent annual removal.”
FEAM	Fisheries Economic Assessment Model
fecundity	The potential to produce offspring.
FEIS	final environmental impact statement
fm	fathom
FMP	Fishery management plan. A plan, and its amendments, that contains measures for conserving and managing specific fisheries and fish stocks.
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is a document that explains why an action that is not otherwise excluded from the NEPA process, and for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be prepared, will not have a significant effect on the human environment.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

FRFA	Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. the FRFA includes all the information from the initial regulatory flexibility analysis. Additionally, it provides a summary of significant issues raised by the public, a statement of any changes made in the proposed rule as a result of such comments, and a description of steps taken to minimize the significant adverse economic impact on small entities consistent with stated objectives.
GAP	Groundfish Advisory Subpanel. The Council established the GAP to obtain the input of the people most affected by, or interested in, the management of the groundfish fishery. This advisory body is made up of representatives with recreational, trawl, fixed gear, open access, tribal, environmental, and processor interests. Their advice is solicited when preparing fishery management plans, reviewing plans before sending them to the Secretary, reviewing the effectiveness of plans once they are in operation, and developing annual and inseason management.
GMT	Groundfish Management Team. Groundfish management plans and annual and inseason management recommendations are prepared by the Council's GMT, which consists of scientists and managers with specific technical knowledge of the groundfish fishery.
HAPC	habitat areas of particular concern
INPFC	International North Pacific Fishery Commission
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission. A commission responsible for studying Pacific halibut stocks and the halibut fishery. The IPHC makes proposals to the U.S. and Canada concerning the regulation of the halibut fishery.
IRFA	Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. Anytime an agency publishes a notice of proposed rule making and the rule may have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities, an IRFA is required. It describes the impact of the proposed rule on small entities and includes a description of the action, why it is necessary, the objectives and legal basis for the action, the small entities that will be impacted by the action, and the projected reporting, record-keeping, and other compliance requirements of the proposed rule. Rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with the proposed rule are also identified.
ITQ	individual transferrable quota
kg	kilogram
m	meter
Magnuson-Stevens Act	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The MSA, sometimes known as the "Magnuson-Stevens Act," established the 200-mile fishery conservation zone, the regional fishery management council system, and other provisions of U.S. marine fishery law.
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

mean generation time	A measure of the time required for a female to produce a reproductively-active female offspring.
MFMT	maximum fishing mortality threshold. A limit identified in the National Standard Guidelines. A fishing mortality rate above this threshold constitutes overfishing.
MHHW	mean high high water
mixed stock exception	In “mixed-stock complexes,” many species of fish swim together and are caught together. This becomes a problem when some of these stocks are healthy and some are overfished, because even a sustainable harvest of the healthy stocks can harm the depleted stock. In order to avoid having to shut down all fisheries to protect one particular overfished stock, the national standard guidelines allow a “mixed-stock” exception to the “overfished” definition. This would allow higher catches of some overfished species than ordinarily allowed in order to avoid severe hardship to fishing communities.
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act. The MMPA prohibits the harvest or harassment of marine mammals, although permits for incidental take of marine mammals while commercial fishing may be issued subject to regulation. (See “incidental take” for a definition of “take”.)
MPA	marine protected area
MRFSS	Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey
MRPZ	Marine Resources Protection Zone
MSA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (see Magnuson-Stevens Act, above).
MSST	minimum stock size threshold. A threshold biomass used to determine if a stock is overfished. The Council proxy for MSST is $B_{25\%}$.
MSY	maximum sustainable yield. An estimate of the largest average annual catch or yield that can be continuously taken over a long period from a stock under prevailing ecological and environmental conditions. Since MSY is a long-term average, it need not be specified annually, but may be reassessed periodically based on the best scientific information available.
mt	metric ton. 1,000 kilos or 2,204.62 pounds.
NAO	NOAA Administrative Order
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service. A division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NMFS is responsible for conservation and management of offshore fisheries (and inland salmon). The NMFS Regional Director is a voting member of the Council.
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOI	Notice of Intent

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

NRDC	Natural Resources Defense Council
NSG	National Standard Guidelines
NWR	Northwest Region
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
overfished	Any stock or stock complex whose size is sufficiently small that a change in management practices is required to achieve an appropriate level and rate of rebuilding. The term generally describes any stock or stock complex determined to be below its overfished/rebuilding threshold. The default proxy is generally 25% of its estimated unfished biomass; however, other scientifically valid values are also authorized.
overfishing	Fishing at a rate or level that jeopardizes the capacity of a stock or stock complex to produce MSY on a continuing basis. More specifically, overfishing is defined as exceeding a maximum allowable fishing mortality rate. For any groundfish stock or stock complex, the maximum allowable mortality rate will be set at a level not to exceed the corresponding MSY rate (B_{MSY}) or its proxy.
OY	optimum yield. The amount of fish that will provide the greatest overall benefit to the Nation, particularly with respect to food production and recreational opportunities, and taking into account the protection of marine ecosystems. The OY is developed on the basis of the MSY from the fishery, taking into account relevant economic, social, and ecological factors. In the case of overfished fisheries, the OY provides for rebuilding to a level that is consistent with producing the MSY for the fishery.
PacFIN	Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network
PDO	Pacific Decadal Oscillation
PEIS	programmatic environmental impact statement
P_{MAX}	The estimated probability of reaching T_{MAX} . May not be less than 50%.
PMCC	Pacific Marine Conservation Council
POP	Pacific ocean perch
PSMFC	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
QSM	quota species monitoring
RCA	Rockfish Conservation Area
Rebuilding	Implementing management measures that increase a fish stock to its target size.
RecFIN	Recreational Fishery Information Network

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

RFA	Regulatory Flexibility Act (see IRFA and FRFA above). The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their regulatory actions on small businesses and other small entities and to minimize any undue disproportionate burden.
RIR	Regulatory Impact Review. RIRs are prepared to determine whether a proposed regulatory action is “major.” The RIR examines alternative management measures and their economic impacts.
ROD	Record of Decision
SAFE	Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation. A SAFE document is a document prepared by the Council that provides a summary of the most recent biological condition of species in the fishery management unit, and the social and economic condition of the recreational and commercial fishing industries, including the fish processing sector. It summarizes, on a periodic basis, the best available information concerning the past, present, and possible future condition of the stocks and fisheries managed in the FMP.
Secretary	U.S. Secretary of Commerce
SEIS	supplemental environmental impact statement
SFA	Sustainable Fisheries Act (see Magnuson-Stevens Act, above).
SSC	Scientific and Statistical Committee. An advisory committee of the Council made up of scientists and economists. The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires that each council maintain an SSC to assist in gathering and analyzing statistical, biological, ecological, economic, social, and other scientific information that is relevant to the management of Council fisheries.
STAR	Stock Assessment Review Panel. A panel set up to review stock assessments for particular fisheries. In the past there have been STAR panels for sablefish, rockfish, squid, and other species.
STAT	Stock Assessment Team. Stock assessment authors from the National Marine Fisheries Service fisheries science centers.
SWFSC	Southwest Fisheries Science Center (NMFS)
TAC	total allowable catch
T_{MAX}	The maximum time period to rebuild an overfished stock, according to National Standard Guidelines. Depends on biological, environmental, and legal/policy factors.
T_{TARGET}	The target year, set by policy, for a fish stock to be completely rebuilt.
T_{MIN}	The minimum time period to rebuild an overfished stock, according to National Standard Guidelines. Technically, this is the minimum amount of time in which a fish stock will have a 50% chance of rebuilding if no fishing occurs (depends on biological and environmental factors).
U and A	usual and accustomed

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS, GLOSSARY (continued)

USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WOC	Washington/Oregon/California
YRCA	Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area

