

Tentative Plan for Assessments & Reviews in 2000.

Pre-Assessment Workshop — Feb. 28-29 in Portland

Assessments	STAT Lead	Review	When	Remarks
Coastwide Lingcod	WDFW	STAR Panel in Seattle	May 15-19	odfw, swfsc, or nwfsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair)
Yellowtail Rockfish	WDFW	STAR Panel in Seattle	May 15-19	odfw, swfsc, or nwfsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair)
Widow Rockfish	SWFSC	Reviewer(s)	By July 1	Solicited Reviewers
Bank Rockfish	NWFSC	STAR Panel in Portland	June 5-9	wdfw, cdfg, or afsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair), dependent on age data
Darkblotched Rockfish	NWFSC	STAR Panel in Portland	June 5-9	wdfw, cdfg, or afsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair), dependent on age data
Splitnose Rockfish	SWFSC	STAR Panel in Portland	June 5-9	wdfw, cdfg, or afsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair)
English Sole	ODFW +/- NWFSC	Reviewer(s)	By July 1	Solicited Reviewers, May be delayed to 2001.
Dover Sole	NWFSC	Reviewer(s)	By July 1	Solicited Reviewers, May be delayed to 2001.
Nearshore Rockfishes	CDFG	Reviewer(s), (or 2-day panel)	By Mar1-2 (in Portland)	Method only

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Coastwide Lingcod	WDFW	STAR Panel in Seattle	May 15-19	odfw, swfsc, or nwfsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair)
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Splitnose Rockfish	SWFSC	STAR Panel in Portland	June 5-9	wdfw, cdfg, or afsc on panel (2 of 3; 1 to chair)
English Sole	ODFW +/- NWFSC	STAR Panel	?	Likely delayed to 2001. Alternate if another species not assessible
Dover Sole	NWFSC	STAR Panel		Likely delayed to 2001. Alternate if another species is not assessible
Nearshore Rockfishes	CDFG	2-day workshop	Mar1-2 in Portland	Method only

Rationale:

Coastwide Lingcod: High priority on council list in 1998, rebuilding plan required, age reading problems expected to be resolved.

Yellowtail Rockfish: Last assessed in 1997. Estimated % of virgin biomass is 39%, and abundance trend is stable (SAFE, 1998). However, another assessment scenario presented in 1997 indicated abundance was low. New trawl survey data are available. Landings exceeded ABC in 1997.

Widow Rockfish: Last assessed in 1997. Estimated % of virgin biomass is 29% and the population is considered stable (SAFE, 1998). Concern exists over nearness to the overfished abundance threshold related to potentially weak recruitments recently. The previous assessment received a STAR review and the next assessment is proposed to be an update using the same model, so reviews from one or more solicited reviewers may be satisfactory, rather than another full STAR review.

Bank Rockfish: Assessed in 1996. Part of slope rockfish complex and there are concerns about abundance of slope rockfishes.

Darkblotched Rockfish: Assessed in 1996. Same situation as bank rockfish.

Splitnose Rockfish: Assessed in 1996. Same situation as bank rockfish.

English Sole: Last assessed in 1993. Abundance trend unknown and the estimated % of virgin biomass is above B35% (SAFE, 1998). ABC was much higher than landings in 1996 and 1997, so ABC does not appear to be constraining the fishery.

Dover Sole: Last assessed in 1997. Estimated % of virgin biomass is above B40%, and population is increasing (SAFE, 1998). Landings were below, but close to ABC, in 1996 and 1997. The previous assessment received a STAR review and the next assessment may be an update using the same model, so reviews from one or more solicited reviewers may be satisfactory, rather than another full STAR review.

Nearshore Rockfishes: Priority on council list in 1998. Never assessed. New methods (SCUBA, line transect, etc.) are being developed to survey nearshore fishes, especially off central California. The surveys have not been fully implemented so abundances cannot yet be estimated. Plan to review methods prior to implementing them to assess abundance; and the review may be conducted by solicited reviewers or through a short (2-day) STAR panel.

Other Species Considered, but not proposed to be assessed in 2000:

Last June, the GMT did not propose that widow rockfish be assessed in 2000, but did propose that the following additional species be assessed in 2000:

Grenadiers - never assessed, status unknown, but landings have been small. Data may be inadequate for an assessment.

Sanddabs - never assessed, status unknown, but recent landings have been small.

Longspine Thornyhead - last assessed in 1997, too little new data to make new assessment worthwhile. Estimated % of virgin biomass is above B40% and abundance is declining (SAFE, 1998).

Other Potential Workload Factors for staff involved in assessments and reviews:

Possibly 2 more rebuilding plans

Desire to begin evaluating species complexes

Move of Tiburon lab to Santa Cruz (summer 2000)