

Summary of **limited-entry** inseason status and GMT recommendations, June 1999

	Landings thru May			Monthly limits			Changes / Notes
	Target mts	Landings		Current		Winter	
		mts	% of target	Summer	Winter		
Dover sole	4,298	4,162	97%	20,000/2m	22,000/m	22,000/m	Likely Dec. closure w/o changes
Longspine THDS	1,493	770	52%	8,000/2m	4,000/m	4,000/m	no change
Shortspine THDS	321	329	102%	2,000/2m	1,000/m	1,000/m	no change
TWL Sable (V&C&E&M)	1,390	1,218	88%	10,000/2m	6,000/m	6,000/m	no change
NTW Sable (V&C&E&M) *	379	68	18%	2,400/2m	1,200/m	1,200/m	4,200/2m (July 1) / 2,100/m (Sept.1)
Lingcod *	275	78	28%	1,000/2m	500/m	500/m	no change
Pac. Ocean Perch V&C *	500	154	31%	4,000/m	4,000/m	4,000/m	no change
Widow Rockfish	1,700	1,830	108%	11,000/2m	30,000/m	30,000/m	no change
Sebastes V&C	1,613	1,107	69%	30,000/2m	10,000/m	10,000/m	35,000/2m (Aug. 1) 10,000/m (Oct. 1)
Yellowtail V&C	832	630	76%	16,000/2m	5,000/m	5,000/m	20,000/2m (Aug. 1) 5,000/m (Oct. 1)
Canary rockfish V&C	247	113	46%	14,000/2m	3,000/m	3,000/m	no change
Other	(534)	(364)	68%				10,000/2m (Aug. 1) 4,000/m (Oct. 1)
Sebastes So.	414	450	109%	3,500/2m	5,000/m	5,000/m	no change
Bocaccio (E&M&C) *	101	25	25%	1,000/2m	500/m	500/m	no change
Canary				3,500/2m	3,000/m	3,000/m	no change
Chilipepper (E&M&C)	1,083	335	31%	25,000/2m	18,000/m	18,000/m	no change
Splitnose RF (E&M&C)	321	100	31%	19,000/2m	10,000/m	10,000/m	no change

* Targets for these species are for annual landings, not for cumulative landings through May.

Summary of open-access inseason status and GMT recommendations, June 1999

	Landings thru May		Monthly limits		
	Alloc. mts	Landings	Current	Changes/Notes	
		mts			% of target
NTW Sable (V&C&E&M)	423	42	9.9%	1,800/2m	3,000/2m (July 1) 1,500/m (Sept.1)
Lingcod	80	23	28.8%	250/m	no change
Widow Rockfish	184	15	8.2%	2,000/m	8,000/m
Sebastes V&C	555	42	7.6%	12,000/m	18,000/m (Aug.1 ?)
Yellowtail V&C	327	10	3.1%	6,500/m	10,000/m (Aug.1 ?)
Canary rockfish V&C	71	18	25.4%	2,000/m	3,000/m (Aug.1?)
Black/Blue				3,500/m	no change <-->
Other				2,000/m	no change
(Black/Blue + Other)	(157)	(14)	(8.9%)		
Sebastes So.	455	168	36.9%	2,000/m	1,500/m (Aug.1)
Bocaccio	49	12	24.5%	500/m	no change
Canary				2,000/m	1,500/m (Aug.1) No greater than Sebastes
Chilipepper	1,190	50	4.2%	6,000/m	no change
Splitnose RF		2		100/m	no change

Industry proposal
7,000/m Eureka / 3,500/m V+C

GMT Statement on the Industry Proposal to Move, Inseason, the Line Delineating the Northern and Southern *Sebastes* Management Limits from 40' 30" N. Lat. to 40' 10" N. Lat.

Earlier this spring, members of the Eureka open-access fleet brought to the GMT's attention an issue relating to the combined effects of northern and southern *Sebastes* management limits on members of that fleet. For 1999, southern *Sebastes* limits were reduced greatly from previous years, partly due to the removal of chilipepper and splitnose from the *Sebastes* management complex, and partly due to adoption of a more conservative approach for calculating the ABC contribution of unassessed species. Many individuals in this fleet have, in previous years, commonly fished for rockfish south of 40' 30" N. Lat. and then landed those fish in their homeport of Eureka. By fishing in one area and landing in another, those individuals are now constrained by the minimum of southern and northern limits, even though the species-mix of their fishing south of the line has been more reflective of the trip limits provided in the northern *Sebastes* area. Because of the small size of these vessels, the GMT was told that it was impractical for them to transit north from Eureka to the nearest grounds at which they could fish under the higher northern limits for these same species. As a result, a request was made for the GMT to consider the potential for moving the management line to 40' 10" N. Lat., which would place the fishing grounds in question under the management of the northern limits.

This issue is complicated by the current disconnection between the location of the OY and management lines for dividing northern and southern *Sebastes*. ABCs and OYs for southern *Sebastes* currently reflect biomasses in the Eureka area, as well as the Monterey and Conception areas. As a result, landings in the Eureka area are included in assessing the attainment of the southern OY. However, *Sebastes* catch in the Eureka area is governed by the currently higher northern *Sebastes* limits. The GMT recognized last fall that perpetuation of this situation carried potential for creating significant problems in managing the new, lower OYs in the southern *Sebastes* area. As a result, the GMT has begun discussions regarding the best location for unifying the OY and management lines in time for next year's fishery. Although a location within the range from 40' 30" N. Lat. to 40' 10" N. Lat. appears to hold the best promise for line unification, our deliberations on a long-term solution are not complete at this time. As a result, we would hope that if the Council chooses to move the management line from its present location during the 1999 season, this will not constrain GMT consideration of alternative locations as we develop a recommendation for future management.

The implications of the line mismatch for this proposal also require some reference to the inseason status of landings applied to the southern and northern *Sebastes* OYs. In open access, the landings of *Sebastes* and yellowtail rockfish north of Cape Blanco through March are less than 10% of the annual allocations. This has led the GMT to recommend increases in both of these limits (overall: 12,000 lb to 18,000 lb per month; yellowtail: 6,500 lb to 10,000 lb per month). Because this may increase the rate of landings in the Eureka area, and because southern *Sebastes* is tracking near or slightly ahead of a rate that can be sustained through the end of the year, the GMT is also recommending an August reduction in the southern limit, from 2,000 lb to 1,500 lb per month. The GMT notes that moving the management line to 40' 10" N. Lat. at this time will produce some increase in landings that will count towards attainment of the southern *Sebastes* OY, increasing the possibility of early attainment.