

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON
STATUS OF FISHERIES AND INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met jointly with the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and offers the following recommendations for inseason adjustments:

Limited Entry

1. For all gears, increase slope rockfish cumulative limits in the south to 7,000 pounds per two-month period.
2. For all gears, reduce shelf rockfish cumulative limits in the south to 500 pounds per month.

These two recommendations are made in the interest of protecting weak stocks.

3. For fixed gear, increase nearshore rockfish cumulative limits in the north to 5,000 pounds per two-month period, with a maximum of 1,800 pounds being species other than blue or black rockfish.
4. For fixed gear, increase nearshore rockfish cumulative limits in the south to 2,000 pounds per two-month period.

These two recommendations are made to allow target attainment.

5. For the fixed gear daily-trip-limit sablefish fishery, increase the cumulative limit to 3,300 pounds per two-month period, while maintaining the daily limit of 300 pounds.

This recommendation is made to allow a reasonable harvest of sablefish in this fishery while avoiding confusion with different daily trip limits.

6. For the small footrope trawl fishery in the north, remove the current two-month cumulative limit on yellowtail rockfish and substitute the following:
 - a. The "per trip" limit for yellowtail rockfish is the sum of 10% of the weight of arrowtooth flounder plus 33% of the weight of flatfish other than arrowtooth, not to exceed 7,500 pounds of yellowtail per trip.
 - b. A vessel using a small footrope may not land yellowtail unless it is also landing flatfish.
 - c. A vessel may not exceed the 30,000-pound cumulative limit per two-month period regardless of gear used.

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1. For slope rockfish in the south, increase the cumulative limit to 1,000 pounds per two-month period. This will allow a modest increase while protecting weak stocks.
2. For nearshore rockfish in the north, increase the cumulative limit to 2,500 pounds per two-month period, with a maximum of 900 pounds of species other than black or blue rockfish. The GAP understands allowing this higher cumulative limit may result in early attainment and closure for this fishery.
3. For nearshore rockfish in the south, increase the cumulative limit to 1,600 pounds per two-month period. This will allow a year-round fishery to be maintained.
4. For the fixed gear daily-trip-limit sablefish fishery, increase the cumulative limit to 3,300 pounds per two-month period, with a daily-trip-limit of 300 pounds.

PFMC
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