



National Marine Fisheries Service
Northwest Region

PUBLIC NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 17, 2000 NMFS-SEA-00-05

**CHANGES TO GROUND FISH LANDINGS LIMITS OFF WASHINGTON, OREGON,
AND CALIFORNIA, EFFECTIVE JULY 17, 2000**

Adjustments to the trip limits for groundfish taken off Washington, Oregon, and California are announced by the National Marine Fisheries Service. These changes were recommended by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in consultation with the states of Washington, Oregon, and California, and are **effective July 17, 2000**. Reductions to the limited entry limit for minor shelf rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat., and closure of the open access fishery for lingcod are **effective August 1, 2000**, as described below. The changes are intended to keep landings within the 2000 harvest guidelines and allocations for Pacific coast groundfish species.

◆ For yellowtail rockfish taken in *limited entry* small footrope trawl fisheries north of 40°10' N. lat., the 2-month cumulative trip limit is increased to: No more than 33% (by round weight) of all flatfish except arrowtooth flounder, plus 10% (by round weight) of arrowtooth flounder, but may not exceed 7,500 lb per trip and 30,000 lb per 2-month period. Yellowtail rockfish may not be landed without flatfish.

◆ For arrowtooth flounder taken in *limited entry* large footrope trawl fisheries, a new per trip limit is set at 5,000 lb.

◆ For minor slope rockfish **south** of 40°10' N. lat., the *limited entry* 2-month cumulative trip limit for both trawl and fixed gear is increased to 7,000 lb.

◆ For minor nearshore rockfish, the *limited entry*, fixed gear 2-month cumulative trip limit is increased to: **North** of 40°10' N. lat., 5,000 lb per 2-month period, with a maximum of 1,800 lb other than blue or black rockfish; **south** of 40°10' N. lat., 2,000 lb per 2-month period.

◆ For both the *limited entry* and *open access nontrawl* fisheries **north** of 36° N. lat., the 2-month cumulative trip limit for sablefish is increased from 2,400 lb to 3,300 lb. The 300 lb daily trip limit remains in effect. Details for the limited

entry, primary fixed gear sablefish fishery will be announced via a separate public notice, to follow immediately.

◆ For minor slope rockfish **south** of 40°10' N. lat., the *open access* 2-month cumulative trip limit is increased to 1,000 lb.

◆ For minor nearshore rockfish, the *open access* 2-month cumulative trip limit is increased to: **North** of 40°10' N. lat., 3,000 lb per 2-month period, with a maximum of 900 lb of minor nearshore rockfish other than blue or black rockfish; **south** of 40°10' N. lat., 1,600 lb per 2-month period.

The following changes are **effective on August 1, 2000**:

◆ For minor shelf rockfish **south** of 40°10' N. lat., the *limited entry* monthly cumulative trip limit for both trawl and fixed gear is reduced to 500 lb **on August 1**.

◆ For lingcod, the *open access* fishery **closes August 1**. There will be no further lingcod landings for the remainder of the 2000 open access fishing season.

For more information, contact: NMFS NW Region at 206-526-6140 (<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>, click on "Pacific Coast Groundfish") or, NMFS SW Region at 562-980-4000; Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at 360-249-4628; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at 541-867-4741; or the California Department of Fish and Game at 415-688-6361.

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