

REVISED staff summary of preliminary GMT acceptable biological catch (ABC) and optimum yield (OY) recommendations for 2001 for the Washington, Oregon, and California region by management area (metric tons). Page 1 of 3. (Species names in **BOLD CAPS** are overfished. Values in **bold** are different from previous year.)

ROUND FISH	Preliminary GMT ABC Recommendations						Proposed 2000 OYs 2001 OYs	
	Vancouver a/	Columbia	Eureka	Monterey	Conception	U.S. Total	Total Catch	
LINGCOD b/	610			509		1,119 b/	550 - 611	378
Pacific cod	3,200			c/		3,200	NA c/	
Whiting d/		232,000 d/				232,000 d/	232,000	232,000
Sablefish e/		7,661 e/				7,661 e/	6,895 e/	7,919
Conception area f/					472	472	472	

ROCK FISH	Vancouver	Columbia	Eureka	Monterey	Conception	Total for areas noted	Total Catch	
	PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH		1,541 g/			c/	1,541 g/	400 - 760 g/
Shortbelly			13,900 h/			13,900	13,900 h/	13,900
WIDOW			3,727 i/			3,727 i/	1,775-2,864 i/	4,333
CANARY j/			228 j/			228 j/	60 23-50 j/	200
Chilipepper				2,700 - 3,681 k/		2,700-2,681 k/	2,000 k/	2,000
BOCACCIO l/		c/		122		122 l/	100 l/	100
Splitnose m/				615		615	461 m/	615
Yellowtail n/		3,146		c/		3,146 n/	3,146 n/	3,539
hornyheads								
Shortspine o/		757 o/				757 o/	689 o/	1,150 970
Conception area					175	175	175	
Longspine p/		2,461 p/				2,461-4,102 p/	2,461 - 4,102	4,102
Conception area					429	429	429	
COWCOD				19	5	24	2.4 2.1 q/	<5
DARKBLOTCHED r/			302 - 349			302-349	95-159	(256)
Minor Rockfish N s/		5,456 j/				5,456 s/	3,636 s/	3814
Minor Rockfish S t/				3,731		3,731 t/	2,053	1899
Remaining rockfish u/		3,625		680 u/				
bank		c/		350		350 v/	NA	
black w/		1,200				1,200	NA	
blackgill x/		c/		440		440 x/	NA	
bocaccio		420				420	NA	
redstripe		768		c/		768	NA	
sharpchin		409		60		469	NA	
silvergrey		51		c/		51	NA	
splitnose		322		c/		322	NA	
yelloweye		39		c/		39	NA	
yellowmouth		132		c/		132	NA	
yellowtail				155		155	NA	
Other rockfish y/		2,068 y/		2,777 y/			NA	

FLATFISH	Preliminary GMT ABC Recommendations						Proposed 2000 OYs	
	Vancouver	Columbia	Eureka	Monterey	Conception	Total for areas noted	Total Catch	2000 OYs
Dover sole z/	7,151 - 8,373				1,053	7,677-9,426 z/	7,677	9,426
English sole	2,000	1,100				2,693-3,100 aa/	NA	
Petrale sole aa/	1,450	500	800	200	2,567-2,950 aa/	NA		
Arrowtooth flounder	5,800					5,046-5,800aa/	NA	
Other flatfish	700	3,000	1,700	1,800	500	6,699-7,700aa/	NA	
OTHER FISH bb/	2,500	7,000	1,200	2,000	2,000	14,700	NA	

a/ ABC applies to the U.S. portion of the Vancouver area, except as noted. For lingcod, the U.S. ABC is set at 44% of the total for the area.

b/ Lingcod - designated as overfished in 1999; the new coastwide assessment calculates separate ABCs for the northern (Vancouver-Columbia) and southern (Eureka-Monterey-Conception) stocks based on $F_{45\%}$. The lower OY(550 mt) is based on applying the year 2001 harvest limit in the north (275 mt) to both areas; the upper OY (611 mt) is the sum of the yields (307 mt plus 304 mt) from the two new assessments associated with a constant exploitation rate where 60% of the simulated runs rebuilt in 9 years.

c/ These species are neither common nor important in the areas footnoted. Accordingly, for convenience, Pacific cod in the areas footnoted is included in the non-numerical OY for "other fish." Rockfish species are included in either the "other rockfish" or "remaining rockfish" category for the areas footnoted only.

d/ The preliminary whiting ABC and OY (232,000 mt, U.S. only) are unchanged from 2000. Values are based on the 1999 stock assessment and continuation of the 1998 OY. The ABC and OY are 80% of the coastwide value. The treaty tribes' allocation (32,50 mt in 2000) will be subtracted from the final OY, and the remainder will be allocated 42% to the shore-based sector, 34% to the factory trawler sector, and 24% to the mothership processor sector.

e/ Sablefish - ABC (7,661 mt) is based on $F_{45\%}$, and the preliminary total catch OY (6,895 mt) is based on application of the 40-10 adjustment. As in the past, this OY applies north of 36°N latitude. The stock is estimated to be at 37% of its unfished level, but there is substantial uncertainty in the biomass estimate; incoming recruitment appears poor. The GMT recommends the Council no longer deduct discard "off the top," but rather deduct discard from each sector individually. The landed catch OY for the northern area is the sum of the separate amounts. Ten percent of the total catch OY, minus 10% for discard in tribal fisheries, is set aside for the treaty tribes. The remainder is divided between the limited entry and open access fisheries. Ten percent of the open access amount is deducted for discard. The limited entry portion will be allocated 58% to the trawl fishery and 42% to the nontrawl fishery; 29% of the trawl amount is deducted for discard, and 10% of the nontrawl amount is deducted.

f/ The ABC and OY for the Conception area (south of 36° N latitude), which are based on historical landings, remain the same as 2000. There are no limited entry and open access allocations for the Conception area at this time.

g/ Pacific ocean perch - the ABC for this overfished stock is based on the 2000 assessment for Vancouver and Columbia (1,523 mt, at F_{msy}), plus 18 mt for Eureka. The preliminary OY range for the Vancouver-Columbia-Eureka area is 400 mt - 760 mt (which is based on F_{msy} and the 40-10.

h/ Shortbelly rockfish remains an unexploited stock, and is difficult to assess quantitatively. NMFS recruitment surveys indicate poor recruitment in most years since 1989, indicating low recent productivity and a naturally declining population. The GMT recommends ABC and OY remain at 13,900 mt.

i/ Widow rockfish - the 2000 assessment indicates the stock has declined to about 24% of its unfished reproductive potential and is overfished. The 3,727 mt preliminary ABC is based on the $F_{45\%}$ harvest rate. One OY option (2,864 mt) is based on the 40-10 default OY policy; the second OY option (1,775 mt) is based on $F_{65\%}$. Initial analysis indicates the stock can rebuild within 10 years if fishing mortality is held to the $F_{65\%}$ level.

j/ Two canary rockfish assessments in 1999 addressed the northern and southern portions of the stock estimated current abundance to be between about 7% of unfished in the south to 20% of unfished in the north. The coastwide ABC (228 mt) is based on $F_{50\%}$. The preliminary OY range (50 - 150 mt) is based on the initial rebuilding analysis.

k/ Chilipepper rockfish - The ABC (3,681 mt) for the Monterey and Conception areas is based on the 1998 assessment and application of the $F_{40\%}$ harvest rate. The stock is estimated to be above the 40% precautionary threshold, so the default OY would equal ABC. Application of $F_{50\%}$ results in an ABC of 2,700 mt. The GMT recommends OY remain at 2,000 mt. (The northern remaining rockfish ABC in 2000 includes 43 mt of chilipepper for the Eureka area.)

l/ Bocaccio in the south is overfished; the preliminary ABC (122 mt) is based on $F_{45\%}$. The proposed OY is unchanged from 2000, which was set based on the rebuilding plan.

m/ Splitnose rockfish (often called "rosefish") - ABC (615 mt) is a reduction from 2000 based on the revised F_{msy} harvest rate policy. Consistent with the Council's precautionary policy, the GMT's OY recommendation (461 mt) reflects a 25% reduction from ABC because of the less-rigorous assessment method used for this stock.

- Yellowtail rockfish - the ABC recommendation (3,146 mt) applies to the Eureka, Columbia, and U.S. portion of the Vancouver areas. The stock is estimated to be at 63% of its pristine level. OY would equal ABC due to current stock abundance. However, the stock is expected to continue declining in the near future due to poor recruitment in recent years. Discard of yellowtail rockfish in the at-sea fisheries for Pacific whiting will be taken into account when setting the landed catch equivalent.
- o/ Shortspine thornyhead - the ABC recommendation (757 mt) is based on a synthesis of two stock assessments prepared in 1998 and application of the $F_{50\%}$ harvest rate. The assessment addressed the area north of 36° N latitude, which is the northern boundary of the Conception area. Therefore, this ABC and OY apply only to that area. The stock size was estimated to be 32% of the unfished abundance in 1999. The OY (689 mt) is based on $F_{50\%}$ and the 40-10 policy. The landed catch equivalent will reflect a reduction for discard. A separate ABC and OY (based on historical catch) apply to the part of the Conception area north of Point Conception; there is no ABC or OY for the southern Conception area.
 - p/ Longspine thornyhead - the ABC (4,102 mt) north of the Conception area is the same as in 2000, based on the average of the 3 year individual ABCs at $F_{35\%}$. The stock is estimated to be above the 40% precautionary threshold. If the Council chooses to apply the $F_{50\%}$ harvest rate and the revised discard adjustment, the total and landed catch OYs would be 2,461 mt and 2,067 mt, respectively. The ABC and OY for the Conception area apply north of Point Conception. The southern Conception area has neither an ABC or OY.
 - q/ Cowcod - the 1999 assessment of the Conception area indicates this stock is overfished, with abundance below 10% of the unfished level. The GMT recommends ABC in the Conception area be 5 mt (based on the assessment) and 19 mt in the Monterey area (based on average landings from 1983-1997). The GMT recommends the total catch OY be less than 5 mt and the landed catch should be zero for both areas combined.
 - r/ Darkblotched rockfish - The 2000 assessment indicates the stock is overfished, with current biomass about 22% of the initial biomass. The lower ABC (302 mt) is based on 10% catch in the Russian fishery; the upper ABC (349 mt) assumes 0%. The lower OY (95 mt) is the constant annual catch that would rebuild the stock in 10 years, based on the 10% assumption; the upper OY (159 mt) is the constant catch to rebuild in 10 years, assuming 0%.
 - s/ Minor Rockfish (north) - this new category includes the "Remaining Rockfish" and "Other Rockfish" categories in the U.S. Vancouver, Columbia, and Eureka areas combined. The total catch OY is the sum of 75% of the "remaining rockfish" total plus 50% of the "other rockfish" in these three areas. The reduction in the contribution of remaining and other rockfish is intended to reflect the new default harvest rate, and an additional 25% reduction is made to address uncertainty in stock status due to limited information. The expected commercial landed catch target in 2001 will reflect recreational harvest and may also reflect a 16% discard adjustment for the limited entry fishery.
 - t/ Minor Rockfish (south) - this new category includes the "Remaining Rockfish" and "Other Rockfish" categories in the Monterey and Conception areas combined. The ABC is the sum of all those individual species ABCs in these areas. The reduction in the contribution of remaining and other rockfish is intended to reflect the new default harvest rate, and an additional 25% reduction is made to address uncertainty in stock status due to limited information. The expected commercial landed catch target in 2001 will reflect recreational harvest and may also reflect a 16% discard adjustment for the limited entry fishery.
 - u/ Remaining rockfish includes all rockfish species below in the table except the "Other rockfish" category.
 - v/ Bank rockfish - the GMT recommends ABC be increased from 81 mt in 2000 to 350 mt for 2001. This species will contribute 200 mt (75% of ABC, minus 25% as a precautionary adjustment) to the 2001 minor rockfish OY in the south.
 - w/ Black rockfish: this 1,200 mt is the sum of the ABC calculated for the assessment area (700 mt) plus the average catch in the unassessed area (500 mt). This stock contributes 950 mt towards the Minor rockfish OY in the north: 700 mt for the assessed area and 50% of the unassessed area. The 50% reduction is a precautionary adjustment.
 - x/ Blackgill rockfish - the 1998 stock assessment estimates the Conception area stock to be at about 51% of pristine levels. The 365 mt ABC is based on $F_{40\%}$; 75 mt was added for the Monterey area. Upon completion of the assessment in 1998, this stock was moved from the "other rockfish" category to the "remaining rockfish" category. The GMT will continue to monitor landings, if landings reach 300 mt, the GMT will alert the Council to the possible need for management action or a stock assessment.
 - y/ Other rockfish includes rockfish species of the genus *Sebastes* not identified above in this table. The ABC recommendation is the same as 2000; it is based on the 1996 *Sebastes* complex review of commercial landings and includes an estimate of recreational landings. These species have never been formally assessed.
 - z/ The 1997 Dover sole assessment evaluated the resource north of 36° N latitude as a unit, and provided ABCs for landed catch based on both the $F_{35\%}$ and $F_{40\%}$ harvest rates. The GMT has put forward the option of staying at the current ABC or reducing to the $F_{40\%}$ ABC. The Conception area Dover sole ABC is at the level established in the original FMP, which was based on average landings. The GMT reduced this by 50%, consistent with the new harvest policy. The ABCs represent total catch, and were converted by estimating that 5% of the total catch is discarded. Therefore, the coastwide ABC and OY range of 7,677 - 9,426 mt are for total catch with a landed catch equivalent of 7,293 - 8,955 mt.
 - aa/ English and petrale soles, arrowtooth flounder and other flatfish - The 1998 petrale sole assessment provided ABC values based on both $F_{35\%}$ and $F_{40\%}$. The same ratio (.87) was used to calculate ABCs at $F_{40\%}$ for the other species of flatfish.
 - bb/ Includes sharks, skates, rays, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and other groundfish species noted above in c/.