



Exhibit C.1.c
Supplemental ODFW Report
November 2000

M E M O R A N D U M

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Date: 10/30/00

To: Council Members

From: Neal Coenen, Acting Director, Fish Division

Subj: Canary Rockfish

Background

Following the Council's September session we have had three separate meetings with industry members trying to develop more of an understanding of the canary rockfish rebuilding plan requirements and to develop appropriate management measures.

No meeting was more contentious than the one after the October 23-24, 2000 ad hoc allocation committee meeting and its suggested recommendation to virtually close the shelf fishery permanently.

While stock conservation is the first priority, we see several problems developing for the Council:

1. Such a drastic option was not discussed in September by the Council, so many affected in the industry will be taken completely unaware of the proposed changes.
2. The standards for sharing the conservation burden and allocating benefits of rebuilding are fairness and equity, not elimination of the fishery.
3. The economic value information provided to the committee was limited and cannot be considered a net benefit analysis, which is needed to support such a serious decision.
4. Perhaps the greatest concern is that the ad hoc allocation committee's recommendation appears incomplete as canary rockfish catches of several fisheries and research were not addressed. Are these activities also to be permanently eliminated?
5. The implications of the shelf closure on conservation of nearshore and slope species and fisheries effort do not appear to have been assessed; and,
6. The recommendation does not appear to account for the significant catch reduction achieved between 1999 and 2000 because year 2000 to date catch was not considered.

In addition, there are concerns with Council process issues and the information used to base recommendations on. One problem is the Council has to make three highly related decisions at different times on the agenda: First, adopt the rebuilding plan in the afternoon, then set the OY, and second, adopt management measures on Thursday. Another problem lies in the assessments, regarding confidence in recruitment estimates and productivity. There is a real possibility we will devastate a selected sector without sufficient analysis, when, over the next 2 years added information could be available to increase our confidence in our decision making. Another

aspect of this might be characterized as implementing through an emergency rule the decision really intended by the strategic plan

Suggestions for Discussion

1. Adopt an OY of 80 mt or so. This would allow a shelf fishery for at least part of the year, based on year 2000 landings to date with small footrope gear (see attached table). This would also allow fish for other fisheries, research, salmon troll gear, etc. for full catch accounting.
2. The rebuilding plan admits uncertainty in numerous places. The 60 mt is the intermediate catch level established. Adopting an additional increment of 20 mt should only modestly extend the range of years expected for rebuilding. This is after all, a management and social decision about risk and benefit – not a scientific one. Updating the rebuilding plan after the 2001 trawl survey should reduce uncertainty regarding incoming recruitments.
3. 2001 management should be similar to 2000 measures for small footrope which resulted in only 2-6 mt of canary rockfish catch. This represents around a 90% reduction in canary harvest by shelf trawlers in 1999. Adoption of the small footrope gear has already moved activity out of 25% of the shelf area responsible for the great majority of canary catches in the past (Figure 1). Closure of the remaining 75% will likely only afford protection for a very small proportion of the present canary rockfish biomass at the cost of all other shelf groundfish resources – especially flatfishes that are currently being underutilized due, in part, to present restrictions.

We offer these points for Council consideration of management options for 2001. I also want to point out that our fisheries transition needs the benefit of time and thinking by the strategic plan implementation committee, to guide the industry towards sustainability. We have already made dramatic changes in 2000 that we have not fully evaluated.

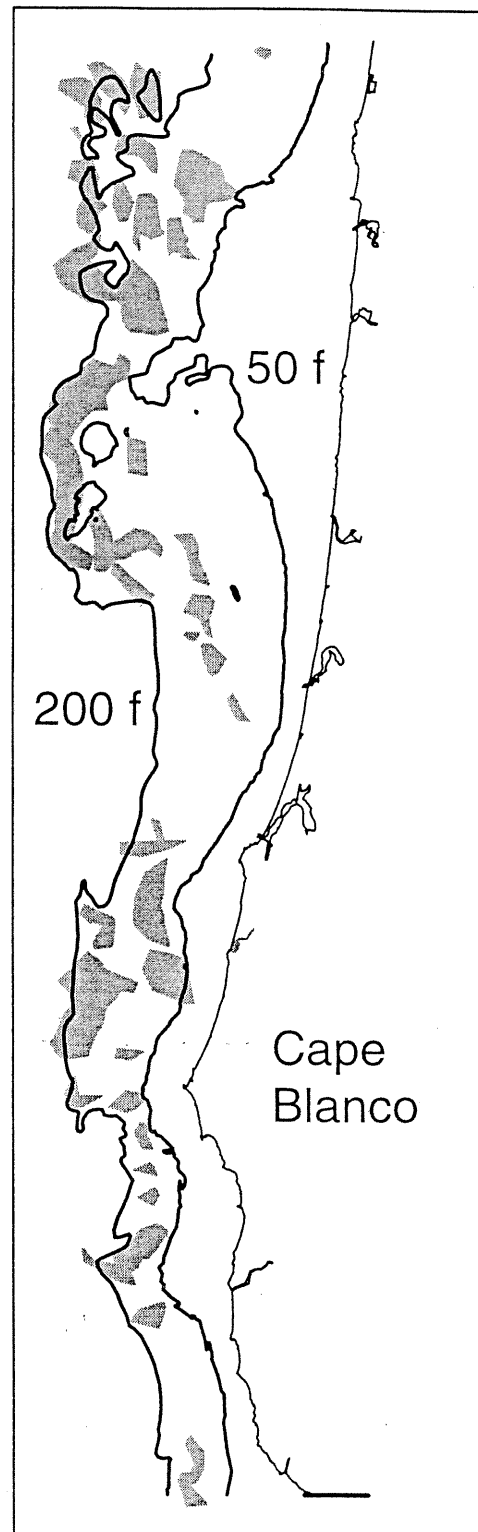
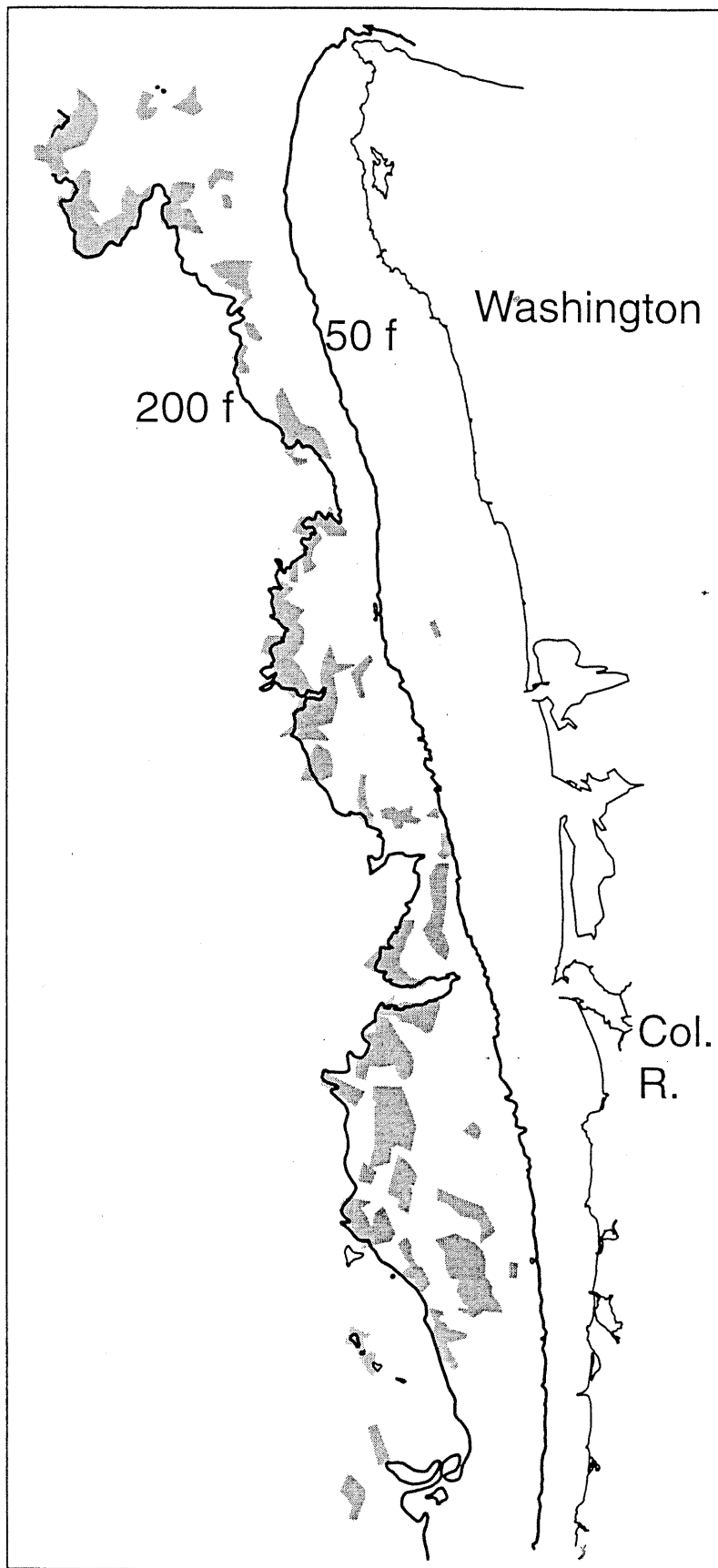


Figure 1. High rockfish CPUE areas in which little bottom trawling occurred in 2000, due to the small footrope regulation and low canary rockfish limits.

Table 1. Quota Species Monitoring (QSM) reported through August, 2000, plus best REC catch.

Fishery	Canary			Total
	WA	OR	CA	
COM Open Access	1	6	1	9
COM Limited Entry	4	12	6	27
Total COM Fishery	5	18	7	30
REC Fishery	2	21	60	83
Total Fishery	7	39	67	113

Table 2. Quota Species Monitoring (QSM) reported through August, 1999, plus best REC catch.

Fishery	Canary			Total
	WA	OR	CA	
COM Open Access	3	50	-	53
COM Limited Entry	97	256	-	353
Total COM Fishery	100	305	-	405
REC Fishery	4	35	100	139
Total Fishery	104	340	100	544

Table 3. Catch reduction 1999 to 2000, percent.

Fishery	Canary			Total
	WA	OR	CA	
COM Open Access	67	88	-	83
COM Limited Entry	96	95	-	92
Total COM Fishery	95	94	-	93
REC Fishery	50	40	40	40
Total Fishery	93	89	33	79

Table 4. Catch allowance for 2001.

Fishery	Canary			Total
	WA	OR	CA	
COM Open Access	0	1	1	2
COM Limited Entry	2	7	5	14
Total COM Fishery	2	8	6	16
REC Fishery	2	16	26	44
Total Fishery	4	24	32	60

* Distribution of COM catch by state is estimated.

Table 5. Catch reduction 1999 to 2001, percent.

Fishery	Canary			Total
	WA	OR	CA	
COM Open Access	100	98	-	96
COM Limited Entry	98	97	-	96
Total COM Fishery	99	97	-	96
REC Fishery	50	54	74	68
Total Fishery	96	93	68	89