

DATA, METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN DEVELOPING 2002 CALIFORNIA RECREATIONAL OPTIONS FOR NEARSHORE ROCKFISH, BOCACCIO, CANARY ROCKFISH, AND LINGCOD

Recreational constraints:

- Two Waves (four months) closure to provide for commercial fishery.
- Bocaccio impact less than 70mt.
- Canary rockfish impact less than 22mt.

For all calculations:

- 2002 impacts based on recent MRFSS data for total catch (A+B1; landed and dead discards).
- Impacts calculated separately for North (Oregon-Cape Mendocino; 40° 10'), Central (Cape Mendocino-Point Conception), and South (Point Conception-US/Mexico boundary).

For rockfish calculations:

- Base year was 2000, expanded to account for closures during Wave 2 (Mar-Apr).
- Seasonal distribution calculated by averaging 4 years, 1996-1999.
- Rockfish bag limit = 10 fish.
- One of three fishing options were possible for each 2002 Wave/area:
 - 1) All waters (shelf+nearshore) allowed;
 - 2) nearshore (inside 25 fathoms) only allowed;
 - 3) closed.
- Bocaccio base increased by 50% in southern area to account for growth of 1999 year class, minus 13% for Cowcod Closure Areas.
- Northern rockfish catch = 16% of north + central estimate.
- Southern base during nearshore only Waves was reduced by 30% to account for lower CA scorpionfish catches due to foregone shelf opportunity.
- Effort shift calculated from shelf to nearshore (by Wave/area) when shelf closed was estimated to be 25% of base shelf effort.

For lingcod calculations:

- Base year was the average of 2000 and 2001.
- Wave 5 of 2001 was set equal to Wave 5 during 2000.
- Lingcod bag limit = 2 fish with 24 inch minimum size.
- Effect of lower lingcod minimum size based on size distribution during 1999, when a 24 inch minimum and 2-fish bag limit were in effect.
- Lingcod projections likely high because no adjustment was made for lower catch rates that would be expected when only nearshore fishing is allowed.