

Proposed Oregon Commercial Groundfish Options for 2004 Fishery

June 20, 2003

Option 1: Consider EFP impacts after all 2004 fishery management options are reviewed and 2004 fishery management options have been addressed.

Option 2: Schedule a Pacific whiting IQ briefing/scoping agenda item for the September 2003 PFMC meeting. This will stage the start of a three meeting process which will begin in November.

Option 3: Coast-wide adoption of the selective flatfish trawl as a management mechanism for allowing increased bottom trawl trip limits and access to areas that would otherwise be closed.

Option 4: Consider all trawl depth management options provided by GMT (shoreward management lines at 50, 60, 75 or 100 fm; offshore management lines at 150, 180, 200 or 250 fm).

Option 5: Defined winter petrale fishing areas for January-February and November and December.

Option 6: Define non-trawl RCA as 30 fm to 75, 100 or 125 fm.

Option 7: Commercial halibut fishery outside of a revised 100 fm line

Option 8: Allow trawl vessels to use fixed-gear under existing trawl limits.

Option 9: Use video monitoring aboard shoreside whiting vessels.

-Continued on Reverse-

Proposed Oregon Recreational Groundfish Options for 2004 Fishery
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Option I: Status quo for the 2004 season including:

Daily bag limits: 10 marine fish bag (including rockfish, greenling, cabezon and other species, not including salmon, lingcod, perch sp., sturgeon, sand dabs, striped bass, tuna and bait fish (herring, smelt, anchovies and sardines), with a sublimit of one yelloweye and one canary rockfish).

- **One Pacific halibut during authorized seasons (32" min. length)**
- **Two lingcod (24" or 26" min. length)**
- **No canary or yelloweye rockfish retention if Pacific halibut on board vessel during all-depth season**

This option continues to give opportunity to all ports up and down the Oregon coast, and allows flexibility in fisheries strategies, so as not to force recreational boats into a limited area, which could cause management-induced overfishing of nearshore groundfish. This option also keeps Oregon recreational fisheries within the current guidelines and limits.

Option II: Same as Option I except closed to bottom fishing outside of 50fms for the month of July. This option would create some savings on lingcod, canary, yelloweye and widow rockfish (overfished species), but the closure would occur during the more liberal coho salmon season Oregon has been experiencing in recent years.

Option III: Same as option I or II except close offshore bottom fishing 2-4 months from either 30, 40 or 50 fathoms. This option would create additional reductions in catch on lingcod, canary, yelloweye and widow rockfish.

And (could be added to all options):

Separate harvest guidelines for Oregon for black rockfish, other nearshore rockfish, cabezon, and greenling. Black rockfish guideline equal to either 62% of OR/CA OY of 775 mt, or 2003 OR/CA harvest guidelines applying any increase or decrease based on a changing OY, split equally to each state. Guideline for other nearshore rockfish equal to modified* 2003 harvest guidelines. Greenling and cabezon modified* harvest guideline equal to or a 10 to 20% increase over 2003 harvest guideline.

*NOTE: modified nearshore rockfish harvest guidelines now include shore and estuary catch in addition to ocean boat catch.

- Greenling minimum length of 10-12 inches.
- Cabezon minimum length 16 inches