

## GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM (GMT) REPORT ON INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

The GMT has a correction to the inseason discussion from Tuesday (as adopted from Exhibit C.7.b., Supplemental GMT Report). The GMT recommended that, in order to achieve the canary rockfish savings in the California recreational fishery, that a closure be implemented south of Pt. Conception deeper than 40 fms (current depth closure is at > 60 fms) in Waves 3-6 (May-Dec). Subsequent to the Council's decision, it was brought to our attention that a depth management line at 40 fms has not been developed and specified in the 2004 specifications EIS; therefore, that line is not available for inseason management.

The GMT is requesting that the Council revisit its inseason decision to implement a 30-fm closure south of Pt. Conception in Wave 5 (Sept-Oct) only. This action would not result in increased impacts to canary rockfish (i.e., the impacts would remain at 9.32 mt); however, we have recalculated the anticipated lingcod savings from this action. This action would result in a lingcod savings of 77.9 mt (as compared to the previous estimate of 76.9 mt) because the depth closure is more restrictive (from 40 fms to 30 fms).

The GMT has updated the bycatch scorecard (attached) based on the inseason action that the Council took on Tuesday combined with our recommended action under this agenda item. The trawl non-whiting values were updated for bocaccio, darkblotched, and POP based on the trawl trip limit changes for chilipepper, minor slope rockfish, and splitnose. The California recreational value was calculated as follows:

Previous Scorecard Amount:	287.6
+ 59.2 mt Error Margin:	346.8
- 77.9 mt Lingcod Savings:	268.9

The GMT notes that the 59.2 mt error margin still remains in the California recreational catch projection to account for uncertainty and unquantifiable mortalities.

This results in a difference of 37.4 mt of lingcod remaining in the overall scorecard.

### **GMT Recommendation:**

1. Adopt a 30-fm depth closure for south of Pt. Conception in Wave 5 (Sept-Oct) only for 2004, in place of the 40 fms closure previously adopted for Waves 3-6.

Table 1. Estimated mortality (mt) of overfished West Coast groundfish species by fishery in 2004 based on April 2004 Council actions.

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Fishery	Bocaccio a/	Canary	Cowcod	Dkbl	Lingcod	POP	Widow	Yelloweye
<b>Limited Entry Groundfish</b>								
Trawl- Non-whiting	51.0	10.1	0.5	73.5	104.7	90.7	2.5	0.3
Fixed Gear	13.4	0.9	0.1	0.8	20.0	0.3	0.5	2.5
<b>Whiting</b>								
At-sea whiting motherships		0.9		1.4	0.3	1.7	59.7	0.0
At-sea whiting cat-proc		1.3		7.6	0.4	10.1	84.6	0.4
Shoreside whiting		0.4		0.5	0.7	0.4	29.9	0.0
Tribal whiting		4.7		0.0	0.5	1.5	37.1	0.0
<b>Open Access</b>								
Groundfish directed	10.6	1.0	0.1	0.2	70.0	0.1		0.6
CA Halibut	0.1			0.0	2.0	0.0		
CA Gillnet b/	0.5			0.0		0.0	0.0	
CA Sheephead b/				0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0
CPS- wetfish b/	0.3							
CPS- squid c/								
Dungeness crab b/	0.0		0.0	0.0		0.0		
HMS b/		0.0	0.0	0.0				
Pacific Halibut b/	0.0		0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.5
Pink shrimp	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1
Ridgeback prawn	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Salmon troll	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2
Sea Cucumber	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spot Prawn (trap)								
<b>Tribal</b>								
Midwater Trawl		2.3		0.0	0.1	0.0	40.0	0.0
Bottom Trawl		0.5		0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Troll		0.5		0.0	1.0	0.0		0.0
Fixed gear		0.3		0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	2.3
<b>Recreational Groundfish</b>								
WA d/		1.7			65.0			3.5
OR		6.8			109.7		1.4	3.2
CA e/	62.8	9.3	1.8		268.9		1.4	1.4
<b>Research: Based on 2 most recent NMFS trawl shelf and slope surveys, the IPHC halibut survey, and LOAs with expanded estimates for south of Pt. Conception.</b>								
	2.0	1.0		1.6	3.0	3.0	1.5	1.1
<b>Non-EFP Total</b>	<b>141.1</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>671.1</b>	<b>107.8</b>	<b>258.7</b>	<b>16.2</b>
<b>EFPs f/</b>								
CA: NS FF trawl	10.0	0.5	0.5		20.0			0.5
OR: DTS g/		0.1		6.0		18.0		0.1
WA: AT trawl		1.5		3.0	4.5	8.5	5.5	0.5
WA: dogfish LL		0.1		0.5	2.0	0.5	0.5	1.0
WA: pollock		0.1					1.5	0.1
<b>EFP Subtotal</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151.1</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>697.6</b>	<b>134.8</b>	<b>266.2</b>	<b>18.4</b>
<b>2004 OY</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>144.9</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>309.2</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Percent of OY</b>	<b>60.4%</b>	<b>97.5%</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>94.9%</b>	<b>30.4%</b>	<b>93.7%</b>	<b>83.5%</b>
<b>Key</b>	<b>= either not applicable; trace amount (&lt;0.01 mt); or not reported in available data sources.</b>							

a/ South of 40°10' N. lat.

b/ Mortality estimates are not hard numbers; based on the GMT's best professional judgement.

c/ Bycatch amounts by species unavailable, but bocaccio occurred in 0.1% of all port samples and other rockfish in another 0.1% of all port samples (and squid fisheries usually land their whole catch). In 2001, out of 84,000 mt total landings 1 mt was groundfish. This suggests that total bocaccio was caught in trace amounts.

d/ Estimates for yelloweye have not been updated.

e/ Estimates for bocaccio, cowcod, widow, and yelloweye have not been updated.

f/ Values are proposed EFP bycatch caps, not estimates of total mortality. The EFP is terminated inseason if the cap is projected to be attained early.

g/ The darkblotched rockfish and Pacific ocean perch caps are not defined yet for this EFP but are expected to be lower than the placeholders in this scorecard.