

YELLOWEYE STOCK ASSESSMENT

In September 2005, the Council adopted a new assessment of yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) for use in 2007-2008 management decision-making. However, in November, the Council decided to explore a re-assessment of yelloweye rockfish before the March 2006 Council meeting. Various technical issues compelled the Council to consider re-doing the yelloweye assessment. The Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel reviewing the original assessment was not afforded the time to consider new data sources or new approaches. The Council judged this shortcoming too important to defer until the next assessment cycle and requested the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to explore re-doing this assessment.

The WDFW agreed and presented a new yelloweye rockfish assessment to a STAR Panel on February 13-15. The new yelloweye rockfish assessment, STAR Panel report, and rebuilding analysis are presented at this meeting as Agenda Item(s) F.3.a., Supplemental Attachment(s) 1, 2, and 3, respectively. The Council should consider the new yelloweye rockfish assessment, rebuilding analysis, and STAR Panel report, as well as the advice of the Scientific and Statistical Committee, other advisory bodies, and the public before adopting the new stock assessment and rebuilding analysis for use in 2007-2008 groundfish management.

The motion that put a new stock assessment consideration forward stated an intent to cap an optimum yield resulting from any higher abundance conclusion to no more than 27 mt.

Council Action:

Adopt the new yelloweye stock assessment and rebuilding analysis for use in the 2007-2008 fishing season.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 1: Status of Yelloweye Rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) Off the U.S. West Coast in 2006.
2. Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 2: STAR Panel Report on the Status of Yelloweye Rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) Off the U.S. West Coast in 2006.
3. Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 3: Rebuilding Analysis for Yelloweye Rockfish in 2006.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Scientific and Statistical Committee (SCC) Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Approve Yelloweye Assessment and Rebuilding Analysis for use in the 2007-2008 Fishing Season

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PFMC
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