

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON MANAGEMENT
MEASURES FOR THE 2009-2010 COMMERCIAL NEARSHORE GROUND FISH
AND LINGCOD FISHERIES

Nearshore

Since 2004, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has managed the commercial nearshore under a state limited entry program. State management of the fishery is specific to black rockfish and blue rockfish plus 21 species of nearshore fish (which includes vermilion rockfish and tiger rockfish) that live predominately in the Oregon territorial sea. Qualified participants are required to hold a black and blue rockfish limited entry permit and may also hold a nearshore endorsement, which provides for the harvesting of the remaining nearshore species.

The following management measures are utilized for both pre-season and in-season structuring of the fishery:

- Limited entry program
- State harvest guidelines and landings caps
- Daily, weekly, and cumulative period limits
- Length restrictions (e.g., cabezon, greenling, China rockfish, cooper rockfish, grass rockfish, etc.)
- Season duration
- Gear restrictions
- Area closures (RCA boundaries)
- Area or depth restrictions
- Black rockfish areas which have small trip limits
- Mandatory logbooks

There is a responsive in-season management program for the nearshore fishery. Landings are monitored on a weekly basis to determine progression of the fishery and project potential attainment of harvest guidelines or landing caps. Upon approaching a harvest guideline or landing cap, a “soft data” system may be implemented to provide daily monitoring of the fishery. If it is deemed necessary to slow or close the fishery, action may be taken, and rules implemented within 48 hours. ODFW will continue to implement these management measures through state regulations in 2009/2010 in order to ensure that harvest is at or below levels specified in regulation.

Lingcod

For limited entry fixed gear and open access fisheries off Oregon and Washington, ODFW recommends including for analysis allowing retention of lingcod during the months of December, January, and February. Specific trip limits may be determined through analysis by the Groundfish Management Team.