

## Supplemental Open Access Fishery Report: *Preliminary Analysis of 2006-2008 Post-Window Period Directed Fishery Landings*<sup>1</sup>

### Introduction

The Council is slated to make a final decision on a final preferred open access fishery license limitation alternative at its March 2009 meeting. The analyses of alternatives contained in the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment have been limited to landings data for the period April 1998-September 2006, the window period used for permit qualification. These dates encompass the two control dates previously published in the *Federal Register* notifying the public that previous and future landings may not count toward a vessel's catch history for the purpose of limited entry permit qualification.

The vetting process for limited entry permit qualification through the Council meeting process has spanned approximately 20 months, having begun in June 2007 and extended through early March 2009. Considerable open access fishery landings have taken place since September 2006, and it may be important for the Council to consider recent fishery data before taking final action on the proposed license limitation program.

A preliminary analysis of open access fishery landings data for the period October 2006 through December 2008 is presented in the following. The data show that directed fishery landings and participation levels have declined, the sablefish target species vessel group continued to take a large majority of fish, while many "new" vessels made a directed fishery landing. Inclusion of these new vessels under the Council's preliminary preferred alternative (A-6) would substantially increase the number of vessels eligible for B permits and associated species endorsements.

### Methods

A data file was created for each vessel that made a directed fishery landing during the post window period years of October 2006-December 2008. The data compiled for each directed fishing trip included pounds landed and revenues received for each of the following species groups: lingcod, sablefish, federal sharks, shelf rockfish, slope rockfish, and other species. Data were included for salmon and nearshore landings during 2007-2008. Each vessel was assigned to a port group, based on where the most landings were made for the entire data analysis period. Vessels were assigned to target species vessel groups (TSVGs) for each year based on the species or species group (named above) from which the majority of revenues were received. If a vessel could not be assigned to a TSVG it was assigned to a non-target species group. Excel software was used to sort and organize the data and to produce output tables and graphs.

### Results

The data show that the number of vessels participating in the directed fishery generally declined from 1998-2004, increased slightly during 2005 and 2006 then declined during 2007 and 2008, the two most recent post-window period years [**Table 2-5 (updated); Figure S-1**]. The overall WOC trend closely followed that of the California fishery because of the relatively large number of California fishery participants. The Oregon and Washington fisheries generally increased through the 2006 season then declined during 2007 and 2008, particularly in the Washington fishery [**Table 2-5 (updated); Figure S-1**]. Sablefish have dominated the directed fishery since 2000. Sablefish directed fishery landings generally increased during 1998-2005, peaked in 2005, declined considerably in 2007 then increased in 2008, to about 2003 landing level [**Table 2-5 (updated); Figure S-2**].

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by LB Boydston, CDFG Retired, and Gerry Kobylinski, PSMFC, March 9, 2009. This document has not been reviewed by the full open access report writing review team.

Table 2-5 (updated). Directed B species open access fishery participation and landing statistics by species group, year, state and total, April 1998-2008 including data for 1998-2006 window period.

Yr	Sablefish			SheffRF			Slope RF			Lingcod			Sharks			Others I/			Total Directed			
	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	vs1	mts	000s	
1998	CA	92	94.6	\$219.0	433	797.3	\$1,161.0	171	192.3	\$220.0	257	46.2	\$105.0	54	25.2	\$34.0	71	29.0	\$43.0	654	1,185.1	\$1,782.0
	OR	30	16.3	\$45.0	135	178.5	\$272.0	3	4.4	\$6.0	103	20.7	\$47.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	44	21.0	\$38.0	200	240.8	\$409.0
	WA	29	25.6	\$79.0	10	12.4	\$9.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	17	5.6	\$7.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	20	57.0	\$65.0	46	100.7	\$160.0
	sum	151	136.5	\$343.0	578	988.2	\$1,442.0	174	196.7	\$226.0	377	72.5	\$159.0	54	25.2	\$34.0	135	107.0	\$146.0	900	1,526.6	\$2,351.0
1999	CA	102	176.9	\$454.0	479	264.1	\$538.0	72	16.9	\$29.0	293	39.9	\$119.0	52	25.2	\$37.0	105	49.0	\$86.0	677	571.9	\$1,263.0
	OR	15	20.6	\$65.0	132	93.3	\$194.0	8	1.2	\$2.0	125	27.1	\$74.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	58	13.0	\$43.0	180	155.4	\$377.0
	WA	28	36.0	\$115.0	7	9.1	\$7.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	14	4.8	\$6.0	2	4.8	\$2.0	15	9.0	\$11.0	44	63.2	\$141.0
	sum	145	233.5	\$634.0	618	366.5	\$739.0	80	18.1	\$31.0	432	71.8	\$199.0	54	30.0	\$39.0	178	71.0	\$140.0	901	790.5	\$1,781.0
2000	CA	115	299.0	\$944.0	403	96.3	\$282.0	65	8.5	\$22.0	221	19.8	\$64.0	55	22.3	\$31.0	127	81.0	\$118.0	642	526.7	\$1,460.0
	OR	34	43.6	\$159.0	103	7.3	\$19.0	1	0.5	\$1.0	89	12.3	\$45.0	2	0.1	\$0.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	154	63.9	\$224.0
	WA	32	51.9	\$202.0	9	1.7	\$3.0	2	1.5	\$2.0	12	4.8	\$6.0	1	1.5	\$1.0	2	1.0	\$2.0	49	62.8	\$215.0
	sum	181	394.5	\$1,305.0	515	105.3	\$304.0	68	10.5	\$25.0	322	36.9	\$115.0	58	23.9	\$32.0	129	82.0	\$120.0	845	653.4	\$1,899.0
2001	CA	112	273.7	\$820.0	301	66.7	\$177.0	41	25.9	\$52.0	244	29.0	\$97.0	49	24.4	\$34.0	96	48.0	\$106.0	518	467.5	\$1,286.0
	OR	64	58.9	\$199.0	89	5.5	\$15.0	1	0.6	\$1.0	119	24.1	\$82.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	2	0.0	\$0.0	180	89.3	\$296.0
	WA	44	60.3	\$218.0	8	0.8	\$1.0	2	1.4	\$1.0	12	3.6	\$5.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	0	1.0	\$1.0	54	66.8	\$225.0
	sum	220	392.9	\$1,237.0	398	73.0	\$193.0	44	27.9	\$54.0	375	56.7	\$184.0	49	24.4	\$34.0	98	49.0	\$107.0	752	623.6	\$1,807.0
2002	CA	119	268.3	\$798.0	222	19.7	\$72.0	45	60.7	\$133.0	244	37.2	\$132.0	40	16.0	\$24.0	68	49.0	\$80.0	480	451.4	\$1,238.0
	OR	53	49.7	\$180.0	61	3.6	\$9.0	1	0.1	\$0.0	126	27.4	\$94.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	8	0.0	\$0.0	176	81.2	\$283.0
	WA	44	65.2	\$237.0	0	0.6	\$0.0	0	0.9	\$1.0	9	2.9	\$4.0	1	4.2	\$1.0	0	1.0	\$0.0	47	74.4	\$244.0
	sum	216	383.2	\$1,215.0	283	23.9	\$81.0	46	61.7	\$134.0	379	67.5	\$230.0	41	20.2	\$25.0	76	50.0	\$80.0	703	607.0	\$1,765.0
2003	CA	118	312.6	\$946.0	169	8.7	\$39.0	46	82.4	\$194.0	240	32.5	\$131.0	47	28.1	\$37.0	50	55.0	\$50.0	445	519.6	\$1,398.0
	OR	96	134.3	\$492.0	52	3.3	\$8.0	13	0.8	\$1.0	123	28.9	\$91.0	0	0.0	\$0.0	0	1.0	\$0.0	202	168.1	\$593.0
	WA	64	118.2	\$450.0	0	0.2	\$0.0	0	1.5	\$2.0	4	2.1	\$3.0	1	43.9	\$18.0	0	2.0	\$1.0	68	167.7	\$473.0
	sum	278	565.1	\$1,888.0	221	12.2	\$47.0	59	84.7	\$197.0	367	63.5	\$225.0	48	72.0	\$55.0	50	58.0	\$51.0	715	855.4	\$2,464.0
2004	CA	92	288.3	\$831.0	189	23.9	\$104.0	48	52.2	\$130.0	215	39.9	\$158.0	43	23.6	\$48.0	60	57.0	\$52.0	402	484.9	\$1,323.0
	OR	67	73.6	\$225.0	66	2.9	\$7.0	3	1.0	\$1.0	120	31.1	\$97.0	0	0.2	\$0.0	3	0.0	\$0.0	177	109.1	\$330.0
	WA	53	96.4	\$326.0	1	0.5	\$1.0	2	1.4	\$1.0	4	1.7	\$3.0	4	86.1	\$38.0	0	1.0	\$1.0	57	187.3	\$369.0
	sum	212	458.3	\$1,382.0	256	27.3	\$112.0	53	54.6	\$132.0	339	72.7	\$258.0	47	109.9	\$86.0	63	58.0	\$53.0	636	781.3	\$2,022.0
2005	CA	101	458.3	\$1,312.0	170	21.2	\$99.0	46	30.8	\$84.0	192	35.8	\$145.0	44	21.9	\$31.0	49	39.0	\$34.0	367	607.5	\$1,704.0
	OR	107	257.6	\$916.0	54	3.4	\$9.0	4	5.1	\$7.0	150	29.4	\$101.0	2	0.2	\$0.0	2	5.0	\$2.0	232	300.5	\$1,035.0
	WA	68	182.2	\$678.0	2	0.4	\$1.0	2	6.5	\$8.0	5	2.4	\$4.0	2	3.2	\$2.0	0	1.0	\$1.0	78	195.5	\$693.0
	sum	276	898.1	\$2,906.0	226	25.0	\$109.0	52	42.4	\$99.0	347	67.6	\$250.0	48	25.3	\$33.0	51	45.0	\$37.0	677	1,103.5	\$3,432.0
2006/2	CA	126	379.2	\$1,069.5	174	29.9	\$139.8	36	38.0	\$97.5	198	30.9	\$131.4	42	25.4	\$46.9	32	16.9	\$41.7	396	520.8	\$1,526.8
	OR	132	251.7	\$985.6	42	3.8	\$11.1	3	5.4	\$7.3	136	32.8	\$129.3	0	0.0	\$0.0	2	4.3	\$2.1	242	297.5	\$1,135.5
	WA	86	157.5	\$612.0	0	0.2	\$0.0	1	0.8	\$1.0	4	2.7	\$5.0	2	59.8	\$31.0	0	1.0	\$0.0	90	221.6	\$649.0
	sum	344	788.4	\$2,667.1	216	33.8	\$150.9	40	44.2	\$105.8	338	66.3	\$265.7	44	85.2	\$77.9	34	22.2	\$43.9	728	1,039.9	\$3,311.3
2007	CA	149	289.8	\$993.2	217	36.4	\$174.4	83	13.9	\$50.8	240	30.6	\$140.8	40	9.3	\$17.7	91	16.1	\$39.6	416	396.2	\$1,416.6
	OR	93	110.1	\$468.8	83	3.2	\$10.5	36	3.8	\$5.3	155	36.4	\$148.1	2	0.3	\$0.0	38	2.3	\$1.2	215	156.2	\$634.0
	WA	53	53.6	\$246.2	13	0.4	\$0.4	20	1.0	\$1.1	16	3.1	\$5.7	2	0.2	\$0.1	8	0.4	\$0.2	55	58.7	\$253.7
	sum	295	453.6	\$1,708.2	313	40.0	\$185.4	139	18.7	\$57.2	411	70.1	\$294.5	44	9.8	\$17.9	137	18.8	\$41.0	686	611.1	\$2,304.3
2008	CA	144	341.4	\$1,426.8	178	22.1	\$121.1	71	18.1	\$61.5	199	28.8	\$140.1	26	5.5	\$7.1	89	27.7	\$37.5	357	443.8	\$1,794.0
	OR	89	181.2	\$948.5	87	3.6	\$12.4	46	3.7	\$5.1	177	43.7	\$207.2	2	0.2	\$0.0	59	7.3	\$3.9	209	239.8	\$1,177.1
	WA	39	44.3	\$228.9	10	0.3	\$0.2	17	1.0	\$1.2	18	2.3	\$4.2	9	10.9	\$4.7	8	2.3	\$1.2	39	61.1	\$240.4
	sum	272	567.0	\$2,604.2	275	26.0	\$133.6	134	22.8	\$67.8	394	74.8	\$351.4	37	16.6	\$11.9	156	37.3	\$42.6	605	744.6	\$3,211.5

1/ others species includes unspecified rockfish, flatfishes, rays and chimeras  
 2/ 2006 data have been updated with post window period data (Oct-Dec)

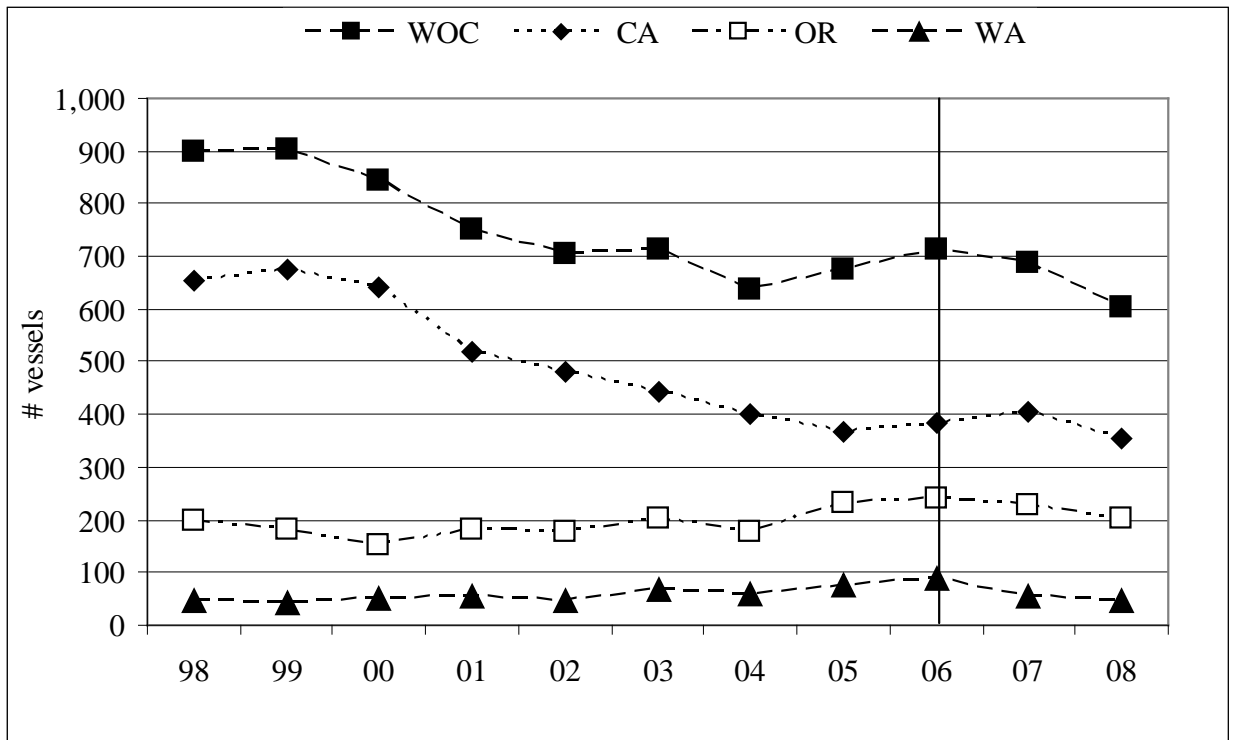


Figure S-1. Number of open access fishery directed fishery vessels by state, in total and year, April 1998-2008. The 2006 count is higher by 15 vessels than previously reported because of new post window period (Oct-Dec) fishery entrants.

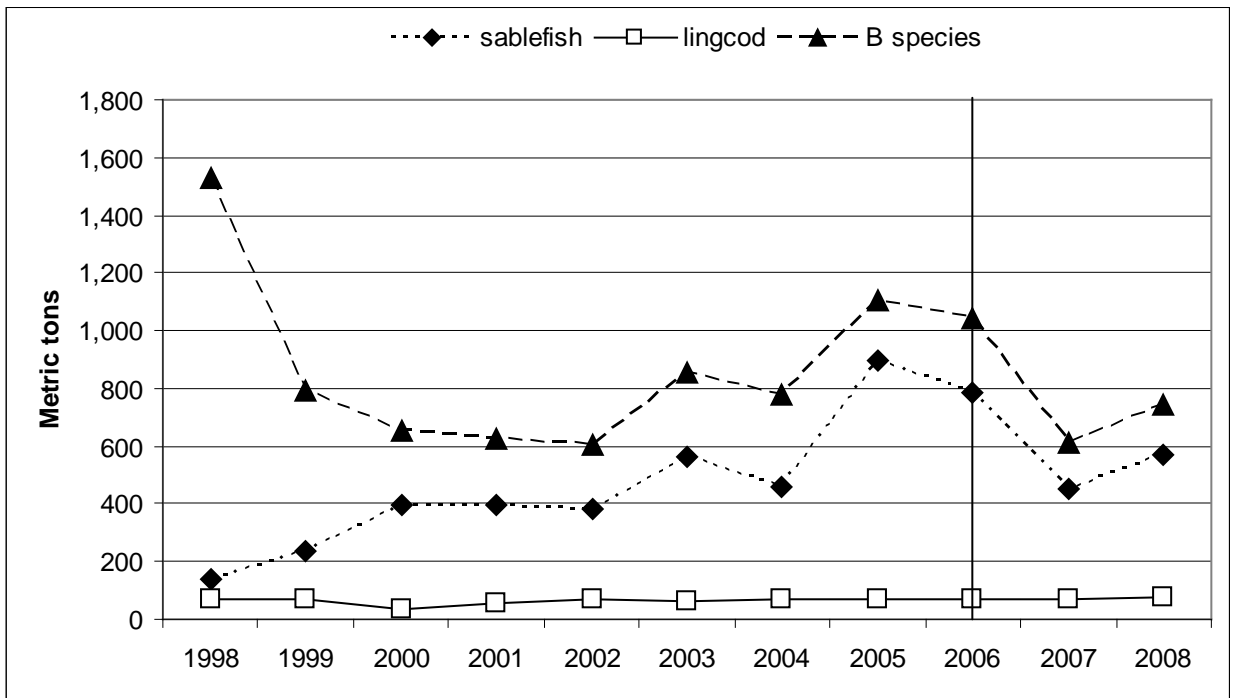


Figure S-2. Annual WOC directed open access directed fishery tonnage landed of B species groundfish, sablefish and lingcod.

A total of 850 vessels made directed fishery landings during the post window period years of 2006-2008. Of these, 281 (33%) were new fishery participants; i.e., did not make a landing during 2004-2006 window period years (**Table S-1**). The new vessels landed 25% of the B species landing including 25% and 19% of the sablefish and lingcod landings, respectively (**Table S-1**).

Table S-1 Selected landings statistics for directed open access fishery vessels during post window period years of 2006-2008. Landings are in mts.

Table S-1	St	Category	Number	P	B species	P	Sablefish	P	Lingcod	P
WA		Total	66	8%	119.8	8%	97.9	9%	5.5	4%
		New 1/	18	2%	34.7	2%	26.8	2%	0.3	0%
OR		Total	270	32%	403.4	27%	292.3	26%	85.3	55%
		New	76	9%	80.9	5%	61.4	5%	15.9	10%
CA		Total	514	60%	961.4	65%	730.6	65%	63.5	41%
		New	187	22%	251.7	17%	187.9	17%	13.6	9%
WOC		Total	850	100%	1,484.6	100%	1,120.8	100%	154.2	100%
		New	281	33%	367.4	25%	276.1	25%	29.8	19%

1/ Did not make a directed fishery landing during 2004-2006 window period years (New)

A total of 82 (29%) of the new fishery participants were salmon fishery vessels (**Table S-2**). About 79% (223 vessels) of the 281 new fishery participants and 69% (18 vessels) of the previous fishery participants that would not have qualified for B permits under A-6 landed  $\geq 100$  lbs of B species groundfish during 2006-2008 post window period years, the minimum landing standard for B permit issuance under A-6 (**Table S-2; Figure S-3**). From 16% (lingcod,  $\geq 500$  lbs) to 70% (lingcod,  $\geq 11$ lb) of the new fishery participants that landed  $\geq 100$  lbs of B species groundfish would qualify for a species endorsement under the range of species endorsement alternatives contained in A-6 (**Table S-2; Figure S-3**). The comparative data for previous fishery participants, ones that would not qualify under A-6, is from 11% (lingcod,  $\geq 500$  lbs) to 55% (lingcod,  $\geq 11$ lb) (**Table S-2; Figure S-3**).

Table S-2. Potential impact of including recent and previous non-qualifying directed fishery vessels to B permit program under A-6.

Category	New			Previous			Totals		Potential Increase		
	WA	OR	CA	WA	OR	CA	N/P	A-6			
New vessels or vessels that did not previously qualify 1/	18	76	187	281	3	9	26	281	1,103	1,384	25.5%
New vessels or previous vessels w/ salmon history 2/	2	40	40	82	0	3	9	82	406	488	20.2%
New & previous w/ >100 lbs, post window period	18	65	140	223	3	7	18	241	1,003	1,244	24.0%
Sablefish ≥11b	18	31	67	116	3	0	7	123	541	664	22.7%
Sablefish ≥100lb	18	29	60	107	3	0	7	114	513	627	22.2%
Sablefish ≥500lb	16	27	50	93	3	0	7	100	464	564	21.6%
Lingcod ≥1 lb	4	62	91	157	0	7	10	167	674	841	24.8%
Lingcod ≥100 lb	1	44	39	84	0	6	8	92	549	641	16.8%
Lingcod ≥500 lb	0	22	13	35	0	2	2	37	337	374	11.0%

1/ Did not make a directed fishery landing during 2004-2006 window period years (New) or did not previously qualify under A-6 (Previous).

2/ New to fishery or previously did not qualify under A-6 (see 1/) and made a salmon landing during 2007-2008 or 2004-2006, respectively

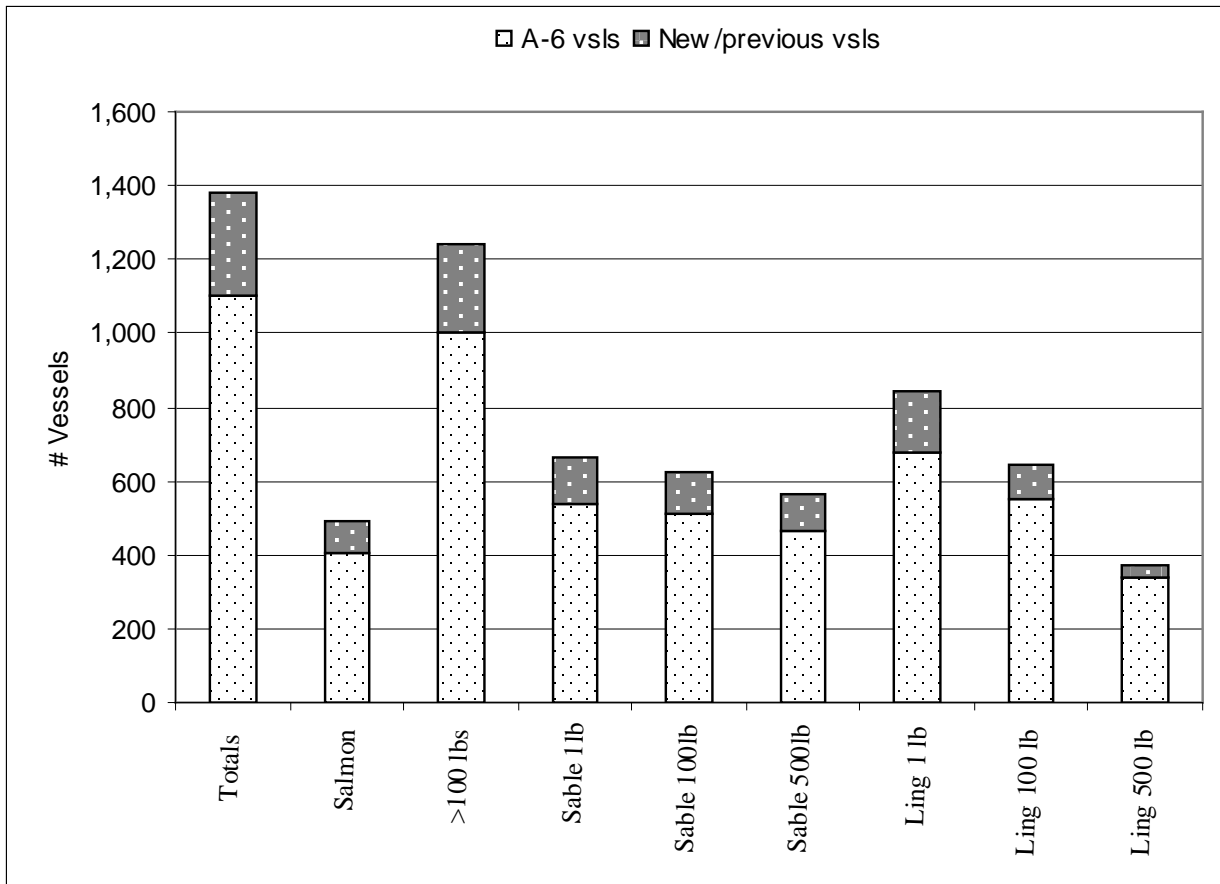


Figure S-3. Numbers of new and previous directed fishery vessels that would qualify for a B permit and species endorsement under A-6 qualification criteria

The majority of vessels (62%-83%) were assigned to the lingcod and sablefish TSVGs (**Table S-3; Figure S-4**). However, the proportion assigned to the sablefish TSVG was relatively low in 2006 (14% compared to 40%-42% in other years), which encompassed only the last three months of the year. This low number was likely due to late season sablefish closure (see **Table S-4**, below), which reduced overall sablefish fishing effort. In all years the sablefish TSVG landed the majority of B species groundfish (range 79%-85%) (**Table S-3; Figure S-5**) and sablefish (range 98%-99%). The Washington fishery did not make any directed fishery landings, based on the available data, in late 2006, but was heavily dependent on sablefish in 2007 (91%) and 2008 (73%) (**Table S-3**). The Oregon and California fisheries were also heavily dependent on sablefish in terms of pounds landed, particularly in 2007 (71% and 73%, respectively) and 2008 (89% and 77%, respectively) (**Table S-3**), but had substantial number of vessels that were assigned to the lingcod and shelf rockfish TSVGs in all three years (**Table S-3; Figure S-4**).

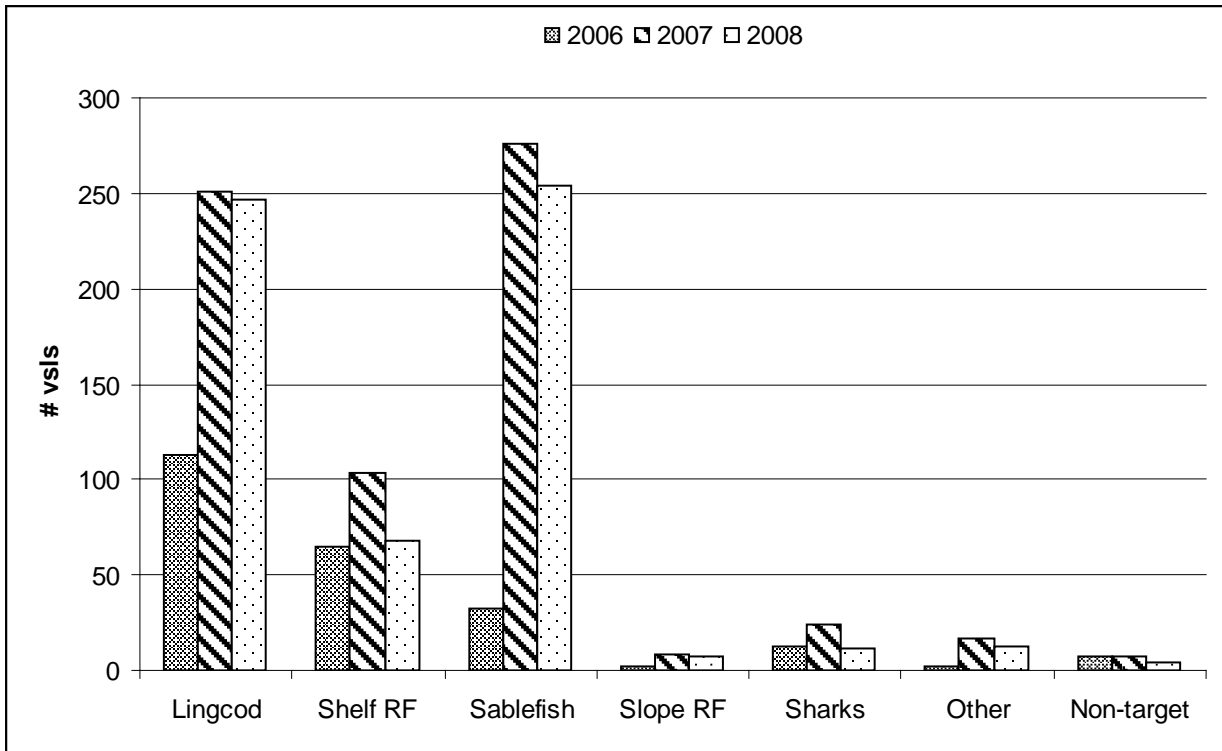


Figure S-4. Number of WOC vessels by target species vessel group during 2006-2008 post window period years

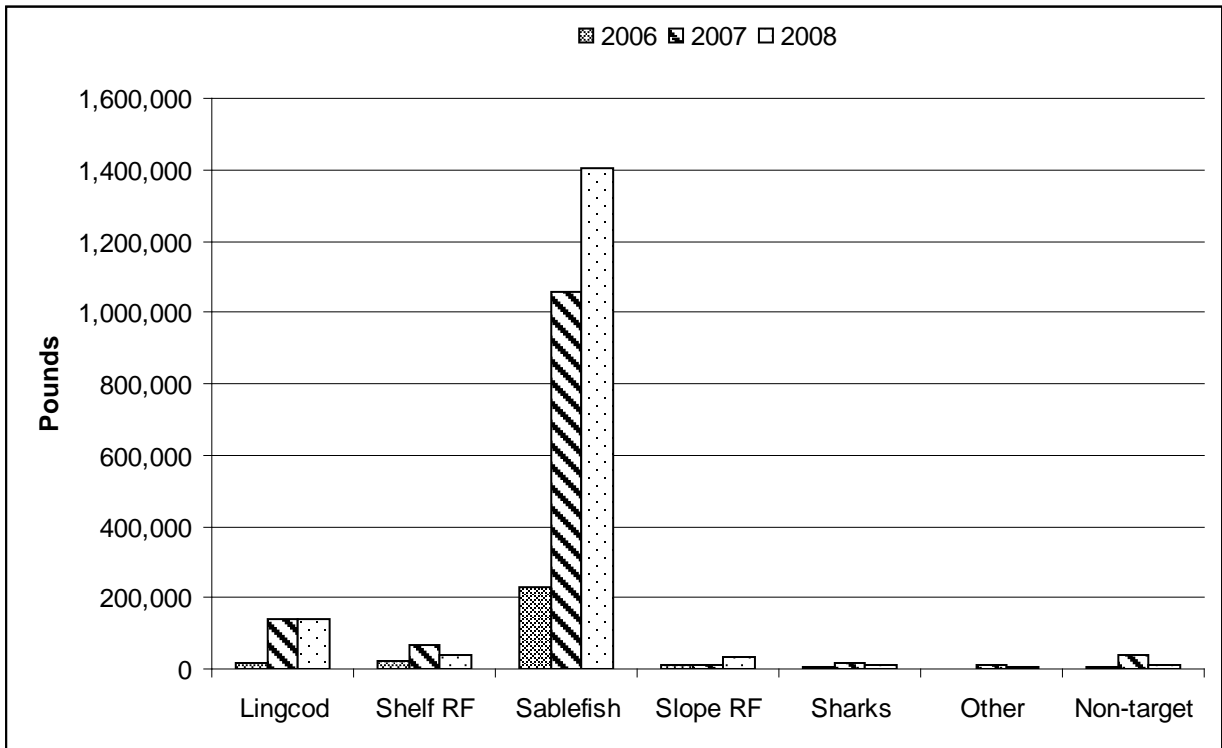


Figure S-5. WOC pounds landed of B species groundfish by target species vessel group during 2006-2008 post window period years

### Discussion

Post window period data indicate that the directed fishery declined during 2007 and 2008 to about 2003-2004 levels of vessel participation and fishery landings [Table 2-5 (updated); Figure S-2]. The new VMS requirement for vessels fishing in federal waters to take or transport federal groundfish likely

contributed to the decline. Sablefish trip limit changes, since May 2006 north of the Conception area and since January 2007 in the Conception area, may have also contributed to the change (**Table S-4**).

**Table S-4. Monthly equivalent open access fishery sablefish trip limits in pounds of fish by management area, cumulative landing period, and year, 2002-2008**

Management Area	Year	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
Northern 2/	2002	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1350 (Nov)
	2003	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1800
	2004	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800
	2005	2500	1800	1800	1800	1800	4500 (Nov)
	2006	2500	2500	1500	1500	1500	closed (Nov)
	2007	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050	1050
	2008	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
	Conception	2002	4200	4200	3600	3600	3600
2003		4200	4200	4200	4200	4200	4200
2004		4200	4200	4200	4200	4200	4200
2005		4200	4200	4200	4200	4200	4200
2006		4200	4200	4200	4200	4200	4200/3000
2007		2800	2800	2800	2800	4200	4200
2008		2800	2800	2800	1000	1050	1050

1/ Daily and weekly trip limits were further used to constrain harvest; above values are generally based on weekly and bimonthly limits as published by the NMFS (<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Groundfish-Halibut/Groundfish-Fishery-Management/>).

2/ Northern=WOC north of Conception area.

The sablefish TSVG continued to take the majority of B species landings during post window period years, but nearly as many vessels could be assigned to the lingcod TSVG during these same years. The average take of B species groundfish by the two groups were substantially different during post window period years: sablefish, 7,091 lbs; lingcod, 166 lbs (**WOC Totals, Table S-3**). This was undoubtedly due to the much higher trip limit allowances for sablefish (**Table S-4**) compared to lingcod (**Table S-5**).

**Table S-5. Monthly equivalent open access fishery lingcod trip limits in pounds of fish by cumulative landing period and year, 2002-2008 1/**

Year	Jan-Feb	Mar-Apr	May-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
2002	0	0	300	300	300	0
2003	0	0	300	300	300	0
2004	0	0	300	300	300	0
2005	0	0	300	300	300	0
2006	0	0	300	300	300	0
2007	0	0	400	400	400	400/0
2008	0	0	400	400	400	400/0

1/ lingcod regulations have been coordinated with nearshore regulations, which are not shown in this table

A total of 281 vessels that did not make a landing during 2004-2006 window period years made a directed fishery landing during 2006-2008 post window period years. Of these, 223 (79%) landed  $\geq 100$  lbs of B species groundfish, the minimum landing standard under A-6, the Council's preliminary preferred alternative (PPA). In addition, 18 vessels that previously did not qualify for permits under A-6 landed  $\geq 100$  lbs of B species groundfish during the post window period years. Inclusion of these two groups of vessels under PPA standards would increase the number of qualifying vessels from 1,003 to 1,244, a 24% increase. Such a fleet size would be larger than the actual fleet size in any window period year since 1998 and would be 74% higher than the 2006 window period fleet size of 713 vessels [**Table 2-5 (updated)**]; **Figure S-1**<sup>2</sup>. Variable numbers of the new and previous vessels would qualify for species endorsements under the alternatives contained in A-6 (see **Table S-2**; **Figure S-3**).

<sup>2</sup> Table 2-5 shows 728 vessels in 2006, but 15 made an initial landing during post window period months of October-December 2006.