

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice Chair, and Members of the Council:

My name is Bill James. I am a Commercial Nearshore fisherman. I am here representing PSLCFA and the Nearshore Commercial Fishermen from Morro Bay.

Nearshore and Open Access Groundfish fishermen have been and presently very constrained by the current ACL of Yelloweye Rockfish. The latest stock assessment of Yelloweye Rockfish shows that the stock is rebuilding faster than previously projected. The "2019-20 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Preliminary Draft Impact Analysis" ; Table 2-2 Alternatives 2019 and 2020 Harvest specs. lists a No Action and Alt. 1 and Alt 2. I would request the Council choose Alt. 1 2019 ACL 39 mt and 2020 ACL 40 mt. for Yelloweye Rockfish.

This alternative adds only 1 year to the medium time to rebuild to 2028 rather than the No Action time of 2027 to rebuild. This 10 mt increase in ACL will provide a much needed relief to the Nearshore and Open Access Groundfish fishermen. Please choose Alt. 1 for Yelloweye Rockfish.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to offer comment.

Sincerely,
Bill James