

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
RETENTION OF GROUND FISH IN SALMON TROLL

Mid-water rockfish are occasionally caught as a non-target species by the salmon troll fishery while fishing within the non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) throughout the entire coast. Currently these fish are discarded and incur a near total mortality rate. Rather than discard these fish, the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) requests that the Council explore retention of rockfish caught within the RCA by the salmon troll fishery. The lower economic value of rockfish as compared to salmon means that rockfish would not be targeted. The SAS requests that this topic be added to the Groundfish Management Team's workload prioritization list and scheduled on the Council's November 2019 meeting agenda for potential implementation during the 2021 season.

PFMC
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