

HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS FOR 2021-22 INCLUDING FINAL OVERFISHING LIMITS AND ACCEPTABLE BIOLOGICAL CATCHES

In June, the Council adopted a process and schedule for deciding harvest specifications and management measures for 2021-2022 groundfish fisheries (see [Agenda Item I.6, Attachment 1, June 2019](#)). Based on this schedule, the Council began deciding groundfish harvest specifications and providing input on new management measures for 2021-2022 groundfish fisheries at the September meeting. At this meeting, the Council is tasked with adopting final 2021 and 2022 overfishing limits (OFLs), final acceptable biological catches (ABCs), and a preliminary range of annual catch limits (ACLs) to be further analyzed if there is a desire to depart from default harvest control rules (HCRs). The Council should also adopt preliminary preferred ACLs, if possible, at this meeting. The selection of new management measures for 2021 and 2022 groundfish fisheries for detailed analysis will be decided under Agenda Item H.8.

Proposed 2021 and 2022 harvest specifications under default HCRs are provided in Attachment 1. Those harvest specifications highlighted in the tables provided in Attachment 1 are presumptive pending Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) endorsement of the OFLs, stock categories, and sigma values; the un-highlighted specifications were adopted in September. Attachment 2 documents the harvest specification and biomass projections of stocks under default HCRs not addressed in September and projections under alternative HCRs for those stocks where alternatives were decided in September. The SSC will review these analyses and make their recommendations for OFLs, sigmas, and stock categories at this meeting.

The Council should consider the briefing book materials, as well as advisory body and public comments before deciding final 2021 and 2022 OFLs, ABCs, and preliminary preferred ACLs.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt Final 2021 and 2022 Overfishing Limits.**
- 2. Adopt Final Sigma Values and Stock Categories.**
- 3. Adopt Final 2021 and 2022 Acceptable Biological Catches.**
- 4. Adopt Preliminary Preferred 2021 and 2022 Annual Catch Limits.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.6, Attachment 1: 2021 and 2022 Groundfish Harvest Specifications under Default Harvest Control Rules.
2. Agenda Item H.6, Attachment 2: Additional Projections of Harvest Specifications for West Coast Groundfish Stocks in 2021 and Beyond.
3. Agenda Item H.6.a, GMT Report 1: Groundfish Management Team Report on Proposed Short-term Improvements to Sablefish ACL Apportionment Methods.
4. Agenda Item H.6.a, GMT Report 2: Groundfish Management Team Report on Biennial Harvest Specifications for 2021-2022 Including Final Overfishing Limits and Acceptable Biological Catches.
5. If Received, Public Comments are Electronic Only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- H.6 Harvest Specifications for 2021-22 Including Final Overfishing Limits and Acceptable Biological Catches John DeVore/Todd Phillips
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final 2021-2022 Overfishing Limits, Final P*/Acceptable Biological Catches, Preliminary Preferred Annual Catch Limits for Stocks and Stock Complexes

PFMC
10/21/19