

FINAL ACTION TO ADOPT MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS FOR 2021-2022 FISHERIES

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduled to take action on two items under this agenda item. The first is to approve 2021-2022 exempted fishing permits (EFP), including set-asides, and recommend them to National Marine Fisheries Service for implementation. The second is to adopt final preferred alternatives for 2021-2022 groundfish management measures. In past biennial cycles these two topics have been separate agenda items; however, at this meeting, the two items are combined for efficiency. The suggested order is for the Council to take up the EFP item first and continue with management measures second.

This agenda item is scheduled to be completed over the course of two days. It is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, June 16 with the objective of completing advisory bodies and management entity reports as well as hear public comment. The Council is expected to return to this agenda item on Thursday, June 18 for discussion and final action.

Exempted Fishing Permits

At its November 2019 meeting, the Council preliminarily approved seven 2021-2022 proposed groundfish EFPs and [provided a number of recommendations](#) for applicants to consider. At its March 2020 meeting, the Council received updates on the status of the EFPs. The Coastal Conservation Association California/Okuma Fishing Tackle applicant notified the Council at that meeting that they were withdrawing their [EFP proposal](#), which included a cowcod set-aside of 7 mt. Additionally, the [Real Good Fish applicant requested](#) and Council approved an increase of southern cowcod set aside from 0.15 to 0.5 mt. The Council indicated that in June it would consider additional EFP requests for increases in southern cowcod set aside. Table 1 is a summary of the EFPs the Council is considering for approval in the 2021-2022 biennium and indicates if changes to the EFP applications have been made since the March 2020 meeting.

Table 1. 2021-2022 exempted fishing permit applicants.

EFP Applicant	EFP Title/Description	Status: Changes Since March 2020.
West Coast Seafood Processors Association; Oregon Trawl Commission; Midwater Trawlers Cooperative; Environmental Defense Fund	Year-Round Coastwide Midwater Rockfish EFP: Monitoring and Minimizing Salmon Bycatch When Targeting Rockfish in the Shorebased IFQ Fishery, 2021-2022	No Change; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 1
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)	Recreational Cowcod Sampling in California	Amended to Include Changes Identified in the March CDFW Report ; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 2

EFP Applicant	EFP Title/Description	Status: Changes Since March 2020.
San Francisco Community Fishing Association & Dan Platt	Yellowtail Rockfish Jig Fishing Off California	Amended, Including Changes to Set-Aside Requests; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 3
Scott Cook	Commercial Midwater Hook-and-Line Rockfish in RCA off Oregon	No Change; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 4
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)	Enhanced Yelloweye Recreational Fishery Biological Sampling	No Change; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 5
Real Good Fish	Monterey Bay Regional Exempted Fishing Permit Targeting Chilipepper Rockfish	Amended; Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 6

2021-2022 Management Measures

The process to adopt the 2021-2022 harvest specifications and management measures began in June 2019 and culminates at this meeting with final action. In November 2019 and April 2020, the Council adopted its preliminary and preferred harvest specifications for the 2021-2022 biennium (Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 7). The two key decisions to be made under this agenda item are to:

- Confirm final 2021-2022 harvest specifications and default harvest control rules for all groundfish stocks and stock complexes, and
- Adopt final management measures, including two-year allocations, trip limits, adjustments to routine management measures and modifications to the Amendment 21 allocations for petrale sole, widow rockfish, lingcod south of 40° 10' N. lat. and slope rockfish, including blackgill rockfish, south of 40° 10' N. lat.

The principal analytical document in support of this action is organized as a draft Environmental Assessment with a description of the alternatives in Chapter 2, a description of the affected environment in Section 3, analyses of the direct and indirect effects in Chapter 4, and a description of cumulative effects in Chapter 5 (Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 8). Socioeconomic impacts are summarized in Section 4.8.

Noting the analytical document's length and level of detail, an Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 9) is provided as a companion piece which summarizes the preliminary preferred alternatives, highlights decision points, and references specific sections within the analytical document to assist in the decision-making process.

Council Action:

1. **Confirm final 2021-2022 harvest specifications and default harvest control rules for all groundfish stocks and stock complexes.**
2. **Adopt final recommendations for 2021-2022 EFPs sent out for review in November 2019.**
3. **Adopt yield set-asides to accommodate those EFPs, as needed.**
4. **Adopt final 2021-2022 season structures and management measures to be implemented in 2021.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 1: Year-Round Coastwide Midwater Rockfish EFP: Monitoring and Minimizing Salmon Bycatch When Targeting Rockfish in the Shorebased IFQ Fishery, 2021-2022. (*West Coast Seafood Processors Association; Oregon Trawl Commission; Midwater Trawlers Cooperative; Environmental Defense Fund*).
2. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 2: California Department of Fish and Wildlife; 2021-2022 Exempted Fishing Permit Application (*CDFW*).
3. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 3: Groundfish EFP Proposal: Yellowtail Rockfish Jig Fishing off California. (*San Francisco Community Fishing Association and Dan Platt*).
4. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 4: Commercial Midwater Hook-and-Line Rockfish in RCA off Oregon (*Scott Cook*).
5. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 5: Proposal for an Exempted Fishery Permit, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Enhanced Yelloweye Recreational Fishery Biological Sampling (*WDFW*).
6. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 6: Monterey Bay Regional Exempted Fishing Permit Targeting Chilipepper Rockfish (*Real Good Fish*).
7. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 7: Preferred 2021 and 2022 harvest specifications, acceptable biological catches, and annual catch limits for West Coast groundfish stocks and stock complexes under preferred harvest control rules.
8. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 8: Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery 2021-2022 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Analytical Document. Organized as a Draft Environmental Assessment Chapters 1-5. (***Electronic Only***)
9. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 9: Action Item Checklist.
10. Agenda Item F.1.a, ODFW Report 1.
11. Agenda Item F.1.a, GMT Report 1: Shortbelly Rockfish Mitigation Options.
12. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.1 Final Action to Adopt Management Measures and Exempted Fishing Permits for 2021-2022 Fisheries
Todd Phillips/Jim Seger/John DeVore
 - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Exempted Fishing Permit Recommendations and Final Preferred Management Measures for 2021-2022 Fisheries

PFMC
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