SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON SCOPING OF PRIORITIZED NON-TRAWL SECTOR AREA MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) has reviewed the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Association's request to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to analyze access to the Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for the Open Access Sector using hook-and-line methods and barring longline, dinglebar, and pot methods. We fully support Mr. Mike Conroy's request to the Council and agree that this is a most urgent matter with the potential to provide a bridging fishery to Oregon and California's small boat commercial sector in a time when crab and salmon fisheries are heavily restricted.

In addition, the SAS feels the Emley/Platt exempted fishing permit (EFP) could be retired when access to the Non-Trawl RCA for Open Access participants is moved to regulation because the EFP will no longer be needed to demonstrate that hook-and-line fisheries have little to no impact on the sustainability of all rockfish species.

The SAS continues our support, and encourages the Council to direct, an analysis of all rockfish retention south of the 40° 10′ N. lat. in the salmon troll fishery. Groundfish regulations beginning January 1, 2021 allow 200 pounds per month of yellowtail rockfish in the salmon troll fishery south of 40° 10′ N. lat. However, we realize there is limited data available to analyze impacts on shelf complex species, particularly the mid-water stocks.

The SAS reiterates that the salmon troll fleet's interaction with these rockfish species is currently wasteful as these fish are discarded as required by law with substantial mortality due to barotrauma. We request that all species may be retained following the current regulations 2:1 per pound ratio (2 pounds of salmon to 1 pound of yellowtail rockfish) landed per trip and total of 200 pounds per month.

Going forward, the SAS encourages analyses of increased total monthly landings of 450 pounds with no more than 150 pounds per landing south of 40° 10′ N. lat.

PFMC
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