

ADOPT STOCK ASSESSMENTS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) process for setting groundfish harvest specifications depends on periodic assessments of the status of groundfish stocks and a report from an established assessment review body or Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panel. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviews this information and makes a recommendation relative to the standards of 1) the best scientific information available, and 2) soundness for use in groundfish fishery management decision-making by the Council. The Council then approves the new assessments and relevant analyses used to set groundfish harvest specifications for the following biennial management period.

Four assessments, two California copper rockfish assessments (north and south of 34° 27' N. lat., Attachments 1 and 2, respectively), California quillback rockfish (Attachment 4), and Pacific spiny dogfish (Attachment 6), were further evaluated in a late-September “mop-up” review panel. New rebuilding analyses for copper rockfish south of 34° 27' N. lat. (Attachment 3) and California quillback rockfish (Attachment 5) were also reviewed at the mop-up panel. The SSC will provide their recommendations at this meeting on whether these assessments and rebuilding analyses represent the best scientific information available for Council management decisions.

The Council should consider these assessments and rebuilding analyses, as well as the advice of the SSC, other advisory bodies, and the public before adopting these stock assessments and rebuilding analyses for use in groundfish management in 2023 and beyond.

Council Action:

Adopt the SSC-endorsed stock assessments and rebuilding analyses.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1: The status of copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) in U.S. waters off the coast of California south of Point Conception in 2021 using catch and length data (***Electronic Only***).
2. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 2: The status of copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) in U.S. waters off the coast of California north of Point Conception in 2021 using catch and length data (***Electronic Only***).
3. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 3: Rebuilding analysis for copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) in U.S. waters off the coast of California south of Point Conception based on the 2021 stock assessment (***Electronic Only***).
4. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 4: Status of quillback rockfish (*Sebastes maliger*) in U.S. waters off the coast of California in 2021 using catch and length data (***Electronic Only***).
5. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 5: Rebuilding analysis for quillback rockfish (*Sebastes maliger*) in U.S. waters off the coast of California based on the 2021 stock assessment (***Electronic Only***).
6. Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 6: Status of the Pacific Spiny Dogfish shark resource off the continental U.S. Pacific Coast in 2021 (***Electronic Only***).
7. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- E.2 Adopt Stock Assessments John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Approve Stock Assessments and Rebuilding Analyses for use in 2023 and Beyond

PFMC
10/27/21