

# E.6 Non-trawl Sector Area Management Measures

## Council Action:

1. Review priority issues, including regulations and NT\_RCA boundary modifications, as appropriate.
2. Consider adopting a range of alternatives.
3. Consider adopting a Preliminary Preferred Alternatives.
4. Provide guidance for development of alternative management measures as needed.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

## E.6 ODFW motion 1:

I move the Council adopt the following revised statement of purpose and need for non-trawl area management actions:

The purpose of these proposed actions is to provide access to additional areas that are currently closed to groundfish fishing inside the Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) **and Cowcod Conservation Area (CCA)**. The Non-Trawl sector is presently unable to access many **target** species of shelf rockfish where they are most abundant. The actions are needed to provide ~~increased attainment of available healthy shelf rockfish species that largely reside inside the Non-Trawl RCA, thereby increasing their utilization and economic value of the groundfish fishery.~~ **increased access to non-overfished shelf rockfish stocks and other important target stocks that can be found in the existing non-trawl groundfish conservation areas (GCAs), thereby increasing the overall potential economic value of the groundfish fishery.** The actions are also needed to help diversify fishing strategies in light of restrictive ~~salmon and crab~~ opportunities **in other groundfish and non-groundfish fisheries, and to provide more stable, year-round fishing opportunity, and expand opportunities to supply seafood, while bringing and increase potential financial benefit to fishermen, communities, and the infrastructures they support.** The additional access might be provided by **actions such as** 1) moving **and/or modifying** the existing Non-Trawl RCA **and/or CCA** boundaries, and/or 2) allowing groundfish fishing inside the Non-Trawl RCA **and/or CCA** using only select gears that minimize bottom contact.

Moved by Maggie Sommer Second by Christa M. Svensson Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

## E.6 ODFW motion 2

I move the Council adopt the following range of groundfish nontrawl area management alternatives between 46°16' – 40°10' N. lat. **Amendment strike 40-10 and replace with 34° 27'** (amendment by Yaremko/Dooley. Amendment carried unanimously.

### **Alternative 1: Allow Open Access (OA) vessels targeting groundfish to fish in the non-trawl RCA (NT\_RCA) using approved hook & line gear**

Allow OA vessels targeting groundfish to operate inside the NT\_RCA with hook-and-line gear except bottom longline, vertical hook and line that is anchored to the bottom, and dinglebar gear are types of hook and line gear that are not allowed. Fixed gear types other than hook and line are not allowed. Vessels must declare their intent to fish within the NT\_RCA prior to departure.

*Fishing Area:* Vessels may fish inside and outside the NT\_RCA on the same trip.

*Gear On-Board:* Vessels shall only carry approved hook-and-line gear on-board vessel when fishing occurs in the NT\_RCA.

### **Alternative 2: Allow Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG) vessels targeting groundfish to fish in the NT\_RCA using approved hook & line gear up to LEFG trip limits**

Allow LEFG vessels targeting groundfish to operate inside the NT\_RCA and fish up to the LEFG trip limits with hook-and-line gear except bottom longline, vertical hook and line that is anchored to the bottom, and dinglebar gear are types of hook and line gear that are not allowed. Fixed gear types other than hook and line are not allowed. Vessels must declare their intent to fish within the NT\_RCA prior to departure.

*Fishing Area:* LEFG vessels may fish inside and outside the NT\_RCA on a trip.

*Gear On-Board:* LEFG vessels can only carry approved hook-and-line gear on-board a vessel when fishing occurs in the NT\_RCA. Vessels shall not switch gears during a fishing trip.

### **Alternative 3: Reconfiguration of NT\_RCA boundaries**

The seaward NT\_RCA boundary will be 75 fathoms

- Suboption 1: Prohibit all bottom contact groundfish gear in groundfish EFH Conservation Areas that would otherwise be reopened under this action

### **Alternative 4: Completely remove the nontrawl RCA**

- Suboption 1: Prohibit all bottom contact groundfish gear in groundfish EFHCAs that would otherwise be reopened under this action

### **Priority of Alternatives and Incremental Process**

- Alternatives in this motion are prioritized in this order: 1, 2, 3, 4. Analysis and future Council action should allow for adoption of preliminary preferred and final alternatives for Alternatives 1 and 2 as soon as possible and this may occur before those steps for other Alternatives under this item. In addition, the Council may consider action on Alternative 3 prior to Alternative 4.

## Alternatives May Be Combined

- Action alternatives are not mutually exclusive.

## Logbooks Required

- For all action alternatives, logbooks will be required to collect data on fishing effort, location, gear, catch, releases/discards, and other information determined to be necessary.

## Block Area Closures

- For all action alternatives, block area closures (BACs) may be used in the non-trawl sector to control catch of groundfish or protected species by restricting fishing by gear type and sector within specific latitudes and depth contours. BACs could be implemented inseason or preseason.

## Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area Closures

- For all action alternatives, identify potential Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Areas (if any) that could be used to mitigate impacts to yelloweye rockfish resulting from this action, which could be implemented in biennial management measures or inseason action.

Moved by Maggie Sommer

Second by Marci Yaremko

Motion as amended passed unanimously.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

I move that given the timing and efficiency concerns cited by NMFS in Agenda E.5, NMFS Report 1, include consideration of Cowcod Conservation Area repeal alternatives within the Non-Trawl Sector Area Management Measures Range of Alternatives. Waypoint analyses for areas within the CCA offered for consideration in E.5.a., Supplemental CDFW Report, should be included in future analytical materials developed for this alternative.

Moved by Marci Yaremko

Seconded by Bob Dooley

Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

**I move that the Council add the following alternative, specific to the area off Washington (north of 46° 16' N. latitude), to the range of alternatives:**

Open limited areas of the non-trawl RCA and to pot gear only, limited in that only parts of the current boundary would be modified and in that the openings would only extend so far onto the continental shelf. The areas would be generally located seaward of the 75 fm line but may be defined by coordinates that do not necessarily follow a single depth contour. The open areas would satisfy the following objectives:

- Allow only minimal increases of yelloweye bycatch.
- Avoid direct and indirect conflicts with recreational and other fisheries currently fishing within 100 fm.
- Avoid impacts to sensitive habitats.
- Are distinct enough from the 100 fm seaward boundary to be enforceable by the existing Vessel Monitoring System.

Moved by Corey Niles

Second by Butch Smith

Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES