

## STOCK ASSESSMENT CHECK-IN AND PLAN – FINAL ACTION

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) selected the following list of stocks to be assessed in 2023 at their June 2022 meeting: black rockfish, canary rockfish, copper rockfish (CA areas), petrale sole, rex sole (data-moderate), and shortspine thornyhead (data-moderate). However, the Council decided to reconsider limiting the copper rockfish assessment to California waters and perhaps assessing all areas due to potential considerations for defining stock area stratifications for copper rockfish (see Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 1). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) explained one of the other stock assessments would need to be delayed to another cycle if copper rockfish were assessed in all West Coast areas next year. NMFS provides prospects for those assessments tentatively adopted for 2023, including schedules for stock assessment reviews (Agenda Item G.7, Attachment 1).

The Council action is to decide a final list of stock assessments to be conducted and reviewed in 2023. The stock assessment plan for copper rockfish should reflect Council considerations for defining copper rockfish stocks under Agenda Item G.5 at this meeting. The Council will also decide a preliminary list of stocks to be assessed in 2025 to enable advance data collection and analysis.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt a final list of groundfish stocks to be assessed next year;**
- 2. Adopt a schedule of stock assessment reviews next year; and**
- 3. Adopt a preliminary list of stocks to be assessed in 2025.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.7, Attachment 1: Prospects for assessments tentatively adopted for 2023 in June, 2022.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

- G.7 Stock Assessment Check-In and Plan – Final Action John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Review Assessment Data Availability and Limitations, Adopt a Schedule and Final List of Groundfish Stocks for Assessment in 2023, and Refine the Preliminary List of Stocks for 2025 Assessments, As Needed