

H.3 – SABLEFISH GEAR SWITCHING PPA

West Coast Shoreside

Processing Perspective

- Lori Steele, Executive Director –

West Coast Seafood Processors Association

FUTURE POTENTIAL

West Coast Shoreside Processing of

IFQ Groundfish

We have significant potential to support the groundfish fishery, protect our coastal infrastructure, and sustain our communities.

Year-round Groundfish Processing =

Year-round Jobs =

Coastal Infrastructure Stability =

Enhanced Opportunities in Other Fisheries =

Widespread Community Benefits

Bellingham

Westport

Ilwaco

Warrenton

Astoria

Newport

Charleston

Crescent City

Eureka

Fort Bragg

Half Moon Bay*



FUTURE POTENTIAL

West Coast Shoreside Processing of

IFQ Groundfish

WCSPA expanded from 5 member companies in 2015 to 8 member companies in 2022.

- All own “brick and mortar” processing facilities
- All want to survive, thrive, and support our fisheries
- All striving for year-round production and year-round employment
- All represent critical infrastructure for West Coast fishing communities
- All have capacity to process many kinds of groundfish



Sablefish is More Critical Than Ever for the Groundfish Trawl Sector

- Sablefish continues to be a limiting/choke species in the groundfish trawl fishery – Recent strong year classes of sablefish have exacerbated this situation.
- Targeted Dover sole and bottomfish fishing requires sablefish now more than ever – Every pound of sablefish allocated to the trawl sector is critical.
- Dover:sablefish catch ratios on targeted trips are much closer to 4:1 now – *Vessels targeting Dover sole cannot access enough sablefish to fish year-round.*
- Maximizing the availability of sablefish to the trawl fishery is critical for increasing attainment, meeting FMP goals/objectives, and achieving OY.

Sablefish is More Critical Than Ever for the Groundfish Trawl Sector

- In recent years, major investments have been made by shoreside processors in groundfish processing equipment, market research and development, workforce and team training/support, and workforce housing.
- Major efforts are underway to re-establish and grow domestic and international markets for *all* groundfish species.
- Redeveloping groundfish markets takes significant time and money – and requires a consistent volume of product to be available on a consistent and predictable basis.

Increasing Dover Sole Attainment Increases Overall Groundfish Attainment

- Sablefish is an important component of a multispecies trawl fishery and a significant value contributor and multiplier for groundfish trips.
- A wide variety of marketable groundfish species are caught in combination with sablefish and Dover sole.
- Additional value comes from increased employment required to process trawl-caught bottomfish above and beyond sablefish and Dover sole.



Fish Ticket

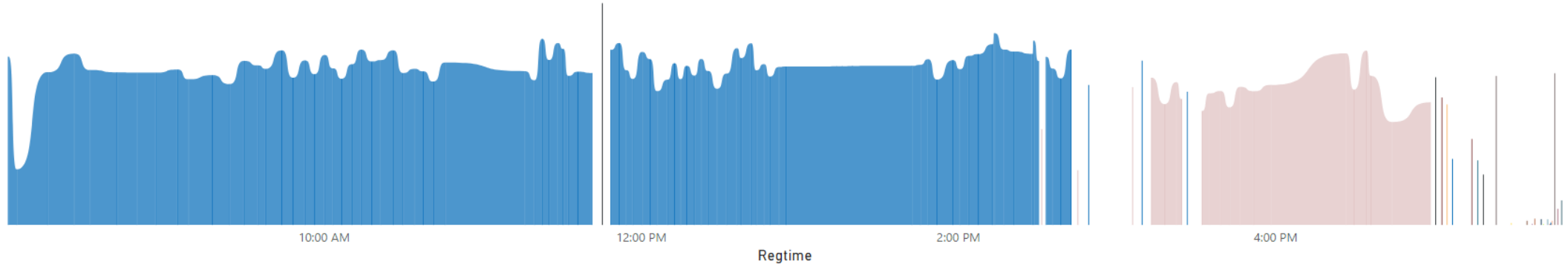
03/28/2022

Offload Date

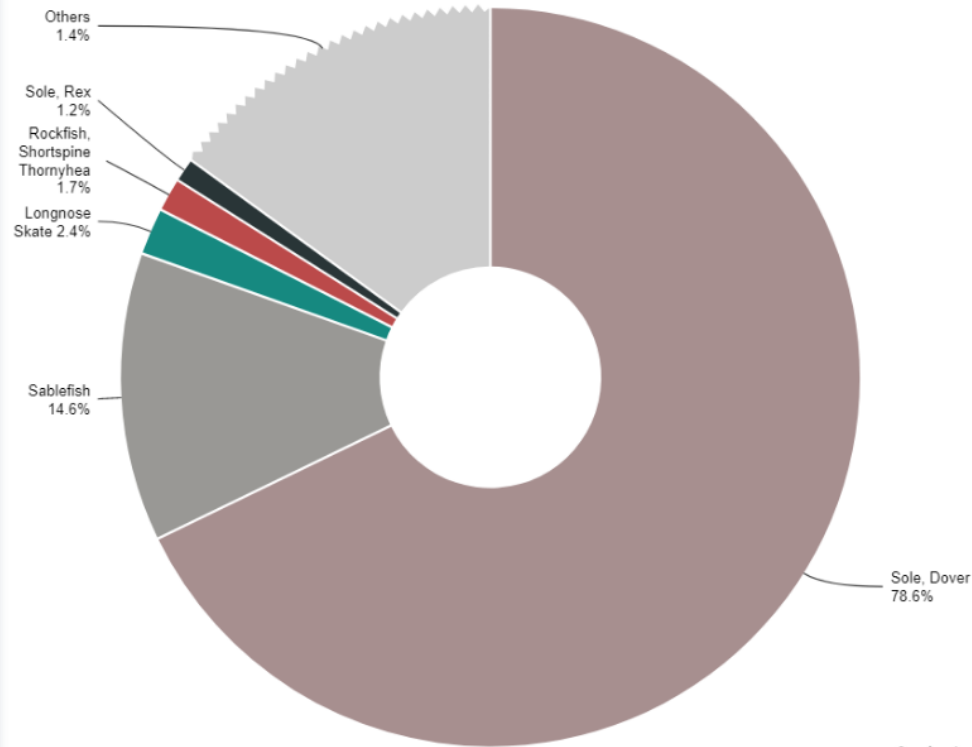
107,367

Total Weight in LB

Offload Log



Species	Weight (LB)	% of Total
Sole, Dover	84,411.00	78.62%
Sablefish	15,728.00	14.65%
Longnose Skate	2,550.00	2.38%
Rockfish, Shortspine Thornyhea	1,826.00	1.70%
Sole, Rex	1,301.00	1.21%
Sole, Petrale	732.00	0.68%
Flounder, Arrowtooth aka Turbo	392.00	0.37%
Rockfish, Slope	149.00	0.14%
Thornyhead, Longspine	98.00	0.09%
Big Skate	38.00	0.04%
Whiting, Pacific	35.00	0.03%
Marine Fish, Misc.	34.00	0.03%
Rockfish, Darkblotched	25.00	0.02%
Sole, General	25.00	0.02%
Rockfish, Shortraker	12.00	0.01%
Shark, Unspecified	7.00	0.01%
Ratfish	4.00	0.00%
Total	107,367.00	100.00%



Weight by Species





Fish Ticket

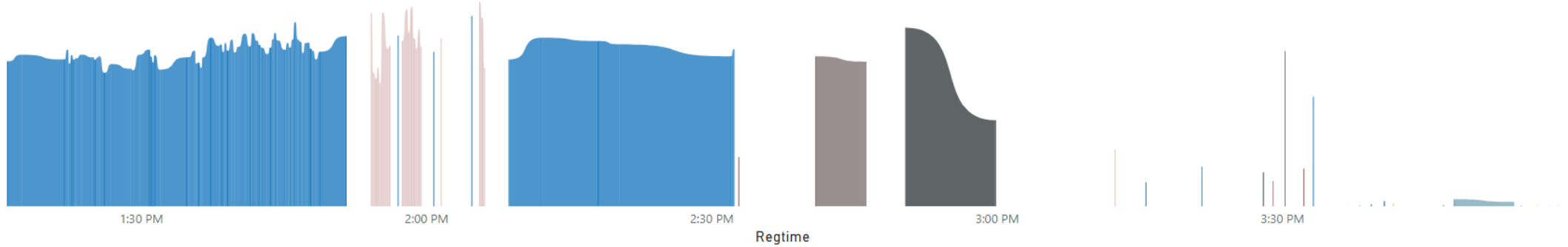
04/04/2022

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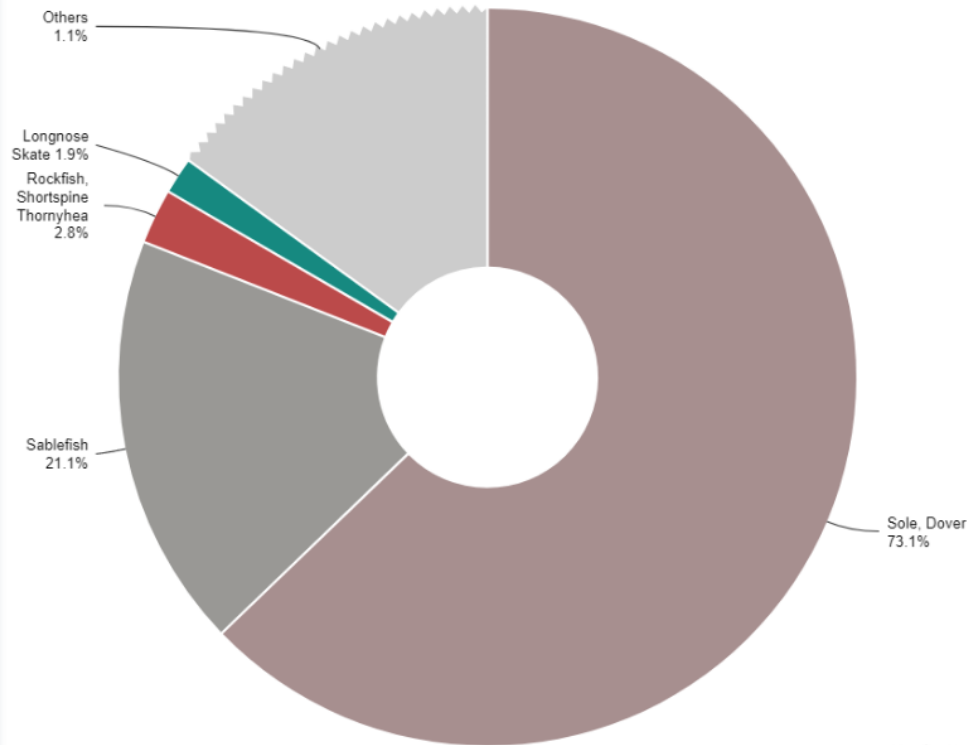
97,585

Total Weight in LB

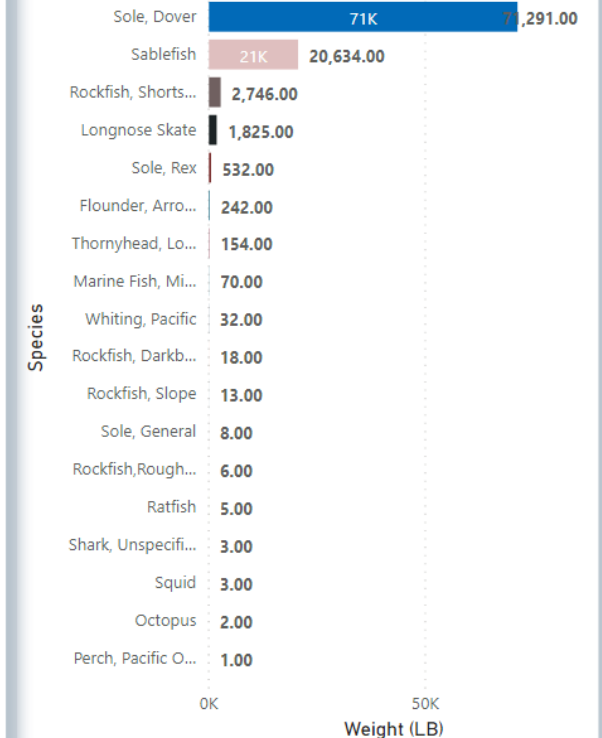
Offload Log



Species	Weight (LB)	% of Total
Sole, Dover	71,291.00	73.06%
Sablefish	20,634.00	21.14%
Rockfish, Shortspine Thornyhea	2,746.00	2.81%
Longnose Skate	1,825.00	1.87%
Sole, Rex	532.00	0.55%
Flounder, Arrowtooth aka Turbo	242.00	0.25%
Thornyhead, Longspine	154.00	0.16%
Marine Fish, Misc.	70.00	0.07%
Whiting, Pacific	32.00	0.03%
Rockfish, Darkblotched	18.00	0.02%
Rockfish, Slope	13.00	0.01%
Sole, General	8.00	0.01%
Rockfish,Rougheye/Blackspotted	6.00	0.01%
Ratfish	5.00	0.01%
Shark, Unspecified	3.00	0.00%
Squid	3.00	0.00%
Octopus	2.00	0.00%
Perch, Pacific Ocean	1.00	0.00%
Total	97,585.00	100.00%



Weight by Species





Fish Ticket

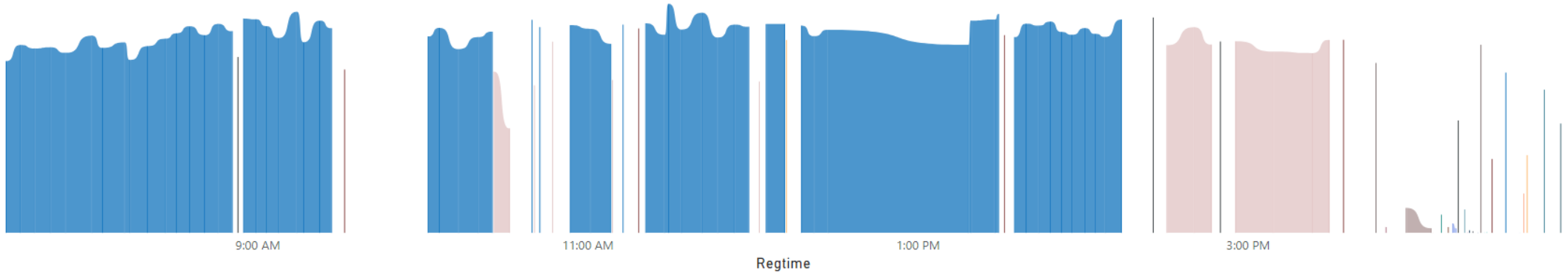
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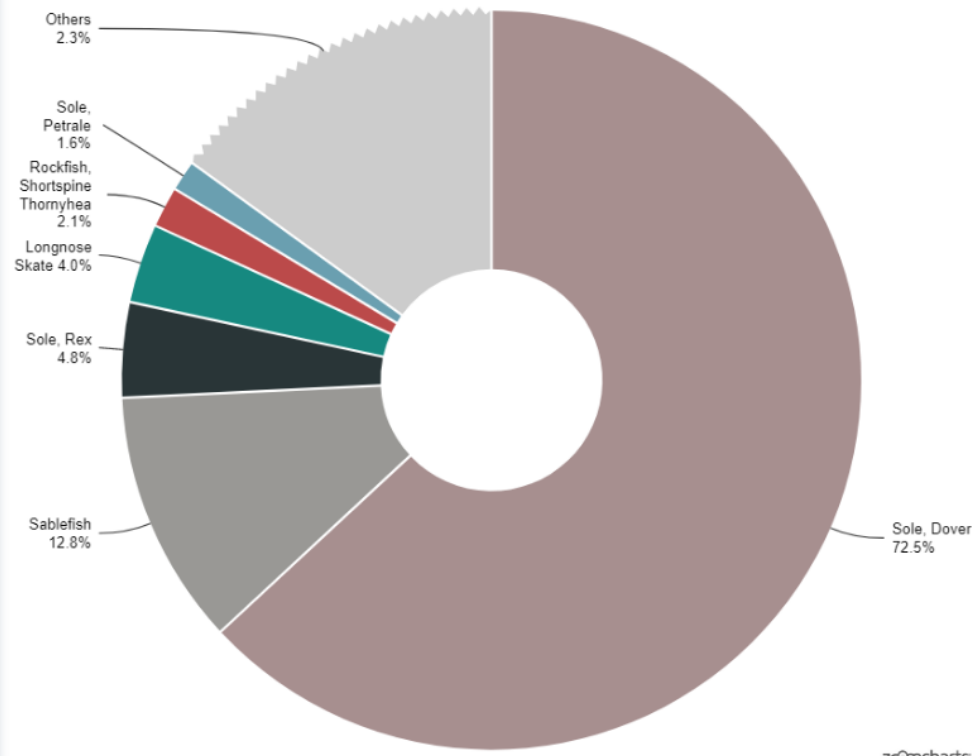
90,889

Total Weight in LB

Offload Log



Species	Weight (LB)	% of Total
Sole, Dover	65,931.00	72.54%
Sablefish	11,660.00	12.83%
Sole, Rex	4,341.00	4.78%
Longnose Skate	3,624.00	3.99%
Rockfish, Shortspine Thornyhea	1,867.00	2.05%
Sole, Petrale	1,411.00	1.55%
Flounder, Arrowtooth aka Turbo	747.00	0.82%
Rockfish, Slope	570.00	0.63%
Rockfish, Darkblotched	205.00	0.23%
Rockfish,Rougheye/Blackspotted	154.00	0.17%
Marine Fish, Misc.	122.00	0.13%
Lingcod	95.00	0.10%
Skate	72.00	0.08%
Sole, General	30.00	0.03%
Thornyhead, Longspine	30.00	0.03%
Whiting, Pacific	13.00	0.01%
Sole, English	8.00	0.01%
Perch, Pacific Ocean	3.00	0.00%
Rockfish, Shelf	3.00	0.00%
Shark, Unspecified	2.00	0.00%
Crab, Tanner	1.00	0.00%
Total	90,889.00	100.00%



Weight by Species



Trawl-Caught Sablefish

- Sablefish is a value multiplier for groundfish trawl trips – Trawl-caught sablefish is high quality, high-valued, and competitive in *any* market.



Trawl-Caught Sablefish



Gear Switching Range of Alternatives

Alternative 3, Sub-Options 3/3, maximum 6.5% GSW

- Simple Approach – *Keep trawl-allocated sablefish in the trawl sector.*
- Maximize flexibility and opportunity within the trawl sector – This will increase attainment of *many* groundfish species.
- Alternatives 1 and 2 would provide trawl-allocated sablefish to numerous vessels that don't/won't use it.
- Council must prioritize the need to achieve OY for the groundfish fishery – This will help achieve OY, enhance food security, and promote the long-term viability of the groundfish fishery.

Focus on supporting sustainable growth of the groundfish fishery and preserving our fishing community infrastructure.