



NOAA
FISHERIES

Agenda Item G.1.b
Supplemental NWFSFC Presentation 1
April 2023

Science Center Activities

April 3, 2023

Craig Russell
Northwest Fisheries Science Center



Overview

- 2023 Surveys
- GFBTS Survey Efficiencies Workshop
- Integrated Survey Update
- Funding Received to Support Groundfish-related FEP Initiative 4

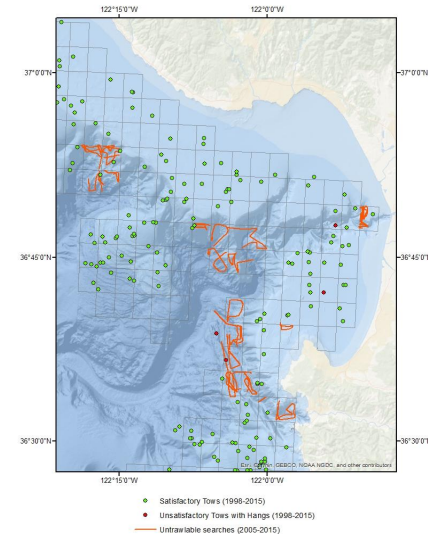
2023 Surveys - No New Updates

- On track for planning and executing:
 - Full four vessel West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey
 - Southern California Rockfish Hook and Line Survey
 - Joint U.S./Canada Integrated Ecosystem and Pacific Hake Survey

Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey Efficiencies Workshop

Goals:

- Identify cells that can not be sampled by trawl gear
- Improve survey efficiency (reduce time searching and transiting to non-towable sites; reduce number of unsuccessful tows)
- Determine areas for alternative sampling techniques for future survey
- March 15-16, Bandon, OR
- Past and current survey Captains (11 invitees)
- NWFSC scientists (survey and assessment teams)



Workshop: Refining The Groundfish Survey Sampling Frame

Outcomes

- 376 sites identified as untrawlable
- refined protocols and will revisit process every 4-5 years incorporating the most recent results
- improve knowledge on new and existing cables and pipelines

Conditions used to identify non-trawlable cells in groundfish survey sample area

- hard substrate, pinnacles, high relief bottom
- canyons and steep terrain
- unburied undersea cable and pipelines
- current and former dump sites
- spatial management exclusion zones
- unanimous decision among industry partners

Integrated West Coast Pelagics Survey

- Anticipated integration in 2025.
- [Request For Information](#) - input opportunity open to all, closed March 17, 2023 (SAM.gov Notice ID: WAD-SRW-23-0001).
- First of several opportunities for input.
- Industry/stakeholder engagement events are being planned - will try to hold several hybrid sessions across the region.
- Suggestions for other engagement activities welcomed.

Funding Received to Support Groundfish-related FEP Initiative 4

- HQ Funding awarded to NWFSC
- Contractor & postdoc salaries for scientific support on FEP initiative 4, “Ecosystem and Climate Information for Species, Fisheries, and FMPs”, Fall 2023 Start (TBD)
- Assistance with development of risk tables (or other tool), species selection framework, indicator identification and development



Questions?

Craig.Russell@noaa.gov



NOAA
FISHERIES

Additional FY23 Survey Details



NOAA
FISHERIES

Planned 2023 Surveys

- 2023 West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey (May 15 - Oct. 24)
- 2023 Southern California Rockfish Hook and Line Survey (Sept. 17 - Oct. 6)
- 2023 Joint US-Canada Integrated Ecosystem and Pacific Hake Survey



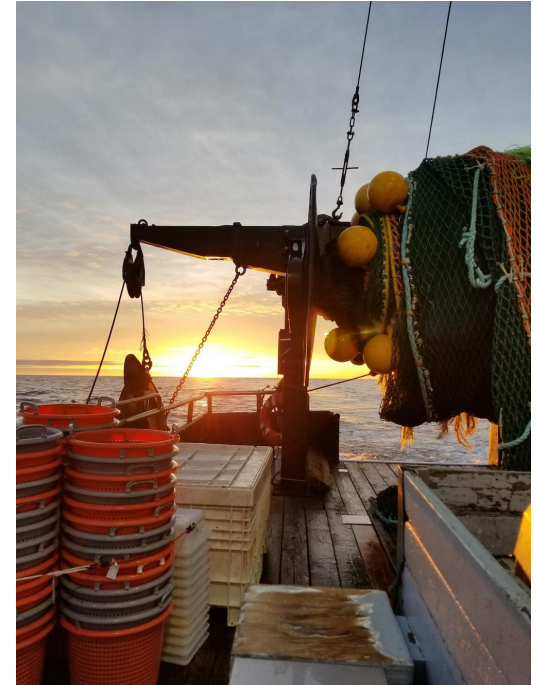
2023 West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey

Cornerstone, long-term time series for 90+ species and California Current Ecosystem.

- 24th year in time series

Full-four vessel Survey:

- Two passes, two chartered vessels each, from Cape Flattery to US-Mexico border.



2023 West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey



Leg 1 2021



Mobilization 2021

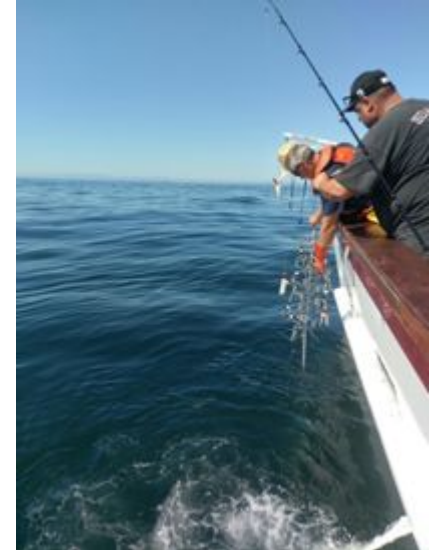
- **Pass 1:** F/V Last Straw and F/V Ms Julie planned (May 15 - July 25, 2023)
- **Pass 2:** F/V Noah's Ark and F/V Excalibur (Aug. 14 - Oct. 24, 2023)
- **5 legs** (8 -10 days per leg) per Pass with 3-day port calls between legs
- **752 sites** scheduled for sampling (188 per vessel)
- **US-Canada border to US-Mexico border** (55 to 1280 m) each pass

2023 Southern California Rockfish Hook and Line Survey



Cowcod 2021

- Southern CA Bight
- 19th year in time series
- Ongoing partnership: NWFSC, PSMFC, and sportfishing industry
- 3 chartered sportfishing vessels
- Sept. 17 - Oct. 6, 2023



Rockfish Descender

2023 Joint U.S.-Canada Integrated Ecosystem & Pacific Hake Survey

75 DAS (U.S.) aboard *Bell M. Shimada* (June 18 - Sept 12)

30 DAS (Canada) aboard *Sir John Franklin* (Aug 16 - Sept 16)

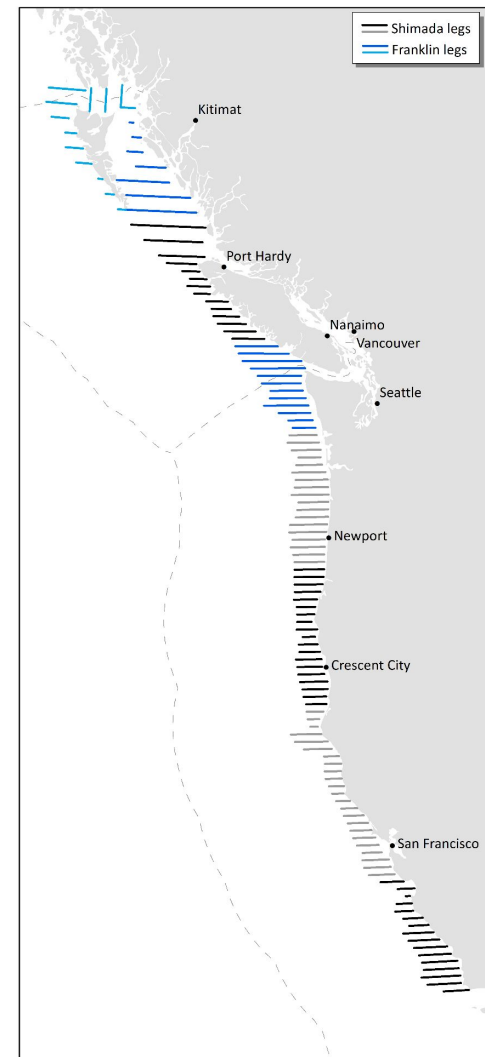
10-nm spaced transects Pt Conception to WCVI, 20-nm N to Dixon Entrance

Daytime:

- Acoustics - 18, 38, 70, 120, 200 kHz (both) + 333 kHz (Canada)
- AWT midwater trawling
- Underway CTD (U.S.), Bongo tows (Canada)
- Harmful Algal Bloom (U.S.)
- Isaacs-Kidd Midwater Trawl (U.S.), Tucker trawl (Canada)
- Marine mammal & seabird observers (Cape Mendocino to Columbia River; OSU collaboration)

Nighttime:

- CTD rosette, eDNA



NOAA
FISHERIES