

GROUND FISH ADVISORY PANEL REPORT ON INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS FOR  
2023 – FINAL ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met with the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to discuss progress of this year's fishery and possible inseason adjustments. The GMT discussion was led by Ms. Melissa Mandrup. The GAP offers the following recommendations and comments on proposed inseason adjustments to ongoing groundfish fisheries.

CALIFORNIA COPPER ROCKFISH

The GAP would like to highlight the extraordinary efforts taken in 2022 by the Sportfishing Association of California, Coastal Conservation Association of California, Golden Gate Fishermen's Association, and Coastside Fishing Club to reduce copper rockfish mortality through avoidance, voluntary zero retention, as well as the use of descending devices. These reduced catches were paired with the newly updated depth-dependent discard mortality rates. The 2022 final mortality estimates for the California recreational fishery are reflective of this reduction in copper rockfish mortality, estimating 63.6 metric tons (mt) total mortality, which is roughly 47 percent of the [2022 California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) catch projection of 137.4 mt. (1 fish copper bag limit).

The GAP applauds the efforts taken by industry to reduce copper rockfish mortality in California.

PFMC  
04/05/23