

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT 2 ON BOCACCIO TRIP
LIMIT REQUEST SOUTH OF 40° 10' N. LATITUDE

Bocaccio Trip Limits South of 40° 10' N. lat.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a request from industry to adjust bocaccio rockfish trip limits for the open access (OA) fisheries south of 40° 10' N. lat. The request was to increase the trip limit from 4,000 pounds per period (2 month) to 6,000 pounds per period, which would match the OA chilipepper rockfish, a co-occurring species, trip limit from 40° 10' N. lat. to 34° 27' N. lat. This request is due to a concern that the bocaccio rockfish trip limit may prevent participants from attaining their chilipepper rockfish trip limit.

Table 1 provides estimated 2023 impacts from two bocaccio rockfish trip limit options where changes are applied to periods 4 through 6. Option 1 increases the projected landings by 3.4 mt for LE, and 10.0 mt for OA. The estimated total mortality from the requested increase would be approximately 19 percent of the non-trawl commercial share.

The average price per pound of bocaccio rockfish caught in the non-trawl commercial fishery south of 40° 10' N. lat. in 2022 was approximately \$1.84; therefore, under the requested adjustment (Option 1), the projected ex-vessel revenue increase is \$18,519 for LE and \$40,565 for OA. The requested trip limit adjustment may help increase attainment of both chilipepper and bocaccio rockfishes while reducing regulatory discarding of bocaccio rockfish south of 40° 10' N. lat. **CDFW recommends the Council select Option 1, increases bocaccio rockfish trip limits south of 40° 10' N. lat. for periods 4 through 6 in the LE and OA sectors (Table 1).**

Table 1. Options to increase bocaccio rockfish trip limits south of 40° 10' N. lat. for periods 4 through 6 in the LE and OA sectors, associated landings projections, estimated mortality, and non-trawl commercial share attainment south of 40° 10' N. lat.

Sector, Option	Trip limit	Projected landings (mt)	Estimated total mortality (mt) a/	Estimated % of the 2023 Non-trawl commercial share south of 40° 10' N. lat. (167.1 mt)
No Action				
LE	6,000 lbs. / 2 mos.	16.2	51.6	15%
OA	4,000 lbs. / 2 mos.	35.4		
Option 1				
LE	8,000 lbs. / 2 mos.	19.6	65.0	19%
OA	6,000 lbs. / 2 mos.	45.4		

a/ 2021 estimated discard with mortality rates applied for both LE and OA sectors, south of 40° 10' N. lat.
Data source: GEMM