

## ADOPT STOCK ASSESSMENTS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) process for setting groundfish harvest specifications depends on periodic assessments of the status of groundfish stocks and a report from an established assessment review body or Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panel. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviews this information and makes a recommendation relative to the standards of 1) the best scientific information available, and 2) soundness for use in groundfish fishery management decision-making by the Council. The Council then approves assessments and relevant analyses used to set groundfish harvest specifications for the following biennial management period.

The SSC will review full stock assessments and a STAR panel report at this meeting for copper rockfish in California, and data-moderate assessments for rex sole and shortspine thornyhead (Attachments 1-5). They will also review full stock assessments and STAR panel reports for black rockfish in Washington, Oregon, and California (Attachments 6-9) and for canary rockfish and petrale sole (Attachments 10-13). Recommendations from the SSC's Groundfish Subcommittee from their review of a limited sablefish update assessment and new catch-only projections for widow rockfish, as well as a new yelloweye rockfish catch report will also be provided (Attachments 14-16). Complete stock assessment documents are available on the Council website.

The Council is scheduled to review the assessments and catch-only projections, as well as the advice of the SSC, other advisory bodies, and the public before considering the adoption of new stock assessments and projections for use in groundfish management in 2025 and beyond.

### **Council Action:**

**Approve stock assessments for use in 2025 and beyond, as appropriate.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1: Draft Assessment of "Status of copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) along the U.S. California coast north of Point Conception in 2023" (***Electronic Only***).
2. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 2: Draft Assessment of "Status of copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) along the U.S. California coast south of Point Conception in 2023" (***Electronic Only***).
3. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 3: Draft Assessment of "Status of Rex Sole (*Glyptocephalus zachirus*) along the U.S in 2023" (***Electronic Only***).
4. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 4: Draft Assessment of "Status of Shortspine Thornyhead (*Sebastolobus alascanus*) along the US West coast in 2023" (***Electronic Only***).
5. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 5: STAR Panel Report for Copper Rockfish in California, Rex Sole, and Shortspine Thornyhead (***Electronic Only***).
6. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 6: Draft Assessment of "Status of Black Rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) in 2023 in state and federal waters off Washington state" (***Electronic Only***).
7. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 7: Draft Assessment of "Status of Black Rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) in 2023 in state and federal waters off Oregon" (***Electronic Only***).

8. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 8: Draft Executive Summary of “Status of Black Rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) in U.S. Waters off California in 2023”.
9. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 9: Black Rockfish STAR Panel Report (**Electronic Only**).
10. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 10: Draft Assessment of “Status of Canary Rockfish (*Sebastes pinniger*) along the U.S. West Coast in 2023” (**Electronic Only**).
11. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 11: Draft Assessment of “Status of Petrale Sole (*Eopsetta jordani*) along the U.S. West Coast in 2023” (**Electronic Only**).
12. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 12: Canary Rockfish STAR Panel Report.
13. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 13: Petrale Sole STAR Panel Report.
14. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 14: Catch-Only Projection: Status of Widow Rockfish (*Sebastes entomelas*) along the U.S. West Coast in 2023.
15. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 15: Catch-Only Rebuilding Projection: Status of Yelloweye Rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) along the U.S. West Coast in 2023.
16. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 16: Draft Assessment of “Status of sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) along the U.S. West Coast in 2023” (**Electronic Only**).
17. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.2 Adopt Stock Assessments Marlene A. Bellman
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Stock Assessments for 2024 and Beyond

PFMC  
08/16/23