

**SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS AND INSEASON
ADJUSTMENTS**

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviewed and discussed the “Joint Council Staff and Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) report on Technical Corrections to the 2023-24 Harvest Specifications” (Agenda Item G.8, Attachment 1). For canary and darkblotched rockfish, the 2019 projections were carried forward for the 2023-24 harvest specifications rather than using the 2021 updated catch-only projections. For squarespot rockfish, the 2021-22 harvest specifications were repeated in 2023-24 rather than being updated, and since squarespot rockfish is managed within the shelf rockfish complex, those harvest specifications also contain the error. For sablefish, the 5-year rolling average biomass estimate by area from the NWFSC West Coast Bottom Trawl Survey from the 2021-22 cycle was used to allocate annual catch limit (ACL) by area rather than an updated 5-year rolling average. For yelloweye rockfish, the adopted 2023-24 harvest specifications were higher than they should have been, based on the rebuilding plan, thus the 2024 overfishing limits (OFLs), acceptable biological catches (ABCs) and ACLs will be lower for the corrected values.

The SSC endorses the corrected harvest specifications for the aforementioned rockfish (see Agenda Item G.8 Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1 and table below) and updated 5-year rolling average and its application for sablefish.

The SSC reviewed and discussed “Joint Council Staff and NWFSC report on Technical Corrections to the 2023-2024 Harvest Specifications for Yellowtail Rockfish North of 40° 10’ N. Lat.” (Agenda Item G.8.a Supplemental Attachment 5), which describes how inadvertent assumptions propagated errors into the projections used in specifications.

The SSC endorses the corrected harvest specifications for yellowtail rockfish North of 40° 10’ N. lat. (Table 2 in Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental Attachment 5 and table below) for 2024.

Improvements underway, such as the harvest specifications database for managing OFLs and ABCs and documentation of the sources of harvest specification values used for review and adoption should reduce these types of errors in the future. The SSC encourages continued efforts to reduce errors in this complex process.

Corrected 2023-2024 Harvest Specifications (mt)	2023			2024		
	OFL	ABC	ACL	OFL	ABC	ACL
Canary Rockfish	1472	1338	1338	1434	1296	1296
Darkblotched Rockfish	894	820	820	857	782	782
Squarespot Rockfish	5.3	4.7	4.1	6	5.2	4.8
Shelf Rockfish Complex (N of 40°10’ N. lat)	1829	1464	1463	1833	1464.6	1464.2
Yelloweye Rockfish	89.6	75.3	52.3	91.2	75.9	53.3
Yellowtail Rockfish (N of 40° 10’ N. lat.)				5795	5291	5291