HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2025-2026 – PART 1

Under this agenda item, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is tasked with adopting final 2025-26 overfishing limits (OFLs) and final acceptable biological catches (ABCs) for stocks and stock complexes that fall under default harvest control rules (HCR) (Agenda Item E.5, Attachment 1, Table 1-1 for 2025 and Table 1-2 for 2026). If there is a desire to depart from default HCRs, the Council should adopt a range of ABCs and annual catch limits (ACLs) to be further analyzed. The Council should consider adopting preliminary preferred ACLs, where possible, at this meeting. Attachment 1 details harvest specifications under default HCRs and the range of alternatives adopted in September 2023. Harvest specifications that were unavailable or requested to be revised by the Council in September have now been provided, noting that the values are presumptive pending Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) endorsement.

In September 2023, the Council requested alternative harvest projections associated with alternative HCRs for canary rockfish, rex sole, sablefish, and shortspine thornyhead (alternative and default projections in Agenda Item E.5, Attachment 1, summary Table 1-3).

In Agenda Item E.2, the Council is expected to consider adopting rebuilding analyses for quillback rockfish off California. Under Agenda Item E.5, the Council should consider adopting a range of harvest specifications, associated with various rebuilding strategies, for more detailed analysis. Harvest specifications for quillback rockfish off California are provided in the updated rebuilding analyses (Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1).

Any harvest specifications that are not ready for adoption under this agenda item could be adopted under Agenda Item E.7. Final 2025-26 harvest specifications are scheduled to be adopted in April 2024.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt final 2025-26 OFLs, ABCs, where possible.
- 2. In the event the Council chooses to depart from the default HCR, adopt a preliminary range of 2025-26 P*s/ABCs and ACLs for more detailed analysis.
- 3. Adopt preliminary preferred 2025-26 ACLs for stocks and stock complexes, where possible.
- 4. Adopt a range of rebuilding specifications for quillback rockfish off California for more detailed analysis.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.5, Attachment 1 (*Electronic Only*): Draft Harvest Specification Section of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery 2025-2026 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures.

2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal)

Agenda Order:

E.5 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures

for 2025-2026 - Part 1

Marlene A. Bellman/Todd Phillips

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Adopt Final Overfishing Limits, Final P*/Acceptable Biological Catches, Preliminary Preferred Annual Catch Limits for Stocks and Stock Complexes, and Rebuilding Specifications for Quillback Rockfish in California

PFMC 10/12/23