

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FINAL INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS
FOR 2023-2024, INCLUDING 2024 WHITING SET-ASIDES – PART 1

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) Supplemental Report 1 for inseason adjustments and offers the following comments/suggestions.

SABLEFISH

The GAP reviewed the GMT sablefish trip limit tables and recommends the Council not take any action at this time. The GAP hopes to review catch data from period 6 of this year as well as early 2024 so that we can be better informed to make a decision for an increase in the trip limits in the spring of 2024.

LINGCOD NORTH OF 42° N. LAT.

The fixed gear industry has requested an increase in the lingcod trip limits north of 42° N. lat. For 2024. Fixed gear fishermen have noted that most of their entire allocation of lingcod has been taken during the first two weeks of the period thus has led to regulatory discards of lingcod. The GMT analysis suggests bycatch of yelloweye would increase only slightly (from 1.40 mt to 1.54 mt) with increased trip limits of lingcod in the north of 42° N. lat. area.

Open Access (OA) Lingcod North of 42° N. Lat.

Current No Action 2023 trip limits: 3,500 lb./month

The GAP supports GMT **Option 2**: Increase to 5,500 lb./month

Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG) Lingcod North of 42° N. Lat.

Current No Action 2023 trip limit: 7,000 lb./2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 2**: Increase to 11,000 lb./2 months

CANARY ROCKFISH

Due to the more pessimistic canary rockfish stock assessment recently adopted by the Council for the 2025/2026 seasons, the GAP fixed gear representatives have recommended reducing the trip limits for canary rockfish in 2024. With nearshore rockfish closures in place to protect rebuilding quillback, there are some concerns about effort shifting to the shelf where more canary rockfish are sure to be encountered. GAP fixed gear representatives also believe that reducing trip limits for 2024, instead of adopting huge limit reductions in 2025, may soften the blow to fishermen. Therefore, the GAP recommends the following:

OA Canary Rockfish North of 40° 10' N. Lat.

Current No Action trip limits: 2,000 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 1,000 lb. every 2 months

OA Canary Rockfish South of 40° 10' N. Lat.

Current No Action trip limits: 2,000 lb. every 2/months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 1,500 lb. every 2 months

LEFG Canary Rockfish North of 40° 10' N. Lat.

Current No Action trip limits: 4,000 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 3,000 lb. every 2 months

LEFG Canary Rockfish South of 34° 27' N. Lat.

Current No Action trip limits: 4,000 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 3,500 lb. every 2 months

BOCACCIO ROCKFISH SOUTH OF 40° 10' N. LAT.

Fixed gear fishermen targeting chilipepper rockfish have been encountering substantial numbers of very large bocaccio rockfish. The GAP supports increasing the bocaccio trip limits to help reduce regulatory discards in the chilipepper fishery.

OA Bocaccio Rockfish South of 40° 10' N. Lat.

Current No Action Trip Limits: 4,000 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 6,000 lb. every 2 months

LEFG Bocaccio Rockfish South of 40° 10' N. Lat.

Current No Action Trip Limits: 6,000 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 8,000 lb. every 2 months

VERMILION/SUNSET ROCKFISH SOUTH OF 40° 10' N. LAT.

Due to increasing effort shift out of the nearshore and on to the shelf, OA vermilion rockfish landings have been on the increase south of 40° 10' N. lat. The GMT has recommended some trip limit adjustments for that sector of the fishery.

OA Vermilion/Sunset Rockfish 40°10' N. to 34° 27' N. Lat.

Current No Action Trip Limits: 400 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 300 lb. every 2 months

OA Vermilion/Sunset Rockfish South of 34° 27' N. Lat.

Current No Action Trip Limits: 1,200 lb. every 2 months

The GAP supports GMT **Option 1**: 900 lb. every 2 months

LONGLEADER (HOLLOWAY GEAR) - OREGON RECREATIONAL FISHERY

The GAP supports lowering the longleader fish bag limit in the Oregon recreational fishery down from 15 to 12 to align with Oregon state rule.

WHITING SET-ASIDES

The GAP supports the GMT recommended 750 mt. whiting set-aside for research and pink shrimp.

PFMC
11/03/23