

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON INSEASON MANAGEMENT –  
FINAL ACTION

**Sablefish North of 36° N. lat.**

Fixed gear sablefish landings have been tracking very low to date, thus, there is an opportunity to increase the trip limits for both limited entry (LE) and open access (OA) fixed gear (FG) in the north. For those fishermen that have a buyer willing to purchase their sablefish, a trip limit increase would be greatly beneficial.

Working off the Supplemental Groundfish Management Team (GMT) Report 1, Table 2, the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) recommends the following:

**LEFG: Option 1:** 7,000 lbs./week, not to exceed 14,000 lbs./2 months

Working from the Supplemental GMT Report 1, Table 4, the GAP recommends the following:

**OA: Option 1:** 3,500 lbs./not to exceed 7,000 lbs./2 months

**Widow Rockfish North of 40° 10' N. lat.**

Fixed gear representatives in northern California have requested an increase in the trip limits for widow rockfish for the remainder of the year. Unusually bad weather and sea conditions have prevailed thus far this year, keeping many smaller fixed gear fishing vessels tied to the dock. The requesters would appreciate an increase in the widow trip limits with the hopes that better weather the rest of the year will allow them to max out their trip limits and make up for the lost revenue earlier in the year. Following GMT analysis, there appears to be plenty of room for an increase in the widow trip limits for the fixed gear fisheries.

Working from the Supplemental GMT Report 1, Table 5, the GAP recommends the following:

**OA: Option 1:** 3,000 lbs. every 2/months as soon as is possible

**LEFG: Option 1:** 6,000 lbs. every 2/months as soon as is possible

**Yellowtail Rockfish North of 40° 10' N. lat.**

For the same reasons that the fixed gear fishermen asked for trip limit increases for widow rockfish, they are requesting an increase in the yellowtail rockfish trip limits as well. The hope is that once the weather straightens out, fishermen will be better able to make up for lost revenues earlier in the year. As was with widow, GMT analysis suggests there is plenty of fish available for an increase.

Working from the Supplemental GMT Report 1, Table 7, the GAP recommends the following:

**OA: Option 1:** 2,500 lbs. per month

**LEFG: Option 1:** 4,500 lbs. per month

**Lingcod South of 42° N. lat.**

We appreciate the GMT examining our request for allowing an incidental trip limit for lingcod with non-bottom contact gear to allow retention of discards. The GAP understands that there is limited information to support this request at this time through the non-trawl logbook and whether there are impacts to quillback. We hope that we can continue to look at this allowance in the future.

PFMC  
06/11/24