

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
2025 and 2027 STOCK ASSESSMENT PLAN AND SCHEDULE

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) received a presentation from Owen Hamel (National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Fisheries Science Center) explaining the Science Center's recommendation to remove the full assessment of redbanded rockfish from the 2025 assessment cycle (Agenda Item I.4.a, NMFS NWFSC/SWFSC Report 1).

The SSC supports the recommendation to remove redbanded rockfish from the list of species to be assessed in 2025 and does not recommend replacing it with another assessment given current assessment staffing. The SSC is supportive of adding redbanded rockfish to the preliminary 2027 assessment list, but notes that a decision to assess it in 2027 will be subject to availability of age data, assessment capacity, and other prioritization concerns.

Preliminary discussions about Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panels paired the assessments for yellowtail rockfish north of 40° 10' N. latitude and redbanded rockfish into the first panel. If an assessment for redbanded rockfish is postponed, the SSC recommends that the first panel include only yellowtail rockfish north of 40° 10' N. latitude, and the schedule for the panel be adjusted to cover half-days only.

PFMC
09/20/24