Agenda Item E.6 Attachment 3 June 2025

PACIFIC COAST GROUNDFISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR THE CALIFORNIA, OREGON, AND WASHINGTON GROUNDFISH FISHERY

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 7700 NE AMBASSADOR PLACE, SUITE 101 PORTLAND, OR 97220 (503) 820-2280 (866) 806-7204 WWW.PCOUNCIL.ORG



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Changes to the FMP since Amendment 4 (July 1993)

Current Chapters	Previous Chapters (July 1993 Version)	Summary of Amendment Changes
Chapter 1 Introduction	Chapter 1 Introduction	Updated by Amendment 18
Chapter 2 Goals and Objectives	Chapter 2 Goals and Objectives	Amendments and additions, no substantial change in organization. (Amendments 12, 13, 16-1, 17, 18, 24, and 30.)
Chapter 3 Areas and Stocks Involved	Chapter 3 Areas and Stocks Involved	Amendments and additions, no substantial change in organization. (Amendment 16-1.) Specification of Ecosystem Component (EC) species added under Amendment 24. EC species shared by all four West Coast FMPs added under Amendment 25. Re-designated big skate as an actively managed species under Amendment 27. Designated shortbelly rockfish as an EC species under Amendment 29. Stocks of black, canary, copper, quillback, squarespot, vermilion, vermilion/sunset rockfishes; Dover, petrale, and rex soles; lingcod, Pacific spiny dogfish, sablefish, and shortspine thornyhead were defined under Amendment 31. Stocks of chilipepper, redbanded, rougheye/blackspotted, widow, yellowtail, yelloweye rockfishes, and English sole were defined under
		Amendment 35. Species and stocks listed in Table 3-2 were identified as in need of conservation and management under Amendment TBD Stocks of arrowtooth flounder, aurora rockfish, bank rockfish, big skate, blackgill rockfish, bocaccio rockfish, California scorpionfish, cowcod, darkblotched rockfish, flathead sole, greenspotted rockfish, greenstriped rockfish, harlequin rockfish, longnose skate, longspine thornyhead, Pacific cod, Pacific hake, Pacific ocean perch , Pacific sanddab, redstripe rockfish , rosethorn rockfish, sharpchin rockfish ,

Current Chapters	Previous Chapters (July 1993 Version)	Summary of Amendment Changes
		shortraker rockfish, silvergray rockfish, splitnose rockfish, starry rockfish, stripetail rockfish, and yellowmouth rockfish were defined and EC species were specified in Table 3-3
Chapter 4 Optimum Yield	Chapter 4 Optimum Yield	Substantially changed and expanded by Amendment 16-1, which moved and revised material on determining OFL, OY, precautionary thresholds, and rebuilding overfished species that was in Chapter 5 into this chapter. Amendments 16-2 and 16-3 add rebuilding plan summaries to section 4.5.4. Amendment 16-4 revises rebuilding plans in section 4.5.4. Substantially changed and expanded by Amendment 23, which provided material on specifying OFLs, redefined ABCs, ACLs, and ACTs. Amendment 30 to specify 2,000 mt threshold for shortbelly rockfish to trigger Council review of fishery Amendment 33 added rebuilding parameters and plans for yelloweye rockfish and California quillback rockfish to section 4.6.3.
Chapter 5 Specification and Apportionment of Harvest Levels	Chapter 5 Specification and Apportionment of Harvest Levels	Substantially changed by Amendment 16-1, which moved material to Chapter 4, as noted above. Discussion of DAH, DAP, JVP, and TALFF deleted. (Also, Amendments 12, 13, 17, and 18.) Substantially changed by Amendment 23, which incorporated new National Standard 1 guidelines and mandates of the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Default harvest control rule process added under Amendment 24.
Chapter 6 Management Measures	Chapter 6 Management Measures	Substantially reorganized and changed by Amendment 18 and 19. (Also Amendments 10, 11, 13, 16-1, 17, 20, 21, 21-1, 21-2, 21-3, 21-4, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, and 30.) Chapter 6 changed to reflect Amendment 28: 1) Elimination of the trawl RCA off Oregon and California, 2) changed configuration of EFH closed areas, and 3) Closure to bottom contact fishing deeper than 3500m. Formal allocations for lingcod south of 40°10' N lat., Minor Slope Rockfish

Current Chapters	Previous Chapters	Summary of
	(July 1993 Version)	Amendment Changes
		south of 40°10' N lat., petrale sole, and widow rockfish removed from the FMP under Amendment 29. Amendment 30 amended language to Seasons (6.8.1), Rockfish Conservation Areas (6.8.2), and language describing the function and use of Block Area Closures (6.8.3). Amendment 32 removed CCAs for non-trawl and recreational fishing and added new groundfish exclusion areas (GEAs) (6.8.10). Amendment 33 revised Table 6-1 to show removal of formal allocation of shortspine thornyhead. Amendment 34 removed list of GEAs from FMP (6.8.10)
	Chapter 7 Experimental Fisheries	Renumbered Chapter 8
	Chapter 8 Scientific Research	Renumbered Chapter 9
Chapter 7 Essential Fish Habitat		New Chapter created by Amendment 19 from substantially revised material previously in Chapter 6. Updated to reflect new EFH conservation area configuration under Amendment 28, and to remove review/revision process from FMP text. Amendment 32 added new non-trawl bottom contact groundfish and non- tribal directed commercial halibut EFHCAs.
Chapter 8 Experimental Fisheries		Renumbered and revised by Amendment 18.
Chapter 9 Scientific Research		Renumbered, no other changes.
	Chapter 9 Restrictions on Other Fisheries	Deleted with material incorporated into Chapter 6.
Chapter 10 Procedures for Reviewing State Regulations	Chapter 10 Procedures for Reviewing State Regulations	Background section revised by Amendment 18.
	Chapter 11 Appendices	Published under separate cover.
	Chapter 12 Management Measures that Continue in Effect with Implementation of Amendment 4	Deleted with material incorporated into Chapter 6.
	Chapter 13 References	Moved to an unnumbered section at the end of the document.

Current Chapters	Previous Chapters (July 1993 Version)	Summary of Amendment Changes
Chapter 11 Groundfish Limited Entry	Chapter 14 Groundfish Limited Entry	Renumbered; Amendment 15 modification to section 11.2.12, current section 11.5 inserted as new. Revisions under Amendment 20 including the removal of Amendment 15 text in section 11.2.12. Changed and expanded by Amendment 21.
References		Previously Chapter 13
Guide to Appendices		Previously Chapter 11 contained descriptive information brought forward from the original FMP. This material moved to Appendix A. Three new appendices (B-D) were added by Amendment 19. Appendix E by Amendment 20. Amendment 33 removed Appendix F, in part, to the SAFE document. Relevant rebuilding information added to Section 4.6.3 Amendment 28 re-organized some Appendices. Appendices B.2, B.3, and B.4 were merged to provide life history, habitat information, and information on habitat suitability modeling in one appendix. Appendix B.5 was eliminated, replaced by the Council's Research and Data Needs Document, which incorporates research needs identified during the Amendment 28 process. Appendix C Part 1 was archived and is available on the Council's website. Appendix C Part 2 was updated with recent information and renamed Part 1.

<u>A note on other annotations</u>: Amended parts of the FMP subsequent to Amendment 4, which substantially revised the original FMP, are denoted at the end of chapters or sections by amendment number.

CHAPTER 3 AREAS AND STOCKS INVOLVED

The management regime of this FMP applies to:

- The U.S. EEZ of the northeast Pacific ocean that lies between the U.S.-Canada border (as specified in Federal Register, Volume 42, Number 44, March 7, 1977, page 12938) and the U.S.-Mexico border (Figure 3-1).
- 2. All foreign and domestic commercial and recreational vessels which are used to fish for groundfish in the management area
- 3. Groundfish species of this fishery management unit (FMU) (Table 3-1).
- 4. All groundfish stocks comprising this FMU(Table 3-2).

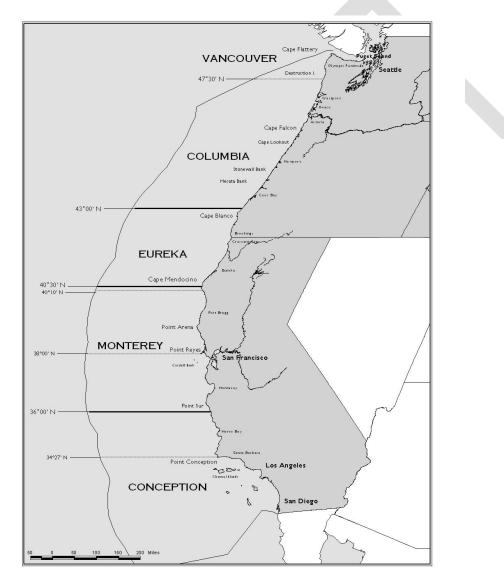


Figure 3-1. International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) statistical areas in the U.S. exclusive economic zone seaward of Washington, Oregon, and California.

<u>Management Areas</u>. Upon consideration of stock distribution and domestic and foreign historical catch statistics, the following statistical areas (Figure 3-1) have been determined by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to be the most convenient administrative and biological management areas. These areas are based on International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) statistical areas, but in some cases have been modified slightly. The areas are, from south to north:

Conception - Southern boundary of EEZ to 36°00' N latitude Monterey - 36°00' N latitude to 40°30' N latitude Eureka - 40°30' N latitude to 43°00' N latitude Columbia - 43°00' N latitude to 47°30' N latitude Vancouver - 47°30' N latitude to northern boundary of the EEZ

These areas may be modified or deleted and additional statistical reporting and management areas may be added, modified, or deleted if necessary to refine information or management of a species or species group. Changes will be implemented in accordance with the procedures in Chapters 5 and 6.

3.1 Species Managed by this Fishery Management Plan

This Council manages the following species of groundfish show in Table 3-1.

Common Name	Scientific Name
ELASMOBRANCHS	
Big skate	Raja binoculata
Leopard shark	Triakis semifasciata
Longnose skate	Raja rhina
Pacific Spiny dogfish	Squalus suckleyi
ROUNDFISH	
Kelp greenling	Hexagrammos decagrammus
Lingcod	Ophiodon elongatus
Pacific cod	Gadus macrocephalus
Pacific whiting (hake)	Merluccius productus
Sablefish	Anoplopoma fimbria
SCORPAENIDS	
Cabezon	Scorpaenichthys marmoratus
California scorpionfish	Scorpaena gutatta
ROCKFISHES	
Aurora rockfish	Sebastes aurora
Bank rockfish	S. rufus
Black rockfish	S. melanops
Black and yellow rockfish	S. chrysomelas
Blackgill rockfish	S. melanostomus
Blackspotted rockfish	S. melanostictus
Blue rockfish	S. mystinus
Bocaccio	S. paucispinis

Table 3-1. Common and scientific names of species actively managed in this FMP.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bronzespotted rockfish	S. gilli
Brown rockfish	S. auriculatus
Calico rockfish	S. dallii
Canary rockfish	S. pinniger
Chameleon rockfish	S. phillipsi
Chilipepper rockfish	S. goodei
China rockfish	S. nebulosus
Copper rockfish	S. caurinus
Cowcod	S. levis
Darkblotched rockfish	S. crameri
Deacon rockfish	S. diaconus
Dusky rockfish	S. ciliatus
Dwarf-red rockfish	S. rufinanus
Flag rockfish	S. rubrivinctus
Freckled rockfish	S lentiginosus
Gopher rockfish	S. carnatus
Grass rockfish	S. rastrelliger
Greenblotched rockfish	S. rosenblatti
Greenspotted rockfish	S. chlorostictus
Greenstriped rockfish	S. elongatus
Halfbanded rockfish	S. semicinctus
Harlequin rockfish	S. variegatus
Honeycomb rockfish	S. umbrosus
Kelp rockfish	S. atrovirens
Mexican rockfish	S. macdonaldi
Olive rockfish	S. serranoides
Pink rockfish	S. eos
Pinkrose rockfish	S. simulator
Pygmy rockfish	S. wilsoni
Pacific ocean perch	S. alutus
Quillback rockfish	S. maliger
Redbanded rockfish	S. babcocki
Redstripe rockfish	S. proriger
Rosethorn rockfish	S. helvomaculatus
Rosy rockfish	S. rosaceus
Rougheye rockfish	S. aleutianus
Sharpchin rockfish	S. zacentrus
Shortraker rockfish	S. borealis
Silvergray rockfish	S. brevispinis
Speckled rockfish	S. ovalis
Splitnose rockfish	S. diploproa
Squarespot rockfish	S. hopkinsi
Sunset rockfish	S. crocotulus

Common Name	Scientific Name
Starry rockfish	S. constellatus
Stripetail rockfish	S. saxicola
Swordspine rockfish	S. ensifer
Tiger rockfish	S. nigrocinctus
Treefish	S. serriceps
Vermilion rockfish	S. miniatus
Widow rockfish	S. entomelas
Yelloweye rockfish	S. ruberrimus
Yellowmouth rockfish	S. reedi
Yellowtail rockfish	S. flavidus
THORNYHEADS	
Longspine thornyhead	Sebastolobus altivelis
Shortspine thornyhead	S. alascanus
FLATFISHES	
Arrowtooth flounder	Atheresthes stomias
Butter sole	Isopsetta isolepis
Curlfin sole	Pleuronichthys decurrens
Dover sole	Microstomus pacificus
English sole	Parophrys vetulus
Flathead sole	Hippoglossoides elassodon
Pacific sanddab	Citharichthys sordidus
Petrale sole	Eopsetta jordani
Rex sole	Glyptocephalus zachirus
Rock sole	Lepidopsetta bilineata
Sand sole	Psettichthys melanostictus
Starry flounder	Platichthys stellatus

3.2 Stocks Managed under this Fishery Management Plan

The Council geographically delineates (i.e., defines) stocks of managed groundfish species. Table 3-2 describes the stock and its boundaries. Stock definitions are based on the best scientific information available, taking into consideration the goals and objectives of the FMP and other requirements. The Council may review, and potentially adjust, a stock definition based on new information. Updating the defined stocks requires an FMP amendment.

Table 3-2. Groundfish stocks within the fishery management unit (FMU) of the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP
and their boundaries, as amended through @Amendment TBD.

Stock	Species Scientific Name	Stock Boundaries
ELASMOBRANCHS		
Pacific Spiny Dogfish	Squalus suckleyi	Pacific West Coast FMU
Big Skate	Raja binoculata	Pacific West Coast FMU
Longnose Skate	Raja rhina	Pacific West Coast FMU
SCORPAENIDS		
California Scorpionfish	Scorpaena guttatta	California

Stock	Species Scientific Name	Stock Boundaries
ROCKFISHES⁴	↓ ^	
Aurora Rockfish	Sebastes aurora	Pacific West Coast FMU
Bank Rockfish	S. rufus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Black Rockfish - Washington	S. melanops	North of 46°16' N. lat.
Black Rockfish - Oregon	S. melanops	46°16' N. lat. to 42° N. lat.
Black Rockfish - California	S. melanops	South of 42° N. lat.
Blackgill Rockfish	S. melanostomus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Bocaccio	S. paucispinis	Pacific West Coast FMU
Canary Rockfish	S. pinniger	Pacific West Coast FMU
Chilipepper Rockfish	S. goodei	Pacific West Coast FMU
Copper Rockfish North	S. caurinus	North of 42° N. lat.
Copper Rockfish South	S. caurinus	South 42° N. lat.
Cowcod	S. levis	California
Darkblotched Rockfish	S. crameri	Pacific West Coast FMU
Greenspotted Rockfish	S. chlorostictus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Greenstriped Rockfish	S. elongatus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Harlequin Rockfish	S. variegatus	Oregon/Washington
Pacific Ocean Perch	S. alutus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Quillback Rockfish -Washington	S. maliger	North of 46°16' N. lat.
Quillback Rockfish - Oregon	S. maliger	46°16' N. lat. to 42° N. lat.
Quillback Rockfish - California	S. maliger	South of 42° N. lat.
Redbanded Rockfish	S. babcocki	Pacific West Coast FMU
Redstripe Rockfish	S. proriger	Pacific West Coast FMU
Rosethorn Rockfish	S. helvomaculatus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Rougheye/Blackspotted Rockfish	S. aleutianus/ S. melanostictus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Sharpchin Rockfish	S. zacentrus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Shortraker Rockfish	S. borealis	Pacific West Coast FMU
Silvergray Rockfish	S. brevispinis	Pacific West Coast FMU
Splitnose Rockfish	S. diploproa	Pacific West Coast FMU
Squarespot Rockfish	S. hopkinsi	Pacific West Coast FMU
Starry Rockfish	S. constellatus	California
Stripetail Rockfish	S. saxicola	Pacific West Coast FMU
Vermilion Rockfish	S. miniatus	North of 42° N. lat.
Vermilion/Sunset Rockfish	S. miniatus/S. crocotulus	South 42° N. lat.
Widow Rockfish	S. entomelas	Pacific West Coast FMU
Yelloweye Rockfish	S. ruberrimus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Yellowmouth Rockfish	S. reedi	Pacific West Coast FMU
Yellowtail Rockfish North	S. flavidus	North of 40°10' N. lat.

⁴ The category "rockfish" includes all genera (Sebastes, Scorpaena, Sebastolobus, and Scorpaenodes) and species of the family Scorpaenidae, even if not listed, that occur in the waters off Washington, Oregon, and California.

Stock	Species Scientific Name	Stock Boundaries
Yellowtail Rockfish South	S. flavidus	South of 40°10' N. lat.
THORNYHEADS		
Longspine Thornyhead	Sebastolobus altivelis	Pacific West Coast FMU
Shortspine Thornyhead	Sebastolobus alascanus	Pacific West Coast FMU
ROUNDFISHES		
Lingcod North	Ophiodon elongatus	North of 40°10' N. lat.
Lingcod South	Ophiodon elongatus	South of 40°10' N. lat.
Pacific Hake	Merluccius productus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Pacific Cod	Gadus macrocephalus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Sablefish	Anoplopoma fimbria	Pacific West Coast FMU
FLATFISHES		
Arrowtooth Flounder	Atheresthes stomias	Pacific West Coast FMU
Dover Sole	Microstomus pacificus	Pacific West Coast FMU
English Sole	Parophrys vetulus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Flathead Sole	Hippoglossoides elassodon	Pacific West Coast FMU
Pacific Sanddab	Citharichthys sordidus	Pacific West Coast FMU
Petrale Sole	Eopsetta jordani	Pacific West Coast FMU
Rex Sole	Glyptocephalus zachirus	Pacific West Coast FMU

3.3 Ecosystem Component Species

The species in Table 3-3 are designated Ecosystem Component Species (see section 4.4.4 for more details). The inclusion of all endemic skates, except longnose and big skate, and all endemic grenadiers will allow more precise catch monitoring without the need for a sorting requirement for these species since skates and grenadiers are generally landed in unidentified species market categories (e.g., Unidentified Skates).

Common Name	Scientific Name
ELASMOBRANCHS	
Arhynchobatidae "soft nose skates"	
Alaska skate	Bathyraja parmifera
Aleutian skate	B. aleutica
Bering skate	B. interrupta
Deepsea skate	B. abyssicola
Fine-spined skate	B. microtrachys
Pacific white skate	B. spinosissima
Roughtail/black skate	B. trachura
Sandpaper skate	B. kincaidii
Broad skate	Amblyraja badia
California skate	Raja inornata
Spotted ratfish	Hydrolagus colliei
Soupfin shark	Galeorhinus zyopterus

Table 3-3. Groundfish species designated as Ecosystem Component Species.

Common Name	Scientific Name
MACROURIDAE	
Abyssal grenadier	Coryphaenoides armatus
California grenadier	Nezumia stelgidolepis
Filamented grenadier	Coryphaenoides filifer
Ghostly grenadier	C. leptolepis
Giant grenadier	Albatrossia pectoralis
Pacific grenadier	Coryphaenoides acrolepis
Popeye grenadier	C. cinereus
Shoulderspot grenadier	Coelrinchus scaphopsis
Smooth grenadier	Nezumia liolepis
Softhead grenadier	Malacocephalus laevis
Yaquina grenadier	Coryphaenoides yaquinae
ROCKFISHES	
Shortbelly rockfish	Sebastes jordani
MORIDS	
Finescale codling/Pacific flatnose	Antimora microlepis

Table 3-4 lists EC species shared between all four of the Council's FMPs, including the Groundfish FMP. No directed commercial fisheries may begin for any Shared EC Species until and unless the Council has had an adequate opportunity to both assess the scientific information relating to any proposed directed fishery and consider potential impacts to existing fisheries, fishing communities, and the greater marine ecosystem.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Round herring	Etrumeus teres
Thread herring	Opisthonema libertate, O. medirastre
Mesopelagic fishes	Families: Myctophidae, Bathylagidae, Paralepididae, and Gonostomatidae
Pacific sand lance	Ammodytes hexapterus
Pacific saury	Cololabis saira
Silversides	Atherinopsidae
Smelts	Osmeridae
	Families: Cranchiidae, Gonatidae, Histioteuthidae, Octopoteuthidae,
Pelagic squids	Ommastrephidae except Humboldt squid (Dosidicus gigas), Onychoteuthidae,
	and Thysanoteuthidae

Table 3-4. Common and scientific names of EC species shared between all four of the Council's FMPs.

[Amended: 11, 16-1, 24, 25, 27, 31, 35 @xx]

PFMC 05/21/25