

Draft Distribution of 2027-28 Annual Catch Limits to the Groundfish Fishery based on Default Harvest Control Rules

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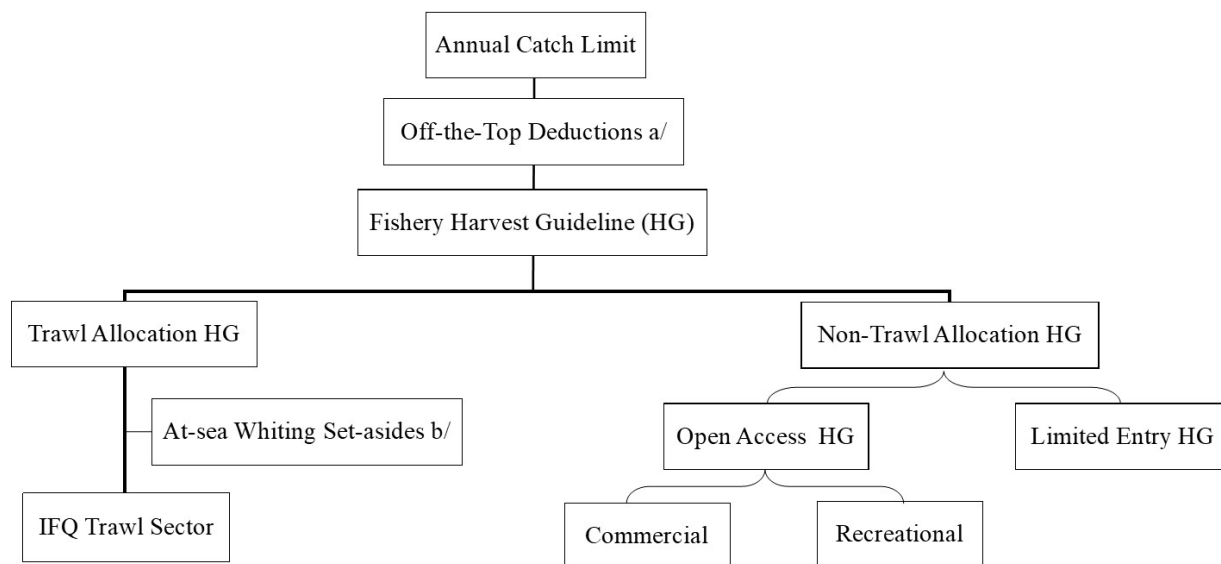
Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|--|
| ABC | Acceptable biological catch |
| ACL | Annual catch limit |
| ACT | Annual catch target |
| CA/OR/WA | California, Oregon, and Washington |
| DTL | Daily trip limit (fishery) |
| EA | Environmental Assessment |
| EEZ | Exclusive Economic Zone |
| EFP | Exempted fishing permit |
| FMP | Fishery Management Plan |
| GAP | Groundfish Advisory Subpanel |
| GMT | Groundfish Management Team |
| HCR | Harvest control rule |
| HG | Harvest guideline |
| IHPC | International Pacific Halibut Commission |
| IFQ | Individual fishing quota |
| IOA | Incidental Open Access |
| LE | Limited entry |
| LEFG | Limited entry fixed gear |
| MSA | Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act |
| mt | Metric ton |
| NMFS | National Marine Fisheries Service |
| NWFSC | Northwest Fisheries Science Center |
| OA | Open access |
| OFL | Overfishing limit |
| PacFIN | Pacific Fisheries Information Network |
| PMFC | Pacific Fishery Management Council |
| Rec | Recreational |
| RES | Research |
| WCGOP | West Coast Groundfish Observer Program |
| WCR | West Coast Region |

1. Draft Annual Catch Limit Distribution

This document provides the draft distributions of harvest amounts to the groundfish sectors (Figure 1) based on annual catch limits (ACL) calculated from default harvest control rules (HCR)¹. The intent of this document is to provide the opportunity for the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), its advisory bodies, and the public to conceptualize the potential harvest amounts that could be distributed to the groundfish sectors based on default HCRs earlier in the biennial harvest specifications and management measures process than has been presented in past biennia. The overfishing limits (OFL), acceptable biological catch (ABC), and ACLs are sourced from G.6, Attachment 1, September 2025.

The amounts in this document are draft and have not been adopted by the Council and could change. This document does not indicate that the default HCRs will be used for the 2027-28 biennium and the information herein should be considered informational. Assessments to support the 2027-28 biennium have not, as of this writing, been recommended by the Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) or adopted by the Council. All values in this document are considered draft and may be revised based on SSC recommendations and/or Council action.



a/ Deductions for research, exempted fishing permits, tribal fisheries, and other fisheries not targeting groundfish (“incidental open access”)

b/to account for at-sea mortality of non-whiting stocks

Figure 1. Generalized diagram showing the groundfish fishery sectors

¹. The default HCRs process is detailed in [Amendment 24](#), at §5.1 of the FMP, and §2.3 of the 2015 Environmental Impact Statement (PFMC, 2015).

1.1 Harvest Specifications

The OFL is the best estimate of the maximum amount of a stock that can be caught in a year without resulting in overfishing derived from an assessment. Setting OFLs is a scientific (as opposed to policy) determination made by the SSC. OFLs are set for every actively managed stock or stock complex. 1 The reduction from the OFL to the ABC is based on the ABC control rule which includes an estimate of scientific uncertainty (sigma or σ) and a policy decision on the risk of overfishing (P^*). Sigma is defined as the uncertainty around the estimated OFL in the final year of the assessment model and is based on the category of the assessment (i.e., how data rich or poor the assessment is). Sigma also increases over time for most assessments due to increasing uncertainty in the OFL estimates the farther it is from the assessment. Per the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP), P^* is bounded at a maximum of 0.45 and represents the Council’s risk tolerance that the ABC is being set higher than what the OFL should have been or that catching the ABC will result in overfishing of the stock (biologically, not legal definition of overfishing- i.e., catch exceeding the prescribed OFL). These two factors result in a prescribed reduction or buffer that the ABC can, but is not required to, be reduced to an ACL in order to account for concerns regarding conservation objectives, management uncertainty, etc.

The ABC is a harvest specification established by the Council with advice from the SSC that incorporates scientific uncertainty in the estimate of OFL. The ABC to ACL reduction is a policy decision, and for many stocks the Council has adopted a harvest control rule where the ABC is set equal to the ACL (i.e., ABC=ACL).

The annual catch limit (ACL) is a level of annual catch, which counts all sources of annual fishing-related mortality, including discard mortalities, and is the harvest threshold used to manage west coast fisheries. It can be set less than or equal to the ABC in consideration of conservation objectives, socioeconomic concerns, management uncertainty, ecological concerns, and other factors.

The draft 2027 and 2028 values are shown Table 1 for non-sablefish stocks only, sablefish information is detailed in Section 1.6. All values are considered draft.

Table 1. Draft 2027 overfishing limits (OFL), acceptable biological catches (ABC), and annual catch limits (ACL) under default harvest control rules in metric tons (mt). -see Agenda Item G.7, Supplemental Attachment 1 for additional detail. All values are 1) draft and 2) rounded to nearest mt.

| Year | Stock | FMU | OFL (mt) | ABC (mt) | ACL (mt) |
|------|-----------------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2027 | QUILLBACK ROCKFISH a/ | California | 13 | 12 | 12 |
| 2028 | QUILLBACK ROCKFISH a/ | California | 13 | 12 | 12 |
| 2027 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH a/ | Coastwide | 129 | 113 | 113 |
| 2028 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH a/ | Coastwide | 131 | 113 | 113 |
| 2027 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 12,152 | 7,947 | 7,947 |
| 2028 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 11,107 | 7,131 | 7,131 |
| 2027 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,398 | 1,155 | 1,155 |
| 2028 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,372 | 1,122 | 1,122 |
| 2027 | Black Rockfish | Washington | 260 | 240 | 240 |
| 2028 | Black Rockfish | Washington | 261 | 241 | 241 |

| Year | Stock | FMU | OFL (mt) | ABC (mt) | ACL (mt) |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2027 | Black Rockfish | California | 281 | 260 | 249 |
| 2028 | Black Rockfish | California | 293 | 270 | 261 |
| 2027 | Bocaccio | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,542 | 2,288 | 2,288 |
| 2028 | Bocaccio | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,438 | 2,185 | 2,185 |
| 2027 | Cabazon | California | 165 | 150 | 150 |
| 2028 | Cabazon | California | 161 | 146 | 146 |
| 2027 | California Scorpionfish | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 263 | 233 | 233 |
| 2028 | California Scorpionfish | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 261 | 229 | 229 |
| 2027 | Canary Rockfish | Coastwide | 696 | 644 | 608 |
| 2028 | Canary Rockfish | Coastwide | 723 | 667 | 625 |
| 2027 | Chilipepper | Coastwide | 3,194 | 2,980 | 2,980 |
| 2028 | Chilipepper | Coastwide | 3,086 | 2,864 | 2,864 |
| 2027 | Cowcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 110 | 74 | 74 |
| 2028 | Cowcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 111 | 73 | 73 |
| 2027 | Darkblotched Rockfish | Coastwide | 859 | 773 | 773 |
| 2028 | Darkblotched Rockfish | Coastwide | 842 | 754 | 754 |
| 2027 | Dover Sole | Coastwide | 42,064 | 38,573 | 38,573 |
| 2028 | Dover Sole | Coastwide | 39,010 | 35,616 | 35,616 |
| 2027 | English Sole b/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2028 | English Sole b/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Lingcod | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 4,140 | 3,482 | 3,482 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 4,128 | 3,439 | 3,439 |
| 2027 | Lingcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 966 | 812 | 789 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 984 | 820 | 796 |
| 2027 | Longnose Skate | Coastwide | 1,872 | 1,546 | 1,546 |
| 2028 | Longnose Skate | Coastwide | 1,852 | 1,515 | 1,515 |
| 2027 | Longspine Thornyhead | Coastwide | 4,076 | 2,471 | - |
| 2028 | Longspine Thornyhead | Coastwide | 4,008 | 2,385 | - |
| 2027 | Longspine Thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | - | - | 1,878 |
| 2028 | Longspine Thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | - | - | 1,812 |
| 2027 | Longspine Thornyhead | S of 34°27' N. lat. | - | - | 593 |
| 2028 | Longspine Thornyhead | S of 34°27' N. lat. | - | - | 572 |
| 2027 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 3,200 | 1,926 | 1,600 |
| 2028 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 3,200 | 1,926 | 1,600 |
| 2027 | Pacific Ocean Perch | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,856 | 3,123 | 3,123 |
| 2028 | Pacific Ocean Perch | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,781 | 3,036 | 3,036 |
| 2027 | Pacific Spiny Dogfish | Coastwide | 1,810 | 1,278 | 1,278 |
| 2028 | Pacific Spiny Dogfish | Coastwide | 1,790 | 1,240 | 1,240 |
| 2027 | Pacific whiting c/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2028 | Pacific whiting c/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Petrale Sole | Coastwide | 2,701 | 2,501 | 2,501 |

| Year | Stock | FMU | OFL (mt) | ABC (mt) | ACL (mt) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------|----------|
| 2028 | Petrale Sole | Coastwide | 2,670 | 2,462 | 2,462 |
| 2027 | Sablefish | Coastwide | 14,935 | 13,964 | - |
| 2028 | Sablefish | Coastwide | 16,240 | 15,103 | - |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>N of 36° N. lat.</i> | See Section 1.7 | | |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>S of 36° N. lat.</i> | | | |
| 2027 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 995 | 853 | 848 |
| 2028 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 1,015 | 861 | 857 |
| 2027 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2028 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 652 | 393 | 393 |
| 2028 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 652 | 393 | 393 |
| 2027 | Widow rockfish b/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2028 | Widow rockfish b/ | Coastwide | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Yellowtail rockfish | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 5,051 | 4,723 | 4,723 |
| 2028 | Yellowtail rockfish | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 4,882 | 4,540 | 4,540 |
| Stock Complexes | | | | | |
| 2027 | Nearshore rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 104 | 85 | 85 |
| 2028 | Nearshore rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 103 | 83 | 83 |
| 2027 | Nearshore rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,145 | 929 | 928 |
| 2028 | Nearshore rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,145 | 924 | 923 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,673 | 1,341 | 1,341 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,664 | 1,332 | 1,332 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,826 | 1,452 | 1,452 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,824 | 1,449 | 1,449 |
| 2027 | Slope rockfish north d/ | N of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish north d/ | N of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Slope rockfish south d/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish south d/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - | - |
| 2027 | Other fish | Coastwide | 286 | 223 | 223 |
| 2028 | Other fish | Coastwide | 286 | 223 | 223 |
| 2027 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 9,367 | 6,577 | 6,577 |
| 2028 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 8,950 | 6,193 | 6,193 |
| 2027 | Oregon black/blue/deacon rockfish | Coastwide | 495 | 448 | 448 |
| 2028 | Oregon black/blue/deacon rockfish | Coastwide | 502 | 452 | 452 |
| 2027 | OR cabezon/kelp greenling d/ | Oregon | - | - | - |
| 2028 | OR cabezon/kelp greenling d/ | Oregon | - | - | - |
| 2027 | WA cabezon/kelp greenling | Washington | 19 | 14 | 14 |
| 2028 | WA cabezon/kelp greenling | Washington | 19 | 14 | 14 |

a/ Quillback and yelloweye rockfish are presumed rebuilt pending BSIA determination (see G6 Supplemental Attachment 1, September 2025)

b/ Default harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement.

c/ Pacific whiting harvest limits are set through an annual bilateral treaty process external to the Council

d/ Aurora rockfish and Oregon kelp greenling harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement; thus the sum of the slope rockfish complexes and the Oregon cabezon/kelp greenling complex (respectively) cannot be calculated.

1.2 ACL Deductions (Set-Asides)

ACL deductions, called “off-the-top” set-asides, are an estimated amount of yield from an actively managed stock of stock complex ‘set-aside’ to account for groundfish mortality in the Pacific Coast Treaty Tribe fisheries, scientific research, non-groundfish target fisheries (hereinafter, incidental open access fisheries), and, as necessary, exempted fishing permits. These amounts are estimated each biennium, as described below. The Council does not directly manage these fisheries and has not identified specific management measures that could be implemented in the case where a set-aside is exceeded, with the exception that EFPs may be stopped by the NMFS if a set-aside for a species is reached. However, for the non-groundfish fisheries, the total attainment of a set-aside may not be known until the following year when the annual groundfish mortality report is produced.

Tribal Fishery: Tribal fishery values are established under Treaty provisions as well as specific requests. The amounts presented in @TABLE are the same amounts as adopted for the current 2025-26 biennium. The 2027-28 amounts are expected to be formally presented to the Council in November; thus the 2025-26 amounts are used as proxy values for the purposes of this document.

Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP): EFP set-asides are estimated and requested by the EFP permit holder to cover anticipated EFP-specific groundfish mortality. The EFP amounts are all set to 0 mt. The EFP set-asides are set to 2025-26 amounts as proxy values because amounts for the forthcoming biennium have not been requested yet (as of this writing).

Research: Research set-asides are adopted to account for anticipated groundfish mortality in research fisheries, which include the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) trawl survey, International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) longline survey, and other Federal and state research. Research set-asides are set based on a ten-year rolling maximum² (2014-24, excluding 2020), as reported in the Groundfish Estimated Multi-year Mortality Report (GEMM). The Council can deviate from this policy, as necessary. This report provides the draft research set-asides based on the most recent GEMM Report ³.([Agenda Item G.1.b, NWFSC Report 2, September 2025](#), Table 4).

With the exception of arrowtooth flounder, Pacific hake (whiting), sablefish south of 36° N. lat., shortspine thornyhead, nearshore rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat., shelf rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat., and slope rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. all other stocks/stock complexes did not exceed the research set-aside maximums adopted for this 2025-26 biennium. The anticipated new maximum for these stocks/stock complexes, pending further review and Council adoption, for these species are shown in Table 2.

Additionally, for the 2025-26 biennium, the Council departed from the maximum research mortality for canary rockfish, cowcod, yelloweye rockfish, and quillback rockfish to account for the needs of current and additional research. As detailed in in [Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental](#)

² See pcouncil.org/documents/2023/11/e-7-a-supplemental-gmt-report-2-2.pdf for additional detail.

³ The GEMM product reports estimated mortality based on the most recently completed full year, i.e., 2024 is reported in 2025. These estimates are used as guidance for setting of the next biennium’s off the top set asides.

[GMT Report 2, November 2023](#), the research maximums were either anomalous (canary rockfish) or there were specific requests from research entities that differed from the maximum mortality. As such, the 2025-26 amounts are maintained here for these species. Based on the most recent GEMM product, Table 2 shows the stocks/stock complexes where the research set-asides maximums have changed. These values are tentative and require additional review and Council adoption.

Table 2. Stocks and stock complexes that exceeded the 2025-26 research set-asides amounts, showing the 2025-26 research set-aside, the draft updated maximum, and the percent (%) difference. Source: GEMM, 2025

| Stock/Stock Complexes | 2025-26 Research set-aside (mt) | Updated Max Mortality (mt) | Difference |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Arrowtooth flounder | 13 | 20.7 | +59.2% |
| Canary rockfish | 10.1 | 19.1 | +89.1% |
| Pacific hake | 750 | 882.4 | +10.5% |
| Sablefish south of 36°N. lat. | 2.3 | 2.7 | +17.4% |
| Nearshore rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat | 0.7 | 1.1 | +57.1% |
| Shortspine Thornyhead | 16.3 | 21.3 | +30% |
| Shelf rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat | 15.3 | 48.3 | +215.7% |
| Slope rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. | 10.5 | 10.8 | +2.9% |

Incidental Open Access (IOA): IOA set-asides are for commercial fisheries⁴ that do not target, but catch groundfish incidentally. IOA set-asides are a ten-year rolling maximum,⁵ as reported in the GEMM (Agenda Item G.1.b, NMFS Report 2, September 2025). This report provides the draft IOA set-asides based on the most recent GEMM report (Table 4).

Based on the most recent GEMM product, Table 3 shows the stocks/stock complexes where the IOA set-asides maximums have changed. These values are tentative and require additional review and Council adoption.

Table 3. Stocks and stock complexes that exceeded the 2025-26 IOA set-asides amounts, showing the 2025-26 IOA set-aside, the draft updated maximum, and the percent (%) difference. Source: GEMM, 2025

| Stock/Stock Complexes | 2025-26 IOA set-aside (mt) | Updated Max Mortality (mt) | Difference |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Big skate | 38.9 | 48.1 | +23.7% |
| Cabezon (CA) | 0.6 | 1.5 | +1.5% |
| English sole | 6.6 | 12.7 | +92.4% |
| Lingcod north of 40°10' N. lat | 13.4 | 18.8 | +40.3% |
| Lingcod south of 40°10' N. lat | 8.7 | 5.7 | -34.5 |

⁴ IOA fisheries on the west coast include California state managed species (e.g., California halibut), coastal pelagic species, highly migratory species, salmon troll, Pacific halibut, Dungeness crab, pink shrimp, ridgeback prawn.

⁵ Longnose and big skate were managed within complexes until 2009 and 2015, respectively, and therefore, the maximums are from only those years where sorting was required.

| Stock/Stock Complexes | 2025-26 IOA set-aside (mt) | Updated Max Mortality (mt) | Difference |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Longnose skate | 15.9 | 22.7 | +42.8% |
| Longspine thornyhead south of 34°27' N. lat | 0.2 | 0.5 | +150.0% |
| Pacific Cod | 0.6 | 0.2 | -66.7 |
| Pacific spiny dogfish | 6.7 | 11.0 | +64.2% |
| Shortspine thornyhead | 5.7 | 8.5 | +49.0% |
| Starry flounder | 14.1 | 23.8 | +68.8% |
| Widow Rockfish | 1.0 | 0.6 | -40.0% |
| Nearshore rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat | 1.8 | 2.3 | +27.8% |
| Shelf rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat | 20.5 | 22.7 | +10.7% |
| Shelf rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat | | | |
| Slope rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat. | 11.5 | 12.4 | +7.8% |
| Oregon Black/Blue/Deacon | 1.5 | 1.2 | -20% |
| Other fish complex | 9.7 | 10.2 | +5.2% |

In the 2025-26 biennium, the Council departed from the ten-year rolling maximum for bocaccio S of 40°10' N. lat., canary rockfish, cabezon, darkblotched rockfish, longspine thornyhead south of 34°27' N. lat., petrale sole, nearshore rockfish complex north of 40°10' N. lat., slope rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat., and yelloweye rockfish as recommended by the GMT in [Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2, November 2023](#)). As such, the 2025-26 amounts are maintained here for these species.

1.2.1 Draft Off-the-Top Set-Asides for 2025-26

The draft 2027-28 off-the-top deductions are shown in Table 4. Tribal and EFP amounts are set equal to 2025-26 amounts as those amounts have not been proposed for the 2027-28 biennium yet. Research and IOA set-asides are reflective of status quo maximums except for those that exceeded set-aside amounts, as described above. All set-aside values are draft until the Council adopts its final recommendation.

Table 4. Draft 2025-26 off-the-top deduction set-asides in for tribal, exempted fishing permits (EFP), research, incidental open access (IOA), and the set-aside totals metric tons (mt). All values are considered draft.

| Stock | FMU | Tribal (mt) | EFP (mt) | Research (mt) | IOA (mt) | Set-aside Sum (mt) |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|----------|---------------|----------|--------------------|
| QUILLBACK ROCKFISH | California | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH | Coastwide | 8.0 | 0.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 14.9 |
| Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 2,041.0 | 0.0 | 20.7 | 41.1 | 2,102.8 |
| Big skate | Coastwide | 15.0 | 0.0 | 5.5 | 48.1 | 68.6 |
| Black rockfish | Washington | 18.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 18.6 |
| Black rockfish | California | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 |

| Stock | FMU | Tribal (mt) | EFP (mt) | Research (mt) | IOA (mt) | Set-aside Sum (mt) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Bocaccio | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5.6 | 2.2 | 7.8 |
| Cabezon | S of 42° N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 1.5 | 2.1 |
| California scorpionfish | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 2.0 |
| Canary rockfish | Coastwide | 50.0 | 0.0 | 19.1 | 3.8 | 72.9 |
| Chilipepper | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.1 | 13.2 | 27.3 |
| Cowcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 0.1 | 10.1 |
| Darkblotched rockfish | Coastwide | 5.0 | 0.0 | 8.5 | 10.7 | 24.2 |
| Dover sole | Coastwide | 1,497.0 | 0.0 | 61.9 | 25.2 | 1,584.1 |
| English sole | Coastwide | 200.0 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 12.7 | 220.7 |
| Lingcod | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 250.0 | 0.0 | 17.7 | 18.8 | 286.5 |
| Lingcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 5.7 | 8.9 |
| Longnose skate | Coastwide | 220.0 | 0.0 | 14.7 | 22.7 | 257.4 |
| Longspine thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | 30.0 | 0.0 | 18.4 | 1.3 | 49.7 |
| Longspine thornyhead | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 1.8 |
| Pacific cod | Coastwide | 500.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 501 |
| Pacific Ocean perch | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 130.0 | 0.0 | 5.4 | 10.1 | 145.5 |
| Pacific spiny dogfish | Coastwide | 275.0 | 0.0 | 41.9 | 11.0 | 327.9 |
| Pacific whiting b/ | Coastwide | TBD | 0.0 | 828.4 | 1,500.0 | 2,328.4 |
| Petrале sole | Coastwide | 290.0 | 0.0 | 24.1 | 10.8 | 324.9 |
| <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>N of 36° N. lat.</i> | See Section 1.7 | | | | |
| <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>S of 36° N. lat.</i> | | | | | |
| Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 50.0 | 0.0 | 21.3 | 8.5 | 79.7 |
| Splitnose rockfish | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 11.2 | 2.9 | 14.1 |
| Starry flounder | Coastwide | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 23.8 | 26.4 |
| Widow rockfish | Coastwide | 200.0 | 0.0 | 17.3 | 0.6 | 217.9 |
| Yellowtail rockfish | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,000.0 | 0.0 | 20.6 | 4.5 | 1,025.1 |
| Stock Complexes | | | | | | |
| Nearshore rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 3.1 |
| Nearshore rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 2.3 | 3.4 |
| Shelf rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 30.0 | 0.0 | 48.3 | 22.7 | 101.0 |
| Shelf rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 15.1 | 11.5 | 26.6 |
| Slope rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 36.0 | 0.0 | 10.8 | 12.4 | 59.2 |
| Slope rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 0.0 | 0.0 | 18.2 | 0.9 | 19.1 |
| Other fish | Coastwide | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 10.2 | 10.3 |
| Other flatfish | Coastwide | 60.0 | 0.0 | 23.6 | 87.3 | 170.9 |
| OR black/blue/deacon rockfish | Oregon | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| OR cabezon/kelp greenling | Oregon | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| WA cabezon/kelp greenling | Washington | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 2.4 |

1.3 Harvest Guidelines

The ACL minus the off-the-top amount results in the harvest guideline (HG) for the stock or complex. An HG is a specified numerical harvest objective which is not a quota. Attainment of a HG does not require closure of a fishery. The draft HGs for 2027 and 2028 are shown Table 5. This table is for non-sablefish stocks only; sablefish information is detailed in Section 1.7

Table 5. Draft 2027-28 annual catch limits (ACL) and fishery harvest guideline (HG) under default harvest control rules in metric tons (mt). All values are considered draft. ACL values rounded to nearest mt to reflect Table 1 above. HGs rounded to nearest tenth of a mt for improved accuracy of ACL reduction.

| Year | Stock | FMU | ACL (mt) | HG (mt) a/ |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|
| 2027 | QUILLBACK ROCKFISH b/ | California | 11.6 | 11.5 |
| 2028 | QUILLBACK ROCKFISH b/ | California | 11.9 | 11.8 |
| 2027 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH b/ | Coastwide | 113 | 98.3 |
| 2028 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH b/ | Coastwide | 113 | 98.3 |
| 2027 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 7,947 | 5,844.2 |
| 2028 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 7,131 | 5,028.2 |
| 2027 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,155 | 1,086.4 |
| 2028 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,122 | 1,053.4 |
| 2027 | Black Rockfish | Washington | 240 | 221.4 |
| 2028 | Black Rockfish | Washington | 241 | 222.4 |
| 2027 | Black Rockfish | California | 249 | 247.7 |
| 2028 | Black Rockfish | California | 261 | 259.7 |
| 2027 | Bocaccio | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,288 | 2,280.2 |
| 2028 | Bocaccio | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,185 | 2,177.2 |
| 2027 | Cabazon | California | 150 | 147.9 |
| 2028 | Cabazon | California | 146 | 143.9 |
| 2027 | California Scorpionfish | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 233 | 231 |
| 2028 | California Scorpionfish | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 229 | 227.0 |
| 2027 | Canary Rockfish | Coastwide | 608 | 535.1 |
| 2028 | Canary Rockfish | Coastwide | 625 | 552.1 |
| 2027 | Chilipepper | Coastwide | 2,979 | 2,952.7 |
| 2028 | Chilipepper | Coastwide | 2,864 | 2,836.7 |
| 2027 | Cowcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 74 | 63.9 |
| 2028 | Cowcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 73 | 62.9 |
| 2027 | Darkblotched Rockfish | Coastwide | 773 | 748.8 |
| 2028 | Darkblotched Rockfish | Coastwide | 754 | 729.8 |
| 2027 | Dover Sole | Coastwide | 38,573 | 36,988.9 |
| 2028 | Dover Sole | Coastwide | 35,616 | 34,031.9 |
| 2027 | English Sole b/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2028 | English Sole b/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2027 | Lingcod | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,482 | 3,195.5 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,439 | 3,152.5 |

| Year | Stock | FMU | ACL (mt) | HG (mt) a/ |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 2027 | Lingcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 789 | 780.1 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 796 | 787.1 |
| 2027 | Longnose Skate | Coastwide | 1,546 | 1,288.6 |
| 2028 | Longnose Skate | Coastwide | 1,515 | 1,257.6 |
| | <i>Longspine Thornyhead</i> | <i>Coastwide</i> | - | - |
| 2027 | Longspine Thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | 1,878 | 1,828.3 |
| 2028 | Longspine Thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | 1,812 | 1,762.3 |
| 2027 | Longspine Thornyhead | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 593 | 591.2 |
| 2028 | Longspine Thornyhead | S of 34°27' N. lat. | 572 | 570.2 |
| 2027 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 1,600 | 1,099 |
| 2028 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 1,600 | 1,099 |
| 2027 | Pacific Ocean Perch | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,482 | 2,977.5 |
| 2028 | Pacific Ocean Perch | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,036 | 2,890.5 |
| 2027 | Pacific Spiny Dogfish | Coastwide | 1,278 | 950.1 |
| 2028 | Pacific Spiny Dogfish | Coastwide | 1,240 | 912.1 |
| 2027 | Pacific whiting d/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2028 | Pacific whiting d/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2027 | Petrale Sole | Coastwide | 2,501 | 2,176.1 |
| 2028 | Petrale Sole | Coastwide | 2,462 | 2,137.1 |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>Coastwide</i> | - | - |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>N of 36° N. lat.</i> | See Section 1.7 | |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>S of 36° N. lat.</i> | | |
| 2027 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 848 | 768.3 |
| 2028 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 857 | 777.3 |
| 2027 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2028 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2027 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 393 | 366.6 |
| 2028 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 393 | 366.6 |
| 2027 | Widow rockfish b/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2028 | Widow rockfish b/ | Coastwide | - | - |
| 2027 | Yellowtail rockfish | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 4,723 | 3,697.9 |
| 2028 | Yellowtail rockfish | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 4,540 | 3,514.9 |
| Stock Complexes | | | | |
| 2027 | Nearshore rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 85 | 81.9 |
| 2028 | Nearshore rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 83 | 79.9 |
| 2027 | Nearshore rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 928 | 924.6 |
| 2028 | Nearshore rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 923 | 919.6 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,341 | 1,240 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish north | N of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,332 | 1,231 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,452 | 1,425.4 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish south | S of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,449 | 1,422.4 |

| Year | Stock | FMU | ACL (mt) | HG (mt) a/ |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|
| 2027 | Slope rockfish north e/ | N of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish north e/ | N of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2027 | Slope rockfish south e/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish south e/ | S of 40°10' N. lat. | - | - |
| 2027 | Other fish | Coastwide | 223 | 212.2 |
| 2028 | Other fish | Coastwide | 223 | 212.2 |
| 2027 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 6,577 | 6,406.1 |
| 2028 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 6,193 | 6,022.1 |
| 2027 | Oregon black/blue/deacon rockfish | Coastwide | 448 | 446.7 |
| 2028 | Oregon black/blue/deacon rockfish | Coastwide | 452 | 450.7 |
| 2027 | OR cabezon/kelp greenling e/ | Oregon | - | - |
| 2028 | OR cabezon/kelp greenling e/ | Oregon | - | - |
| 2027 | WA cabezon/kelp greenling | Washington | 14 | 11.6 |
| 2028 | WA cabezon/kelp greenling | Washington | 14 | 11.6 |

a/ Fishery HGs means the HG or quota after subtracting Pacific Coast treaty Indian Tribes allocations and projected catch, projected research catch, deductions for fishing mortality in non-groundfish fisheries, and deductions for EFPs from the ACL or ACT

b/ Default harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement.

c/ Quillback and yelloweye rockfish is presumed rebuilt pending BSIA determination, hence ABC=ACL, P* 0.40

d/ Pacific whiting harvest limits are set through an annual bilateral treaty process external to the Council

e/Aurora rockfish and Oregon kelp greenling harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement; thus the sum of the slope rockfish complexes and the Oregon cabezon/kelp greenling complex (respectively) cannot be calculated.

1.4 Annual Catch Target

An annual catch target (ACT)⁶ is a type of accountability measure that can be used to set a harvest target set below the ACL (see §4.7 of [PFMC, 2023](#)). An ACT is a useful management tool for cases where there is high uncertainty in inseason catch monitoring, if there is concern regarding exceeding an ACL, and other conservation concerns. Since the ACT is a target and not a limit, it can be used in lieu of harvest guidelines or strategically to accomplish other management objectives. ACTs are set for yelloweye and California copper rockfish. The yelloweye ACT is discussed in the context of the allocation structure for that species in Section 1.8.1

1.4.1 California Copper Rockfish ACT

Copper rockfish has an ACT for the recreational copper rockfish south of 34° 27' N lat.. The recreational ACT is equal to the proportion of California copper rockfish stock's estimated biomass south of 34° 27' N lat. For 2027 the estimated biomass is 20.1 mt and in 2028 it is 220 mt. (Table 30, Wetzel et al, 2023⁷). Table 6 shows the . This ACT is nested within the nearshore rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat.

⁶ [50 CFR 660.11](#) and [50 CFR 600.310\(g\)\(4\)](#)

⁷ Wetzel, C.R., M.H. Monk, J. Coates. 2023. Status of copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*) along the U.S. California coast south of Point Conception in 2023. Pacific Fishery Management Council, Portland, Oregon. 323 p.

Table 6. Draft California copper rockfish south of 34°27' N. lat. recreational annual catch target (ACT) in respect to the draft default harvest control rule calculated overfishing limit (OFL) and acceptable biological catches (ABC) for the nearshore rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. Values in metric tons (mt). All values are considered draft.

| Nearshore Rockfish Complex S of 40°10' N. lat. | 2027 (mt) | 2028 (mt) |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| OFL | 1,145 | 1,145 |
| ABC | 929 | 924 |
| ACL | 928 | 923 |
| <i>Copper rockfish ACL Contribution</i> | 127.8 | 129.1 |
| ACT south of 34°27' N. lat. | 20.1 | 22.0 |

1.5 Allocations

1.5.1 Amendment 21 and Biennial Allocations

The Council allocates the fishery harvest guidelines for most stocks and stock complexes to the trawl and non-trawl sectors via formal ([Amendment-21](#), A21)) or biennial allocation structures, as detailed in the FMP Section 6.3 of the FMP. In general, the allocations are considered “hard caps.” In that, if a sector’s allocation is projected to be exceeded or exceeded, the Council generally considers management actions to mitigate overages for that sector and species, which can include closing the sector. Table 7 shows the draft 2027-28 annual allocations based on default HCR specifications for Amendment 21 and biennial stocks and stock complexes

Beyond the trawl/non-trawl allocations, there can be within-trawl and within-non-trawl allocations. Within-non-trawl allocations are discussed in Section 1.6 below.

Table 7. Draft 2027-28 Amendment 21 and biennial trawl/non-trawl allocation percentages (%) and allocation amounts in metric tons (mt) based on the draft default harvest control rule derived fishery harvest guidelines (HG). All values are considered draft.

| Year | Stock/Stock Complex | Management Area | Fishery HG (mt) | Allocation Type | Trawl | | Non-Trawl | |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|----------|-----------|---------|
| | | | | | % | mt | % | mt |
| 2027 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH a/ | Coastwide | 98.3 | Biennial | 8 | 7.9 | 92 | 90.4 |
| 2028 | YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH a/ | Coastwide | 98.3 | Biennial | 8 | 7.9 | 92 | 90.4 |
| 2027 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 5,844.2 | A-21 | 95 | 5,552.0 | 5 | 292.2 |
| 2028 | Arrowtooth flounder | Coastwide | 5,028.2 | A-21 | 95 | 4,776.8 | 5 | 251.4 |
| 2027 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,086.4 | Biennial | 95 | 1,032.1 | 5 | 54.3 |
| 2028 | Big skate | Coastwide | 1,053.4 | Biennial | 95 | 1,000.7 | 5 | 52.7 |
| 2027 | Bocaccio | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,280.2 | Biennial | 39 | 889.3 | 60 | 1,390.9 |
| 2028 | Bocaccio | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,177.2 | Biennial | 39 | 849.1 | 60 | 1,328.1 |
| 2027 | Canary rockfish | Coastwide | 535.1 | Biennial | 72.3 | 386.9 | 27.7 | 148.2 |
| 2028 | Canary rockfish | Coastwide | 552.1 | Biennial | 72.3 | 399.2 | 27.7 | 152.9 |
| 2027 | Chilipepper | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,952.7 | A-21 | 75 | 2,214.5 | 25 | 738.2 |
| 2028 | Chilipepper | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,836.7 | A-21 | 75 | 2,127.5 | 25 | 709.2 |
| 2027 | Cowcod | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 63.9 | Biennial | 36 | 23.0 | 64 | 40.9 |
| 2028 | Cowcod | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 62.9 | Biennial | 36 | 22.6 | 64 | 40.3 |
| 2027 | Darkblotched rockfish | Coastwide | 748.8 | A-21 | 95 | 711.4 | 5 | 37.4 |
| 2028 | Darkblotched rockfish | Coastwide | 729.8 | A-21 | 95 | 693.3 | 5 | 36.5 |
| 2027 | Dover sole | Coastwide | 36,988.9 | A-21 | 95 | 35,139.5 | 5 | 1,849.4 |
| 2028 | Dover sole | Coastwide | 34,031.9 | A-21 | 95 | 32,330.3 | 5 | 1,701.6 |
| 2027 | English sole b/ | Coastwide | - | A-21 | 95 | - | 5 | - |
| 2028 | English sole b/ | Coastwide | - | A-21 | 95 | - | 5 | - |
| 2027 | Lingcod | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,195.5 | A-21 | 45 | 1,438.0 | 55 | 1,757.5 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,152.5 | A-21 | 45 | 1,418.6 | 55 | 1,733.9 |
| 2027 | Lingcod | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 780.1 | Biennial | 40 | 312.0 | 60 | 468.1 |
| 2028 | Lingcod | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 787.1 | Biennial | 40 | 314.8 | 60 | 472.3 |
| 2027 | Longnose skate | Coastwide | 1,288.6 | Biennial | 90 | 1,159.7 | 10 | 128.9 |
| 2028 | Longnose skate | Coastwide | 1,257.6 | Biennial | 90 | 1,131.8 | 10 | 125.8 |
| 2027 | Longspine thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | 1,828.3 | A-21 | 95 | 1,736.9 | 5 | 91.4 |

| Year | Stock/Stock Complex | Management Area | Fishery HG (mt) | Allocation Type | Trawl | | Non-Trawl | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------|---------|-----------|---------|
| | | | | | % | mt | % | mt |
| 2028 | Longspine thornyhead | N of 34°27' N. lat. | 1,762.3 | A-21 | 95 | 1,674.2 | 5 | 88.1 |
| 2027 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 1,099 | A-21 | 95 | 1,044.1 | 5 | 55.0 |
| 2028 | Pacific cod | Coastwide | 1,099 | A-21 | 95 | 1,044.1 | 5 | 55.0 |
| 2027 | Pacific Ocean perch | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,977.5 | A-21 | 95 | 2,828.6 | 5 | 148.9 |
| 2028 | Pacific Ocean perch | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 2,890.5 | A-21 | 95 | 2,746.0 | 5 | 144.5 |
| 2027 | Pacific whiting c/ | Coastwide | - | A-21 | 100 | - | 0 | - |
| 2028 | Pacific whiting c/ | Coastwide | - | A-21 | 100 | - | 0 | - |
| 2027 | Petrale sole d/ | Coastwide | 2,176.1 | Biennial | | 2,146.1 | - | 30.0 |
| 2028 | Petrale sole d/ | Coastwide | 2,137.1 | Biennial | - | 2,107.1 | - | 30.0 |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>north of 36° N. lat.</i> | See Section 1.7 | | | | | |
| | <i>Sablefish</i> | <i>south of 36° N. lat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2027 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 768.3 | Biennial | 71 | 545.5 | 29 | 222.8 |
| 2028 | Shortspine thornyhead | Coastwide | 777.3 | Biennial | 71 | 551.9 | 29 | 225.4 |
| 2027 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | south of 40°10' N. lat. | - | A-21 | 95 | - | 5 | - |
| 2028 | Splitnose rockfish b/ | south of 40°10' N. lat. | - | A-21 | 95 | - | 5 | - |
| 2027 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 366.6 | A-21 | 50 | 183.3 | 50 | 183.3 |
| 2028 | Starry flounder | Coastwide | 366.6 | A-21 | 50 | 183.3 | 50 | 183.3 |
| 2027 | Widow rockfish b/, e/ | Coastwide | - | Biennial | - | - | - | 400.0 |
| 2028 | Widow rockfish b/, e/ | Coastwide | - | Biennial | - | - | - | 400.0 |
| 2027 | Yellowtail rockfish | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,697.9 | A-21 | 88 | 3,254.2 | 12 | 443.7 |
| 2028 | Yellowtail rockfish | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 3,514.9 | A-21 | 88 | 3,093.1 | 12 | 421.8 |
| Stock Complexes | | | | | | | | |
| 2027 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 6,406.1 | A-21 | 90 | 5,765.5 | 10 | 640.6 |
| 2028 | Other flatfish | Coastwide | 6,022.1 | A-21 | 90 | 5,419.9 | 10 | 602.2 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish north | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,240 | Biennial | 60.2 | 746.5 | 39.8 | 493.5 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish north | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,231 | Biennial | 60.2 | 741.1 | 39.8 | 489.9 |
| 2027 | Shelf rockfish south | north of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,425.4 | Biennial | 12.2 | 173.9 | 87.8 | 1,251.5 |
| 2028 | Shelf rockfish south | south of 40°10' N. lat. | 1,422.4 | Biennial | 12.2 | 173.5 | 87.8 | 1,248.9 |
| 2027 | Slope rockfish north f/ | north of 40°10' N. lat. | - | A-21 | 81 | - | 19 | - |

| Year | Stock/Stock Complex | Management Area | Fishery HG (mt) | Allocation Type | Trawl | | Non-Trawl | |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|----|-----------|----|
| | | | | | % | mt | % | mt |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish north f/ | south of 40°10' N. lat. | | A-21 | 81 | - | 19 | - |
| 2027 | Slope rockfish south f/ | north of 40°10' N. lat. | - | Biennial | 63 | - | 37 | - |
| 2028 | Slope rockfish south f/ | south of 40°10' N. lat. | | Biennial | 63 | | 37 | |

a/ Yelloweye rockfish is presumed to be rebuilt pending BSIA determination.

b/ Default harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement.

c/ Pacific whiting harvest limits are set through an annual bilateral treaty process external to the Council.

d/ Petrale sole is allocated at 30 mt of the HG to non-trawl and the remainder to trawl

e/ Widow rockfish is allocated 400 mt of the HG to non-trawl and the remainder to trawl

f/ Aurora rockfish harvest specifications are pending SSC endorsement; thus the sum of the slope rockfish complexes cannot be calculated.

1.6 Informal Intersector Allocations and Sharing Agreements for Stocks in a Complex

HGs can be developed for specific sectors for single stocks and/or for stocks within a complex. The Council has developed HGs for stocks within complexes and state sharing agreements. HGs are a discretionary AM that do not require action if exceeded ([FMP §2.2](#)). Sharing agreements are generally an informal method of apportioning an HG to sub-sectors, e.g., commercial and recreational fisheries within the non-trawl sector. They are helpful in understanding sector, or state, specific impacts on a stock and/or a stock complex.

1.6.1 Cowcod

Cowcod south of 40°10' N. lat. non-trawl allocation is subject to a 50:50 commercial/recreational sharing agreement (Table 8)

Table 8. Draft 2027-28 cowcod south of 40°10' N. lat. annual catch limit (ACL), harvest guideline (HG), and within non-trawl sector allocations in metric tons (mt) to the commercial and recreational fisheries using the status quo sharing agreement percentages (%). All values are considered draft.

| Sector | 2025 (mt) | 2026 (mt) |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Non-Trawl (64%) | 40.9 | 40.3 |
| Commercial (50%) | 20.5 | 20.1 |
| Recreational (50%) | 20.5 | 20.1 |

1.6.2 Bocaccio South of 40° 10' N. lat. Non-trawl Sharing Agreement

The sharing agreement for bocaccio south of 40°10' N. lat. between the commercial non-trawl and California recreational from the non-trawl allocation (Table 9) is 69.1 percent to California recreational fisheries and 30.9 percent to commercial fixed gear fisheries off California.

Table 9. Draft 2027-28 bocaccio south of 40° 10' N. lat. default harvest control rule derived harvest rule within non-trawl for harvest guideline (HG) in metric tons (mt) for the commercial non-trawl and recreational sector using the status quo sharing agreement percentages (%). All values are considered draft.

| Sector | 2027 (mt) | 2028 (mt) |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Non-trawl HG | 1,390.9 | 1,328.1 |
| Commercial (30.9%) | 429.7 | 410.4 |
| Recreational (69.1%) | 961.1 | 917.7 |

1.6.3 Slope rockfish south of 40° 10' N. lat. and blackgill rockfish

Blackgill rockfish is managed within the slope rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. lat. . The blackgill rockfish HG is allocated 41 percent to the trawl sector and 59 percent to the non-trawl sector. The trawl (91 percent) and non-trawl (9 percent) allocations are applied to the remaining species in the complex. These amounts are totaled and a respective trawl/non-trawl percentage of total calculated. The off-the-top deduction is apportioned based on this percentage, which then generates the final two-year allocation of the slope rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. lat. Table 10 shows the 2027-28 calculated trawl and non-trawl allocations for blackgill rockfish and other slope species within the slope rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. lat.

Table 10. 2027-28 draft slope rockfish south of 40° 10' N. lat. biennial allocations in metric tons (mt) as a complex and as shares of blackgill rockfish and the other slope rockfish complex component species based on default harvest control rule derived harvest specifications and using the status quo sharing agreement percentages (%). **Awaiting slope rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. lat. harvest specifications**

| Category | 2027 | | 2028 | |
|---|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| | Trawl | Non-trawl | Trawl | Non-trawl |
| Blackgill rockfish contribution | 163.6 | | 162.2 | |
| Blackgill rockfish share [mt] (41% trawl; 59% non-trawl) | 67.08 | 96.54 | 66.50 | 95.70 |
| Other slope RF contribution | | | | |
| Other rockfish slope share a/ [mt] (91% trawl; 9% non-trawl) | | | | |
| Subtotal share (mt) | | | | |
| ACL Complex 1 (mt) | | | | |
| % of total share | | | | |
| Total off-top(mt) | 18.2 | | 18.2 | |
| Apportioned off-top (mt) | | | | |
| Final two-year allocation (mt) | | | | |

a/ slope south of 40°10 N. ACL lat. minus blackgill south of 40°10 N. ACL contribution

1.7 Sablefish

Sablefish is managed north and south of 36° N. lat. The dispersal of the harvest specifications for this stock is presented here in isolation due to the importance of this stock and complexity of its allocation structure

1.7.1 Sablefish North of 36° N. lat.

Sablefish north of 36° N. lat. has tribal, EFP, research, and recreational set-asides per the [Amendment 6 \(A6\)](#) allocation framework (Figure 2), which is also described in [Section 6.3.2.1](#) of the FMP. Tribal set-asides are set at 10 percent of the sablefish north of 36° N. lat. ACL. EFP and research set-asides are set via the methods described above in Section 1.1. The recreational set-asides are adjusted biennially. provides the harvest disbursement to the non-tribal commercial fishery. Table 11 provides the harvest disbursement to the non-tribal commercial fishery.

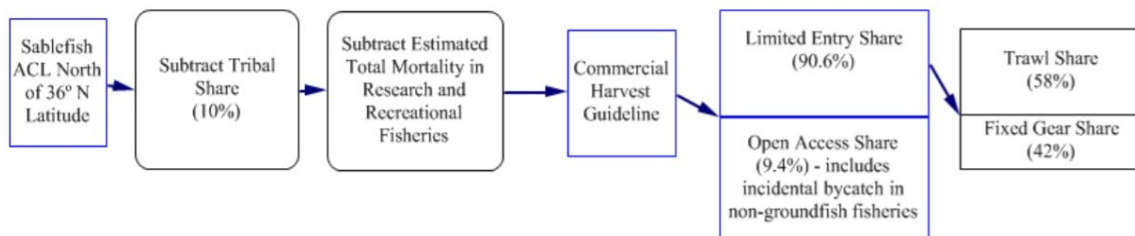


Figure 2. Allocation structure for sablefish north of 36° N. lat.

Table 11. The draft 2027-28 sablefish north of 36° N. lat annual catch limit (ACL), status quo tribal, exempted fishing permits (EFP), research, recreational (Rec) set-aside values and the resulting non-tribal commercial harvest guideline in metric tons (mt) based on default harvest control rule calculated harvest specifications. Amounts rounded to nearest mt.

| Year | ACL (mt) | Tribal (mt) | EFP (mt) | Research (mt) | Rec. (mt) | Set-Aside Sum (mt) | Non-Tribal Commercial HG (mt) |
|------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2027 | 10,962 | 1,096 | 0.0 | 59.3 | 30 | 89.3 | 9,776 |
| 2028 | 11,856 | 1,186 | 0.0 | 59.3 | 30 | 89.3 | 10,581 |

Table 12 shows the allocations of the draft non-tribal commercial HG to the limited entry (LE) fisheries and the open access fishery (OA) allocations within the limited entry HG for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. for 2023 as adopted by the Council. The non-tribal commercial harvest guideline is divided into the LE and OA shares (90.6 percent and 9.4 percent, respectively). The LE Share is allocated to the LE Trawl sector 58 percent and the LEFG at 42 percent. The LEFG Share is further allocated to the Primary (i.e., Tier) fishery and the LEFG daily trip limit (DTL) fishery, at 85 percent and 15 percent, respectively.

Table 12. The draft 2027-28 non-tribal sablefish north of 36° N. lat. commercial harvest shares guidelines (HG) and limited entry (LE) fisheries– LE trawl and LE fixed gear (LEFG) – primary tier, LEFG trip limit, and open access (OA) fishery allocations as percentages (%) and metric tons (mt). At-sea set-asides for sablefish are unknown at this point and thus IFQ amounts are not shown. Amounts rounded to nearest mt.

| | Percent | 2027 Allocation (mt) | 2028 Allocation (mt) |
|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Non-Tribal Commercial HG | - | 9,776 | 10,581 |
| LE Share | 90.6% | 8,857 | 9,586 |
| LE Trawl a/ | 58% | 5,137 | 5,560 |
| LEFG | 42% | 3,720 | 4,026 |
| Primary Share | 85% | 3,162 | 3,422 |
| LEFG Daily Trip limit Share | 15% | 558 | 604 |
| OA Share | 9.4% | 919 | 995 |

The primary share is divided into three tiers via a ratio, where the ratio of limits between the tiers is approximately 1 to 1.75 to 3.85 for Tier 3: Tier 2: Tier 1, respectively (Table 12).

Table 13. Draft 2027-28 Tier amounts based on default harvest control rule specifications in pounds (lbs). Amounts rounded to nearest lb.

| | 2027 (lbs) | 2028 (lbs) |
|--------|------------|------------|
| Tier 1 | 93,784 | 101,504 |
| Tier 2 | 42,629 | 46,138 |
| Tier 3 | 24,359 | 26,365 |

1.7.2 Sablefish South of 36° N. lat

Sablefish north of 36° N. lat. has EFP, research, and IOA set-asides (Table 14). These amounts are derived via the methods described above in Section 1.1.

Table 14. The draft 2027-28 sablefish south of 36° N. lat. annual catch limit (ACL) and estimated exempted fishing permits (EFP), research, incidental open access (IOA) set-aside values, and the resulting commercial harvest guideline in metric tons (mt) based on default harvest control rule calculated harvest specifications. Amounts rounded to nearest mt.

| Year | ACL | EFP | Research | IOA | Sum | Commercial HG |
|------|-------|-----|----------|-----|------|---------------|
| 2027 | 3,002 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 25 | 27.7 | 2,974 |
| 2028 | 3,247 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 25 | 27.7 | 3,219 |

The draft 2027-28 sablefish south of 36° N. lat. commercial allocations between trawl and non-trawl are 42 percent and 58 percent, respectively, per Amendment 21. Within non-trawl a 10 metric ton set-aside is deducted from the non-trawl HG. The Non-trawl HG is allocated at 70 percent to the LEFG fishery and 30 percent to the OA fishery.

Table 15. Draft 2027-28 sablefish south of 36° N. lat. commercial harvest shares guidelines (HG) and limited entry (LE) fisheries– trawl, LE fixed gear (LEFG)– and open access (OA) fishery allocations as percentages (%) and metric tons (mt). Amounts rounded to nearest mt.

| | Percent | 2027 Allocation (mt) | 2028 Allocation (mt) |
|---------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Commercial HG | - | 2,974 | 3,219 |
| Trawl | 42% | 1,249 | 1,352 |
| Non Trawl | 58% | 1,715 | 1,867 |
| Rec set-aside | - | 10 | 10 |
| LEFG Share | 70% | 1,201 | 1,300 |
| OA Share | 30% | 515 | 557 |

1.8 Yelloweye and Canary Rockfishes

Yelloweye and canary rockfishes are important species and have complex allocation structures, thus are shown here in isolation for ease of viewing.

1.8.1 Yelloweye Rockfish

Yelloweye Rockfish Allocation Structure

Based on the yelloweye rockfish stock assessment, this document considers it to be rebuilt pending BSIA designation. The allocation structure shown in Table 16 is representative of the allocation methods used for the 2025-26 biennia. Yelloweye rockfish was still considered a rebuilding species for that period, and for any stock that has been declared overfished. The draft 2027-28 yelloweye rockfish allocation structure still follows the Council adopted allocations. The allocation structure is 92 percent non-trawl and 8 percent trawl. The non-trawl sector, including the commercial and recreational fisheries, are subject to ACTs of 78.4 percent of the HG. Additionally, the commercial non-trawl sector is allocated 29 percent of the total non-trawl HG and the Washington, Oregon, and California recreational sectors are allocated 25.6 percent, 23.3 percent, and 30.2 percent of the non-trawl HG, respectively. The HG for these fisheries are also subject to the 78.4 percent ACT

Table 16. Draft 2027-28 status quo yelloweye rockfish calculated allowable biological catch (ABC), annual catch limit (ACL), trawl and non-trawl allocations under status quo biennial allocations, harvest guideline (HG), and annual catch target (ACT), including the within non-trawl harvest guideline and the annual catch target, in metric tons (mt) based on default harvest control rule calculated harvest specifications

| Year | 2027 (mt) | | 2028 (mt) | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| ABC | 112.9 | | 113.1 | |
| ACL | 112.9 | | 113.1 | |
| Off-the-Top Deduction | 14.8 | | 14.8 | |
| Fishery HG | 98.1 | | 98.3 | |
| Trawl (8%) | 7.9 | | 7.9 | |
| At-Sea | 0 | | 0 | |
| IFQ | 7.9 | | 7.9 | |
| | HG | ACT | HG | ACT |
| Non-trawl (92%) | 90.3 | 70.8 | 90.3 | 70.8 |
| Commercial (20.9%) | 18.9 | 14.8 | 18.9 | 14.8 |
| WA Rec (25.6%) | 23.1 | 18.1 | 23.1 | 18.1 |
| OR Rec (23.3%) | 21.1 | 16.5 | 21.1 | 16.5 |
| CA Rec (30.2%) | 27.3 | 21.4 | 27.3 | 21.4 |

1.8.2 Canary Rockfish

Non-trawl Sharing Agreement for Canary Rockfish

The canary rockfish is a biennial allocation, with 72.3 percent of the HG to trawl and 27.7 percent of the HG to non-trawl (Table 17). The non-trawl HG is divided between the commercial non-trawl and state-specific recreational sectors through percentage-based informal sharing arrangement (Table 17). The non-trawl sharing agreement is 36 percent commercial, 12.3 percent Washington recreational, 18.5 percent Oregon recreational, and 33.2 percent California recreational.

Table 17. Draft 2027-28 canary rockfish within non-trawl sector commercial non-trawl and recreational status quo share percentages in metric tons (mt).

| Sector | 2027 (mt) | 2028 (mt) |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Non-Trawl allocation | 148.2 | 152.9 |
| Commercial (36%) | 53.4 | 55.0 |
| WA Recreational (12.3%) | 18.2 | 18.8 |
| OR Recreational (18.5%) | 27.4 | 28.3 |
| CA Recreational (33.2%) | 49.2 | 50.8 |