

ADOPT STOCK ASSESSMENTS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) process for setting groundfish harvest specifications depends on periodic assessments of the status of groundfish stocks and a report from an established assessment review body or Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panel. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviews this information and makes a recommendation relative to the standards of 1) the best scientific information available, and 2) soundness for use in groundfish fishery management decision-making by the Council. The Council then adopts assessments and relevant analyses used to set groundfish harvest specifications.

The Council provided guidance in September 2025, based on SSC and Advisory Body recommendations, to conduct a Supplemental Review of the 2025 widow rockfish update stock assessment. Stock assessment authors provided responses to the requests made by the SSC in September and the Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) from their August meeting, as well as supplemental review material with a proposed new base model (Attachment 3). The Supplemental Review Panel will provide a report with recommendations for SSC consideration at this meeting; see SSC Materials section of the briefing book for the Panel report. Due to the federal furlough, stock assessment authors and federal members of the SSC were not able to participate in the Supplemental Review. In addition, a complete stock assessment document to accompany the proposed base model is not yet available. The SSC will consider recommendations from the Supplemental Review Panel for the widow rockfish update assessment, complete their review, and provide recommendations to the Council.

The Council also requested that 2025 catch-only projections for bocaccio and black rockfish off Oregon be provided with the standard implementation of time-varying sigma to calculate buffers (Attachments 1-2).

The Council is scheduled to review the update assessment and catch-only projections, as well as the advice of the SSC, other advisory bodies, and the public before considering the adoption of new stock assessments and projections for use in groundfish management.

Council Tasks

- 1. Adopt stock assessments for use in fisheries management, as appropriate.**
- 2. Adopt catch only projections for bocaccio and black rockfish (OR).**

Reference Materials

1. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1: 2025 Catch only Projection of Black Rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) in state and federal waters off Oregon.
2. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2: Catch only projection for bocaccio in 2025.
3. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3: Proposed new widow rockfish base model and changes from August 2025 (***Electronic Only***).
4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order

F.2 Adopt Stock Assessments

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- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Adopt Stock Assessments

PFMC

10/22/25