HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2027-2028 – PART 1

Under this agenda item, the Council is tasked with adopting interim final 2027-28 overfishing limits (OFLs) and acceptable biological catches (ABCs) for stocks and stock complexes that fall under default harvest control rules (HCR) (Attachment 1). The Council should consider adopting preliminary preferred annual catch limits (ACLs), where possible, at this meeting.

Attachment 1 details 2027-28 harvest specifications under default HCRs in Table 1-9, per Council decisions at the September 2025 meeting. The Council requested extended projections of default harvest specifications for aurora rockfish (Attachment 2) and Oregon kelp greenling, pending Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) endorsement at this meeting. 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 (see November 2025 Agenda Item F.2 Attachments 1-2).

In September 2025, the Council requested alternative harvest projections associated with alternative HCRs for canary rockfish, chilipepper rockfish, petrale sole, rougheye/blackspotted rockfish (Attachment 2), shortspine thornyhead (Attachment 3), yelloweye rockfish, and yellowtail rockfish north 40° 10′ N. latitude. Default and alternative projections for 2027-28 are summarized in the comparison Table 1-1 of Attachment 1.

Due to the federal furlough, default harvest specifications for Oregon kelp greenling, and alternative harvest projections for canary rockfish, chilipepper rockfish, petrale sole, yelloweye rockfish, and yellowtail rockfish are not yet available. Briefing book materials will be revised, as appropriate, should projections become available prior to the November Council meeting.

Tables will be updated on the Pacific Fisheries Information Network (PacFIN) under the APEX reporting system in the harvest specifications setting process. In particular, APEX report GMT008 is available to view default harvest control rules and any Alternative harvest specifications analyzed by the Council (e.g. filter by year and by stock set). APEX report formatting may differ.

The Council should also consider identifying a preliminary preferred alternative for species where a range of alternative HCRs were identified at the September 2025 meeting. If there is a desire to depart from default HCRs for any other stocks or stock complexes, the Council is tasked with adopting a range of alternative OFLs, ABCs, and annual catch limits (ACLs) for detailed analysis.

Council Tasks:

1. **Adopt Interim Final 2027-28 Overfishing Limits, P*/Acceptable Biological Catches.**
2. **Adopt Preliminary Preferred 2027-28 Annual Catch Limits for stocks and stock complexes, where possible.**
3. **In the event the Council chooses to depart from the default HCR, adopt a preliminary range of 2027-28 P*s/ABCs and ACLs for more detailed analysis.**

Reference Materials

1. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1: Draft Harvest Specifications Sections of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery 2027-2028 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures. ***(Electronic Only)***
2. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2: Harvest Specification Projections for Selected West Coast Groundfish Stocks in 2027 and Beyond.
3. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3: Catch only projection for shortspine thornyhead.
4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal)

Agenda Order:

F.3 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for 2027-2028 – Part 1

Marlene A Bellman/Todd Phillips

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. **Council Action:** Adopt Interim Final Overfishing Limits and P*/Acceptable Biological Catches; Preliminary Preferred Annual Catch Limits for Stocks and Stock Complexes, if possible

PFMC
10/21/2025