

Washington, Oregon, and California Groundfish Fisheries

by

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Summary of the Fishery in 1988

The following tables present statistics on annual landings, exvessel values, and fishing vessel fleet size for the commercial groundfish fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California from 1981 through 1988. During the 1988 fishing year shoreside landings decreased slightly to 92,300 mt. Joint venture Pacific whiting landings continued to increase, totaling a record high of 135,800 mt. As a result the total commercial landed catch rose 10 percent when compared to the 1987 fishing year. The exvessel value of the total commercial landed catch was \$82.3 million or 1.5 percent lower than in 1987. The exvessel value of shoreside and joint venture landings decreased 6 and increased 26 percent, respectively.

Shoreside groundfish landings for individual species/species groups were somewhat lower in 1988, with lingcod, sablefish, widow rockfish, and all flatfish species declining in magnitude. Other species showed either higher (pacific cod and whiting) or stable (nominal or other rockfish) landings during 1988.

Landings declined generally for all gear groups except sablefish pot. The slight decline in groundfish trawl landings coincided with a significant increase in the size of the trawl fleet making at least one landing of groundfish in 1988. This is the second consecutive year for the groundfish trawl fleet to expand in size. The sablefish pot fleet remained constant, while the number of longline vessels landing groundfish fell for the third consecutive year. As in past years the status of the groundfish setnet fleet cannot be determined due to insufficient data.

Table 1 - Quantity and exvessel value of groundfish landings in Washington, Oregon, and California, including joint venture deliveries in waters off these states.

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Shoreside (mt)	91,636	92,329	-0.7
Joint Venture (mt)	125,903	106,095	+18.7
Total WOC Landings	217,539	198,424	+9.6
Shoreside Values \$			
Current	67,646,000	71,881,000	-5.9
Real ¹	63,901,000	70,210,000	-8.9
Joint Venture Value			
Current	14,682,000	11,663,000	+25.9
Real	13,869,000	11,392,000	+21.7
Total WOC Groundfish Landed Value			
Current	82,328,000	83,544,000	-1.5
Real	77,771,000	81,602,000	-4.7

Source: Pacific Coast Fishery Information Network (PacFIN) Groundfish report series, preliminary data May 1989.
NMFS, Northwest Regional Office

1/ Real values are current values adjusted to eliminate the effects of inflation. This adjustment has been made by dividing current values by the current year GNP implicit price deflator, with a base year of 1986. The GNP deflators are 1.0238 in 1987 and 1.0586 in 1988.

Table 2 - Average annual exvessel prices paid for some commercially important groundfish species, 1979-1988.

	Sablefish		All Rockfish Combined		Widow Rockfish		Dover Sole		English Sole		Petrale Sole	
	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>	<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Real</u>
1979	.356	.518	.199	.290	-	-	.215	.313	.286	.416	.447	.651
1980	.199	.265	.159	.212	-	-	.211	.281	.328	.437	.458	.611
1981	.215	.262	.169	.206	.135	.164	.223	.270	.297	.362	.512	.624
1982	.252	.289	.195	.224	.157	.180	.233	.267	.318	.365	.606	.696
1983	.237	.262	.223	.246	.192	.212	.224	.247	.322	.356	.682	.755
1984	.218	.232	.251	.267	.225	.240	.231	.246	.321	.343	.709	.755
1985	.334	.343	.281	.289	.250	.257	.240	.246	.333	.342	.736	.756
1986	.374	.374	.313	.313	.275	.275	.258	.258	.360	.360	.777	.777
1987	.472	.461	.350	.343	.322	.314	.305	.298	.402	.393	.816	.797
1988	.525	.496	.323	.305	.286	.270	.304	.287	.392	.370	.816	.771

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Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989

NOTE: Real prices were adjusted for inflation using the GNP implicit price deflator, where 1986=1.00.
All prices are weighted averages.

Table 3 - Commercial landings (mt) of individual groundfish species by state, 1987-1988.

Species	California		Oregon		Washington	
	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987
Lingcod	873	929	999	719	756	1,023
Pacific Cod	5	66	1,022	659	2,305	1,549
Pacific Whiting	6,541	4,518	246	183	88	95
Sablefish	3,784	4,347	4,068	5,239	2,926	3,144
Pacific Ocean Perch	26	96	728	549	49	332
Widow Rockfish	1,847	2,274	5,445	6,300	3,555	4,113
Other Rockfish	14,345	14,309	8,898	7,856	5,686	4,582
Dover Sole	8,176	10,761	7,583	6,058	2,241	1,622
English Sole	1,062	1,322	577	595	454	564
Petrale Sole	785	824	894	855	452	526
Other Flatfish	1,709	1,772	1,369	1,572	1,553	2,403

Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989.

Table 4 - Washington, Oregon, and California shoreside commercial groundfish landings (metric tons) and exvessel value (thousands of dollars), 1979-1988.

Year	California		Oregon		Washington		Total Coast	
	mt	\$	mt	\$	mt	\$	mt	\$
1979	36,392	19,566	28,935	17,264	22,508	11,112	87,835	47,942
1980	36,862	16,551	28,515	11,425	22,514	9,119	87,891	37,095
1981	42,578	21,448	37,502	14,721	23,093	10,100	103,173	46,269
1982	52,608	27,795	41,023	20,445	25,368	11,405	118,999	59,645
1983	39,498	21,984	35,158	18,345	22,970	11,257	97,626	51,586
1984	40,570	22,914	28,209	15,234	21,080	10,474	89,859	48,622
1985	43,062	26,516	29,023	17,095	19,229	12,449	91,314	56,060
1986	41,246	28,522	24,931	16,813	16,081	10,905	82,298	56,240
1982-86 Average	43,397	25,546	31,669	17,586	20,946	11,298	96,019	54,431
1987	41,410	30,682	30,626	24,328	20,292	16,872	92,329	71,881
1988	39,420	28,213	31,845	23,748	20,371	15,686	91,635	67,646

Source: State Fishery Agencies
PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series; preliminary data, 1981-1988.

Table 5 - Landings and exvessel value of individual groundfish species landed in Washington, Oregon, and California, 1987-1988.

Species	1988		1987		% Change	
	mt	\$	mt	\$	mt	\$
Lingcod	2,629	2,122,100	2,586	2,152,800	+1.7	-1.4
Pacific Cod	3,332	1,945,700	2,273	1,644,800	+46.6	+18.3
Pacific Whiting	6,876	1,145,400	4,795	664,100	+43.4	+72.5
Sablefish	10,778	12,468,300	12,730	13,244,600	-15.3	-5.9
Pacific Ocean Perch	803	514,300	976	704,400	-17.7	-30.0
Widow Rockfish	10,847	6,827,500	12,687	9,002,300	-14.5	-24.1
Other Rockfish	28,928	21,550,800	26,747	21,477,900	+8.1	+0.3
Dover Sole	18,000	12,053,500	18,441	12,400,400	-2.4	-2.8
English Sole	2,093	1,809,800	2,481	2,198,500	-15.6	-17.7
Petrale Sole	2,131	3,835,200	2,205	3,965,400	-3.4	-3.3
Other Flatfish	4,631	2,968,000	5,747	3,763,400	-19.4	-21.1
TOTAL	91,048	67,240,600	91,659	71,218,600	-0.7	-5.6

Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989.

1/ Includes domestic landings from U.S. coastal waters off WOC, but not Puget Sound; A small amount of landings of miscellaneous groundfish species are not included in the totals.

Table 6 - Washington, Oregon, and California landings and exvessel value of sablefish by gear, 1987-1988.¹

	Total WOC 1988		Total WOC 1987	
	mt	\$	mt	\$
Ground. trawl	5,262.4 (48.8)	4,169.5 (33.4)	6,430.0 (50.0)	4,625.5 (34.9)
Pot	2,018.7 (18.7)	2,651.7 (21.3)	2,017.0 (15.8)	2,293.7 (17.3)
Longline/Setline ²	3,124.2 (29.0)	5,362.9 (43.0)	4,152.0 (32.6)	6,231.6 (47.0)
Net	60.2 (0.6)	41.0 (0.3)	36.4 (0.3)	21.1 (0.2)
Other	<u>312.3 (2.9)</u>	<u>243.2 (1.9)</u>	<u>94.7 (0.7)</u>	<u>72.7 (0.6)</u>
Total	10,777.8	12,468.3	12,730.1	13,244.6

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Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989.

- 1/ Figures in parentheses are the percentages each gear group contributed to the total landed catch and exvessel value.
- 2/ Includes California commercial pole-and-line gear.

Table 7 - West Coast groundfish shoreside landings (metric tons) by gear group, 1981-1988.

	<u>Trawl</u>	<u>Trap/ Pot</u>	<u>Setline¹/ Longline</u>	<u>Gill/Set² Net</u>	<u>Other/Misc</u>
1981	90,797	3,956	3,997	1,632	2,791
1982	103,299	6,530	4,384	2,077	2,709
1983	81,668	5,423	2,191	2,243	6,101
1984	72,693	3,854	1,989	2,199	9,124
1985	75,352	3,703	4,603	3,918	3,737
1986	61,249	2,216	5,894	4,205	8,734
1987	74,719	2,076	6,952	3,903	4,740
1988	73,460	2,186	5,679	2,864	7,487

Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989.

1/ Includes commercial pole catch for California landings, because large quantities of sablefish are landed with this gear in PacFIN. Consequently values will differ from previous annual reports.

2/ Includes gill net, set net, and other net; but not dip, trammel, seine, or miscellaneous nets.

Table 8. Exvessel value (thousands of dollars) of West Coast groundfish landings by gear group, 1981-1988.

	<u>Trawl</u>	<u>Trap/Pot</u>	<u>Set/Longline</u> ¹	<u>Gill/Set</u> ² <u>Net</u>	<u>Other/Misc</u>
1981	37,855	2,081	3,696	1,468	2,169
1982	46,987	4,863	4,551	1,814	1,430
1983	40,987	3,598	2,091	1,742	3,578
1984	36,885	2,338	2,083	1,955	5,361
1985	41,264	3,154	5,329	3,367	2,946
1986	36,916	2,171	6,811	3,715	6,627
1987	52,162	2,347	9,527	3,806	4,032
1988	48,010	2,797	8,573	2,709	3,928

Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series, preliminary data, May 1989.

1/ Includes commercial pole catch for California landings, because large quantities of sablefish are landed with this gear as reported in PacFIN.

2/ Includes gill net, set net, and other net; but not dip, trammel, seine, or miscellaneous.

Table 9 - Number of shoreside vessels in Washington, Oregon, and California commercial groundfish fleets, 1981-1988.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Otter Trawl</u>	<u>Pot/Trap¹</u>	<u>Longline¹</u>
1981	408	66	191
1982	444	82	208
1983	436	59	185
1984	397	34	96 ²
1985	358	32	129 ²
1986	308	25	190 ²
1987	318	26	186 ³
1988	349	26	156 ³

Note: Data are preliminary, therefore, numbers are subject to change as updated information on fleets is received.

Source: State Fishery Agencies

- 1/ Vessels landing fish caught with this gear-type in two or more states are counted in each state for years 1982-83. These numbers therefore are an upper bound for the true number of vessels using this gear-type.
- 2/ Represents number of longline vessels landing in Oregon and Washington, where double counting has been eliminated; California data unavailable for those years.
- 3/ Includes count for sablefish longline vessels landing in California and Oregon and all coastal longline vessels landing in Washington.

Table 10 - Washington, Oregon, and California groundfish shoreside trawl fleet characteristics, 1983-88.¹

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>
Total Number Landing	358	308	318	349
Frequency by Size (length) Class				
< 30 feet	2	1	1	7
30-39	15	9	10	10
40-49	96	73	73	75
50-59	93	87	85	95
60-69	98	90	94	98
70-79	39	37	38	45
80-89	6	6	10	8
> 90	9	5	7	8
Missing	-	-	-	3
Vessel Characteristics:				
Average Length	57.6	58.2	58.8	58.4
Average Horsepower	309.7	310.8	318.9	317.8
Average Net Tonnage	45.8	47.6	49.7	48.8
Number Vessels Based in Each State				
California	157	126	121	130
Oregon	121	110	120	136
Washington	80	72	77	83
Vessels Landing in More Than One State	41	34	35	37

Source: State Fishery Agencies

1/ Preliminary data

Table 12 - Landings and participation in Pacific Whiting joint-venture fisheries off of Washington, Oregon, and California, 1979-88.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Landings (mt)</u>	<u>Estimated Dollar Value (\$)</u>	<u>Number of Trawl Vessel</u>	<u>Average Revenue Per Vessel (\$)</u>
1979	9,054	1,162,000	11	105,600
1980	26,793	3,275,000	15	218,300
1981	43,758	6,345,000	21	302,100
1982	68,420	10,367,000	17	609,800
1983	72,140	10,217,000	19	537,700
1984	79,047	11,841,000	21	563,800
1985	31,567	3,751,000	17	220,700
1986	81,855	8,760,000	25	350,400
1987	106,095	11,663,000	30	388,800
1988	135,783	14,682,000	40	367,100

Source: PacFIN, Groundfish Report Series
 NMFS, Northwest Regional Office