



Pacific Council News

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New Stock Assessments Adopted for Seven Species of Groundfish

At their September meeting, the Council adopted new assessments for Pacific ocean perch, petrale sole, spiny dogfish, sablefish, Dover sole, greenspotted rockfish, and blackgill rockfish for use in management, as recommended by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). A new widow rockfish assessment was reviewed by the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee at the September mop-up assessment review panel, along with new assessments for bocaccio and darkblotched rockfish. In November, the Council will consider adopting the assessments reviewed at the mop-up panel.

Pacific Ocean Perch

The new Pacific ocean perch assessment indicates current stock status is at 19.1 percent of initial, unfished biomass. This is the first full assessment of Pacific ocean

perch since 2003 and the first one conducted using the Stock Synthesis modeling platform. The 2009 update assessment for the stock indicated depletion was at 28.6 percent. The change in our understanding of Pacific ocean perch stock status is not due to a significantly lower estimate of current spawning output (i.e., estimated egg pro-

duction), but rather a significant increase in the estimated initial, unfished spawning output. Since depletion is the ratio of current spawning output to initial, unfished spawning output, this result directly affects estimated depletion.

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Pacific Ocean perch (NOAA)

Council Addresses Safe Harbors, Other Catch Share Trailing Actions

This September the Council addressed the following trailing actions for the trawl rationalization program.

Safe Harbors

“Safe harbors” are special exemptions to quota share control limits that are being considered for community fishing associations (CFAs), risk pools and lenders. The Council determined that there is not a

clear need for an exception for CFAs at this time. CFAs can continue to form and acquire quota shares, but may not exceed the quota share control limits.

The Council approved a safe harbor for risk pools, adopting the preliminary preferred alternative provided to the Council in September (<http://tinyurl.com/67juatz>), along with addition recommendations

provided by the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (<http://tinyurl.com/6f6fafk>). The safe harbor for risk pools will modify the control rule as it applies to overfished species and Pacific halibut. The exception will allow risk pools to establish contracts that obligate quota pounds for those species from a following year to cover a deficit incurred

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Groundfish News

Process Set for Setting 2013-2014 Groundfish Harvest Spex, Management Measures

In June, the Council adopted a front-loaded process and schedule for developing 2013-2014 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures. The Council's intent is to narrow the scope of action and number of changes to increase the likelihood of a January 1, 2013 fishery start date.

In September, the Council adopted the 2013-14 overfishing limits (OFLs) recommended by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (Table 1, page 13). The Council also adopted preliminary acceptable biological catches (ABCs), except for sablefish and spiny dogfish (Table 1). For sablefish, the ABC would be calculated based on an overfishing probability (P^*) of 0.33, which determines coastwide ABCs of 5,654 mt and 6,113 mt for 2013 and 2014, respectively. The preliminary

2013 and 2014 ABCs for spiny dogfish, calculated using a P^* of 0.3, are 2,044 mt and 2,024 mt, respectively. The Council also deferred a decision



Spiny dogfish (NOAA)

to restructure the current stock complexes until the 2015-16 specifications cycle pending further analysis and discussion regarding the impacts associated with this change. As part of this decision, blackgill rockfish, greenspotted rockfish, and spiny dogfish would continue to be managed within their respective stock complexes in 2013 and 2014.

In September the Council adopted only a few new manage-

ment measures for preliminary analysis and scoping. The measures are expected to keep mortality within the harvest specifications, reduce bycatch and discards, and improve efficiency. Measures under consideration include trip limit adjustments for blackgill rockfish south of 40° 10' N. latitude, spiny dogfish, and longnose skate; removing or reducing the lingcod length limit in the sho-

reside trawl quota fishery; and modifying trawl gear regulations (e.g., allowing four seam nets). Preliminary analysis of these management measures will be included in the November briefing book. The Council will develop a preliminary preferred suite of 2013-2014 management measures at the April 2012 Council meeting. After a public review period, the Council will take final action at the June 2012 Council meeting.

Council Outlines Science Improvements for Next Groundfish Management Cycle

In September, the Council recommended six workshops, all proposed by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), to improve the science informing groundfish management, with a review of historical catch reconstructions as the lowest priority. These workshops include 1) a review of the

2011 assessment process, 2) a data-poor assessment methods review, 3) a review of the B_0 harvest management framework and harvest control rules, 4) a workshop to evaluate the utility of a combined acoustic-remotely operated vehicle survey of the Cowcod Conservation Area, 5) a workshop on assessing trans-

boundary stocks, and 6) a review of historical catch reconstruction methods. The Council further tasked the Groundfish Management Team with continuing to improve models and analyses that would inform the 2015-16 decision-making process.

The review of the 2011

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ABC = acceptable biological catch; B_0 = unfished, original stock size or biomass; OFL = overfishing limit; P^* = a measure of scientific uncertainty; SSC = Scientific and Statistical Committee

Groundfish and Halibut News

Inseason Adjustments for 2011, 2012 Groundfish Fisheries Recommended

2011 Fisheries

At its September meeting, the Council looked at recent information on the status of the groundfish fisheries and recommended two inseason changes: open access sablefish trip limits south of 36° N. latitude would be increased to 300 lbs. per day, 1,500 lbs. per week, not to exceed 3,000 lbs. per two months; and limited entry fixed gear and open access trip limits for shallow nearshore rockfish south of 40°10' N. latitude would be set at 1,000 lbs. per two months, from November 1 through the rest of

the year.

2012 Fisheries

Two regulatory issues were raised during the discussion. The Council asked National Marine Fisheries Service to resolve these issues outside the Council process in time for the 2012 fisheries.

The first issue involves the limited entry fixed gear fishery for sablefish north of 36° N. latitude. Regulations state that if a vessel has taken its entire tier limit, except for an amount smaller than the daily-trip-

limit (DTL) amount, that vessel's subsequent sablefish landings are automatically subject to the DTL fishery limits. A daily limit of 300-500 pounds served as the poundage threshold until the Council removed the daily limit from the DTL fishery in 2010. When the daily limit was removed, the weekly limit was used as the poundage threshold. This is a significant complication for the tier fishery participants, and means that they must make their final landing within 2,000 lbs (current weekly limit) rather than 300-500 lbs (historical daily

limit). The Groundfish Management Team's discussion of this issue is online at <http://tinyurl.com/3rvem3j>.

The second issue involves the regulations for chafing gear on mid-water nets for vessels involved in the Pacific whiting fishery. The Council believes regulations requiring chafing gear in this fishery are contrary to the Council's intent. The Council asked NMFS to review the record and resolve these issues outside the Council process and in time for the 2012 fisheries. 

Council Considers Changes to Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan

Each September, the Council considers proposed changes to the halibut regulations in order to adjust regulations for the Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan. The Council may also make changes in catch allocation among areas or gear groups.

Both Washington's and Oregon's Departments of Fish and Wildlife held public meetings in August to solicit proposed changes to the Catch Sharing Plan. Recommendations from the meetings were provided to

the Council, which subsequently adopted for public review the proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and 2012 regulations (see table, page 15).

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) hosted public hearings on the proposed changes in Astoria, Newport, Brookings, and Coos Bay in late September. In addition, the agency set up two web-based survey tools to get angler input on several proposals for the

2012 halibut fisheries at <http://tinyurl.com/3rmjw5r>.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife also hosted a public hearing to receive public comment on proposed changes in Montesano on Friday, September 30, 2011.

The Council will take final action on the proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for 2012 at its

For more, see the September halibut briefing book materials: <http://tinyurl.com/3swhdc6>

November 2011 meeting. Comments received at the Council office before October 13, along with summaries of the public hearings hosted by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and ODFW, will be included in the briefing materials for the November Council meeting. 

Council Looks at Ways to Estimate Pacific Halibut Bycatch for the 2012 Groundfish Fisheries

In September, the Council considered ways to estimate Pacific halibut bycatch in groundfish fisheries, and considered possible changes to halibut allocation for bycatch and catch sharing in groundfish fisheries.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) briefed the

Council on bycatch estimates for Pacific halibut in Council-area groundfish trawl and fixed gear fisheries in 2010. This report included information from the groundfish observer program. NMFS will provide this information to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC)

for use in conducting the Pacific halibut stock assessment.

The Council also discussed groundfish trawl bycatch of Pacific halibut that the IPHC would use to establish the 2012 halibut total allowable catch. After affirming the ten percent carry-over provision of Pacific

halibut individual bycatch quota in groundfish trawl fisheries, the Council will recommend IPHC use 130,000 pounds as the estimated bycatch mortality of legal size Pacific halibut in Area 2A groundfish trawl fisheries when determining Area 2A total allowable catch in 2012. 

Coastal Pelagic Species News

Quinault Indian Nation Requests Sardine Harvest Allocation

In a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on August 31, the Quinault Indian Nation stated their intent to harvest a portion of the 2012 Pacific sardine harvest. Treaties between the United States and Pacific Northwest Indian Tribes give the tribes the right to take up to 50% of the harvestable surplus of those fish which pass through

the tribes' usual and accustomed areas. The request is for 9,000 metric tons in 2012, although this is not intended to set a precedent for future tribal allocation requests.

The coastal pelagic species fishery management plan provides a framework to accommodate such requests, but does not provide specific procedural guidance. In response to interest

from the Makah Tribe several years ago, the Council established an ad hoc Tribal Allocation Committee, but a formal request was never submitted. The committee never met and was formally dissolved in 2010.

In September, the Council did not re-establish the ad hoc Tribal Allocation Committee, opting instead to support the plan by NMFS, the Tribes, and

the states to meet and discuss details relative to the request. The NMFS Southwest Region has the lead on coastal pelagic species issues while the NMFS Northwest region has experience working with Tribal allocation issues. Therefore, the two regions will work together, along with the Tribes and states, and will provide guidance at the November Council meeting. 

Council Makes Advisory Body Appointments

In considering advisory body appointments in September, the Council appointed **Shems Jud** to the vacant conservation position on the Groundfish Allocation Committee; directed staff to reissue the call for nominations to the

vacant Washington at-large position on the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel to allow for further consideration at the November Council meeting; confirmed the appointment of **LCDR Elisa Garrity** to the U.S. Coast Guard 11th District position on

the Enforcement Consultants; appointed **David Crabbe** to fill a vacancy on the Legislative Committee; chose not to reactivate the ad hoc Coastal Pelagic Species Tribal Allocation Committee to deal with the recent proposal by the Quinault

Tribe to begin harvesting sardine in 2012 (see story above); and directed the Council Chair to consider and appoint any needed additional members to the Trawl Rationalization Regulatory Evaluation Committee for their October meeting. 

Coming Up at the November 2011 Council Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held in Costa Mesa, California on November 2-7, 2011. The advance Briefing Book is available on the Council website (www.pcouncil.org).

Groundfish

- Approve stock assessments from Mop-up Panel, and rebuilding analyses
- NMFS report
- Adopt EFP recommendations: Final for 2012 & preliminary for 2013-14 for public review
- 2013-14 biennial management process
- Whiting mothership cooperative report on 2011 season

- Trawl rationalization priority trailing issues: Refine and complete as necessary
- Inseason adjustments

Salmon

- Adopt final methodology changes for 2012, and advice for Columbia River tules
- Preseason management schedule for 2013

Halibut

- Final changes to 2012 regulations

Coastal Pelagic Species

- NMFS report
- Sardine assessment and coastal pelagic species management measures for 2012

Ecosystem Management

- Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report
- Development of ecosystem fishery management plan

Highly Migratory Species

- Input to international regional fishery management organizations
- Initial consideration of input on bluefin tuna over-fishing status

Other

- Habitat report
- Appointments

Salmon News

Council Hears Progress Report on Columbia River Tule, Sacramento Winter Run Chinook Management

In September, the Council received progress reports on Columbia River tule Chinook and Sacramento winter-run Chinook.

Columbia River Tules

The Lower Columbia Chinook evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1999. The fall run tule Chinook stock, a component of the ESU, is protected; harvests have been substantially reduced from historical levels, and NMFS is considering further reductions on take. Tule Chinook are harvested in fisheries from Oregon to Alaska, and while no single fishery harvests a large number of this stock, the combined impact of all fisheries can be significant. Because much of the tule fishery occurs in Canada and Alaska, outside the Council's management authority, lower limits have seriously constrained Oregon and Washington ocean and Columbia River fisheries.

The Council is considering abundance-based management

for tule Chinook.

This approach helps protect the stock during years of low returns, and allows more flexibility for the fishery when returns are high. When abundance is low, lower impact rates reduce the risk of low spawning escapements that can cause long-term damage to weak wild populations. When abundance is high, increased impact rates allow fishermen more access to stronger stocks and to hatchery fish. This strategy could increase the average harvest of both tule Chinook and other salmon, while reducing long-term risks to wild tule Chinook.

In June 2010, the Council convened an Ad Hoc Tule Chinook Work Group to explore this approach for Lower Columbia River tule Chinook. The group determined that an abundance-based approach could be practical and effective. The Council recommended that the group continue to develop alternatives for an abundance-

Lower River Hatchery Abundance Forecast	Exploitation Rate Limit
0-30,000	0.30
30,000-40,000	0.35
40,000-80,000	0.38
>80,000	0.40

based management framework, including an alternative recommended

by the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (see table, this page).

The Council is scheduled to take final action on an abundance-based management approach for tule Chinook in November. If the Council decides to pursue this approach, it will forward its recommendations to NMFS for consideration in the ESA consultation process and annual guidance letter for 2012 ocean salmon fisheries.

Sacramento Winter-Run Chinook

As part of its ESA consultation process, NMFS is requiring a new framework for managing Sacramento winter-run Chi-

For more, see the September salmon briefing book materials: <http://tinyurl.com/3ztvnm>

nook, including new models and analyses to evaluate various management options. NMFS will establish new status thresholds and management objectives, and the new models and analyses will be used by the Council and NMFS to assess fisheries impacts beginning with the 2012 pre-season management process. A progress report on the development of a cohort reconstruction and harvest model was presented in September, and the Council recommended continued development of a harvest impact model for Sacramento winter run Chinook for use in developing and implementing a new ESA consultation framework.

2011 Salmon Methodology Review In Progress

Each fall, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviews the models used in salmon management to ensure that they use the best available science. Proposed changes can be adopted by the Council at its November meeting, in time to be used for the spring salmon management season.

At its September meeting, the Council directed the SSC to review the following topics: 1) abundance-based management framework for Lower Columbia River tule fall Chinook; 2) cohort reconstruction and harvest impact model for Sacramento winter run Chinook; 3) examination of the potential bias in the Coho Fishery

Regulation Assessment Model of fishery-related mortality introduced by mark-selective fisheries; and 4) multi-year review and evaluation of preseason and postseason mark-selective fisheries both north and south of Cape Falcon.

In early October, the Salmon Subcommittee of the SSC held a joint work session with the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and Model Evaluation Workgroup to review the scientific bases for each of these topics. The STT and SSC will report their findings and make recommendations for adopting proposals at the November Council meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

Highly Migratory Species News

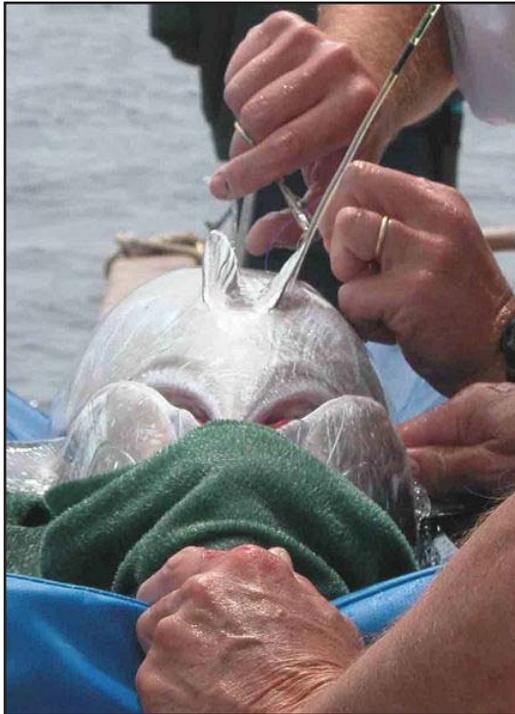
Albacore Tuna Stock Assessment Concludes that Stock is Healthy

In September, the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Science Center briefed the Council on the results of the latest North Pacific albacore stock assessment, conducted by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean. The Council was also briefed on the results of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Northern Committee meeting, held September 6-9, where the management implications of the stock assessment were considered.

This latest assessment concluded that the stock is considered to be healthy based on average historical recruitment (young fish entering the population) and the current level of fishing mortality (the 2006-2008 average). The estimates of stock biomass and current fishing mortality were influenced by new information about the growth of albacore based on

analysis of albacore otoliths (ear bones), which can be used to estimate a fish's age. Previous assessments used data published in 1966. Newer data indicate that albacore don't get as big as

previously believed; the new growth model affects the estimate of stock



Archival tagging of an albacore tuna. Source: Western Fishboat Owners Association

For more, see the September highly migratory species briefing book materials: <http://tinyurl.com/3z6ok44>

biomass and, indirectly, the fishing mortality rate estimate.

The estimate of current fishing mortality is about 71% of the interim reference point adopted by the Northern Committee (the interim reference point is the fishing mortality associated with the ten lowest annual levels of spawning stock biomass, denoted FSSB-AHTL), which should not be exceeded).

Projections indicate that it is unlikely this reference point will be exceeded in the next 25 years, assuming that recruitment stays at the average historical level (a level observed in the past, such as during the 1980s) and fishing mortality does not increase. However, if recruitment is reduced by 25 percent from the average historical level, and all else remains the same, the interim reference point would likely be exceeded within 25 years. In addition, FSSB-AHTL, the interim reference point, is not very precautionary. If more conservative fishing mortality reference points are used, the likelihood of overfishing also increases.

Partly in reaction to this assessment, the Northern

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Workshop Looks at Swordfish Management

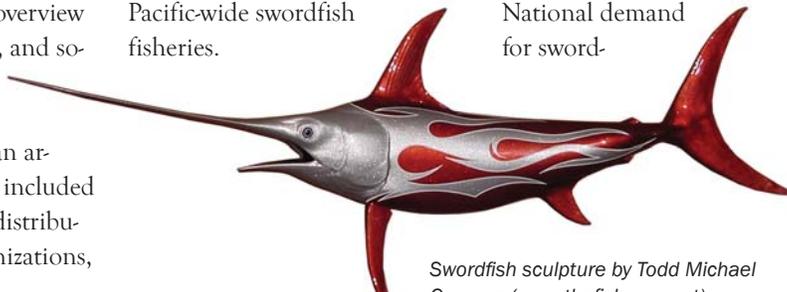
In September, Mark Helvey from the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Region reported on a swordfish workshop held in May. The workshop provided an overview of biological, ecological, and socioeconomic factors in Pacific swordfish fisheries. Participants—an array of stakeholders that included fishermen, processors, distributors, conservation organizations,

fishery managers, scientists, natural resource economists, and legislative aides—discussed the current state and possible future of West Coast and Pacific-wide swordfish fisheries.

West Coast swordfish fisheries (which use gillnet, longline, and harpoon gear) have experienced declining landings over the past decade. National demand for sword-

fish is increasingly met by imports from countries where measures to mitigate the detrimental effects of fishing are likely less stringent than in the U.S.

The decline in West Coast swordfish landings is partly due to regulations put in place to prevent threatened and endangered sea turtles (principally leatherback and loggerhead sea turtles) from being caught in



Swordfish sculpture by Todd Michael Guevara (www.thefishman.net)

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Recipe: Fresh sardines on grilled bread

Sardines grilled the Portuguese way. Try them with a vinho verde (young white wine) from Portugal. Source: *Food & Wine*.

Ingredients

- 4 3/4-inch-thick slices bread, from a large country loaf
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon table salt
- 16 large sardines, cleaned (about 2 pounds in all)
- 1 tablespoon coarse salt

Light the grill or heat the broiler. Using 4 1/2 tablespoons of the oil, brush both sides of each slice of bread. Sprinkle both sides with the table salt. Grill or broil the bread, turning once, until crisp and golden on the surface but still soft inside, about four minutes in all.

Rub the sardines all over with the remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons oil and sprinkle with the coarse salt. Grill or broil the sardines for four minutes. Turn and cook until golden brown and just done, about three minutes. To serve, top each piece of grilled bread with four sardines.

Council Receives Congressional Request to Respond to San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act

In July, the Council received a formal request from U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano regarding H.R. 1837, the San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act. H.R. 1837 was introduced on May 11 by Congressman Devin Nunes (CA) and two cosponsors. The bill addresses water use in California's Central Valley Project through, among other things, amendments to the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), changes to the implementation of the Endangered Species Act, and repeal of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act. Specific to fishery matters, the bill changes the CVPIA definition of "anadromous fish" to include only native salmon and sturgeon stocks present in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers as of October 30, 1992, prohibits the Secretary of Commerce

from distinguishing between natural-spawned and hatchery-spawned or otherwise artificially propagated strains of a species in making Endangered Species Act (ESA) determinations, and considers all requirements for the protection and conservation of the species listed under the ESA to be fully met if water projects are operated in a manner consistent with the Bay-Delta Accord of December 15, 1994. Additionally, H.R. 1837 would change the way funds dedicated to river and wildlife restoration would be collected and administered.

H.R. 1837 has raised concerns within the Oregon and California salmon industry, including several former members of the Council and the Council family. Salmon industry representatives and Will Stelle, the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) West

Coast Salmon Coordinator and Administrator for NMFS Northwest Regional Office, testified in opposition to the bill at a June hearing held by the U.S. House Subcommittee on Water and Power. Stelle concluded his testimony by stating that, "If enacted, this law would hasten the decline of salmon in the Central Valley and Delta and negatively impact the Delta ecosystem and the economy of the state of California and the nation."

In her July 5, 2011 letter to the Council, Congresswoman Napolitano acknowledged the economic impacts of the 2008 and 2009 fishery closures enacted by the Council in response to the collapse of Sacramento River fall Chinook stocks, and expressed the need for more information on the impacts of H.R. 1837 on fisheries, the fishing industry, tourism and

coastal economies. Congresswoman Napolitano specifically requested Council comments on the bill's impacts to salmon populations, habitat, fisheries management, and fishermen.

After discussion in September, the Council directed the Executive Director to send a letter to Congresswoman Napolitano expressing concerns about the adverse effects of the bill on Central Valley salmon populations and the fishery communities that depend on them. The letter also advised Congresswoman Napolitano that the Council intends to look into the potential impacts of the proposed legislation—a process which will take some time. Council staff will prepare a more detailed draft report on the bill for review by the Legislative Committee and other advisory bodies at a future meeting. 

Habitat and Ecosystem News

Washington's Elwha, Glines, and Condit Dams Being Removed this Fall; Klamath Dams Possibly Next

At its September meeting, the Habitat Committee discussed the removal of the Elwha, Glines, Condit, and three Klamath dams.

Klamath Dams

The Secretary of the Interior will make a determination on Klamath dam removal by March 2012 based on whether dam removal will advance restoration of salmonid fisheries in the Klamath basin, and whether it is in the public interest. An environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS) will provide information to support the Secretary's decision. The draft EIS was released for public review/comment on September 22, 2011; there is a 60-day comment period. The

Habitat Committee prepared a letter for the November briefing book commenting on the draft EIS, consistent with previous Council comments calling for the removal of the four dams.

Elwha Dam Removal

After several decades of planning, deconstruction of the Elwha and Glines Canyon dams in Olympic National Park began on September 17. The dams block 146 km of mainstem and floodplain channel habitat, which formerly supported pink, chum, Chinook, coho salmon and steelhead and anadromous bull trout.

Nearly one million dump truck loads of fine sediment will be removed from behind the dams before the project

is complete.

Current salmon production in the Elwha River is between 5,000 and 10,000 fish,

while historically it was around 400,000 fish. Initially, sediment is likely to increase the amount of adult salmon straying away from the basin to other systems, but salmon are expected to return in large numbers after their habitat has recovered.

Condit Dam Removal

Removal of the Condit dam on Washington's White Salmon River begins this October. Tule fall Chinook, Chinook, steelhead, coho, and Pacific and Western Brook lamprey are present below Condit dam. A

For more, see the September habitat briefing book materials: <http://tinyurl.com/3whahww>

salvage operation was conducted to capture fall Chinook below the dam and transport them to upstream spawning areas so their production would not be lost when siltation from dam removal initially inundates the lower river.

Following dam removal, a passive reintroduction process will take place, at least for the near term. Any future plans for active reintroduction (hatchery supplementation, translocation, etc.) would be developed through a multi-agency planning process. 

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Presents Proposed Ecosystem-Based Management Initiative

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is developing an ecosystem-based management initiative to guide Sanctuary management. At the Council's September meeting, Paul Michel, Superintendent of the Sanctuary and Dr. Rikki Dunsmore, Sanctuary Ecosystem-based Management Initiative Coordinator, briefed the Council on the initiative's goals and process, its research and data collection programs, and coordination between the Sanctuary, the Council, and other stakeholders.

The Council plans to send a letter to the Sanctuary supporting collaboration with the Sanctuary's ecosystem-based management efforts. The Coun-

cil will accept the Sanctuary's invitation to become involved in a Sanctuary advisory group that looks at fishing sustainability, and will offer to take the lead on responsibilities associated with fishing and fisheries in the new initiative. In addition, the Council will offer to participate in the Sanctuary's Research Activities Panel; will emphasize the importance of involving the State of California on management and research matters; and will provide supplemental reports on the initiative from the Council's advisory bodies.

The Sanctuary has long partnered with the Council on marine resource issues, including the protection of krill, habitat issues, and ecosystem-

based fishery management.

Through 2009, the Council and the Sanctuary also coordinated on a planning process to explore marine protected areas within the Sanctuary. Partly in response to national policy directives, both the Council and the Sanctuary are now exploring ecosystem-based principles in their respective management plans. In addition, NOAA is developing an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment analytical tool for the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem, and is exploring using this tool to help both the Council's and the Sanctuary's ecosystem-based

For more, see the September ecosystem briefing book materials: <http://tinyurl.com/3e86cme>

management efforts.

The initial goals of the Sanctuary's ecosystem-based management initiative are to maintain and restore marine ecosystem health and function, ensure protection of unique and rare features of the sanctuary, facilitate research to differentiate between natural variation and human impacts, and facilitate ecologically and economically sustainable uses, including fisheries. For more information, see <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/resourcepro/ebmi/welcome.html>. 

Enforcement Corner

Poaching and Illegal Fishing Foiled by West Coast Enforcement Officers

International poaching off Washington: This August, when the commercial crab season was closed on the southern side of the US/Canada border and open on the north side, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Officers Jolynn Beauchene and Zach Gaston took action that led to the arrest of two Canadian commercial crabbers for unlawfully fishing un-buoyed groundlines in closed areas along the northern border of Marine Area 7. The two officers were acting on a citizen tip near Boundary Bay (Blaine, Washington), where the US-Canada border is well-marked. Without surface buoys giving away the presence of the illegal gear, poachers can do a lot of undetected damage.

Officer Beauchene coordinated surveillance assistance from Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans and positioning of WDFW and US Coast Guard chase vessels. The foreign vessel was seized in the act of poaching. US Border Patrol and Blaine Police gladly



provided transportation and access to interview facilities, while the Coast Guard escorted the vessel from Pt. Roberts to Blaine. The vessel operator admitted he had knowingly been poaching crab in U.S. waters for the past two weeks. Almost 3,000 pounds of crab (valued at about \$5.00 per pound) were also seized. Over the next three days, nine unmarked groundlines were located, but none matched the suspect's description of his gear. A total of 154 pots were seized. None of the pots had rot cord, a biological escape mechanism meant to allow crab

escape should gear become lost or derelict. Approximately 3,200 live crab were released for legal fishermen to catch during open seasons. WDFW assisted with transport of the seized gear to the storage yard. Felony charges will be filed.

Vessel Fishing Illegally in the Cowcod Conservation Area:

In August, the Coast Guard notified officers on patrol aboard the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) vessel *Thresher* of a vessel possibly fishing illegally in the Cowcod Conservation Area near Santa Barbara Island. CDFG Officers

Lt. Eric Kord, Lt. Scott Bringman, Warden Jeff Gladstone, and Warden Justin Sandvig found the vessel illegally fishing for groundfish in the closure. The vessel had completed at least two longline sets in the area, and was actively fishing when contacted. Upon inspection, the officers found approximately 1200 lbs of illegally caught fish. The vessel was escorted back and the catch was seized.

Recreational Halibut

Fishery off Oregon: On August 5, 2011, the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division conducted a joint emphasis ocean patrol with the Coast Guard, targeting the opener of the recreational halibut fishery. Officers spent a collective total of 52.25 hours patrolling ocean waters off Newport, contacting 155 anglers and finding 34 of those anglers not in compliance with the law. The most common violations discovered were Failure to Validate Harvest Tag and Unlawfully Angling within the Stonewall Bank Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area. 

Albacore tuna stock assessment, continued from page 6

Committee adopted a Canadian proposal to develop a precautionary management framework for North Pacific albacore. Under this framework, the Northern Committee member countries will begin more comprehensive reporting of catch and fishing effort on albacore, which will be compiled into a regular report. This should help to monitor compliance with the conservation measure adopted by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in 2005,

which directs nations targeting albacore to not increase fishing effort beyond the average fishing effort in 2002-2004. By 2013 the Northern Committee will identify precautionary reference points and management actions to be taken if these reference points are exceeded. By 2014, they will recommend changes to the current North Pacific albacore conservation and management measure, consistent with the precautionary framework. 

Don't tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish. —Mark Twain

Swordfish workshop, continued from page 6

fishing gear. In 2001 a seasonal closure—the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area—put a major part of the gillnet fishery's grounds off limits during the height of their season. In 2004, West Coast longline fishing for swordfish, only allowed outside the Exclusive Economic Zone, was shut down because of the take of loggerhead sea turtles. Since then more has been learned about the distribution of sea turtles, offering the potential for equally effective but less restrictive measures. Gear innovations now required in pelagic longline fisheries have substantially reduced turtle takes. The Hawaii longline swordfish fishery, for example, has reduced sea turtle takes by almost 90 percent since gear innovations were introduced in 2004 (from 32.2 sea turtles caught per 190,000 kg of swordfish caught to 3.7 turtles).

After hearing Mr. Helvey's presentation, the Council discussed whether to reevaluate current management measures for swordfish fisheries and recommend changes in line with the workshop objective of fostering a sustainable fishery. As

Groundfish Stock Assessments, continued from page 1**Petrale Sole**

The new petrale sole | assessment indicates the stock has been successfully rebuilding with an estimated depletion of 18 percent of initial, unfished biomass at the start of 2011. The assessment estimates spawning stock biomass will increase above the target biomass of 25 percent of initial biomass by 2013 or 2014, depending on the interim total catch. Spawning biomass depletion was estimated in the 2009 assessment to be at 11.6 percent at the start of 2009, which was the impetus for declaring the stock overfished (the

minimum stock size threshold is 12.5 percent depletion for declaring a flatfish stock overfished). The projected stock increase is due to a large 2007 recruitment entering the spawning biomass.

Spiny Dogfish

The first spiny dogfish assessment conducted on the West Coast was adopted by the Council in September. The assessment indicates the stock is healthy with a spawning stock depletion of 63 percent at the start of 2011. One assessment result that will require further exploration is the appropriate spawning

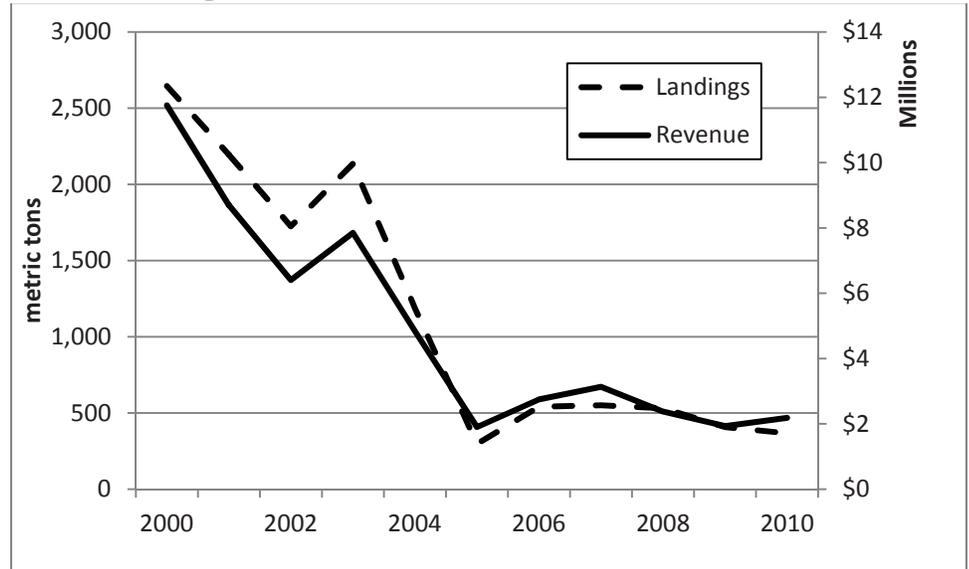
a first step, the Council directed their highly migratory species advisory bodies to gather information referred to in the workshop presentation and report to the Council in March 2012. 

potential ratio (SPR) harvest rate that is used to determine the maximum sustainable yield overfishing limit for the stock. The current proxy SPR harvest rate of 45 percent used to set the spiny dogfish overfishing limit is too high to maintain stock biomass at or above target levels over the long term. The SSC recommended, and the Council concurred, that such analysis of the spiny dogfish SPR harvest rate should be done next year in time to affect harvest specifications and management decisions for 2015 and beyond.

Sablefish

The Council adopted a new full assessment of sablefish that indicates spawning stock biomass has declined relative to the most recent 2007 assessment. Spawning stock depletion is estimated to be 33 percent of initial biomass at the start of 2011, whereas the last assessment indicated the stock had a depletion rate of 38 percent at the start of 2007. This declining biomass trend is due to estimates of below-average recent recruitments during the last ten years. However, there are indications

Continued on page 11

Swordfish landings and revenue, 2000-2010

Source: 2010 HMS SAFE (September 2011)

November Briefing Book Deadlines

The next Council meeting will be held November 2-7, 2011, at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa in Costa Mesa, California. Comments received by **11:59 p.m. on October 13** were included in the briefing books mailed to Council members prior to the November meeting. Comments received by **11:59 p.m. on October 26** will be distributed to Council members at the onset of the November meeting. For more information on the briefing book, see <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/current-meeting/>.

Groundfish stock assessments, continued from page 10

of above average recruitments in 2008 and 2010, which should increase future abundance of the sablefish spawning stock.

Dover Sole

The new Dover sole assessment indicates the stock is healthy, with an estimated depletion of 84 percent at the start of 2011. The estimated spawning biomass has shown a slight decline over the entire time series with two periods of significant decline (the early 1960s and the 1980s). Recently, spawning biomass has been increasing, although a recent increase in catch and low estimated recruitment in the early 2000s seem to

be resulting in a slight downturn in spawning biomass. Throughout the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, the exploitation rate generally increased. However, the exploitation rate never dropped below the target SPR of 30 percent. Recent exploitation rates on Dover sole have been low, even though management allowed for increased catch levels in 2007.

Greenspotted Rockfish

The first assessment of greenspotted rockfish in waters off California was conducted this year. Two substocks were assessed north and south of Pt. Conception, since growth rates and exploitation history were thought

to be different in the two areas. The southern and northern populations of greenspotted rockfish had estimated depletion rates of 37 percent and 31 percent respectively at the start of 2011, and are therefore in the precautionary zone. Greenspotted rockfish occur on the continental shelf, and exploitation rates have declined significantly since implementation of Rockfish Conservation Areas in 2003. Spawning output of both substocks have shown an increasing trend since then, and further management measures to rebuild these two substocks are not likely needed.

Blackgill Rockfish

A new assessment of blackgill rockfish in waters off California south of 40°10' N. latitude showed estimated stock depletion at 30 percent at the start of 2011. As such, the blackgill rockfish stock is considered to be in the precautionary zone, requiring a reduction in the exploitation rate to rebuild the stock to a healthy level of abundance (i.e., 40 percent depletion). Blackgill rockfish, a slope species, are an important commercial target species, especially in the Southern California Bight. The Council will consider lower landing limits and/or other compensatory management measures to rebuild the stock. 

Groundfish science improvements, continued from page 2

assessment process resumes the biennial assessment review process that was done in 2005 and 2007, but skipped in 2009. The first two reviews were helpful in refining the process used to conduct and review full stock assessments. The SSC and Council agreed that a fresh evaluation of the 2011 stock assessment process would be helpful before the Council and its advisors start planning the next assessment process in March of 2012.

A workshop to further evaluate data-poor assessment methods was recommended at the first data-poor assessment review workshop this past April (see the Council's summer newsletter article regarding stock assessments). The SSC and Council agreed that further exploration of data-poor assessment methods should be done before these new methods are incorporated in our current stock assessment

system. The next workshop will review new assessment methods that add survey index or length/age composition information to augment catch-based methods used now to determine harvest specifications for stocks where data are limited. These enhanced methods could provide new information on the status of data-poor stocks. Part of this initiative is to develop assessment methods for data-poor stocks that can be reviewed expeditiously, so as not to compete for the resources needed to review full assessments.

In 2006, the SSC sponsored a workshop that explored alternative harvest policies for managing West Coast groundfish stocks and fisheries. Workshop participants and the SSC recommended further investigation of alternative methods for estimating biomass reference points used to manage groundfish

stocks. Stock status is determined by estimating the ratio of current spawning biomass to that estimated for an unfished, equilibrium state of the stock (i.e., initial biomass or B_0). The target spawning stock biomass estimated to result in long-term maximum sustainable yield (denoted B_{MSY}) is also a highly uncertain management quantity; therefore, proxy B_{MSY} values are used (i.e., 25 percent of B_0 for flatfish and 40 percent of B_0 for other groundfish species). Changes in stock assessment methods or data inputs can lead to large changes in estimated B_0 (as with Pacific ocean perch and Dover sole this year) and in some cases to marked changes in depletion levels, overfishing limits, acceptable biological catches, or rebuilding times. The SSC recommended this workshop to review alternative harvest control rules (such as control rules based

on "Dynamic B_0 " or on direct estimates of B_{MSY}) and compare their performance with current approaches using management strategy evaluation (MSE). The SSC recommended MSE analyses should be prepared in advance of the workshop to accomplish this task. Workshop participants would also review stock status for a range of stocks when stock status determinations are based on "Dynamic B_0 ."

NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center will hold a workshop (dates to be announced soon) to evaluate the use of a combined acoustic-ROV for surveying the Cowcod Conservation Area. In discussing this, the Council recommended further evaluation of non-extractive survey techniques that can be applied coastwide.

Continued on page 12

Catch share trailing actions, continued from page 1

in the current year. There are a number of other provisions, including opportunities for risk pools to designate an agent and establish a special quota pounds account, as well as an obligation for risk pool members to waive certain confidentiality provisions.

At a future Council meeting, the Council will take up the issue of providing a safe harbor for lending, along with other provisions to facilitate lender support of the industry.

Lender Provisions

In addition to safe harbors, lenders are interested in the ability to verify who owns quota share through a third party (National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS]), a lien registry, and unique identifiers for quota shares to assist in determining whether any particular quota share has been put up as collateral for other loans.

Cost Recovery

The Council and NMFS are required to assess the management, data collection and enforcement programs associated with catch shares, and to provide a program of fees paid by catch share program participants in order to cover the costs of these programs. In Septem-

ber, based on input from the Cost Recovery Committee and NMFS, the Council adopted basic Cost Recovery Program structure elements for a cost recovery program to begin January 1, 2013, with further refinement of the actual amounts to be recovered from the fishery sectors to occur before regulations are finalized. For more information, see the September briefing book materials at <http://tinyurl.com/42xhp8v>.

Carryover

The Council unanimously affirmed that the provision for carrying over up to 10 percent of uncaught quota pounds from 2011 to 2012, as described in current regulations, should be fully implemented for 2012, and should not require a reduction in the trawl allocation for 2012. Release and distribution of any 2011 carryover quota pounds may occur as late as midyear, after accounting for 2011 is completed. If needed, the Council will be working on adjustments to the regulations to ensure that the carryover provisions can be implemented in future years.

Other Trailing Actions

The Council will pursue a number of trailing actions with target dates ranging from 2013

to 2015. The Trawl Rationalization Regulatory Evaluation Committee will hold a one-day meeting on October 27 in Portland to address two priorities for potential implementation in 2013. The first priority includes reviewing regulations and developing recommendations on the following: stacking a limited entry trawl and fixed gear permit on a single vessel at the same time; changing the season opening date for whiting; allowing vessels to carry multiple gears at the same time; and modifying various trawl gear regulations that impair efficiency and selectivity. As a secondary priority, the committee may review regulations that were made obsolete by the new trawl rationalization program.

Some of the other important issues the Council prioritized for action include

- development of allocation criteria for the adaptive management program quota pounds for implementation by 2015 (this allocation covers 10% of the quota pounds issued each year, currently passed through to quota share holders);
- development of a process to certify new observer providers for implementation in 2014;

- exploring ways for reducing observer costs for implementation in 2013 or 2014;
- reallocation of widow rockfish quota shares in case the stock is rebuilt for 2015 (in late September, stock assessment authors determined that widow rockfish may already be rebuilt);
- changing the requirement that vessels opt out of the fishery for the remainder of the year if they have a quota pound deficit lasting more than 30 days (for 2013);
- revising the method used to calculate the mothership processing ownership (for 2013); and
- providing observer coverage exemption for testing trawl gear (for 2014).

Additionally, NMFS identified actions (<http://tinyurl.com/6xtux5h>) which the Council prioritized for implementation in 2014. These were mostly minor cleanup actions but included a complete prohibition on at-sea processing of all groundfish for non-trawl sectors (with allowances for exceptions currently in place). These issues and those identified above may be implemented earlier than noted, if this is possible without delaying higher priority items. 

Groundfish science improvements, continued from page 11

The Council also recommended a workshop on how to better assess transboundary stocks. The workshop would consider the implications of assessing and managing only a component of a stock. Ideally, Canadian and Mexican scientists would participate, with a view towards conducting assessments which cover the full range of Council-managed stocks.

The Council recommended a workshop to review historical

catch reconstruction methods. Formal historical catch reconstructions have been done for California and Oregon fisheries. While there has been peer review of the California catch reconstruction methods, refinements have been recommended. The Oregon catch reconstruction effort was done this year but has not been peer-reviewed. The Council gave this workshop a low priority pending development of Washington catch reconstruction methods. 

Table 1. 2012-2014 Overfishing Limits and ABCs (metric tons) for West Coast groundfish stocks (overfished stocks in CAPS; stocks with new assessments in bold).

Stock or Stock Complex	2012 OFL	2013 OFL	2014 OFL	2012 ABC	Category	2012 ACL	Preliminary Preferred ABCs (mt)	
							2013	2014
OVERFISHED STOCKS								
BOCACCIO S. of 40°10' N lat.	732	TBD a/	TBD a/	700	1	274	TBD a/	TBD a/
CANARY	622	592	597	594	1	107	566	571
COWCOD S. of 40°10' N lat.	13	11	12	10	1 (Conception) and 2 (Monterey)	3	9	9
DARKBLOTCHED	497	TBD a/	TBD a/	475	1	296	TBD a/	TBD a/
PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH	1,007	844	861	962	1	183	807	823
PETRALE SOLE	1,279	2,711	2,774	1,222	1	1,160	2,592	2,652
WIDOW	4,923	TBD a/	TBD a/	4,705	1	600	TBD a/	TBD a/
YELLOWEYE	48	51	51	46	1	17	49	49
NON-OVERFISHED STOCKS								
Arrowtooth Flounder	14,460	7,391	6,912	12,049	2	12,049	6,157	5,758
Black Rockfish (OR-CA)	1,169	1,159	1,166	1,117	1	1,000	1,108	1,115
Black Rockfish (WA)	435	430	428	415	1	415	411	409
Cabazon (CA)	176	170	165	168	1	168	163	158
Cabazon (OR)	50	49	49	48	1	48	47	47
California scorpionfish	132	126	122	126	1	126	120	117
Chilipepper S. of 40°10' N lat.	1,872	1,768	1,722	1,789	1	1,789	1,690	1,647
Dover Sole	44,826	92,955	77,774	42,843	1	25,000	88,865	74,352
English Sole	10,620	7,129	5,906	10,151	1	10,151	6,815	5,646
Lingcod N. of 42° N lat. (OR & WA)	2,251	2,102	1,984	2,151	1	2,151	2,010	1,897
Lingcod S. of 42° N lat. (CA)	2,597	2,566	2,454	2,164	2	2,164	2,137	2,044
Longnose skate	3,006	2,902	2,816	2,873	1	1,349	2,774	2,692
Longspine Thornyhead (coastwide)	3,483	3,391	3,304	2,902	2	NA	2,825	2,752
Pacific Cod	3,200	3,200	3,200	2,222	3	1,600	2,221	2,221
Sablefish (coastwide)	8,623	6,621	7,158	8,242	1	NA	5,654	6,113
Shortbelly	6,950	6,950	6,950	5,789	2	5,789	5,789	5,789
Shortspine Thornyhead (coastwide)	2,358	2,333	2,310	2,254	1	2,230	2,208	2,208
Splitnose S. of 40°10' N lat.	1,610	1,684	1,747	1,538	1	1,610	1,670	1,670
Starry Flounder	1,813	1,825	1,834	1,511	2	1,520	1,528	1,528
Yellowtail N. of 40°10' N lat.	4,573	4,579	4,584	4,371	1	4,371	4,378	4,382
STOCK COMPLEXES								
Nearshore Rockfish North	116	110	110	NA	2 (blue) and 3	99	94	94
Shelf Rockfish North	2,197	2,183	2,195	NA	2 (greenspotted, greenstriped) and 3	968	1,920	1,932
Slope Rockfish North	1,507	1,518	1,553	NA	1 (splitnose) and 3	1,160	1,381	1,414
Nearshore Rockfish South	1,145	1,164	1,160	NA	1 (gopher), 2 (blue), and 3	990	1,005	1,001
Shelf Rockfish South	2,243	1,910	1,913	NA	2 (greenspotted, greenstriped) and 3	714	1,617	1,620
Slope Rockfish South	903	681	685	NA	2 (bank, blackgill) and 3	626	618	622
Other Flatfish	10,146	10,060	10,060	7,044	3	4,884	6,982	6,982
Other Fish b/	11,150	3,328	3,298	7,742	2 (spiny dogfish) and 3	5,575	2,286	2,265

a/ Values to be determined in November pending review of 2011 assessments at the mop-up panel.

b/ Values for these specifications are the sum of known contributions of component stocks. Fully specified OFLs and ABCs would require the addition of new species to the complex (e.g., non-FMP skates and grenadiers) since many of these species are landed in generic market categories (e.g., unspecified skates).

**Status Report on the 2011 Ocean Salmon Fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California:
Preliminary Data Through August 31, 2011***

Fishery and Area	Season Dates	Effort Days Fished	CHINOOK			COHO ^{b/}		
			Catch	Quota	Percent	Catch	Quota	Percent
COMMERCIAL								
Treaty Indian ^{d/}	5/1-6/30	285	9,800	19,750	50%		Non-Retention	
	7/1-9/6	270	21,177	21,250	100%	6,763	42,000	16%
Non-Indian North of Cape Falcon ^{d/}	5/1-6/30	1,529	20,412	20,600	99%		Non-Retention	
	7/1-9/7	767	9,364	10,300	91%	2,995	12,800	23%
Cape Falcon - Humbug Mt.	4/15-8/31	2,600	24,000	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Humbug Mt. - OR/CA Border	5/1-5/31	62	622	NA	NA		Non-Retention	
	6/1-6/30	48	235	1,500	16%		Non-Retention	
	7/1-7/31	21	35	1,200	3%		Non-Retention	
	8/1-8/31	80	336	1,000	34%		Non-Retention	
OR/CA Border - Humboldt S. Jetty	7/2-7/18	155	1,576	1,400	113%		Non-Retention	
	8/1-8/2	50	813	880	92%		Non-Retention	
Humboldt S. Jetty - Horse Mt.				Closed				
Horse Mt. - Pt. Arena	7/23-8/29	1,400	37,600	None	NA		Non-Retention	
	9/1-30	NA	NA	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Pt. Arena - Pt. Sur	5/1-5/31	1,400	10,700	None	NA		Non-Retention	
	6/25-8/29	1,900	17,300	None	NA		Non-Retention	
	9/1-30	NA	NA	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Pt. Reyes-Pt. San Pedro	10/3-14	NA	NA	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Pt. Sur - U.S./Mexico Border	5/1-8/29	200	1,000	None	NA		Non-Retention	

RECREATIONAL

U.S./Canada Border - Cape Falcon ^{ew/}	6/18-6/25	5,032	2,396	2,396	100%		Non-Retention	
U.S./Canada Border - Cape Alava ^{ew/}	6/26-9/18	10,099	2,755	3,330	83%	2,962	5,990	49%
Cape Alava-Queets River ^{dff/}	6/26-9/18	3,704	1,410	1,410	100%	1,826	2,550	72%
	9/25-10/10	NA	NA	50	NA	NA	50	NA
Queets River - Leadbetter Pt. ^{ew/}	6/26-9/18	27,275	16,736	17,600	95%	12,073	24,860	49%
Leadbetter Pt.-Cape Falcon ^{ew/}	6/26-9/30	29,311	6,548	7,710	85%	25,493	33,600	76%
Cape Falcon - Humbug Mt.	3/15-9/30	24,720	1,387	None	NA		Non-Retention	
	7/2-8/13	Included Above		NA	NA	6,129	15,000	41%
	9/1-7	Included Above		NA	NA		5,900	0%
Humbug Mt. - OR/CA Border (OR-KMZ)	5/14-9/5	3,100	550	None	NA		Non-Retention	
OR/CA Border - Horse Mt. (CA-KMZ)	5/14-9/5	14,300	10,100	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Horse Mt. - Pt. Arena (Ft. Bragg)	4/2-10/30	13,500	6,800	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Pt. Arena - Pigeon Pt. (San Francisco)	4/2-10/30	22,500	12,000	None	NA		Non-Retention	
Pigeon Pt. - U.S./Mexico Border (Monterey)	4/2-9/18	25,900	11,800	None	NA		Non-Retention	

TOTALS TO DATE (through 8/31)	Effort			Chinook Catch			Coho Catch		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
TROLL									
Treaty Indian	555	900	799	30,977	31,852	12,217	6,763	7,173	60,563
Washington Non-Indian	2,022	2,383	1,853	26,945	44,776	12,196	2,578	1,966	16,392
Oregon	3,085	4,008	555	28,059	37,407	708	417	1,003	12,523
California	5,105	1,979	0	68,989	15,098	0	0	0	0
Total Troll	10,767	9,270	3,207	154,970	129,133	25,121	9,758	10,142	89,478
RECREATIONAL									
Washington Non-Indian	63,586	72,450	92,476	28,301	34,640	11,901	36,744	30,294	126,104
Oregon	31,523	40,424	75,816	2,931	3,549	1,093	5,610	16,827	88,434
California	76,200	46,673	2,515	38,185	14,289	302	0	171	0
Total Recreational	171,309	159,547	170,807	69,417	52,478	13,296	42,354	47,292	214,538
PFMC Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	224,387	181,611	38,417	52,112	57,434	304,016

a/ Washington sport estimates are through August 29.

b/ All non-Indian coho fisheries are mark-selective.

c/ Treaty Indian effort is reported as landings.

d/ Numbers shown as Chinook quotas for non-Indian troll and recreational fisheries North of Falcon are guidelines rather than quotas; only the total Chinook allowable catch is a quota.

e/ Mark-selective fishery for Chinook

f/ Original quota of 4,800 marked Chinook; unharvested remainder was transferred at an impact-neutral rate (total transfer of 1,200 Chinook) into the sub-area Chinook guidelines assigned to the summer recreational fishery (non-selective for Chinook). Original summer sub-area Chinook guidelines were: 3,200 from the U.S/Canada border to Cape Alava, 1,350 from Cape Alava to the Queets River, 16,900 from Queets River to Leadbetter Pt., and 7,400 from Leadbetter Pt. to Cape Falcon.

Proposed Changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Public Review

Washington South Coast Sub-Area Alternatives	
<i>Revise the primary season opening date.</i>	
1	Status Quo: The fishery will open the first Sunday in May 1 and continue two days per week, Sunday and Tuesday until the fourth week in May, when the primary fishery will be open on Sunday only. Beginning the following week, the fishery would continue two days per week, Sunday and Tuesday, until the quota for the primary fishery season is reached or September 30, whichever is earlier.
2	The fishery will open on May 1 (regardless of the day of the week) and continue two days per week, Sunday and Tuesday.
3	The fishery would open on the first Sunday in May and remain open for three consecutive Sundays and Tuesdays before the management closure. Following the management closure, if there is sufficient quota the fishery would re-open.
<i>Revise the amount of nearshore set aside.</i>	
1	Status Quo: The south coast subarea quota will be allocated as follows: 10% or 2,000 pounds, whichever is less, will be set aside for the nearshore fishery with the remaining amount allocated to the primary fishery.
2	The south coast sub-area quota will be allocated as follows: 10% or 4,000 pounds, whichever is less, for the nearshore fishery with the remaining amount allocated to the primary fishery.
Columbia River Sub-Area	
<i>Revise the amount of late season set aside.</i>	
1	Status quo: The Columbia River sub-area will be allocated as follows: 30 percent of the sub-area allocation will be set aside for a late season fishery with 70 percent allocated to the early fishery.
2	The Columbia River sub-area will be allocated as follows: 20 percent of the sub-area allocation will be set aside for a late season fishery with 80 percent allocated to the early fishery.
3	The late season set aside will be 20 percent or 3,000 pounds of the sub-area allocation, whichever is less, with the remaining amount allocated to the early fishery.
<i>Revise the early season opening date and the days of the week opening date.</i>	
1	Status Quo: The early season fishery will open on the first Thursday in May or May 1 if it is a Friday or Saturday, 3 days per week, Thursday through Saturday. The late season fishery will open on the first Friday in August and continue three days per week, Friday-Sunday.
2	The early season fishery will be open four days per week Wednesday through Saturday. The late season will continue to be open three days per week, Friday through Saturday.
<i>Revise the contribution to the subarea allocation from the Oregon/California sport allocation.</i>	
1	Status Quo: This subarea is also allocated 5.0 percent of the Oregon/California sport allocation or an amount equal to the contribution from the Washington sport allocation, whichever is greater.
2	This subarea is allocated from the Oregon/California sport allocation an amount equal to the contribution from the Washington sport allocation.
Oregon Central Coast Sub-area	
<i>Revise season allocation alternatives.</i>	
1	Status quo: Nearshore = 8%; spring all-depth = 67%; summer all-depth = 25%
2	Increase the nearshore quota: a) Nearshore = 12%; spring all-depth = 63%; summer all-depth = 25%; b) Nearshore = 15%; spring all-depth = 60%; summer all-depth = 25%
3	Allow flexibility in inseason shifts of quota between the all-depth fisheries and the nearshore fishery
<i>Revise nearshore season structure alternatives.</i>	
1	Status quo (no action)—opens May 1, seven days per week until the earlier of quota attained or October 31
2	Open something less than seven days per week: a) Three days per week (Thursday-Saturday); b) Three days per week (Friday-Sunday); c) Three days per week until July 4, if enough quota remains then open seven days per week; d) Five days per week, including at least one weekend day
South of Humbug Mt. Subarea Alternatives	
1	Status quo (no action)—opens May 1, seven days per week until October 31
2	Opens May 1 through the earlier of October 31 or projected attainment of the subarea catch limit.
3	Fixed seasons established preseason based on allocation and expected catch per day, starting no earlier than May 1 and ending no later than October 31.

Schedule of Events

For more information on these meetings, please see our website (www.pcouncil.org/events/csevents.html) or call toll-free (866) 806-7204.

Trawl Rationalization Regulatory Committee

Purpose: To review regulations related to permit stacking, season opening dates for whiting, vessels carrying multiple gears at once, and trawl gear regulations that impair efficiency and selectivity.

Dates: October 27, 2011

Location: Embassy Suites Portland Airport

Contact: Jim Seger (jim.seger@noaa.gov)

Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting and Advisory Bodies

Dates: November 1-7, 2011

Location: Costa Mesa, California

Contact: Carolyn Porter (carolyn.porter@noaa.gov)

CalCOFI Conference

Dates: December 12-14, 2011

Location: La Jolla, California

Contact: John Heine (Calcofi_coordinator@coast.ucsd.edu)

TriNational Sardine Forum and Otolith Aging Workshop

Dates: December 8-10, 2011

Location: La Jolla, California

Contact: Nancy Lo (nancy.lo@noaa.gov)

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