

NPFMC

C2 Groundfish Specifications

Council Motions 10/8/15

The Council adopts the proposed Gulf of Alaska groundfish specifications for OFLs and ABCs as recommended by the SSC for 2016 and 2017 and set TACs as shown in Item 4 in the action memo, with final TACs from 2016 rolled over for proposed 2016 and 2017 TACs. Proposed federal TACs for 2016 and 2017 for Pacific cod have been revised to account for the State cod fisheries.

The Council adopts the 2016 and 2017 annual and seasonal Pacific halibut PSC limits and apportionments in the Gulf of Alaska as provided in Tables 9, 10, and 11 for Item 6 in the action memo.

The Council adopts the proposed Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish specifications for OFLs and ABCs as recommended by the SSC for 2016 and 2017 and set TACs as shown in Item 2, with final TACs from 2016 rolled over for proposed 2016 and 2017 TACs.

The Council adopts BSAI PSC specifications as shown in Tables 8, 9, 10 and 11 listed as HANDOUT: C2 BSAI PSC limits.pdf on the Council's Granicus Agenda. The Council recommends that the Council adopt Table 7 in Item 3a for ABC reserves for flathead sole, yellowfin sole, and rock sole.

The Council adopts the proposed Discard Mortality Rates (DMRs) for 2016 and 2017 for the GOA and BSAI as shown below.

From C2 Joint Groundfish Plan Team Minutes, October 2015

Long term average halibut DMRs based on annual DMR estimates provided to the Plan Teams by IPHC. Numbers in italics represent extension of previous values where no data were available for updated values.

Non-CDQ					
BSAI			GOA		
Gear/Target	2013-2015	2016	Gear/Target	2013-2015	2016
Trawl			Trawl		
Atka mack	77	82	Bottom poll	60	58
Bottom poll	77	81	Pacific cod	62	62
Pacific cod	71	66	Dpwtr flats	43	<i>43</i>
Other Flats	71	63	Shallwtr flats	67	66
Rockfish	79	83	Rockfish	66	65
Flathead sole	73	72	Flathead sole	65	67
Midwtr poll	88	88	Midwtr poll	71	59
Rock sole	85	86	Sablefish	71	59
Sablefish	75	75	Arr. fldr	73	76
Turbot	64	82	Rex sole	69	71
Arr. Fldr	76	84			
Yellowfin sole	83	84			
Pot			Pot		
Pacific cod	8	20	Pacific cod	17	21
Longline			Longline		
Pacific cod	9	9	Pacific cod	11	10
Rockfish	4	4	Rockfish	9	9
Turbot	13	11			

CDQ - BSAI		
Trawl	2013-2015	2016
Atka mack	86	82
Bottom poll	83	86
Pacific cod	90	87
Rockfish	80	69
Flathead sole	79	79
Midwater poll	90	90
Rock sole	88	86
Turbot	89	89
Yellowfin sole	86	85
Pot		
Sablefish	34	41
Longline		
Pacific cod	10	10
Turbot	4	4

C2 BSAI Specifications (process) Motion

It is the Council’s intent to review BSAI species specification setting in December recognizing a shared responsibility with the IPHC to maintain a viable commercial halibut fishery in Areas 4CDE for the sustained participation of Saint Paul and other Western Alaska communities. Further, it is the Council’s intent to continue to minimize bycatch by assessing the adequacy of the Amendment 80 cooperatives bycatch savings agreements(s) as well as actual halibut bycatch savings up to the December specifications setting as the Council determines final species specifications for the 2016 season.

C2 Squid Assessment Motion

The Council supports the Plan Team and SSC recommendations that the squid assessment for November include different approaches for establishing OFL , fishing mortality and using survey biomass as a minimal biomass estimate.

C2 Spatial Management workgroup Motion

The Council will form a workgroup and begin discussion and development of stock structure and spatial management for BSAI and GOA with an emphasis to begin the discussion with BSAI Blackspotted/Rougheye rockfish.