

C-5 Council Motion
2023 and 2024 Gulf of Alaska groundfish harvest specifications
December 12, 2022

The Council approves the 2022 Gulf of Alaska SAFE report.

The Council approves the final 2023 and 2024 Gulf of Alaska groundfish specifications for OFLs and ABCs as recommended by the SSC, and the TACs as shown in the attached Table 1.

The TACs for both GOA Pacific cod and pollock have been adjusted to account for the State water Guideline Harvest Level fisheries. The GOA Pacific cod adjustments are shown in the attached Table 2.

The 2023 and 2024 Pacific halibut PSC limits, allowances, and apportionments in the GOA are attached in Tables 14, 15, and 16.

The Council approves the halibut discard mortality rates for 2023 and 2024 as shown in attached Table 17.

Table 1. SSC recommended OFL and ABC and Council recommended TAC for Final Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Harvest Specifications (metric tons) for 2023 and 2024

12/12/2022

Species	Area	2022				Catch as of 11/5/2022	2023			2024		
		OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL		ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC	
Pollock	State GHL	n/a	3,327	n/a		n/a	3,723	n/a	n/a	4,027	n/a	
	W (610)	n/a	23,714	23,714	23,595	n/a	26,958	26,958	n/a	29,156	29,156	
	C (620)	n/a	69,250	69,250	69,341	n/a	77,005	77,005	n/a	83,283	83,283	
	C (630)	n/a	30,068	30,068	30,499	n/a	33,729	33,729	n/a	36,478	36,478	
	WYAK	n/a	6,722	6,722	6,441	n/a	7,523	7,523	n/a	8,136	8,136	
	Subtotal		154,983	133,081	129,754	129,876	173,470	148,938	145,215	186,101	161,080	157,053
	EYAK/SEO	15,150	11,363	11,363	-	15,150	11,363	11,363	15,150	11,363	11,363	
	Total	170,133	144,444	141,117	129,876	188,620	160,301	156,578	201,251	172,443	168,416	
Pacific Cod	W	n/a	9,942	6,959	4,926	n/a	7,464	5,225	n/a	6,873	4,811	
	C	n/a	19,752	14,814	13,070	n/a	14,830	11,123	n/a	13,655	10,241	
	E	n/a	3,117	2,338	279	n/a	2,340	1,755	n/a	2,155	1,616	
	Total		39,555	32,811	24,111	18,275	29,737	24,634	18,103	27,507	22,683	16,668
Sablefish	W	n/a	3,727	3,727	2,799	n/a	4,473	4,473	n/a	4,626	4,626	
	C	n/a	9,965	9,965	7,342	n/a	9,921	9,921	n/a	8,819	8,819	
	WYAK	n/a	3,437	3,437	2,643	n/a	3,205	3,205	n/a	2,669	2,669	
	SEO	n/a	5,665	5,665	4,747	n/a	5,602	5,602	n/a	4,981	4,981	
	GOA Total	n/a	22,794	22,794	17,531	n/a	n/a	23,201	n/a	n/a	21,095	
	AK Total		40,432	34,521	n/a	n/a	47,390	40,502	n/a	48,561	41,539	n/a
Shallow-Water Flatfish	W	n/a	21,256	13,250	33	n/a	22,485	13,250	n/a	23,299	13,250	
	C	n/a	25,305	25,305	1,251	n/a	26,769	26,769	n/a	27,737	27,737	
	WYAK	n/a	2,531	2,531	8	n/a	2,677	2,677	n/a	2,774	2,774	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	1,518	1,518	2	n/a	1,606	1,606	n/a	1,664	1,664	
	Total		62,273	50,610	42,604	1,294	65,736	53,537	44,302	68,015	55,474	45,425
Deep-Water Flatfish	W	n/a	256	256	2	n/a	256	256	n/a	255	255	
	C	n/a	2,139	2,139	117	n/a	2,105	2,105	n/a	2,068	2,068	
	WYAK	n/a	1,431	1,431	3	n/a	1,407	1,407	n/a	1,383	1,383	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,082	2,082	-	n/a	2,048	2,048	n/a	2,013	2,013	
	Total		7,026	5,908	5,908	122	6,918	5,816	5,816	6,802	5,719	5,719
Rex Sole	W	n/a	2,981	2,981	40	n/a	3,236	3,236	n/a	3,314	3,314	
	C	n/a	12,076	12,076	654	n/a	13,110	13,110	n/a	13,425	13,425	
	WYAK	n/a	1,361	1,361	-	n/a	1,439	1,439	n/a	1,453	1,453	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,723	2,723	-	n/a	2,879	2,879	n/a	2,905	2,905	
	Total		23,302	19,141	19,141	694	25,135	20,664	20,664	25,652	21,097	21,097
Arrowtooth Flounder	W	n/a	33,658	14,500	438	n/a	30,469	14,500	n/a	30,093	14,500	
	C	n/a	68,394	68,394	10,926	n/a	65,000	65,000	n/a	64,200	64,200	
	WYAK	n/a	6,707	6,707	36	n/a	7,886	7,886	n/a	7,789	7,789	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	11,020	6,900	56	n/a	16,130	6,900	n/a	15,932	6,900	
	Total		143,100	119,779	96,501	11,456	142,749	119,485	94,286	141,008	118,014	93,389
Flathead Sole	W	n/a	14,755	8,650	42	n/a	12,793	8,650	n/a	13,033	8,650	
	C	n/a	22,033	15,400	521	n/a	21,487	21,487	n/a	21,892	21,892	
	WYAK	n/a	1,511	1,511	-	n/a	2,320	2,320	n/a	2,363	2,363	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	1,876	1,876	-	n/a	2,880	2,880	n/a	2,934	2,934	
	Total		48,928	40,175	27,437	563	48,161	39,480	35,337	49,073	40,222	35,839
Pacific ocean perch	W	n/a	2,602	2,602	2,506	n/a	2,529	2,529	n/a	2,461	2,461	
	C	n/a	30,806	30,806	25,039	n/a	29,940	29,940	n/a	29,138	29,138	
	WYAK	n/a	1,409	1,409	1,398	n/a	1,370	1,370	n/a	1,333	1,333	
	W/C/WYAK	41,470	34,817	34,817	28,943	40,308	33,839	33,839	39,229	32,932	32,932	
	SEO	4,110	3,451	3,451	-	3,994	3,354	3,354	3,888	3,264	3,264	
	Total		45,580	38,268	38,268	28,943	44,302	37,193	37,193	43,117	36,196	36,196
Northern Rockfish	W	n/a	1,944	1,944	474	n/a	2,614	2,614	n/a	2,497	2,497	
	C	n/a	3,202	3,202	1,405	n/a	2,350	2,350	n/a	2,244	2,244	
	E	n/a	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a	-	-	
	Total		6,143	5,146	5,146	1,879	5,927	4,964	4,964	5,661	4,741	4,741
Shortraker Rockfish	W	n/a	51	51	7	n/a	51	51	n/a	51	51	
	C	n/a	280	280	287	n/a	280	280	n/a	280	280	
	E	n/a	374	374	149	n/a	374	374	n/a	374	374	
	Total		940	705	705	443	940	705	705	940	705	705
Dusky Rockfish	W	n/a	269	269	106	n/a	149	149	n/a	141	141	
	C	n/a	4,534	4,534	2,455	n/a	7,647	7,647	n/a	7,264	7,264	
	WYAK	n/a	427	427	6	n/a	90	90	n/a	85	85	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	142	142	1	n/a	31	31	n/a	30	30	
	Total		8,614	5,372	5,372	2,568	9,638	7,917	7,917	9,154	7,520	7,520
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	W	n/a	184	184	95	n/a	180	180	n/a	180	180	
	C	n/a	235	235	183	n/a	232	232	n/a	231	231	
	E	n/a	369	369	160	n/a	363	363	n/a	361	361	
	Total		947	788	788	438	930	775	775	927	772	772
Demersal shelf rockfish	Total	579	365	365	163	376	283	283	376	283	283	
Thornyhead Rockfish	W	n/a	352	352	108	n/a	314	314	n/a	314	314	
	C	n/a	910	910	173	n/a	693	693	n/a	693	693	
	E	n/a	691	691	74	n/a	621	621	n/a	621	621	
	Total		2,604	1,953	1,953	355	2,170	1,628	1,628	2,170	1,628	1,628
Other Rockfish	W/C	n/a	940	940	1,134	n/a	940	940	n/a	940	940	
	WYAK	n/a	370	370	76	n/a	370	370	n/a	370	370	
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,744	300	56	n/a	2,744	300	n/a	2,744	300	
	Total		5,320	4,054	1,610	1,266	5,320	4,054	1,610	5,320	4,054	1,610
Atka mackerel	Total	6,200	4,700	3,000	880	6,200	4,700	3,000	6,200	4,700	3,000	
Big Skate	W	n/a	591	591	163	n/a	591	591	n/a	591	591	
	C	n/a	1,482	1,482	668	n/a	1,482	1,482	n/a	1,482	1,482	
	E	n/a	794	794	113	n/a	794	794	n/a	794	794	
	Total		3,822	2,867	2,867	944	3,822	2,867	2,867	3,822	2,867	2,867
Longnose Skate	W	n/a	151	151	58	n/a	151	151	n/a	151	151	
	C	n/a	2,044	2,044	482	n/a	2,044	2,044	n/a	2,044	2,044	
	E	n/a	517	517	400	n/a	517	517	n/a	517	517	
	Total		3,616	2,712	2,712	940	3,616	2,712	2,712	3,616	2,712	2,712
Other Skates	GOA-wide	1,311	984	984	822	1,311	984	984	1,311	984	984	
Sharks	GOA-wide	5,006	3,755	3,755	2,112	6,521	4,891	4,891	6,521	4,891	4,891	
Octopuses	GOA-wide	1,307	980	980	111	1,307	980	980	1,307	980	980	
TOTAL		626,738	520,038	448,118	221,675	646,826	539,072	468,796	658,311	550,224	476,537	

Sources: 2022 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs are from harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2021, 2022 catches through Nov 5, 2022, from AKR Catch Accounting. Note: The sablefish ABC total for the GOA is not included in the grand total. The Alaska-wide sablefish OFL and ABC are included in the grand total.

Table 2. GOA TAC and GHL Considerations for State Waters Pacific Cod

Final 2023 Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod ABCs, TACs and State Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) in metric tons.

Specifications	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
ABC	7,464	14,830	2,340	24,634
State GHL	2,239	3,708	585	6,532
(%)	30%	25%	25%	25-30
Federal TAC	5,225	11,123	1,755	18,103

Note: The Federal TAC is only for Federal fisheries. It does not include the State GHL within it.

Final 2024 Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod ABCs, TACs and State Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) in metric tons.

Specifications	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
ABC	6,873	13,655	2,155	22,683
State GHL	2,062	3,414	539	6,014
(%)	30%	25%	25%	25-30
Federal TAC	4,811	10,241	1,616	16,669

Note: The Federal TAC is only for Federal fisheries. It does not include the State GHL within it.

Table 14--Final 2023 and 2024 Pacific Halibut PSC Limits, Allowances, and Apportionments (Values are in metric tons)

Trawl gear			Hook-and-line gear ¹				
			Other than DSR			DSR	
Season	Percent	Amount	Season	Percent	Amount	Season	Amount
January 20 - April 1	30.4	519	January 1 - June 10	86	221	January 1 - December 31	9
April 1 - July 1	20	341	June 10 - September 1	2	5		
July 1 - August 1	27	462	September 1 - December 31	12	31		
August 1 - October 1	7.5	128					
October 1 - December 31	15	256					
Total		1,705			257		9

¹ The Pacific halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) limit for hook-and-line gear is allocated to the demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) fishery and fisheries other than DSR. Since 1995, the Council has recommended and NMFS proposed that the hook-and-line sablefish fishery, and the pot and jig gear groundfish fisheries, be exempt from halibut PSC limits.

Table 15--Final 2023 and 2024 Seasonal Apportionments of the Pacific Halibut PSC Limit Apportioned Between the Trawl Gear Shallow-Water and Deep-Water Species Fisheries (Values are in metric tons)

Season	Shallow-water	Deep-water ¹	Total
January 20 - April 1	384	135	519
April 1 - July 1	85	256	341
July 1 - August 1	121	341	462
August 1 - October 1	53	75	128
Subtotal, January 20 - October 1	643	807	1,450
October 1 - December 31 ²			256
Total			1,705

¹ Vessels participating in cooperatives in the Rockfish Program will receive 191 mt of the third season (July 1 through August 1) deep-water species fishery halibut PSC apportionment.

² There is no apportionment between trawl shallow-water and deep-water species fisheries during the fifth season (October 1 through December 31).

Table 16--Final 2023 and 2024 Apportionments of the “Other hook-and-line fisheries” Halibut PSC Allowance Between the Hook-and-Line Gear Catcher Vessel and Catcher/Processor Sectors (Values are in metric tons)

“Other than DSR” allowance	Hook-and-line sector	Sector annual amount	Season	Seasonal percentage	Sector seasonal amount
257	Catcher Vessel	150	January 1 - June 10	86	129
			June 10 - September 1	2	3
			September 1 - December 31	12	18
	Catcher/Processor	107	January 1 - June 10	86	92
			June 10 - September 1	2	2
			September 1 - December 31	12	13

**Table 17--Final 2023 and 2024 Discard Mortality Rates for Vessels Fishing in the Gulf of Alaska
(Values are percent of halibut assumed to be dead)**

Gear	Sector	Groundfish fishery	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	All	100
	Catcher/processor	All	100
Non-pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	Rockfish Program	55
	Catcher vessel	All others	74
	Mothership and catcher/processor	All	83
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	All	13
	Catcher vessel	All	9
Pot	Catcher vessel and catcher/processor	All	27