

C3 Groundfish Plan Team Reports & Groundfish Harvest Specifications for Proposed Rulemaking

Steve Barbeaux, Sara Cleaver, Jim Ianelli, Chris Lunsford,
Kalei Shotwell, Diana Stram, Cindy Tribuzio



October 2026



NOAA
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Action for the Council

- 1) Review Groundfish Plan Team reports (summaries)
- 2) Recommend harvest specifications for ***proposed rulemaking***
 - BSAI and GOA groundfish OFL, ABC, TAC recommendations for 2027/2028.
 - Halibut, crab, and herring PSC limits and (updated) halibut DMRs
 - Provides public notice of expected Council action on final harvest specifications in December 2026, when all updated information is available.
 - Typically, a rollover of the existing specifications.
 - Final rule publishes the following spring.



Assessment Plans 2026

Stocks with **proposed models** reviewed by PTs/SSC in Sept/Oct

- Sablefish
- EBS pollock
- BSAI Greenland turbot
- BSAI Yellowfin sole
- EBS cod
- GOA pollock
- GOA DSR
- GOA thornyhead

The PT/SSC reviewed SAFE chapters and provided **final** BRD/ABC/OFL recommendations for 2027-2028 for the following stocks at this meeting:

Full or Update Assessments

- Bogoslof pollock
- GOA arrowtooth flounder
- GOA rex sole
- GOA skates

Final OFL/ABC/BRD recommendations for all stocks will be included in final TAC recommendations in December.
AP/Council will do final TACs for all stocks in Dec.
(i.e., not for proposed specs)

Harvest Projections

- AI pollock
- BSAI northern rock sole
- BSAI Kamchatka flounder
- BSAI northern rockfish
- BSAI flathead sole
- BSAI arrowtooth flounder
- BSAI Alaska plaice
- GOA dusky rockfish
- GOA flathead sole
- GOA shallow-water flatfish, incl. n&s rock sole
- GOA deepwater flatfish



Groundfish Plan Team Meeting, Sept 8-11, 2026

BSAI Groundfish Plan Team Members:

Steve Barbeaux	AFSC REFM (co-chair)	Kirstin Holsman	AFSC REFM
Kalei Shotwell	AFSC REFM (co-chair)	Andy Kingham	AFSC FMA
Cindy Tribuzio	AFSC ABL (vice chair)	Beth Matta	AFSC REFM
Diana Stram	NPFMC (coordinator)	Andrew Seitz	UAF
Lukas DeFilippo	AFSC	Jane Sullivan	AFSC ABL
Allan Hicks	IPHC	Steven Whitney	NMFS AKRO
Lisa Hillier	WDFW		

GOA Groundfish Plan Team Members:

Jim Ianelli	AFSC REFM (co-chair)	Pete Hulson	AFSC ABL
Chris Lunsford	AFSC ABL (co-chair)	Nat Nichols	ADF&G
Sara Cleaver	NPFMC (coordinator)	Jan Rumble	ADF&G
Meaghan Bryan	AFSC REFM	Paul Spencer	AFSC REFM
Abby Jahn	NMFS AKRO	James Thorson	AFSC REFM
Craig Faunce	AFSC FMA	Sophia Wassermann	AFSC RACE
Lisa Hillier	WDFW	Ben Williams	AFSC ABL



Future meetings

- November 16-20, 2026
- September 2027, TBD
- November 15-19, 2027

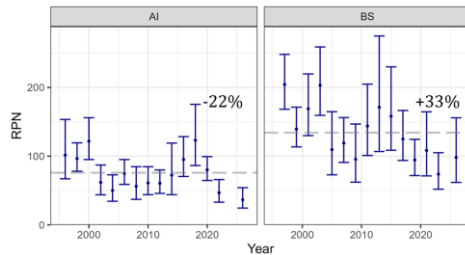
JPT Presentation Summary

Topic	Presenter	Type	Recommendations
AFSC Update	Melissa Haltuch	Informational	Yes
ESR Climate Update	Bridget Ferriss	Ecosystem	No, already reviewed
ESP and DSEM Update	Kalei Shotwell	Ecosystem	Yes
Longline Survey	Pat Malecha	Survey	No
Harvest Control Rules Update	Diana Stram + co-authors	Informational	Yes
Alaska Sablefish	Dan Goethel, Matt Cheng	Full Model	Yes, 3 models
Pacific Cod Research Updates	Steve Barbeaux, Pete Hulson	Informational	No
Inseason Management Updates	Steve Whitney, Abby Jahn	Full Model	No
Halibut DMRs	Mike Fey	Proposed specs	Yes- in BSAI/GOA reports

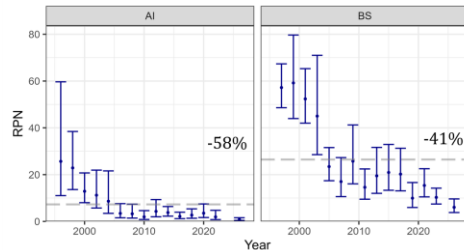
Longline Survey

- Change to survey: Sampling in GOA in odd years, BSAI in even years
- 234,900 hooks fished, 32,816 lengths, 1,149 sablefish otoliths, 1,371 sablefish, 36 SST, 8 GT tagged
- 56 temp-depth profiles, sub-surface temps (~250m) near avg in both Bering Sea and Aleutians
- Pacific cod down in AI, up in BS, GT down both, Shortraker up both, and REBS up AI down in BS

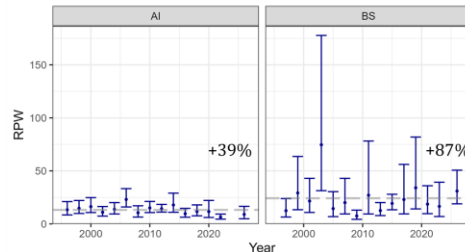
Pacific cod



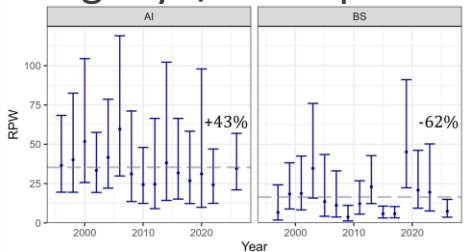
Greenland Turbot



Shortraker



Rougheye/Blackspotted



Thanks to Pat Malecha

Alaska Sablefish: updates

- No assessment in 2025 due to shutdown (would have seen 17% decrease in Model 25.12 approved by SSC in Oct 2025).
- Survey change beginning in 2025, every other year GOA / BSAI
- Rec'd FAA model 32% decline from AK-wide ABC in place for 2026.
- CIE review completed in June, supported fleets-as-areas (FAA) model approach
- 2025 GOA LLS age compositions (new) are first indications of 2020—2022 cohort strength
- 2026 survey: AI +26% from 2022, BS -14% from 2023, last GOA survey in 2025.
- **The 2027 ABC has not yet been determined (December)**



Sablefish apportionment

- When apportionment combined with decrease in ABC from author & PT rec'd model, BRDs undergo strong declines from 2026 harvest specs.
- AI undergoes strong decline, BS apportionment net neutral, partially offset in GOA
- Plan Teams appreciated update regarding the change in apportionment method due to survey design change; PT recommendations on BRDs are in November
- Flagging apportionment changes for Council



Alaska Sablefish: PT Recommendations

Teams recommended bringing 3 models forward in November:

- **Model 26.2_FAA (fleets-as-areas) (author and CIE recommended model), Model 26.1_1Reg (updated single-region), and Model 25.12_1Reg_Cont (continuity/base)**
- **PT recommendation to avoid further reductions in longline survey coverage and age data collection, maintain current levels at a minimum**



Halibut Discard Mortality Rates (DMRs)

Area	Gear	Operation	2026 DMRs (specified)	2027/28 DMRs (recommended)
BSAI	Pot	All	19% ^b	18% ^b
	Hook-and-line	CP	10%	9%
	Hook-and-line	CV	10% ^a	10% ^a
	Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership / CP	86%	84%
	Non-pelagic trawl	CV	62%	64%
GOA	Pot	All	29% ^b	36% ^b
	Hook-and-line	CP	12%	8%
	Hook-and-line	CV	15% ^c	15% ^c
	Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership / CP	79%	86%
	Non-pelagic trawl	CV	62%	50%
All	Pelagic trawl	All	100%*	100%*

Thanks to Michael Fey (AKFIN) and other Halibut DMR Working Group members: Jen Cahalan (PSMFC), Jason Jannot (NMFS AFSC), Krista Melani (NMFS AKRO), Jason Gasper (NMFS AKRO), Ian Stewart (IPHC)

C3 Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Groundfish September Plan Team Report

Steve Barbeaux, Kalei Shotwell, Diana Stram, Cindy Tribuzio



October 2026, Presentation to the Council



BSAI proposed specifications

1. Brief overview of the BSAI Plan Team report
2. Action to Adopt Proposed specifications:
 - -2027-2028 proposed OFL/ABC/TAC based on 2026 final harvest specifications
 - -Atka mackerel seasonal and spatial TAC allocations (including jig)
 - Flatfish flexibility tables
 - PSC and fishery apportionments for halibut, herring, crab
 - Crab and herring updated
 - Halibut NMFS trawl survey letter posted;
 - IPHC setline survey estimate to come by December

Chinook 3 river index posted to eAgenda; remains below 250k
→threshold low PSC cap per regulations



BSAI Presentation Summary (Sept 10-11, 2026)

Topic	Presenter	Type	Recommendations
EBS Bottom Trawl Survey	Duane Stevenson	Survey Update	No
AI Bottom Trawl Survey	Susanne McDermott	Survey Update	No
EBS Acoustic Survey & AVO Index	Abigail McCarthy, Nathan Lauffenburger	Survey Update	No
Harvest Projections	Melissa Haltuch	Final Models	No
Bogoslof Pollock	Jim Ianelli	Update Model, Final	No
EBS Pollock	Jim Ianelli	Proposed Full Models	Yes, 2 models
Yellowfin Sole	Ingrid Spies & Meaghan Bryan	Proposed Full Models	Yes, 3 models
Greenland Turbot	Meaghan Bryan	Proposed Full Models	Yes, 4 models
EBS Pacific Cod	Steve Barbeaux	Proposed Full Models	Yes, 2 models
Proposed Specifications	Steve Whitney		
General Discussion	Team	Informational	No

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Eastern Bering Sea Bottom Trawl Survey

- 2026 EBS shelf survey completed all 350 standard stations
- NBS survey not conducted in 2026; EBS/NBS both scheduled for 2027
- Surface/Bottom temps coldest since 2013, cold pool largest since 2012
- Biomass for most species stable or increasing, pollock volatile, skates <
- Updated effort calculations changed 2024–2025 biomass indices ~3–4%

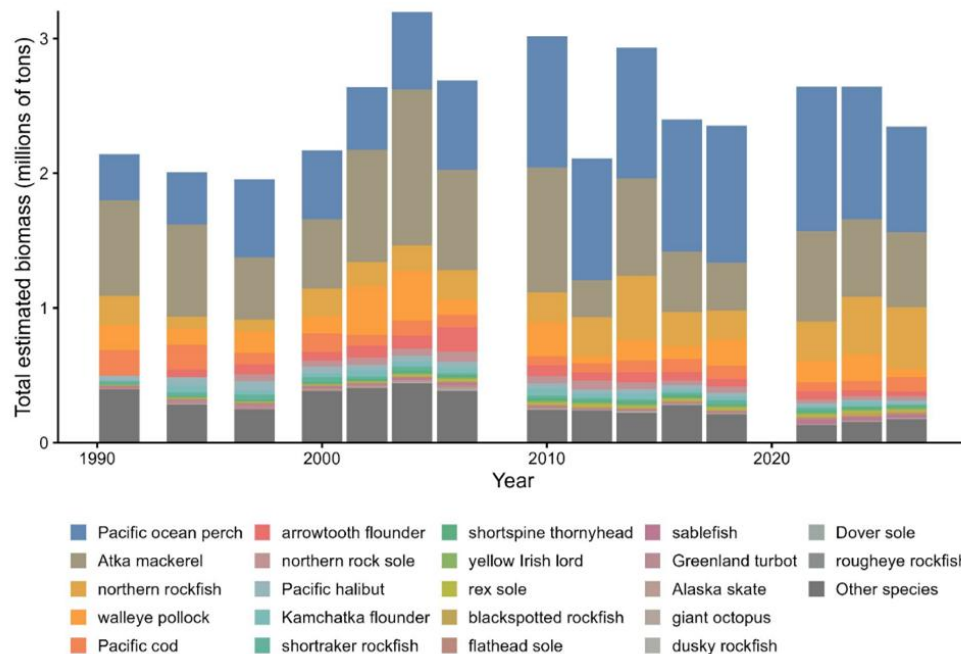
Thanks to Duane Stevenson

Common Name	x1000	2025	2026	% Change
Alaska plaice	Biomass	321	388	21
	Population	563,791	773,430	37
Alaska skate	Biomass	384	318	-17
	Population	108,901	82,574	-24
arrowtooth flounder	Biomass	472	479	1
	Population	643,019	656,696	2
Bering flounder	Biomass	12	11	-7
	Population	69,821	71,380	2
flathead sole	Biomass	686	784	14
	Population	2,187,918	2,568,110	17
Greenland turbot	Biomass	5	10	88
	Population	1,536	2,424	58
Kamchatka flounder	Biomass	32	42	32
	Population	70,129	84,194	20
northern rock sole	Biomass	1,433	1,818	27
	Population	7,506,132	10,708,073	43
Pacific cod	Biomass	548	622	13
	Population	496,520	391,636	-21
Pacific halibut	Biomass	129	123	-4
	Population	77,421	73,806	-5
Pacific ocean perch	Biomass	11	33	190
	Population	11,920	35,927	201
walleye pollock	Biomass	3,673	5,632	53
	Population	6,313,819	9,585,593	52
yellowfin sole	Biomass	1,489	1,618	9
	Population	5,553,541	7,467,100	34

Aleutian Islands Bottom Trawl Survey

Catch composition

- 2026 AI survey completed 373 stations of 447 attempted, 89,510 lengths, 6,060 otoliths
- New hardware/software used for effort-data collection
- Bottom temp average, surface cool, WAI warm w/ localized hypoxia
- Flatfish below mean, rockfish above mean, gadids mixed, sablefish above, skate low biomass

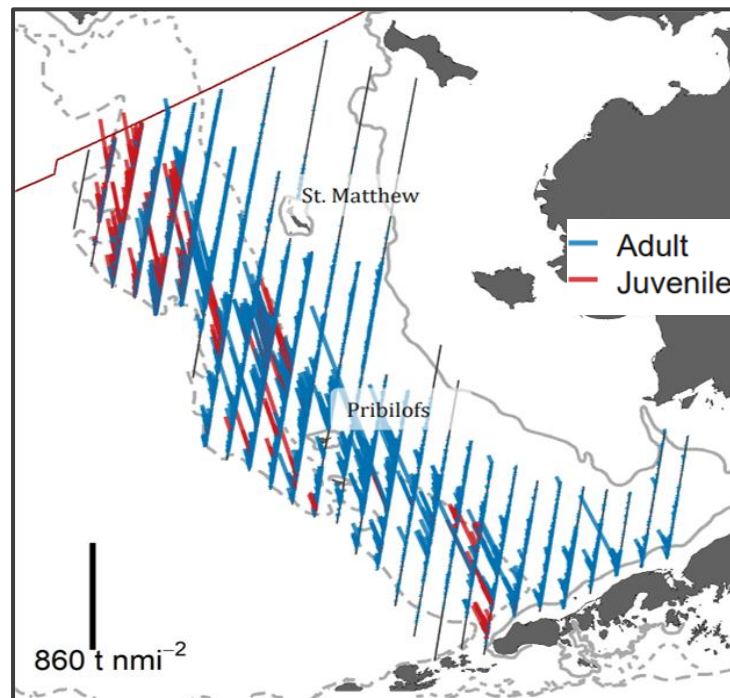


Thanks to Susanne McDermott

Summer Acoustic Survey & AVO Index

- 2026 ATS preliminary estimate: ~3.6 million t and 13 billion pollock
- More juvenile pollock than recent survey years, age-2 largest since 2012 year class
- AVO and ATS spatial patterns were similar in 2026
- Team recognized major MACE/GAP effort to produce rapid survey products

Thanks to Abigail McCarthy & Nathan Lauffenburger



Team General Discussions

- Cross-cutting issues: Age and Growth program capacity, maintaining Team expertise, improved CIE communication
- Need earlier communication on major assessments and new methods to the Team
- Team supported a centralized information resource webpage which was initiated during the meeting



BSAI Documentation Summary

Assessment	BSAI stocks for 2026 (November)
Operational Full (5)	EBS Pollock, EBS Pacific cod, BSAI Yellowfin Sole, BSAI Greenland turbot, BSAI skates
Operational Update (7)	AI Pacific cod, BSAI Pacific ocean perch, BSAI rougheye & blackspotted rockfish, BSAI shortraker rockfish, BSAI other rockfish, BSAI Atka mackerel, Bogoslof pollock (September)
Harvest Projections (7) (reviewed in Sept/Oct)	AI pollock, BSAI northern rock sole, BSAI Kamchatka flounder, BSAI arrowtooth flounder, BSAI northern rockfish, BSAI flathead sole, BSAI Alaska plaice
Catch (3), ESPs (3), and Ecosystem Reports (1)	BSAI other flatfish, BSAI Sharks, BSAI Octopus, EBS Pacific cod ESP (update), EBS Pollock ESP (draft), BSAI Greenland turbot ESP (draft), BSAI/GOA Forage

BSAI proposed specifications

- 1) Overview of the BSAI Plan Team report (abbreviated)
- 2) Action to Adopt Proposed specifications: Tables posted to eAgenda
 - 2027-2028 proposed OFL/ABC/TAC based on 2026 final harvest specifications
 - Atka mackerel seasonal and spatial TAC allocations (including jig)
 - Flatfish flexibility tables
 - PSC and fishery apportionments for halibut, herring, crab
 - Crab and herring updated
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Proposed Specifications

- Team and SSC recommended rollover of 2026 specifications for 2027–2028 proposed specifications; includes reductions for state waters fisheries for Pacific cod and sablefish

Table 1. Plan Team OFL, ABC, and BRD recommendations (metric tons) for BSAI Groundfish Proposed Harvest Specifications for 2027/ 2028

Species	Area	2026			Catch as of 9/8/2026	Plan Team Recommended 2027/2028		
		OFL	ABC	TAC		OFL	ABC	BRD
Pollock	EBS	2,496,000	2,036,000	1,375,000	1,125,707	2,496,000	2,036,000	
	AI	56,231	46,437	19,000	2,478	56,231	46,437	
	Bogoslof	77,354	58,015	250	165	77,354	58,015	
	BS	169,243	141,520	123,077	111,824	169,243	141,520	
Pacific cod	AI	16,273	12,973	8,951	6,084	16,273	12,973	
	BSAI/GOA	57,797	47,008		19,226	57,797	47,008	
Sablefish	BS			8,996	2,723 NA			13,037
	AI			7,440	831 NA			11,421
	BSAI	305,039	267,639	145,000	67,518	305,039	267,639	
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	2,059	1,328	1,328	178	2,059	1,328	
	BS			1,120	121 NA			1,120
Greenland turbot	AI			208	57 NA			208
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	102,472	87,035	14,000	4,820	102,472	87,035	
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	7,790	6,606	6,606	1,953	7,790	6,606	
Northern rock sole	BSAI	166,220	158,225	75,000	35,917	166,220	158,225	
Flathead sole	BSAI	106,283	87,700	36,000	16,216	106,283	87,700	
Alaska plaice	BSAI	33,965	28,230	15,682	4,143	33,965	28,230	
Other flatfish	BSAI	26,083	19,562	4,500	3,754	26,083	19,562	
Pacific Ocean perch	BSAI	43,084	36,578			43,084	36,578	
	BS					9,905	3,070 NA	9,905
	EAI					6,144	3,366 NA	6,144
	CAI					5,441	4,050 NA	5,441
Northern rockfish	WAI					12,000	8,459 NA	16,058
	BSAI	22,284	18,232			12,000	8,389	22,284
Blackspotted/Roughy	BSAI	902	766			766	439	902
	EBS/EAI					441	101 NA	441
Shortraker rockfish	CAI/WAI					325	338 NA	325
	BSAI	631	473			473	50	631
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,406	1,054			1,054	527	1,406
	BS					639	160 NA	639
	AI					415	367 NA	415
Atka mackerel	BSAI	107,889	92,361			82,941	59,986	107,889
	EAI/BS					41,731	24,297 NA	41,731
	CAI					23,716	19,991 NA	23,716
Skates	WAI					17,494	15,698 NA	26,914
Sharks	BSAI	43,285	35,833			27,646	14,312	43,285
Octopuses	BSAI	689	450			400	157	689
Total	BSAI	6,080	4,560			400	150	6,080
		3,849,059	3,188,585			2,000,000	1,487,705	3,849,059

Table 3

Jig can be set
up to 2%
BS/EAI TAC
but not fished
since 1994

Jig = 0
2026/2027
final specs



Table 3—Proposed 2027 and 2028 Seasonal and Spatial Allowances, Gear Shares, CDQ Reserve, ICA, and Amendment 80 Allocations of the BSAI Atka Mackerel TAC (values are rounded to the nearest metric ton)

Sector ¹	Season ^{2,3,4}	BS/EAI	CAI ⁵	WAI ⁵
TAC ¹	Total	41,731	23,716	17,494
CDQ reserve ¹	Total	4,465	2,538	1,872
	A	2,233	1,269	936
	Critical Habitat	n/a	761	562
	B	2,233	1,269	936
	Critical Habitat	n/a	761	562
non-CDQ TAC	Total	37,266	21,178	15,622
ICA ¹	Total	800	100	20
Jig ^{1,6}	Total	0	n/a	n/a
BSAI trawl limited access	Total	3,647	2,108	n/a
	A	1,823	1,054	n/a
	Critical Habitat	n/a	632	n/a
	B	1,823	1,054	n/a
	Critical Habitat	n/a	632	n/a
Amendment 80	Total	32,819	18,970	15,602
	A	16,410	9,485	7,801
	Critical Habitat	n/a	5,691	4,681
	B	16,410	9,485	7,801
	Critical Habitat	n/a	5,691	4,681

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

Table 7 Flatfish Flexibility

Table 7—Proposed 2027 and 2028 ABC Surplus, ABC Reserves, CDQ ABC Reserves, and Amendment 80 ABC Reserves in the BSAI for Flathead Sole, Rock Sole, and Yellowfin Sole (values are rounded to the nearest metric ton)

Sector	Flathead sole	Rock sole	Yellowfin Sole
ABC	87,700	158,225	267,639
TAC	36,000	75,000	145,000
ABC surplus	51,700	83,225	122,639
ABC reserve	51,700	83,225	122,639
CDQ ABC reserve	5,532	8,905	13,122
Amendment 80 ABC reserve ¹	46,168	74,320	109,517

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

¹The 2028 allocations between Amendment 80 cooperatives and the Amendment 80 limited access sector will not be known until eligible participants apply for participation in the program by the deadline of November 1, 2027.



Table 8

Table 8–Proposed 2027 and 2028 Apportionment of Prohibited Species Catch Allowances to Non-Trawl Gear, the CDQ Program, Amendment 80, and the BSAI Trawl Limited Access Sectors (values are rounded to the nearest metric ton. Crab are in number of animals.)

PSC species and area and zone ¹	Total PSC	Non-trawl PSC	CDQ PSQ reserve ²	Trawl PSC remaining after CDQ PSQ	Amendment 80 sector ³	BSAI trawl limited access sector	BSAI PSC limits not allocated to Amendment 80
Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	3,079	710	315	n/a	1,309	745	n/a
Herring (mt) BSAI	2,015	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	97,000	n/a	10,379	86,621	43,293	26,489	16,839
<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	6,764,586	n/a	723,811	6,040,775	2,969,041	1,941,505	1,130,229
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 1	980,000	n/a	104,860	875,140	368,521	411,228	95,390
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 2	2,970,000	n/a	317,790	2,652,210	627,778	1,241,500	782,932

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

Updated for 2026 Crab biomass,
Herring letter posted to eAgenda

Halibut based on last year,
IPHC letter not yet available



Table 9 fishery categories Herring and Red King crab

Table 9—Proposed 2027 and 2028 Herring and Red King Crab Savings Subarea Prohibited Species Catch Allowances for All Trawl Sectors (Herring amounts are rounded to the nearest metric ton. Crab are in number of animals.)

Fishery categories ¹	Herring (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1
Yellowfin sole	116	n/a
Rock sole/flathead sole/Alaska plaice/other flatfish ²	59	n/a
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	6	n/a
Rockfish	6	n/a
Pacific cod	11	n/a
Midwater trawl pollock	1,793	n/a
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ^{3,4}	24	n/a
2026 Red king crab savings subarea non-pelagic trawl gear ⁵	n/a	24,250
Total trawl PSC	2,015	97,000

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.



Table 10

Crab updated for 2026

Table 10—Proposed 2027 and 2028 Prohibited Species Bycatch Allowances for the BSAI Trawl Limited Access Sectors and Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Programs (values are rounded to the nearest metric ton. Crab are in number of animals.)

BSAI trawl limited access sector fisheries ²	Prohibited species and area ¹				
	Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	<i>C. bairdi</i> (animals)	
				Zone 1	Zone 2
Yellowfin sole	250	23,337	1,853,931	346,228	1,185,500
Rock sole/flathead sole/Alaska plaice/other flatfish ³	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rockfish April 15-December 31	5	n/a	1,564	n/a	1,000
Total Pacific cod ⁴	315	2,955	78,191	60,000	50,000
AFA CP Pacific cod	6	278	7,350	5,640	4,700
PCTC Program Pacific cod, A and B	220	1,653	43,744	33,567	27,973
Trawl CV Pacific cod, C season	15	134	3,542	2,718	2,265
PCTC Program unallocated reduction	73	890	23,555	18,075	15,062
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ⁵	175	197	7,819	5,000	5,000
Total BSAI trawl limited access sector PSC	745	26,489	1,941,505	411,228	1,241,500

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

Table 11 non-trawl halibut PSC

Table 11—Proposed 2027 and 2028 Halibut Prohibited Species Bycatch Allowances for Non-Trawl Fisheries (values are rounded to the nearest metric ton)

Non-trawl fisheries	Seasons	C/P	CV	All Non-Trawl
Pacific cod	Annual Pacific cod	648	13	661
	January 1-June 10	388	9	n/a
	June 10-August 15	162	2	n/a
	August 15-December 31	98	2	n/a
Non-Pacific cod non-trawl-Total	May 1-December 31	n/a	n/a	n/a
Groundfish pot and jig	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Sablefish hook-and-line	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Total for all non-trawl PSC	n/a	n/a	n/a	710

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.



Table 12 updated Halibut DMRs

Table 12—Proposed 2027 and 2028 Pacific Halibut Discard Mortality Rates (DMR) for the BSAI

Gear	Sector	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic Trawl	All	100
Non-Pelagic Trawl	Mothership and catcher/processor	84
Non-Pelagic Trawl	Catcher vessel	64
Hook-and-line	Catcher vessel	9
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	9
Pot	All	18

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.



Thank You!



BSAI Plan Team Contacts:

Steve.Barbeaux@noaa.gov

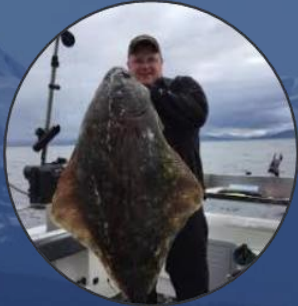
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Gulf of Alaska Groundfish September 2026 Plan Team Report

Jim Ianelli (AFSC), Chris Lunsford (AFSC), Sara Cleaver (NPFMC)



October 2026

Presentation to the Council



NOAA
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GOA Groundfish Proposed Harvest Specifications

- 1) Review Plan Team report (brief summary)
- 2) Recommend GOA groundfish harvest specifications for proposed rulemaking for 2027/2028 (OFL/ABC/TACs) - Table 1
 - a) Account for state water fisheries: Pacific cod TAC adjustment (Table 2), pollock in Table 1, Octopus in Table 1
 - b) Prohibited species catch limit apportionments (Tables 9-11)
 - c) Halibut discard mortality rates (Table 12)



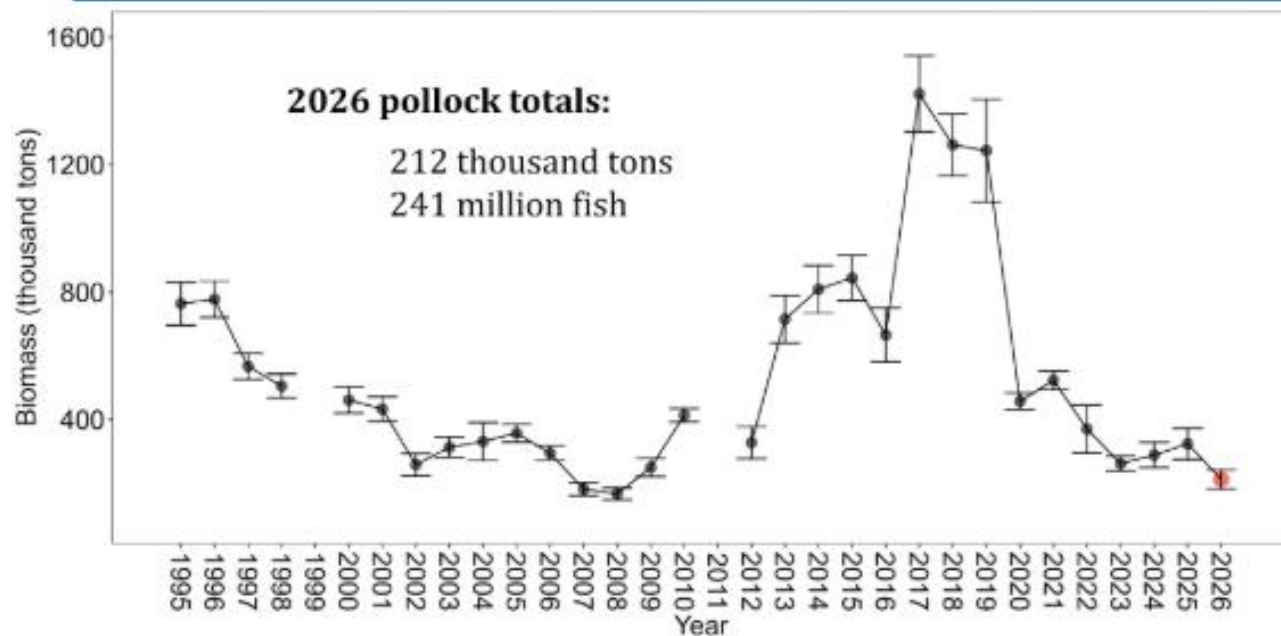
Topics at the GOA GFPT Meeting; SSC Presentation Order

Topic	Presenter	Type	Recommendations
Arrowtooth flounder	Kalei Shotwell	Final, full	Yes, final approved
Rex sole	Carey McGilliard	Final, full	Yes, final approved
Skates, BRDs	Lee Cronin-Fine	Final, update	Yes, final approved
Harvest projections	Chris Lunsford	Final HPs	Yes, 4 finals approved
Demersal shelf rockfish	Aaron Lambert	Proposed models (full in Nov)	Yes, 1 model + alternatives
Thornyheads	Kevin Siwicke	Proposed models (full in Nov)	Yes, 1 model + continuity
Shelikof acoustic survey	Denise McKelvey	Survey update	No
Walleye pollock	Cole Monnahan	Proposed models (full in Nov)	Yes, 2 models
BRDs	Sara Cleaver	Informational	No
Halibut DMR	Mike Fey (Joint mtg)	Final recommendations	Yes, approved

GOA Documentation Summary

Assessment	GOA stocks for 2026 – November unless otherwise shown
Operational Full	• pollock & ESP • DSR • Shortspine thornyhead rockfish • arrowtooth flounder & ESP (PT/SSC review in Sept/Oct) • rex sole (PT/SSC review in Sept/Oct) • Pacific ocean perch • Rougheye & Blackspotted rockfish
Operational Update	• shortraker rockfish • Pacific cod & ESP • Northern rockfish • skates (PT/SSC review in Sept/Oct)
Harvest Projections	All reviewed in Sept/Oct: dusky rockfish, flathead sole, shallow water flatfish (incl. n/s rock sole), deep water flatfish
Catch reports and Ecosystem Reports	GOA sharks GOA Atka mackerel GOA octopus Forage fish GOA ESR

Pollock: Winter Shelikof survey



11 southern transects were missed due to weather

No females >40 cm spawning/spent indicating survey timing was adequate

Adjustments are being made to account for missed transects and will be reviewed in November.

Spatial apportionment (BRDs)

*Regarding spatial apportionment, Council is interested in SSC advice as to whether there is flexibility in the survey-based spatial apportionments recommended by the SSC for **GOA shorttraker rockfish, GOA roughey and blackspotted rockfish complex, GOA thornyhead rockfish, and GOA skates (big and longnose).***

Useful information from the SSC could include whether the previous year's BRDs, or small changes from the current SSC-recommended BRDs, would be likely to result in biological impacts to the stock or stock complex.

from Council motion, Oct 2025



**Table 1. Plan Team OFL, ABC, and BRD recommendations (metric tons) for GOA Groundfish
Proposed Harvest Specifications for 2027 and 2028**

Stock	Area	2026			Catch 9/8/2026	Plan Team Recommended 27/28		
		OFL	ABC	TAC		OFL	ABC	BRD
Pollock	State GHL	n/a	3,326			n/a	3,326	
	W (610)	n/a	27,453	27,453	4,788	n/a		27,453
	C (620)	n/a	60,477	60,477	47,143	n/a		60,477
	C (630)	n/a	37,936	37,936	14,941	n/a		37,936
	WYAK	n/a	3,883	3,883	2,097	n/a		3,883
	Subtotal	153,971	133,075	129,749	68,969	153,971	133,075	
	SEO	12,998	9,749	9,749	1	12,998	9,749	
	Total	166,969	142,824	139,498	68,970	166,969	142,824	
Pacific Cod	W		10,297	6,693	4,131			7,987
	C		28,732	21,549	17,133			22,289
	E		2,491	1,811	682			1,933
	Total	49,782	41,520	30,053	21,946	38,812	32,209	
Sablefish	W		4,687	4,687	2,898			4,687
	C		9,622	9,622	6,389			9,622
	WYAK		2,652	2,652	2,096			2,652
	SEO		5,589	5,589	3,887			5,589
	GOA Total			22,550	15,270			22,550
Alaska-wide OFL and ABC		AK Total	57,797	47,008		57,797	47,008	n/a
Shallow-Water Flatfish	W		23,902	13,250	44			13,250
	C		28,455	28,455	1,523			28,455
	WYAK		2,846	2,846	3			2,846
	SEO		1,707	1,707	-			1,707
	Total	69,610	56,910	46,258	1,570	69,610	56,910	
Deep-Water Flatfish	W		231	231	2			227
	C		2,570	2,570	111			2,518
	WYAK		1,796	1,796	3			1,759
	SEO		2,239	2,239	1			2,193
	Total	8,118	6,836	6,836	117	7,954	6,697	
Rex Sole	W		3,353	3,353	15			3,353
	C		13,582	13,582	1,139			13,582
	WYAK		1,413	1,413	-			1,413
	SEO		2,825	2,825	-			2,825
	Total	25,743	21,173	21,173	1,154	25,743	21,173	
Arrowtooth Flounder	W		33,716	14,500	84			14,500
	C		68,511	68,511	16,872			68,511
	WYAK		6,719	6,719	26			6,719
	SEO		11,039	11,039	15			11,039
	Total	143,347	119,985	100,769	16,997	143,347	119,985	
Flathead Sole	W		13,757	8,650	21			8,650
	C		22,083	22,083	900			22,083
	WYAK		4,018	4,018	-			
	SEO		2,122	2,122	-			2,122

Pacific ocean perch	W		1,688	1,688	1,494		1,688
	C		27,156	27,156	23,875		27,156
	WYAK		1,993	1,993	1,825		1,993
	SEO		6,672	6,672	-		6,672
	Total	44,826	37,509	37,509	27,194	44,826	37,509
Northern Rockfish	W		1,346	1,346	225		1,346
	C		3,549	3,549	599		3,549
	E		-	-	n/a		
	Total	5,848	4,895	4,895	824	5,848	4,895
Shortraker Rockfish	W		34	34	1		34
	C		189	189	78		189
	E		424	424	207		424
	Total	863	647	647	286	863	647
Dusky Rockfish	W		199	199	38		199
	C		5,527	5,527	3,091		5,527
	WYAK		204	204	40		204
	SEO		91	91	-		91
	Total	7,319	6,021	6,021	3,169	7,319	6,021
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	W		229	229	80		229
	C		366	366	83		366
	E		608	608	62		608
	Total	1,631	1,203	1,203	225	1,631	1,203
Demersal shelf rockfish	W/C/WYAK	361	271	271	186	361	271
	SEO	524	394	394	166	524	394
Thornyhead Rockfish	W		206	206	26		206
	C		590	590	86		590
	E		542	542	31		542
	Total	1,784	1,338	1,338	495	1,784	1,338
Other Rockfish	W/C/WYAK		1,084	1,084	670		1,084
	SEO		2,421	300	17		2,421
	Total	4,618	3,505	1,384	687	4,618	3,505
Atka mackerel	Total	6,200	4,700	3,000	493	6,200	4,700
Big Skate	W		745	745	72		745
	C		1,749	1,749	654		1,749
	E		341	341	129		341
	Total	3,780	2,835	2,835	855	3,780	2,835
Longnose Skate	W		104	104	41		104
	C		1,894	1,894	527		1,894
	E		538	538	380		538
	Total	3,380	2,536	2,536	948	3,380	2,536
Other Skates	GOA-wide	887	665	665	369	887	665
Sharks	GOA-wide	6,521	4,891	4,891	949	6,521	4,891
Octopuses	GOA-wide	1,307	980	932	89	1,307	980
TOTAL		662,391	550,626	472,531	394,125	651,257	541,176

GOA Pacific cod adjustments

Table 2. Proposed 2027 and 2028 Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod ABCs, TACs, and State Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) [Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

Specifications	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
BRD	7,987	22,289	1,933	32,209
State GHL	2,795	5,572	483	8,850
(%)	35%	25%	25%	-
Federal TAC	5,192	16,717	1,450	23,359



Table 9. Proposed 2027 and 2028 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	30.5	520	January 1 - June 10	86	219	January 1 - December 31	9
April 1 - July 1	20	341	June 10 - September 1	2	5		
July 1 - August 1	27	460	September 1 - December 31	12	31		
August 1 - October 1	7.5	128					
October 1 - December 31	15	256					
Total		1,705			255		9

¹ The Pacific halibut PSC limit for hook-and-line gear is allocated to the demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) fishery and fisheries other than DSR. The hook-and-line IFQ sablefish fishery is exempt from halibut PSC limits, as are pot and jig gear for all groundfish fisheries.



Table 10. Proposed 2027 and 2028 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	385	135	520
April 1 - July 1	85	256	341
July 1 - August 1	120	340	460
August 1 - October 1	53	75	128
Subtotal, January 20 - October 1	643	806	1,449
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 September 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).

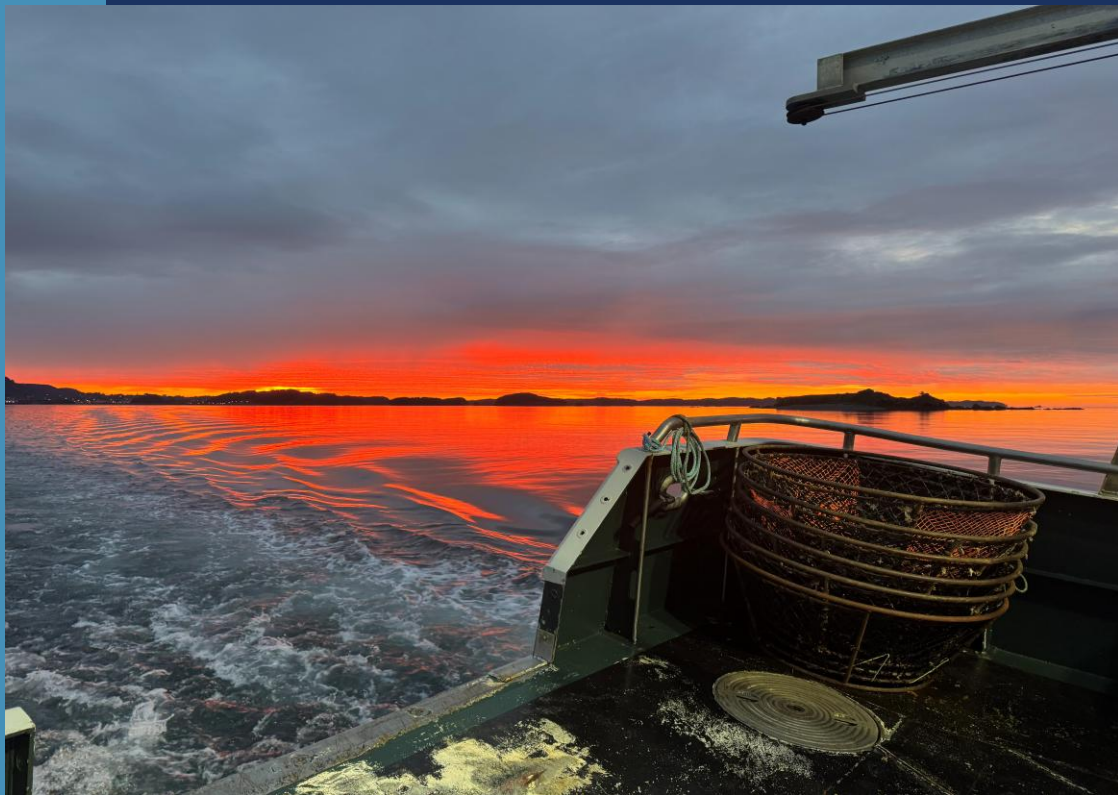


Table 11. Proposed 2027 and 2028 Apportionments of the “Other hook-and-line fisheries” Halibut PSC Allowance Between the Hook-and-Line Gear Catcher Vessel and Catcher/Processor Sectors
(Values are in metric tons)

“Other than DSR” allowance	Hook-and-line sector	Sector annual amount	Season	Seasonal percentage	Sector seasonal amount
255	Catcher Vessel	163	January 1 - June 10	86	140
			June 10 - September 1	2	3
			September 1 - December 31	12	20
	Catcher/Processor	92	January 1 - June 10	86	79
			June 10 - September 1	2	2
			September 1 - December 31	12	11

Table 12. Proposed 2027 and 2028 Halibut Discard Mortality Rates for Vessels Fishing in the Gulf of Alaska. (Values are in percent of halibut assumed to be dead.)

Gear	Sector	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	100
	Catcher/processor	100
Non-pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	50
	Mothership and catcher/processor	86
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	8
	Catcher vessel	15
Pot	Catcher vessel and catcher/processor	36



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