

ADDENDUM to C7
December 2019

Element 13 would remove the CP RP sideboard limits in the WGOA rockfish fisheries. The RP sideboard limits apply during the month of July. Amendment 80 CPs are also subject to sideboard limits in that LAPP. WGOA sideboard limits established under that program are reported at 50 CFR 679 Table 37. RP CP sideboard limits for the WGOA are reported at 50 CFR 679.20(e). Those limits are expressed as a percentage of the WGOA TAC and reported in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Sideboard limits for CPs in the WGOA

Species	Amendment 80 (annual)	RP (July)
POP	99.4%	50.6%
Dusky Rockfish	76.4%	72.3%
Northern Rockfish	100.0%	74.3%

Source: 50 CFR 679

As shown above the CP sector may essentially harvest all of the POP and Northern rockfish WGOA TAC on an annual basis and over 75 percent of the dusky rockfish TAC. The RP sideboard limits ensure that the only half of the POP TAC is taken during July by the CPs (when the fishery is open to directed fishing) and about 75 percent of the Northern rockfish TAC is taken by CPs during July. The dusky rockfish sideboard limit is about the same for Amendment 80 and the RP, which means the CP sector may harvest almost all of the dusky sideboard in July. Because the sector may harvest almost all of their annual limit in July, eliminating the RP sideboard would have a minimal impact on that fishery. Dusky rockfish is also the species most likely to be harvested by longline or pot vessels. The other two rockfish species have been almost exclusively harvested by the trawl CPs, as shown by the Amendment 80 sideboard limits that were established based on catch history during the Amendment 80 qualifying years (1998 through 2004).

Northern rockfish and POP are almost exclusively harvested by trawl gear and so the action on those species has a very limited impact on historical participants from other sectors. The data below are for the 2019 fishery.

REPORTING AREA	610				
Sum of METRIC TONS	Column Labels				
Row Labels	HAL	NPT	PTR	Grand Total	
DUSK	7	190	1	198	
NORK	3	817		820	
POPA	1	3116	28	3145	
Grand Total	11	4123	29	4163	

Source: NMFS website: car220_gear2019

The NMFS Inseason management report for the GOA presented at this meeting (table 18) shows the WGOA rockfish catch by trawl vessels. Information presented in that table shows the number of trawl vessels that participated in these fisheries from 2012 through 2019. During 2012 a total of 15 trawl vessels participated. By 2014 the number had declined to 5 vessels, and ranged between 5 and 8 vessels from then through 2019. These vessels are currently Amendment 80 CPs.