

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
December 6-9, 2022 - Anchorage, AK

C5 GOA Groundfish Specs

The AP recommends that the Council approve the 2022 Gulf of Alaska SAFE report.

The AP recommends that the Council approve 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 Table 2 in the action memo.

The AP recommends that the Council set the final 2023 and 2024 Pacific halibut PSC limits, allowances and apportionments in the GOA as shown in Tables 14 – 16 in the action memo.

The AP recommends the Council approve the updated halibut discard mortality rates for 2023 and 2024 as shown in Table 17.

Motion passed 16-0

Rationale

- *The recommended TACs presented in Table 1 reflect GOA groundfish industry recommendations.*
- *Some species' TACs are set below the ABC recommendations. These species include flatfish species complexes in some regulatory areas, other rockfish in SE, and Atka Mackerel GOA wide.*
- *For sablefish, the TAC is set to equal ABC in all GOA regulatory areas. These TAC amounts are almost identical to the values set in 2022.*

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

12/10/2022

| 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 |
| Alaska-wide OFL and ABC | 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 |