

C-2 Council motion
2020 and 2021 Gulf of Alaska groundfish harvest specifications
December 6, 2019

The Council approves the 2019 Gulf of Alaska SAFE report.

The Council approves the final 2020 and 2021 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 Council sets the final 2020 and 2021 Pacific halibut PSC limits, allowances, and apportionments in the GOA in **Tables 14, 15, and 16 (attached)**.

The Council approves the updated halibut discard mortality rates for 2020 and 2021 as shown in **attached Table 17**.

Table 1. SSC recommended OFL and ABCs, and Council recommended TACs for Groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska (metric tons) for 2020-2021.

| Species | Area | 2019 | | Catch | | SSC Rec 2020 | | 2020 TAC | SSC Rec 2021 | | 2021 TAC |
|------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | OFL | ABC | TAC | 11/2/2019 | OFL | ABC | | OFL | ABC | |
| Pollock | State GH | n/a | 3,396 | - | | n/a | 2,712 | - | n/a | 2,797 | - |
| | W (610) | n/a | 24,875 | 24,875 | 21,867 | n/a | 19,175 | 19,175 | n/a | 19,775 | 19,775 |
| | C (620) | n/a | 67,388 | 67,388 | 64,079 | n/a | 54,456 | 54,456 | n/a | 56,159 | 56,159 |
| | C (630) | n/a | 34,443 | 34,443 | 24,461 | n/a | 26,597 | 26,597 | n/a | 27,429 | 27,429 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 5,748 | 5,748 | 6,612 | n/a | 5,554 | 5,554 | n/a | 5,728 | 5,728 |
| | Subtotal | | 194,230 | 135,850 | 132,454 | 117,019 | 140,674 | 108,494 | 105,782 | 149,988 | 111,888 |
| EYAK/SEO | | 11,697 | 8,773 | 8,773 | - | 13,531 | 10,148 | 10,148 | 13,531 | 10,148 | 10,148 |
| Total | | 205,927 | 144,623 | 141,227 | 117,019 | 154,205 | 118,642 | 115,930 | 163,519 | 122,036 | 119,239 |
| Pacific Cod | W | n/a | 7,633 | 5,343 | 5,017 | n/a | 4,942 | 2,076 | n/a | 4,942 | 2,076 |
| | C | n/a | 7,667 | 5,750 | 5,705 | n/a | 8,458 | 3,806 | n/a | 8,458 | 3,806 |
| | E | n/a | 1,700 | 1,275 | 187 | n/a | 1,221 | 549 | n/a | 1,221 | 549 |
| | Total | | 23,669 | 17,000 | 12,368 | 10,909 | 17,794 | 14,621 | 6,431 | 30,099 | 14,621 |
| Sablefish | W | n/a | 1,581 | 1,581 | 1,438 | n/a | 2,278 | 1,942 | n/a | 3,003 | 3,003 |
| | C | n/a | 5,178 | 5,178 | 5,970 | n/a | 7,560 | 6,445 | n/a | 9,963 | 9,963 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 1,828 | 1,828 | 1,774 | n/a | 2,521 | 2,343 | n/a | 3,323 | 3,323 |
| | SEO | n/a | 2,984 | 2,984 | 3,037 | n/a | 4,524 | 3,663 | n/a | 5,963 | 5,963 |
| | Total | | 25,227 | 11,571 | 11,571 | 12,219 | 50,481 | 16,883 | 14,393 | 64,765 | 22,252 |
| Shallow-Water Flatfish | W | n/a | 25,620 | 13,250 | 72 | n/a | 23,849 | 13,250 | n/a | 24,256 | 13,250 |
| | C | n/a | 25,731 | 25,731 | 2,303 | n/a | 27,732 | 27,732 | n/a | 28,205 | 28,205 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 2,279 | 2,279 | 1 | n/a | 2,773 | 2,773 | n/a | 2,820 | 2,820 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 1,957 | 1,957 | 1 | n/a | 1,109 | 1,109 | n/a | 1,128 | 1,128 |
| | Total | | 68,309 | 55,587 | 43,217 | 2,377 | 68,010 | 55,463 | 44,864 | 69,129 | 56,409 |
| Deep-Water Flatfish | W | n/a | 416 | 416 | 2 | n/a | 226 | 226 | n/a | 225 | 225 |
| | C | n/a | 3,443 | 3,443 | 92 | n/a | 1,948 | 1,948 | n/a | 1,914 | 1,914 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 3,280 | 3,280 | 8 | n/a | 2,105 | 2,105 | n/a | 2,068 | 2,068 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 2,362 | 2,362 | 4 | n/a | 1,751 | 1,751 | n/a | 1,719 | 1,719 |
| | Total | | 11,434 | 9,501 | 9,501 | 106 | 7,163 | 6,030 | 6,030 | 7,040 | 5,926 |
| Rex Sole | W | n/a | 2,951 | 2,951 | 74 | n/a | 2,901 | 2,901 | n/a | 3,013 | 3,013 |
| | C | n/a | 8,357 | 8,357 | 1,447 | n/a | 8,579 | 8,579 | n/a | 8,912 | 8,912 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 1,657 | 1,657 | 2 | n/a | 1,174 | 1,174 | n/a | 1,206 | 1,206 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 1,727 | 1,727 | - | n/a | 2,224 | 2,224 | n/a | 2,285 | 2,285 |
| | Total | | 17,889 | 14,692 | 14,692 | 1,523 | 18,127 | 14,878 | 14,878 | 18,779 | 15,416 |
| Arrowtooth Flounder | W | n/a | 35,994 | 14,500 | 683 | n/a | 31,455 | 14,500 | n/a | 30,545 | 14,500 |
| | C | n/a | 70,995 | 70,995 | 22,840 | n/a | 68,669 | 68,669 | n/a | 66,683 | 66,683 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 15,911 | 6,900 | 85 | n/a | 10,242 | 6,900 | n/a | 9,946 | 6,900 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 22,941 | 6,900 | 24 | n/a | 17,694 | 6,900 | n/a | 17,183 | 6,900 |
| | Total | | 174,598 | 145,841 | 99,295 | 23,632 | 153,017 | 128,060 | 96,969 | 148,597 | 124,357 |
| Flathead Sole | W | n/a | 13,234 | 8,650 | 210 | n/a | 13,783 | 8,650 | n/a | 14,191 | 8,650 |
| | C | n/a | 21,109 | 15,400 | 2,343 | n/a | 20,201 | 15,400 | n/a | 20,799 | 15,400 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 2,016 | 2,016 | - | n/a | 2,354 | 2,354 | n/a | 2,424 | 2,424 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 423 | 423 | - | n/a | 1,858 | 1,858 | n/a | 1,912 | 1,912 |
| | Total | | 44,865 | 36,782 | 26,489 | 2,553 | 46,572 | 38,196 | 28,262 | 47,919 | 39,326 |
| Pacific ocean perch | W | n/a | 3,227 | 3,227 | 3,145 | n/a | 1,437 | 1,437 | n/a | 1,379 | 1,379 |
| | C | n/a | 19,646 | 19,646 | 18,114 | n/a | 23,678 | 23,678 | n/a | 22,727 | 22,727 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 3,296 | 3,296 | 3,288 | n/a | 1,470 | 1,470 | n/a | 1,410 | 1,410 |
| | W/C/WYAK | 31,113 | 26,169 | 26,169 | 24,547 | 31,567 | 26,585 | 26,585 | 30,297 | 25,516 | 25,516 |
| | SEO | 2,838 | 2,386 | 2,386 | - | 5,525 | 4,653 | 4,653 | 5,303 | 4,467 | 4,467 |
| | Total | | 33,951 | 28,555 | 28,555 | 24,547 | 37,092 | 31,238 | 31,238 | 35,600 | 29,983 |

Table 1. SSC recommended OFL and ABCs, and Council recommended TACs for Groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska (metric tons) for 2020-2021.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Northern Rockfish | W | n/a | 1,190 | 1,190 | 819 | n/a | 1,133 | 1,133 | n/a | 1,079 | 1,079 |
| | C | n/a | 3,338 | 3,338 | 1,790 | n/a | 3,178 | 3,178 | n/a | 3,027 | 3,027 |
| | E | n/a | 1 | - | - | n/a | 1 | - | n/a | 1 | - |
| | Total | | 5,402 | 4,529 | 4,528 | 2,609 | 5,143 | 4,312 | 4,311 | 4,898 | 4,107 |
| Shortraker Rockfish | W | n/a | 44 | 44 | 55 | n/a | 52 | 52 | n/a | 52 | 52 |
| | C | n/a | 305 | 305 | 226 | n/a | 284 | 284 | n/a | 284 | 284 |
| | E | n/a | 514 | 514 | 391 | n/a | 372 | 372 | n/a | 372 | 372 |
| | Total | | 1,151 | 863 | 863 | 672 | 944 | 708 | 708 | 944 | 708 |
| Dusky Rockfish | W | n/a | 781 | 781 | 198 | n/a | 776 | 776 | n/a | 759 | 759 |
| | C | n/a | 2,764 | 2,764 | 2,071 | n/a | 2,746 | 2,746 | n/a | 2,688 | 2,688 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 95 | 95 | 93 | n/a | 115 | 115 | n/a | 113 | 113 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 60 | 60 | 3 | n/a | 39 | 39 | n/a | 38 | 38 |
| | Total | | 4,521 | 3,700 | 3,700 | 2,365 | 4,492 | 3,676 | 3,676 | 4,396 | 3,598 |
| Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish | W | n/a | 174 | 174 | 78 | n/a | 168 | 168 | n/a | 169 | 169 |
| | C | n/a | 550 | 550 | 433 | n/a | 455 | 455 | n/a | 455 | 455 |
| | E | n/a | 704 | 704 | 208 | n/a | 586 | 586 | n/a | 587 | 587 |
| | Total | | 1,715 | 1,428 | 1,428 | 719 | 1,452 | 1,209 | 1,209 | 1,455 | 1,211 |
| Demersal shelf rockfish | Total | 411 | 261 | 261 | 140 | 375 | 238 | 238 | 375 | 238 | 238 |
| Thornyhead Rockfish | W | n/a | 326 | 326 | 124 | n/a | 326 | 326 | n/a | 326 | 326 |
| | C | n/a | 911 | 911 | 375 | n/a | 911 | 911 | n/a | 911 | 911 |
| | E | n/a | 779 | 779 | 265 | n/a | 779 | 779 | n/a | 779 | 779 |
| | Total | | 2,688 | 2,016 | 2,016 | 764 | 2,688 | 2,016 | 2,016 | 2,688 | 2,016 |
| Other Rockfish | W/C | n/a | 1,737 | 1,737 | 684 | n/a | 940 | 940 | n/a | 940 | 940 |
| | WYAK | n/a | 368 | 368 | 180 | n/a | 369 | 369 | n/a | 369 | 369 |
| | EYAK/SEO | n/a | 3,489 | 3,489 | 50 | n/a | 2,744 | 2,744 | n/a | 2,744 | 2,744 |
| | Total | | 7,356 | 5,594 | 5,594 | 914 | 5,320 | 4,053 | 4,053 | 5,320 | 4,053 |
| Atka mackerel | Total | 6,200 | 4,700 | 3,000 | 1,254 | 6,200 | 4,700 | 3,000 | 6,200 | 4,700 | 3,000 |
| Big Skate | W | n/a | 504 | 504 | 114 | n/a | 758 | 758 | n/a | 758 | 758 |
| | C | n/a | 1,774 | 1,774 | 977 | n/a | 1,560 | 1,560 | n/a | 1,560 | 1,560 |
| | E | n/a | 570 | 570 | 101 | n/a | 890 | 890 | n/a | 890 | 890 |
| | Total | | 3,797 | 2,848 | 2,848 | 1,192 | 4,278 | 3,208 | 3,208 | 4,278 | 3,208 |
| Longnose Skate | W | n/a | 149 | 149 | 59 | n/a | 158 | 158 | n/a | 158 | 158 |
| | C | n/a | 2,804 | 2,804 | 616 | n/a | 1,875 | 1,875 | n/a | 1,875 | 1,875 |
| | E | n/a | 619 | 619 | 308 | n/a | 554 | 554 | n/a | 554 | 554 |
| | Total | | 4,763 | 3,572 | 3,572 | 983 | 3,449 | 2,587 | 2,587 | 3,449 | 2,587 |
| Other Skates | GOA-wide | 1,845 | 1,384 | 1,384 | 867 | 1,166 | 875 | 875 | 1,166 | 875 | 875 |
| Sculpins | GOA-wide | 6,958 | 5,301 | 5,301 | 574 | 6,932 | 5,199 | 5,199 | 6,932 | 5,199 | 5,199 |
| Sharks | GOA-wide | 10,913 | 8,184 | 8,184 | 1,728 | 10,913 | 8,184 | 8,184 | 10,913 | 8,184 | 8,184 |
| Squids | GOA-wide | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Octopuses | GOA-wide | 1,300 | 975 | 975 | 316 | 1,307 | 980 | 980 | 1,307 | 980 | 980 |
| TOTAL | | 664,889 | 509,507 | 430,569 | 209,982 | 607,120 | 465,956 | 399,239 | 639,768 | 471,990 | 407,982 |

Sources: 2019 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs are from the harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2018, 2019 catches through November 2, 2019 from AKR Catch Accounting.

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

Final 2020 and 2021 Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod ABCs, TACs and State Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) in metric tons.

| Specifications | Western | Central | Eastern | Total |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| ABC | 4,942 | 8,458 | 1,221 | 14,621 |
| State GHL | 1,483 | 2,115 | 305 | 3,902 |
| (%) | 30% | 25% | 25% | 25-30 |
| Federal TAC | 2,076 | 3,806 | 549 | 6,431 |

Table 14--Final 2020 and 2021 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 | 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 | | 1,706 | | | 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. The Council recommended and NMFS proposes that the hook-and-line sablefish fishery, and the pot and jig gear groundfish fisheries, be exempt from halibut PSC limits.

Table 15--Final 2020 and 2021 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 | | | 1,706 |

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 2020 and 2021 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 | 144 | January 1 - June 10 | 86 | 124 |
| | | | June 10 - September 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | September 1 - December 31 | 12 | 17 |
| | Catcher/Processor | 113 | January 1 - June 10 | 86 | 97 |
| | | | June 10 - September 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | September 1 - December 31 | 12 | 14 |

Table 17--Final 2020 and 2021 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 | 52 |
| | Catcher vessel | All others | 68 |
| | Mothership and catcher/processor | All | 75 |
| Hook-and-line | Catcher/processor | All | 11 |
| | Catcher vessel | All | 13 |
| Pot | Catcher vessel and catcher/processor | All | 0 |