# Harvest Projection Assessments BSAI Groundfish Plan Team



Northern rock sole - McGilliard Greenland turbot - Bryan Kamchatka flounder - Bryan Arrowtooth flounder - Shotwell Flathead sole - Kapur Alaska plaice - Cronin-Fine Pacific ocean perch - Spencer November, 2023

RE/BS rockfish - Spencer Atka mackerel - Sullivan Al pollock - Barbeaux



## Pacific ocean perch

- Fishery Trends: catch decreasing slightly following peak in 2019
- Survey Trends: Persistent large biomass,
  - last survey 2022, next 2024
- Last full/update assessment 2022, next 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass 350,439, trend decreasing
- ABC: 41,096 t, OFL: 49,010 t

	As estima specified last	7777	As estimated or recommended this year for:	
Quantity	2023	2024	2024	2025
M (natural mortality rate)	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 3+) biomass	888,722	876,140	871,892	858,751
Female spawning biomass (t)				
Projected	359,074	352,616	350,439	342,980
B100%	652,626	652,626	652,626	652,626
B40%	261,050	261,050	261,050	261,050
B35%	228,419	228,419	228,419	228,419
Fofl	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.089
maxF <sub>ABC</sub>	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074
FABC	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074
OFL (t)	50,133	49,279	49,010	48,139
maxABC (t)	42,038	41,322	41,096	40,366
ABC (t)	42,038	41,322	41,096	40,366
all and a second	As determine	d last year	As determined	this year
Status	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	- 1	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a		n/a	No



## Rougheye / Blackspotted rockfish

Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished

- Survey Trends: Variability in Al survey biomass estimates, 2022 estimate 65% larger than 2018 estimate (with CV of 50%)
  - last survey 2022, next 2024
- Last full/update assessment 2022, next 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass (Al portion of stock) 3,630 t, trend increasing (due to strong but uncertain recent year class
- Recommended ABC: 569 t, OFL: 761 t

#### Summary for Al portion of stock:

	As estima	ted or	As estima	ted or
	specified last	year for:	recommended this year for:	
Quantity	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M (natural mortality rate)	0.050	0.050	0.049	0.049
Tier	3b	3a		
Projected total (age 3+) biomass	23,856	24,374	24,315	24,743
Female spawning biomass (t)		100000		
Projected	3,471	3,642	3,630	3,821
B100%	8,733	8,733	8,733	8,733
B40%	3,493	3,493	3,493	3,493
B35%	3,056	3,056	3,056	3,056
Fofl	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040
maxF <sub>ABC</sub>	0.034	0.034	0.034	0.034
$F_{ABC}$	0.030	0.030	0.034	0.034
OFL (t)	626	686	684	736
maxABC (t)	533	584	583	627
ABC (t)	467	512	511	549
6.	As determined last year		As determined this year	
Status	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No



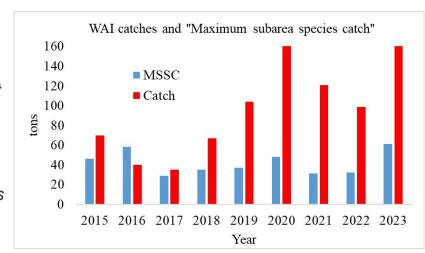
# Rougheye / Blackspotted rockfish (continued)

- Fishery Trends: Continuation of strongly disproportionate harvesting
- WAI/CAI ABC exceeded every year since 2018
- WAI "Maximum Subarea Species Catch" (MSSC) was first used in 2015, and has been exceeded every year (except 2016)
- SSC comments, December 2022:

As the BSAI GPT and the SSC have previously stated (see December SSC reports in 2018, 2020, 2021), the SSC continues to register strong concern with the disproportionate harvest in excess of the WAI/CAI subarea ABC and the WAI MSSC in recent years and reiterates that the available life history information for BS/RE rockfish suggest that this complex may be especially vulnerable to localized depletion.

. . . the MSSC appears to be an ineffective standalone tool

. . . the SSC expressed frustration at the lack of options to address the long-standing concern with this stock



### Thanks to Paul Spencer

### Atka mackerel

#### Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished

- Fishery Trends: average in western and central AI, low in the eastern AI
- Survey Trends: last survey was in 2022 (2% above 1991-2022 mean)
- Last full assessment 2022, next in 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass 625,578 t, trend increasing
- ABC: 95,358 t, OFL: 111,684 t

specified la			As estimated or		
	st year for:	recommended this year for			
2023	2024	2024*	2025*		
0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30		
3a	3b	3a	3b		
615,027	606,661	625,578	631,261		
122,541	111,122	116,618	110,694		
280,456	280,456	280,456	280,456		
112,182	112,182	112,182	112,182		
98,160	98,160	98,160	98,160		
0.76	0.65	0.76	0.75		
0.61	0.56	0.61	0.60		
0.61	0.56	0.61	0.60		
118,787	101,188	111,684	99,723		
98,588	86,464	95,358	84,676		
98,588	86,464	95,358	84,676		
s determined	l last year for:	As determined	l this year for:		
2021	2022	2022	2023		
No	n/a	No	n/a		
	0.30 3a 615,027 122,541 280,456 112,182 98,160 0.76 0.61 118,787 98,588 98,588 9 determined 2021	0.30         0.30           3a         3b           615,027         606,661           122,541         111,122           280,456         280,456           112,182         112,182           98,160         98,160           0.76         0.65           0.61         0.56           118,787         101,188           98,588         86,464           98,588         86,464           s determined last year for:           2021         2022	0.30         0.30         0.30           3a         3b         3a           615,027         606,661         625,578           122,541         111,122         116,618           280,456         280,456         280,456           112,182         112,182         112,182           98,160         98,160         98,160           0.76         0.65         0.76           0.61         0.56         0.61           118,787         101,188         111,684           98,588         86,464         95,358           98,588         86,464         95,358           s determined last year for:         As determined           2021         2022         2022		

### Thanks to Jane Sullivan



## Aleutian Islands pollock



- Fishery Trends: Continued low catch for past 25 years
  - < 4 Kt catch in 2023 with 19 Kt TAC</p>
- Survey Trends: Increase from historic low in 2012 of 44 Kt to 110 Kt in 2022
  - last survey 2022, next 2024
- Last full/update assessment 2022, next 2024
- 2023 spawning biomass 79,747 t, trend stable
- ABC: 42,654 t, OFL: 51,516 t
- TAC cap of 19,000 t

	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estim recommended	
Quantity	2023	2024	2024	2025*
M (natural mortality rate)	0.21		0.2	1
Tier	3a		3a	to .
Total (age 1+) biomass (t)	264,173	281,618	279,764	302,068
Female spawning biomass (t)				
Projected	78,628	80,432	79,747	81,3352
B100%	174,218		174,2	218
$B_{40\%}$	69,687		69,687	
B35%	60,976		60,9	76
Fofl**	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.380
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.305	0.305	0.305	0.305
$F_{ABC}$	0.305	0.305	0.305	0.305
OFL (t)	52,383	52,043	51,516	53,030
maxABC (t)	43,413	43,092	42,654	43,863
ABC (t)	43,413	43,092	42,654	43,863
	As determined this	s year for:		
Status	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	no	n/a	no	n/a
Overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no
Approaching overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no



## Arrowtooth Flounder (Tier 3a)

Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished



- Fishery Trends: BSAI catch lowest in time series, AI slightly below average, majority in flatfish fisheries, ~8-9% in rockfish and Pacific cod fishery
- Survey Trends: 11% decrease in shelf bottom trawl survey, still above average
- Update Projection Catch:
  - 2023: 7,175 t, 2024: 10,701 t, 2025: 9,689 t
  - Catch/Biomass decreasing since 2012, now lowest in time series
- ABC: 87,690 t, OFL: 103,280 t

	As estimated	or specified	As estin	nated or
	last ye	ar for:	recommended	this year for:
Quantity/Status	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M (natural	0.2, 0.35	0.2, 0.35	0.2, 0.35	0.2, 0.35
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 1+) biomass	929,274	919,797	921,062	907,809
Projected female spawning biomass	514,577	537,999	539,030	559,145
$\mathrm{B}_{100\%}$	561,219	561,219	561,219	561,219
$\mathrm{B}_{40\%}$	224,487	224,487	224,487	224,487
B <sub>35%</sub>	196,427	196,427	196,427	196,427
Fofl	0.174	0.174	0.174	0.174
maxFabc	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146
Fabc	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146
OFL (t)	98,787	103,070	103,280	104,270
maxABC (t)	83,852	87,511	87,690	88,548
ABC (t)	83,852	87,511	87,690	88,548
	As determined	last year for:	As determined	this year for:
Status	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

#### Thanks to Kalei Shotwell

### Greenland turbot

#### Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished

- Fishery Trends: Catch has been generally declining
- Survey Trends:
  - 2023: EBS shelf BTS continues to decline, lowest since 1991
- Last full assessment 2022, next in 2024
  - Updated fleet-specific fishing mortality ratios in this year's projections
    - 86% trawl, 14% longline
- 2024 spawning biomass 31,653 t

ABC: 3,188 t, OFL: 3,705 t

	As estimated	l or	As estimated	d or
	specified last ye	ear for:	recommended this year* for:	
Quantity	2023	2024	2024	2025
M (natural mortality rate)	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 1+)	53,907	48,850	50,278	47,854
Female spawning biomass	33,554	30,484	31,653	29,439
Projected				
$B_{100\%}$	67,647	67,647	67,647	67,647
$B_{40\%}$	27,058	27,058	27,058	27,058
B <sub>35%</sub>	23,676	23,676	23,676	23,676
$F_{OFL}$	0.2	0.2	0.18	0.18
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.17	0.17	0.15	0.15
$F_{ABC}$	0.17	0.17	0.15	0.15
OFL (t)	4,645	3,947	3,705	3,185
maxABC (t)	3,960	3,364	3,188	2,740
ABC (t)	3,960	3,364	3,188	2,740
	As determined <i>last</i> year for:		As determined this	year for:
Status	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No



### Kamchatka flounder

- Fishery Trends: catches have been close to ABC in recent years
- Survey Trends:
  - 2023: EBS shelf BTS continues to decline, 16% lower than 2022
- Last full assessment 2020, update in 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass 47,849 t
- ABC: 7,498 t, OFL: 8,850 t

	Tier 3 assess	sment model		
	As estimated	l last year for	As estimated	this year for
	2023	2024	2024	2025
Quantity				
M(natural mortality rate)	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 2+) biomass (t)	121,977	118,713	119,565	116,651
Projected female spawning biomass	47,877	47,387	47,849	47,330
Projected	111			
$B_{100\%}$	94,370	94,370	94,370	94,370
$B_{40\%}$	37,748	37,748	37,748	37,748
$B_{35\%}$	33,029	33,029	33,029	33,029
$F_{OFL}$	0.103	0.103	0.103	0.103
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086
$F_{ABC}$	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086
OFL (t)	8,946	8,776	8,850	8,687
maxABC (t)	7,579	7,435	7,498	7,360
ABC (t)	7,579	7,435	7,498	7,360
	As determined <i>last</i> year for:		or: As determined this y	
	2021	2022	2022	2023
Status				
Overfishing	no	n/a	no	n/a
Overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no
Approaching overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no

### Northern rock sole

Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished

- Fishery Trends:
  - Higher catches in 2023 than previous 2 years, lower catches than in early to mid 2000s
- Survey Trends:
  - 2023: EBS shelf BTS increased over most recent four years
- Last full assessment 2022, next in 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass 296,808 t
- ABC: 122,091 t, OFL: 197,828 t
- ABC reduced to equal OFL from alternative model run as in 2022

## Thanks to Carey McGilliard

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	As estin	nated or	As estim	ated or	
Quantity	specified la	st year for:	recommended this year for:		
	2023	2024	2024	2025	
M(natural mortality rate)	0.15 (f),0.17 (m)	0.15 (f),0.17 (m)	0.15 (f),0.17 (m)	0.15 (f),0.17 (m)	
Tier	1a	1a	1a	1a	
Projected total (age 6+) biomass (t)	941,359	1,111,320	1,121,670	1,501,330	
Projected Female spawning biomass (t)	260,887	291,774	296,808	347,811	
Bo	447,795	447,795	447,795	447,795	
$B_{MSY}$	155,293	155,293	155,293	155,293	
FOFL	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.176	
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.169	0.169	0.169	0.169	
$F_{ABC}$	0.129	0.108	0.129	0.108	
OFL (t)	166,034	196,011	197,828	264,789	
maxABC (t)	158,935	187,631	189,360	253,455	
ABC (t)**	121,719	119,969	122,091	122,535	
Status	As determined	last year for:	As determined this year for:		
Status	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Overfishing	no	n/a	no	n/a	
Overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no	
Approaching overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no	

### Flathead sole

- Fishery Trends: catches low & stable
- Survey Trends:
  - 2022: 22% higher than the 10-year average
  - next survey in 2024
- Last full assessment 2020, update in 2024
- 2024 spawning biomass 165,629, trend stable
- ABC: 67,289 t, OFL: 81,605 t

	As estir	nated or	As estin	nated or
	specified	last year	recommended this	
	fo	or:	year	for:
Quantity/Status	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (3+) biomass (t)	606,522	606,080	609,488	608,230
Projected Female spawning biomass (t)	158,962	164,594	165,629	169,452
maxF <sub>ABC</sub>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37
F <sub>ABC</sub>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37
OFL (t)	79,256	81,167	81,605	82,699
maxABC (t)	65,344	66,927	67,289	68,203
ABC (t)	65,344	66,927	67,289	68,203
	As deterr	nined <i>last</i>	As determined this	
	year for:		year for:	
Status	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a



## Alaska plaice

### Not overfishing, overfished or approaching overfished

- Fishery Trends: if the projected catch (18,054 t) is accurate, it will be an increase in catch that is slightly greater than the TAC (17,500 t) but below the ABC (33,946 t)
- Survey Trends: 5% decrease in biomass from 2022 and it is 30% lower than the longer term average.
  - last survey 2023, next 2024
- Last update assessment 2023, next full 2024
- 2023 spawning biomass 158,087 t, trend increasing
- ABC: 35,494 t, OFL: 42,695 t

#### Thanks to Lee Cronin-Fine

	As estimated or specified last year for:			As estimated or recommended this year for:	
Quantity	2023	2024	2024	2025	
M(natural mortality rate)	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a	
Projected total (3+) biomass (t)	461,992	477,701	473,125	481,959	
Female spawning biomass (t)	149,987	158,149	158,087	166,827	
$B_{100\%}$	286,587	286,587	286,587	286,587	
B <sub>40%</sub>	114,635	114,635	114,635	114,635	
B <sub>35%</sub>	100,306	100,306	100,306	100,306	
$F_{OFL}$	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.17	
$F_{ABC}$	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	
OFL (t)	40,823	43,328	42,695	45,182	
maxABC (t)	33,946	36,021	35,494	37,560	
ABC (t)	33,946	36,021	35,494	37,560	
	As deterr	nined last	As determined this		
	year for:		year for:		
Status	2021	2022	2022	2023	
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a	
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No	
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No	



## EXAMPLE Tiers I and 3 - Pacific Ocean Perch (Tier 3a)

- Fishery Trends: catch increasing following increases in ABC
  - Unusual trends/observations?
- Survey Trends: Persistent large biomass,
  - last survey 2021, next 2023
- Last full/update assessment 2020, next 2022
- 2023 spawning biomass 210,795, trend decreasing
- ABC: 37,193 t, OFL: 44,302 t

	As estimated or specified <i>last</i> year for:			nated or I <i>this</i> year for:
Quantity	2022	2023	2023*	2024*
M (natural mortality)	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 2+) biomass (t)	650,832	634,907	636,129	621,249
Projected Female spawning biomass	216,635	210,257	210,795	205,713
$B_{100\%}$	331,917	331,917	331,917	331,917
$B_{40\%}$	132,767	132,767	132,767	132,767
$B_{35\%}$	116,171	116,171	116,171	116,171
$F_{\mathit{OFL}}$	0.120	0.120	0.120	0.120
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
$F_{ABC}$	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
OFL (t)	45,580	44,196	44,302	43,117
maxABC (t)	38,268	37,104	37,193	36,196
ABC (t)	38,268	37,104	37,193	36,196
Status	As determine	d <i>last</i> year for:	As determine	d this year for:
	2020	2021	2021	2022
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No



## EXAMPLE Mixed Tiers - Skates (Tier 3a/5)

- Fishery Trends: catch of AK skate up in 2022, others stable
  - Unusual trends/observations?
- Survey Trends: Slight decrease in AK skate, others up slightly
  - last survey 2021, next 2022
- Last full/update assessment 2021, next 2023
- ABC: 38,605 t, OFL: 46,220 t
  - Tier 3a ABC: 30, 567 t, OFL: 35,503 t
  - Tier 5 ABC: 8,038 t, OFL: 10,717 t

aggregate harvest recommendations for the BSAI complex						
	As estimat specified <i>last</i>	Section Control	As estimate recommended the			
Quantity	2022	2023	2023	2024		
OFL (t)	47,790	46,475	46,220	44,168		
maxABC (t)	39,958	38,824	38,605	36,837		
ABC (t)	39,958	38,824	38,605	36,837		



## EXAMPLE Tier 4 or 5 - roundfish (Tier 4 or 5)

#### Not overfishing

- Fishery Trends: Overall catch has been declining
  - Increased use of pots in sablefish fishery
- Survey Trends: slow decline
  - Survey in 2021, next 2023
- Last full/update assessment 2021, next 2023
- ABC: 1,628 t, OFL: 2,170 t

Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
-	2022	2023	2023	2024
M (natural mortality rate)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Tier	5	5	5	5
Biomass (t)	86,802	86,802	72,349	72,349
Fofl	F=M=0.03	F=M=0.03	F=M=0.03	F=M=0.03
maxF <sub>ABC</sub>	0.75M = 0.0225	0.75M = 0.0225	0.75M = 0.0225	0.75M = 0.0225
Fabc	0.0225	0.0225	0.0225	0.0225
OFL (t)	2,604	2,604	2,170	2,170
maxABC (t)	1,953	1,953	1,628	1,628
ABC(t)	1,953	1,953	1,628	1,628
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2020	2021	2021	2022
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a



# EXAMPLE Tier 6 - Octopus (Tier 6)

- Fishery Trends: Increasing
  - Unusual fishery observations?
- Last full/update assessment 2021, next 2025
- Alt. Tier 6 conservative est. of total mortality = octopus consumed by P. cod (AFSC food habits data)
- ABC: 3,576 t, OFL: 4,769 t

Ouantity	As estimated or specified last year for: 2022 2023		As estimated or recommended this year for: 2023 2024	
Tier 6 (consumption estimate)				
OFL (t)	4,769	4,769	4,769	4,769
ABC (t)	3,576	3,576	3,576	3,576
	As determined in last year		As determined this year for:	
Status	2019	2020	2021	2022
Overfishing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

