



Marine
Resources

Exhibit D. Groundfish

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Salem, December 11, 2020

Maggie Sommer, Marine Resources Program

photo: ODFW

Issue 1

Nearshore Fishery Report

Issue 2

2021 Groundfish Regulations



Black rockfish, blue rockfish, deacon rockfish (ODFW photo)



Issue 1. Nearshore Fishery Report

**Annual report to the Commission
required by statute**

Detailed statistics available at:

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/publications/>

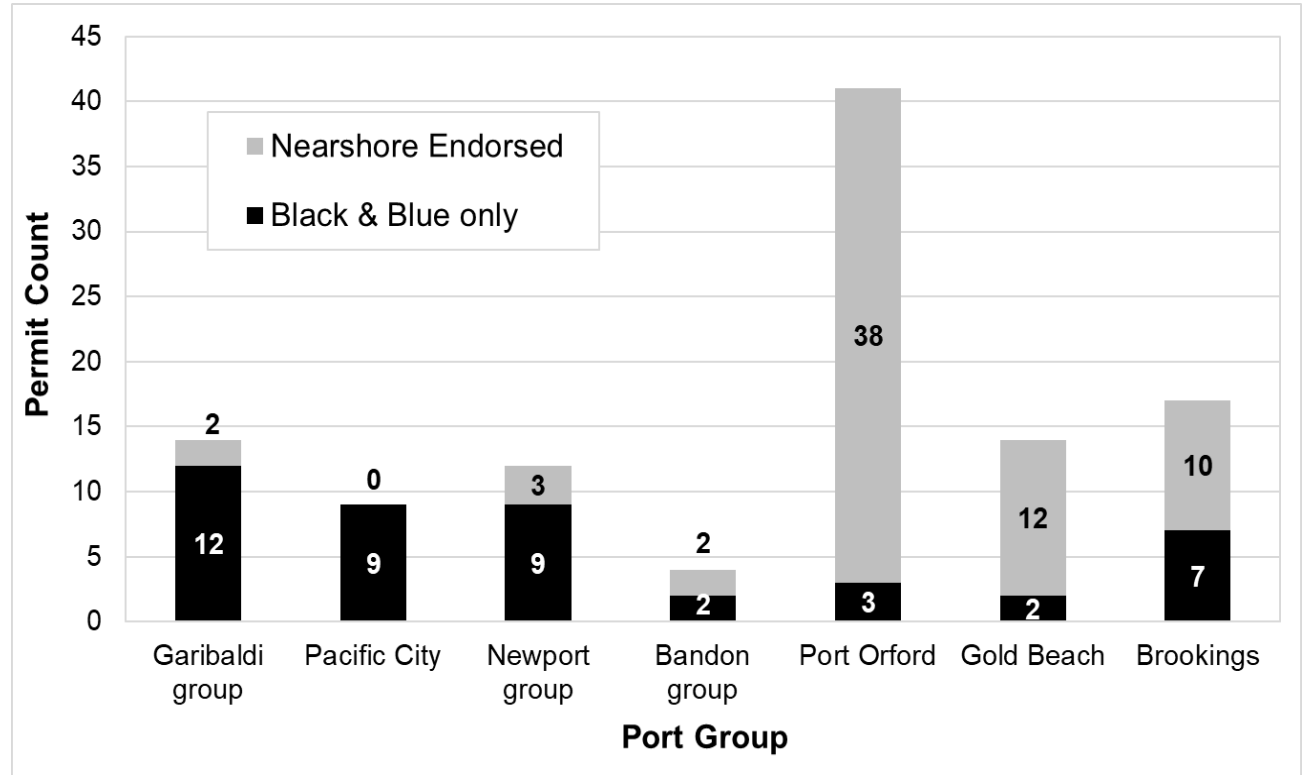


Commercial Nearshore Permits, 2020

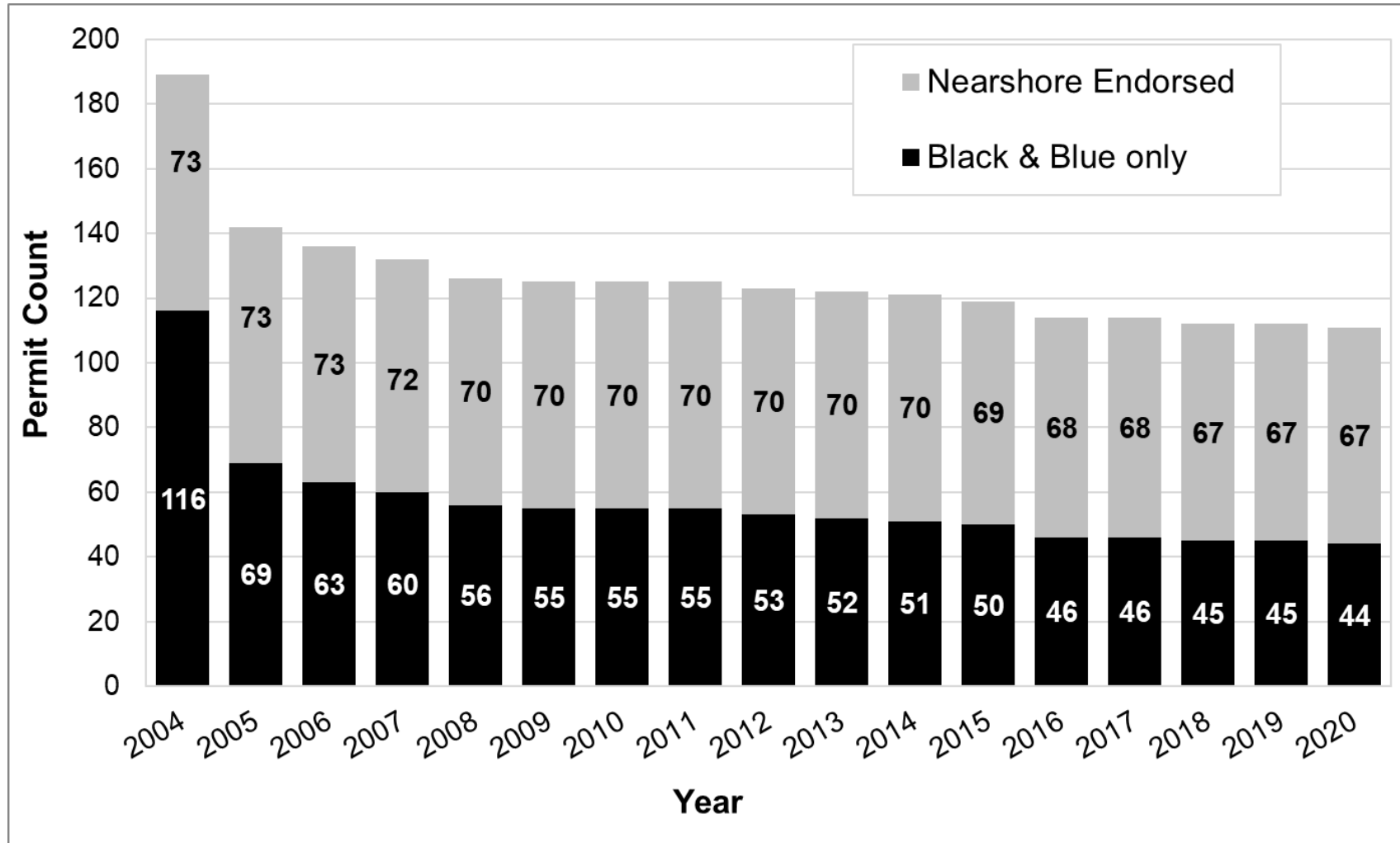
111 Black & Blue Rockfish permits
67 of which have Nearshore
Endorsements



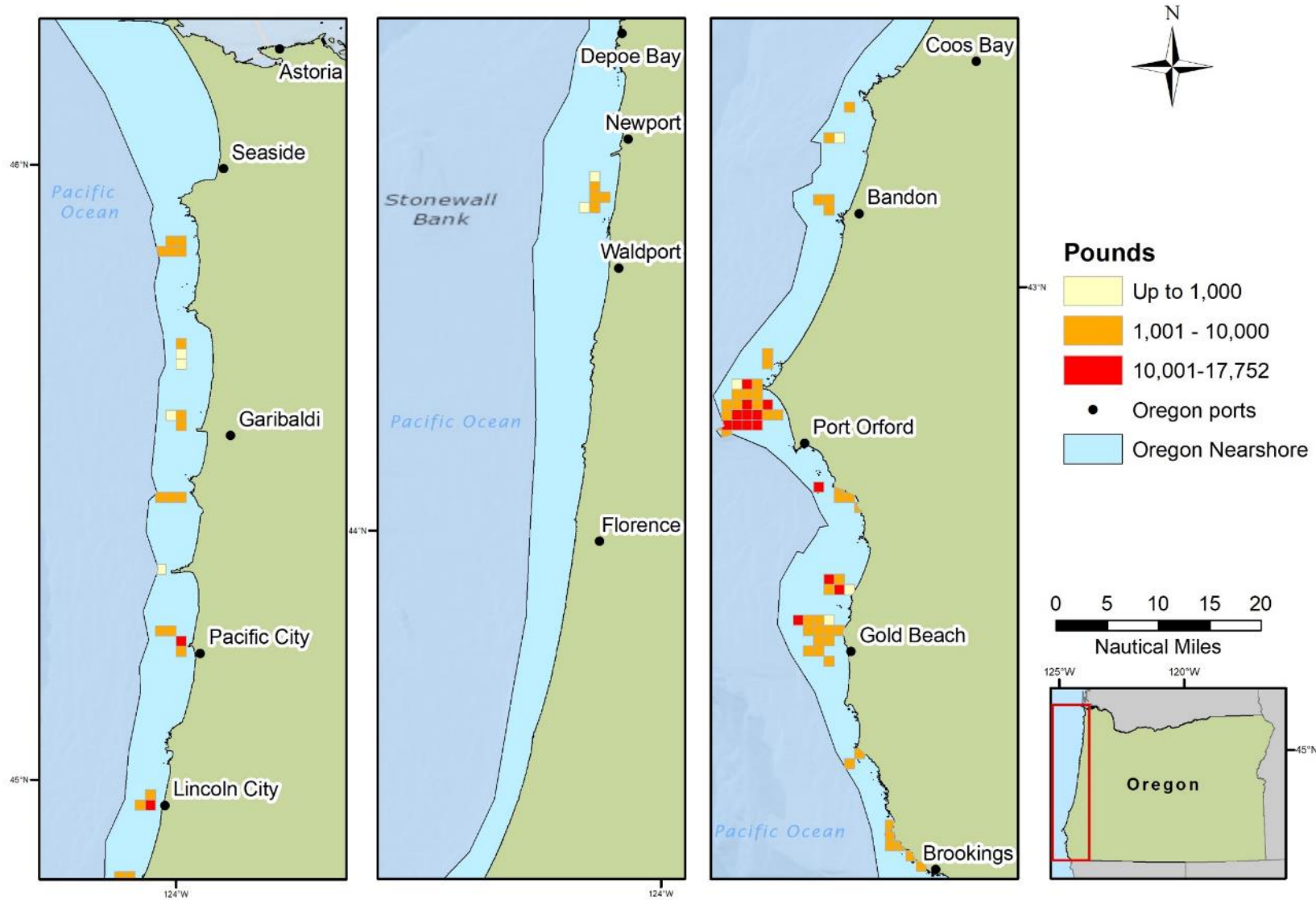
Port Orford hoist (ODFW photo)



Commercial Nearshore Permits, 2004-2020

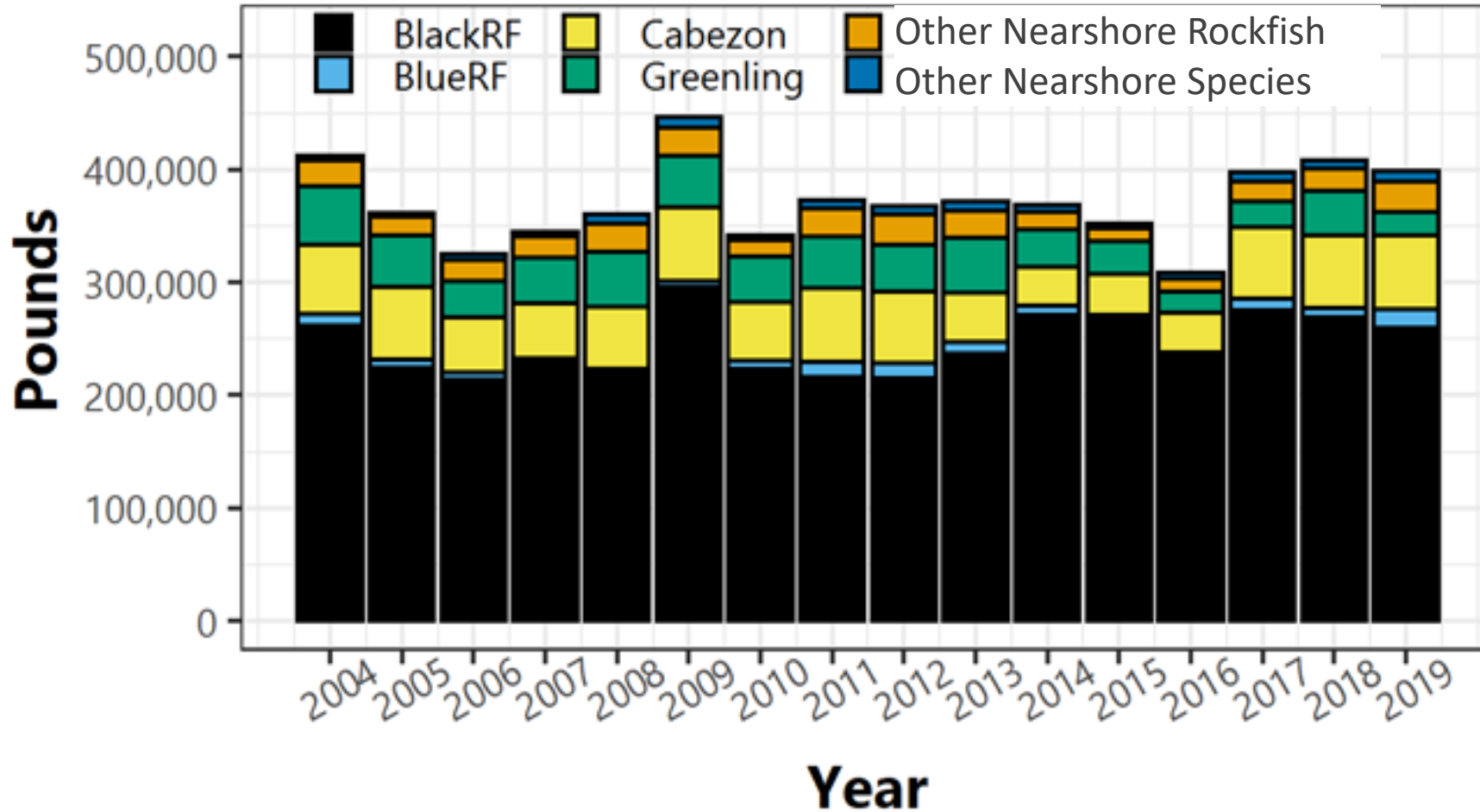


2019 Commercial Nearshore Catch Area



NAD 1983; Scale: 1:875,000; GRS 80; Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Commercial Nearshore Landings



Issue 2. 2021 Groundfish Regulations

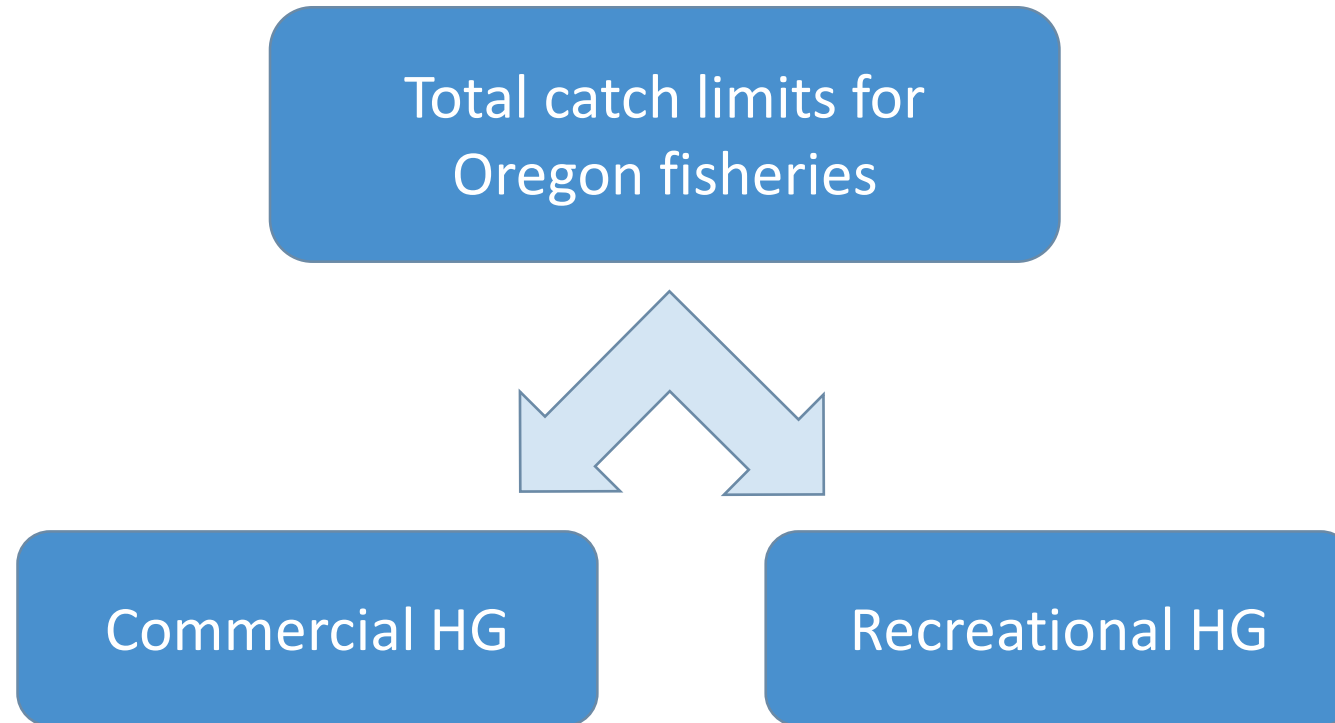
- **Updated federal rules**
- **State harvest guidelines**
- **Commercial management measures**
- **Recreational management measures**

Updated Federal Rules

Adopt updates by reference

- 2021-22 groundfish catch limits and management measures
 - Relatively minor adjustments
 - Option of allowing longleader fishing for midwater rockfish on all-depth halibut trips now available

State Harvest Guidelines (HG)



Fishing in either sector may be restricted or closed when an HG is reached to prevent overfishing or adverse impacts to the other sector

2021 Recommended Harvest Guidelines

		Sector Allocation	2020 HG (metric tons)	Recommended 2021 HG (mt)
Black rockfish	Commercial	24%	122.9	122.9
	Recreational	76%	389.1	389.1
Blue & deacon rockfish	Commercial	18.6%	18.3	16.8
	Recreational	81.4%	80.1	73.7
Nearshore rockfish	Commercial	51.3%	12.2	11.3
	Recreational	48.7%	11.6	10.8
Cabezon	Commercial	64.3%	30.2	35.0
	Recreational	35.7%	16.8	19.4
Greenling	Commercial	75.1%	118.3	108.1
	Recreational	24.9%	39.2	35.2

Commercial Management Measures

Goals:

- Maximize opportunity without exceeding catch limits
- Predictable, year-round season
- Allow higher black rockfish catch in summer

Management tools:

- Limited-entry permit system (caps total number of participants)
- Bimonthly cumulative vessel landing limits (“trip limits”) cap

2020 Commercial Nearshore Season Recap

Total effort and landings at historic lows

- Low demand for black rockfish and cabezon
- Trip limits raised inseason

Record high landings of other nearshore rockfish

- Markets remained strong for live nearshore rockfish
- Fishermen caught more per trip than in prior years
- Trip limits lowered inseason to stay within quota



Commercial Nearshore Trip Limits (lbs./period)

	2020 trip limit (outset)	2020 trip limit after in-season changes	Recommended 2021 trip limit
Black RF			
P1	1,500	1,500	1,500
P2	1,500	1,500	1,800
P3	1,800	1,800	2,100
P4	1,800	2,400	2,100
P5	1,500	2,700	1,800
P6	1,500	2,700	1,500
Blue/Deacon RF	1,500	1,500	1,500
Other NS RF	450	45	350
Cabezon	1,000	2,000	1,500
Greenling	1,000	1,000	1,000

Clarify Nearshore Permit Transfer Requirement

- In 2017, a rule amendment adopted to clarify a requirement for transfer of nearshore-endorsed permits unintentionally omitted a specification that, per statute, the requirement applies only to nearshore-endorsed permits
- Staff recommend amending OAR 635-004-0330 (3) to make this distinction



Commercial nearshore vessel, Port Orford (ODFW photo)

Recreational Management Measures

Goals:

- Maximize opportunity without exceeding limits
- Year-round season
- Bag limit at least 5 fish

Management tools:

- Bag limits
- Depth/area closures
- Seasonal prohibitions for some species

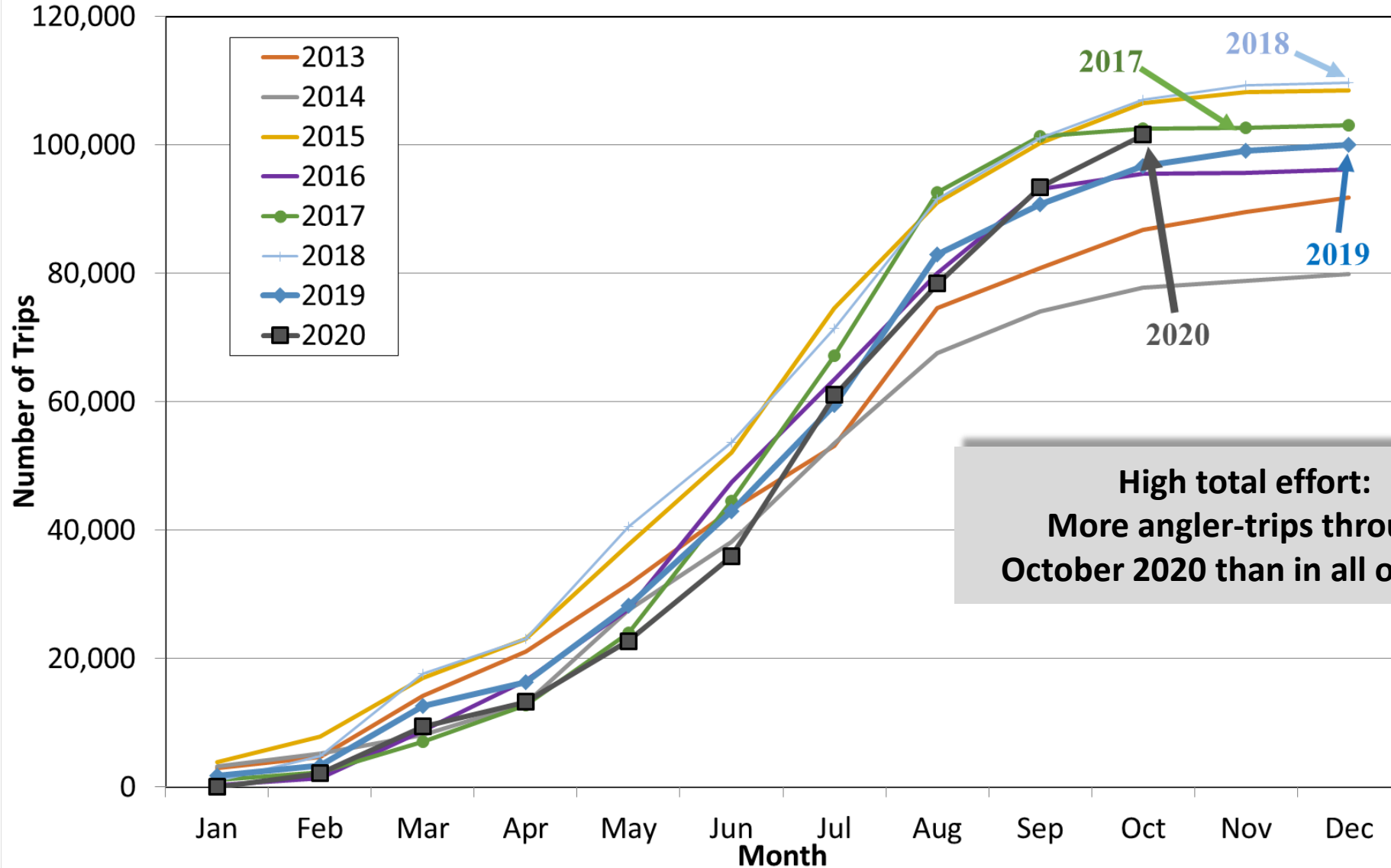




2020 Recreational Season Recap

- Started with 5 fish bag limit, 1-fish sub-bags (within main bag) for copper/quillback/China rockfish and cabezon
- Low effort in spring on north/central coast
 - Many boat ramps, charters closed due to COVID-19
 - Increased in summer as people turned to outdoor recreation
- Effort on south/south-central coast remained high throughout

Recreational Groundfish Effort



**High total effort:
More angler-trips through
October 2020 than in all of 2019**

2020 Recreational Inseason Actions

- Bag limit raised to 7 in July because black rockfish catch projected to be well under quota (now expecting ~90% attainment)
- Copper/quillback/China rockfish closed July 20
- Cabezon opened July 1, closed August 14



Black rockfish, copper rockfish, cabezon (ODFW)

2021 General Marine Bag Limit

Staff recommendation:

- **6 fish**
- Sub-bag limits (status quo) - within the general marine bag limit, anglers may keep no more than:
 - 1 cabezon (opens July 1), and
 - 1 copper, China, or quillback rockfish



Black rockfish (ODFW)

2021 Recreational Groundfish Depth Restriction

- Staff recommendation:
 - Fishing for groundfish limited to shoreward of 40 fathoms from June 1 – Aug. 31 (status quo), to protect yelloweye rockfish

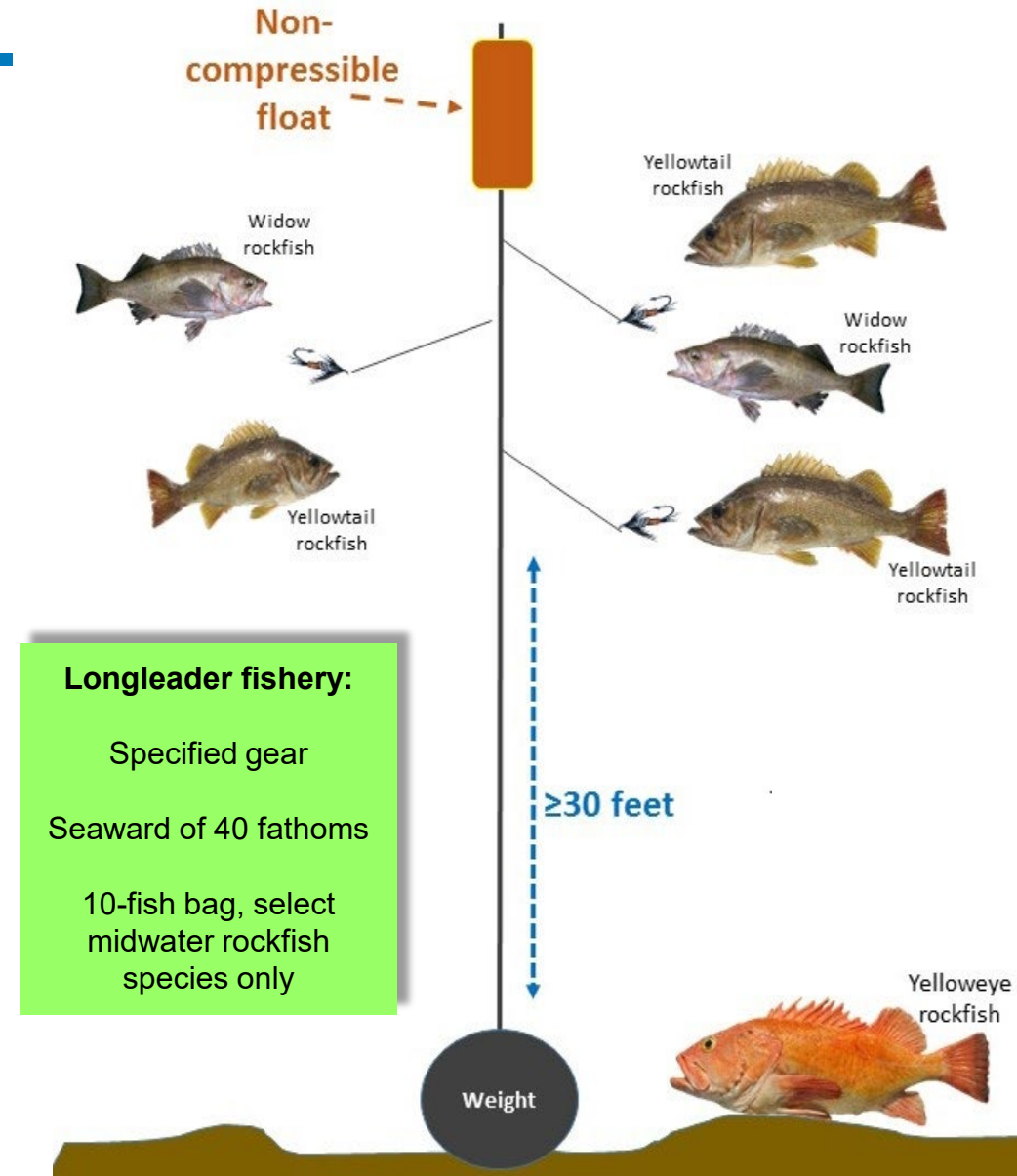


Yelloweye rockfish (ODFW)



Long-leader Fishing on All-Depth Pacific Halibut Trips

- Anglers have requested the opportunity to fish for midwater rockfish with long-leader gear on all-depth halibut trips
- Staff recommend allowing the change during the seasonal depth restriction
 - Outside the depth restriction period, anglers may retain groundfish on all-depth halibut trips; general marine bag limit applies.
 - During the depth restriction, long-leader fishing would be allowed on all-depth halibut trips
 - Halibut fishing must be completed first



Summary of Staff Recommendations

As provided in Exhibit D, Revised Attachment 3 (Draft OARs), adopt the following changes for 2021:

- Updated federal rules (by reference)
- Recreational and commercial harvest guidelines
- Commercial nearshore bimonthly trip limits
- Nearshore permit transfer clarification
- Recreational bag limits and depth restriction
- Allow long-leader fishing on all-depth halibut trips during the bottomfish depth restriction



Questions?

