



Exhibit C. Groundfish

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

December 17, 2021

Maggie Sommer, Marine Resources Program



ODFW



Taylor Frierson



ODFW

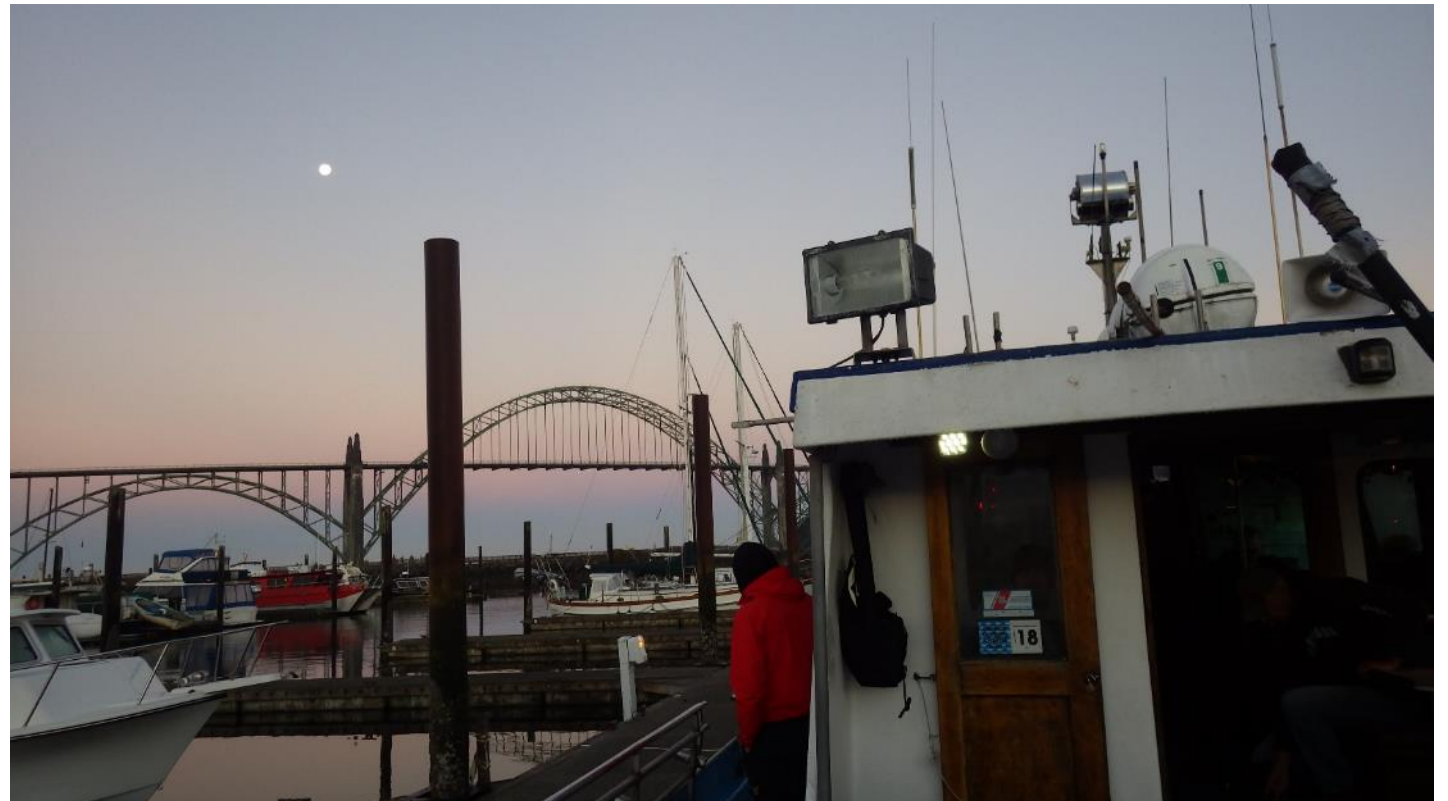


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Exhibit Overview

Issue 1: Nearshore Fishery Report

Issue 2: 2022 Groundfish Regulations





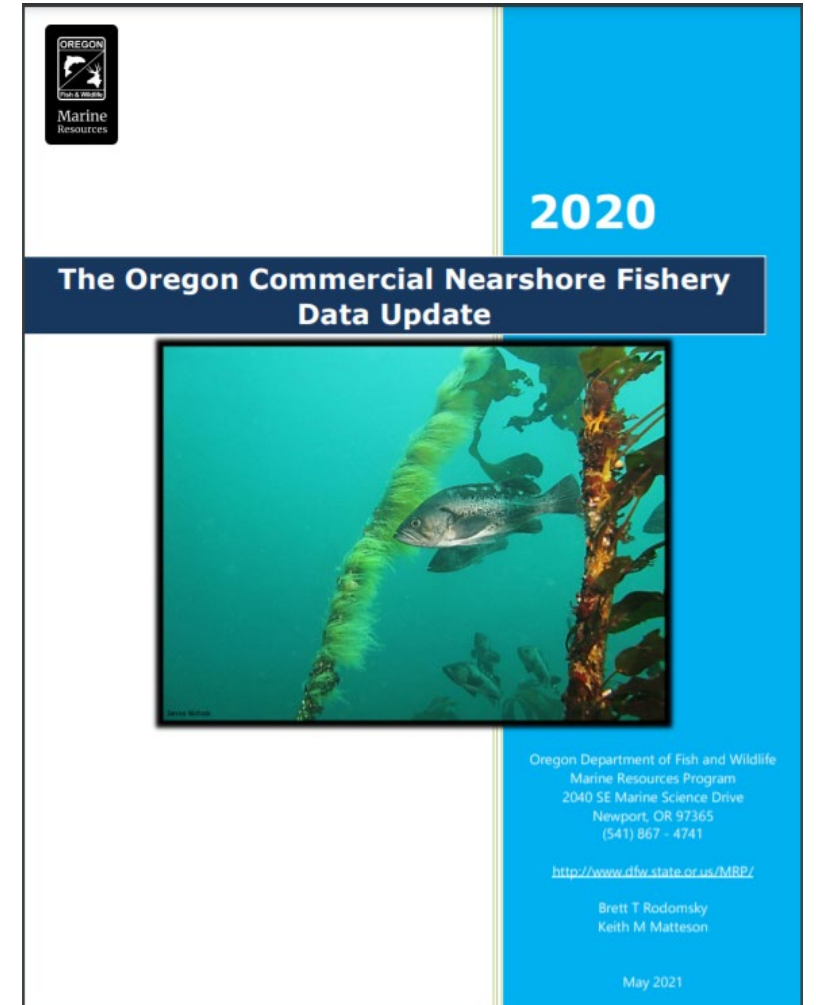
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Issue 1.

Nearshore Fishery Report

Annual report to the Commission
on the commercial nearshore
fishery

Detailed statistics available online:
www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/publications



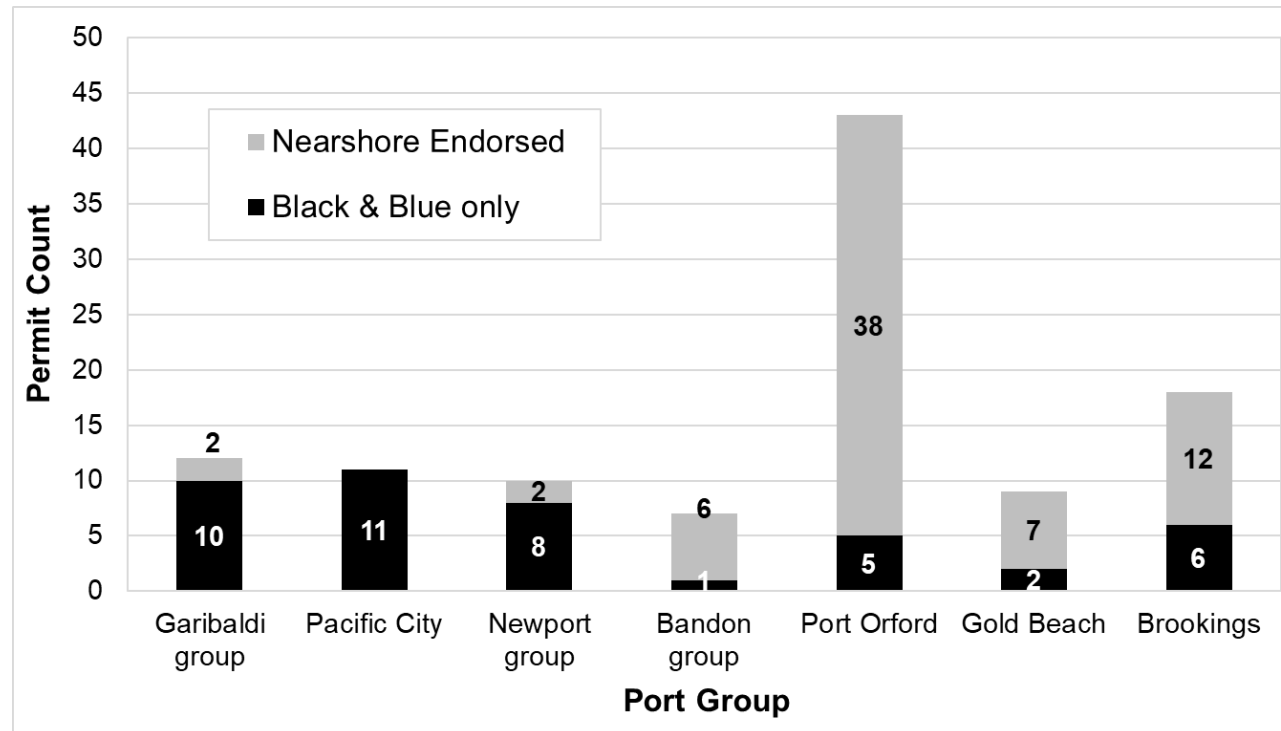


Marine Resources

Commercial Nearshore Permits

110 Black & Blue Rockfish permits in 2020

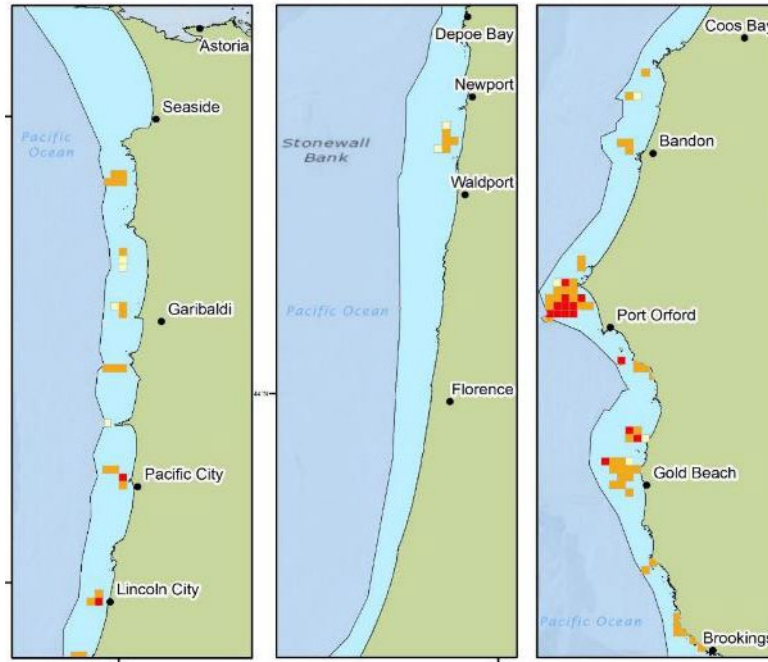
- 67 of which have Nearshore Endorsements





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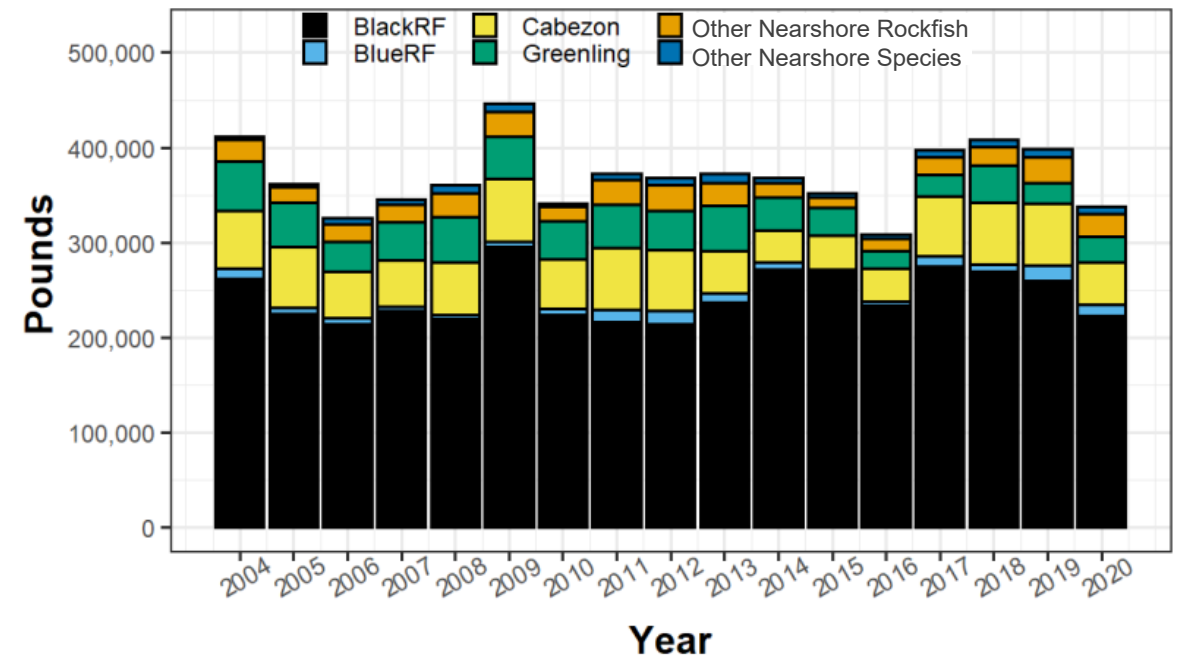
Commercial Nearshore Catch Area and Landings



Catch area in 2020, from logbooks



Landings by year, by species/group



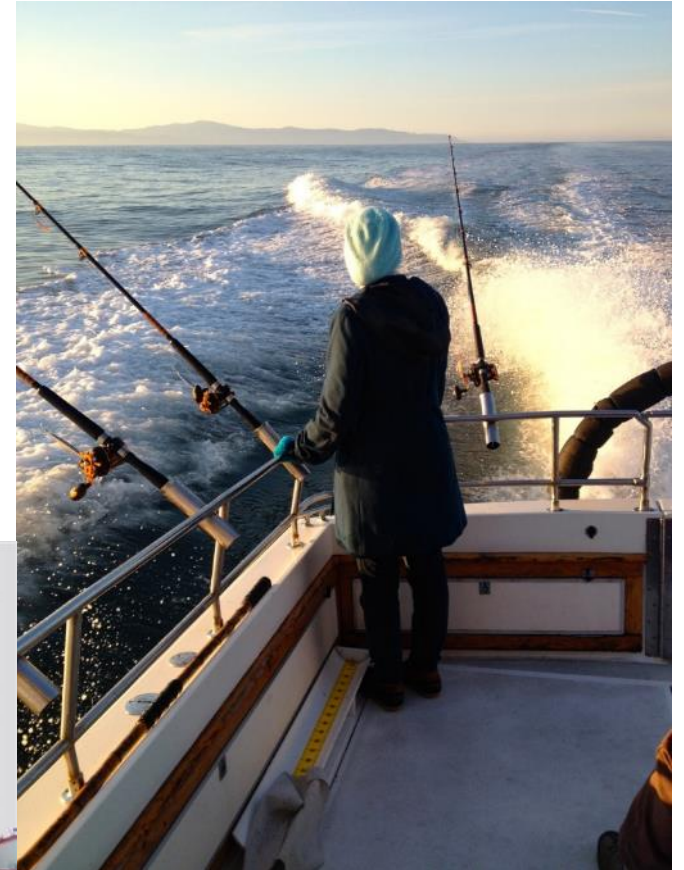


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Issue 2.

Groundfish Regulations

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





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Updated Federal Rules



Federal regulations are developed with ODFW participation

The Oregon Fish Wildlife Commission usually adopts federal groundfish rules by reference

Recent federal rules changed commercial retention limits for lingcod and sablefish.

Staff recommend adopting the updated federal rules by reference





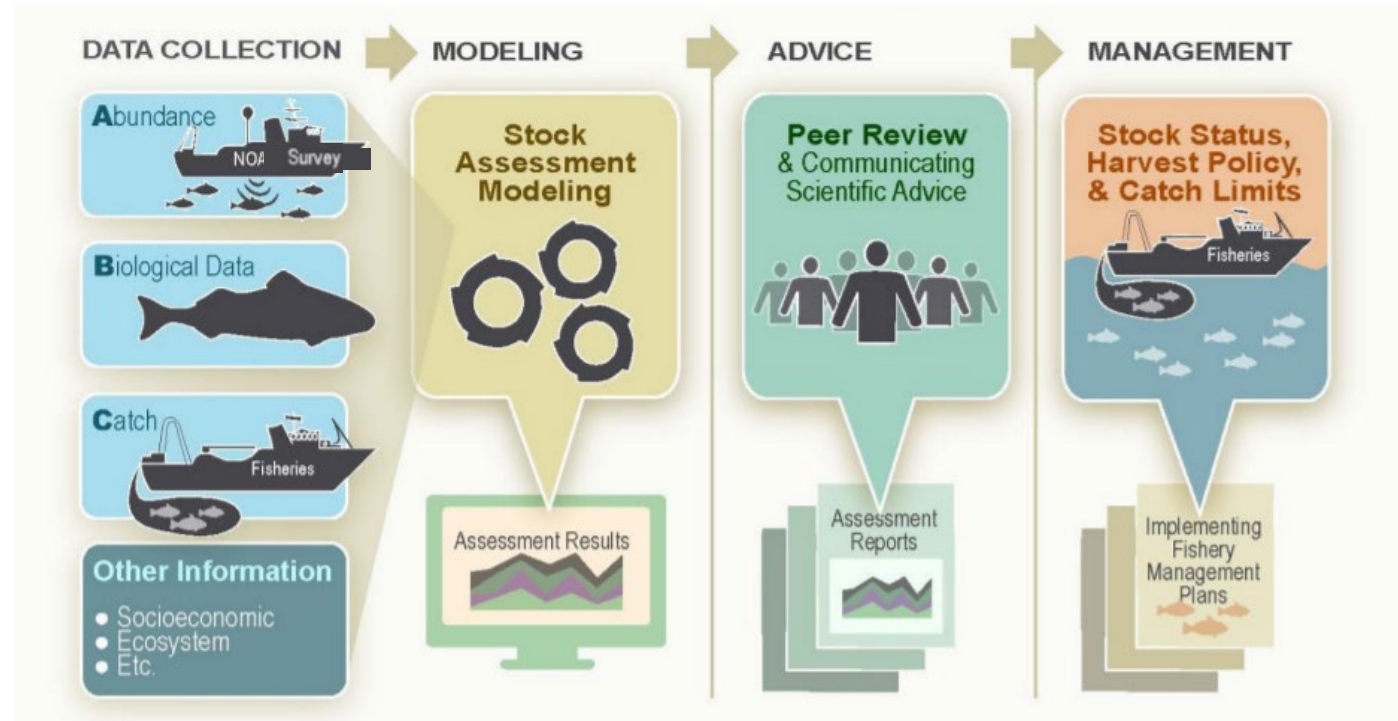
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Setting Groundfish Catch Limits

How do we know what a sustainable level of catch is?

Assessments estimate stock size and health over time and project sustainable long-term yield under prevailing conditions

Federal catch limits must be set below that level to account for scientific uncertainty (and may be further reduced for other reasons)





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State Harvest Guidelines

Overall catch limits for Oregon are allocated to sector as HGs
When an HG is reached, fishing may be restricted to prevent
overfishing or adverse impacts to the other sector

Staff recommend the HGs below (right) for 2022:

Species/Mgt. Group (2022 total limit)	Sector	Allocation	2021 HG	Recommended 2022 HG
Black rockfish (512 mt)	Commercial	24%	122.9	122.9
	Recreational	76%	389.1	389.1
Blue & deacon rockfish (87.5 mt)	Commercial	18.6%	16.8	16.3
	Recreational	81.4%	73.7	71.2
Nearshore rockfish (21.6 mt)	Commercial	51.3%	11.3	11.1
	Recreational	48.7%	10.8	10.5
Cabezon (52.1 mt)	Commercial	64.3%	35.0	33.5
	Recreational	35.7%	19.4	18.6
Greenling (138.2 mt)	Commercial	75.1%	108.1	103.8
	Recreational	24.9%	35.8	34.4



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Commercial Nearshore Management Measures

Objectives:

- Maximize opportunity without exceeding catch limits
- Predictable, year-round season
- Accommodate seasonal pattern of market demand for black rockfish

Management tools:

- Limited-entry permit system (caps total potential effort)
- Bimonthly cumulative vessel landing limits, aka “trip limits” (stabilize season)



2021 Commercial Season Recap

2021 Season:

Total effort and landings continue at historic lows

- Low demand for black rockfish
- Trip limits raised inseason

Landings of other nearshore rockfish and cabezon near average

Catch per unit effort similar to recent years

Projected impacts through 12/31/2021:

	2021 Commercial HG (mt)	Projected impacts (mt) (% HG)
Black Rockfish	122.9	101.5 (83%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	16.8	7.6 (45%)
Cabezon	35.0	27.2 (78%)
Greenling	108.1	10.2 (9%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	11.3	8.8 (78%)



Commercial Nearshore Trip Limits

Cumulative trip limits spread harvest throughout the year by capping how much fish a vessel can land in each two-month period

Staff recommend the trip limits below (right) for 2022:

Species/group	2021 initial trip limit (<i>after inseason adj.</i>) in pounds	Recommended 2022 trip limit in pounds
Black Rockfish		
P1 (Jan - Feb)	1,500	1,800
P2 (Mar - Apr)	1,800	1,800
P3 (May - Jun)	2,100	2,400
P4 (Jul - Aug)	2,100	2,400
P5 (Sep - Oct)	1800 (<i>2,700</i>)	1,800
P6 (Nov - Dec)	1,500 (<i>2,700</i>)	1,800
Blue/Deacon Rockfish	1,500	1,500
Other Nearshore RF	350	350
Cabazon	1,500 (<i>2,000</i>)	1,500
Greenling	1,000	1,000



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Quillback Rockfish

Assessment of the stock off Oregon in 2021 found:

- Relative biomass estimated at 47% of unfished (above target)
- Absolute biomass is smaller overall than prior estimate

Based the 2021 assessment, the federal limit will be ~2.74 mt in 2023

- Recent mortality in all Oregon fisheries ~10 mt/year

Staff recommend prohibiting retention beginning in 2022 in all commercial non-trawl and recreational fisheries





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Commercial Black Rockfish Management Areas

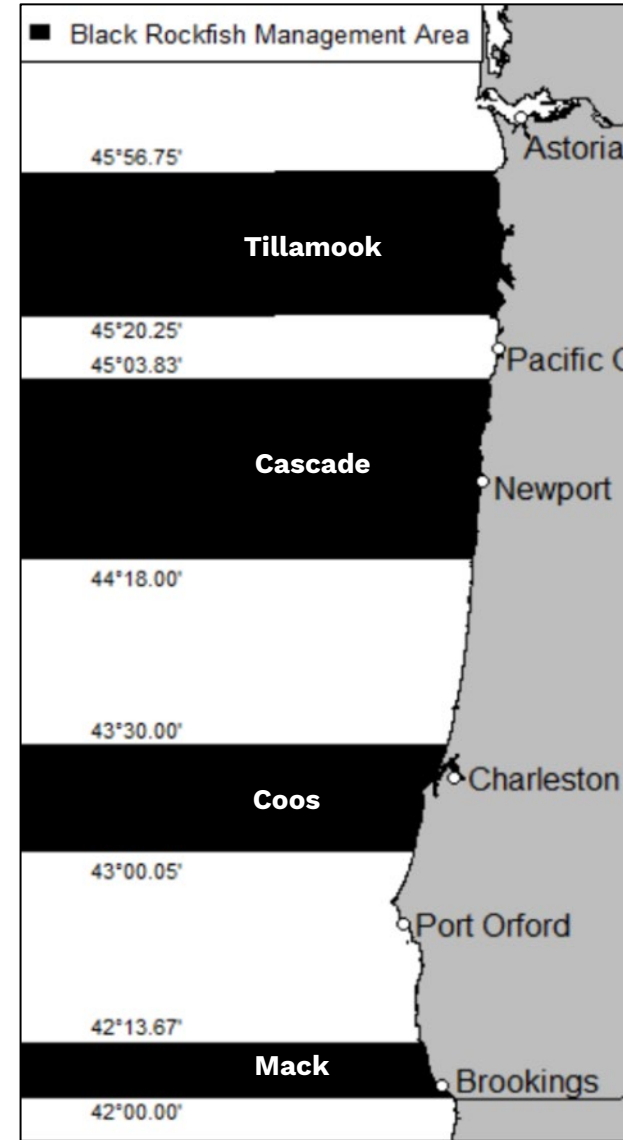
In addition to bimonthly limits, in 4 areas there are per-trip landing limits for black RF

- 300 lbs March-October
- 500 lbs November-February

Established in 1995 to reduce potential conflict with the sport fishery

Public comment requests suspending or eliminating these limits for efficiency and more opportunity to attain bimonthly limits

Staff recommend suspending the per-trip limits in 2022 and evaluating impacts at the end of the year





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Projected Commercial Nearshore Fishery Catch in 2022

Projected catch and HG attainment under the recommended management measures:

	Recommended 2022 Commercial HG (mt)	Projected 2022 impacts (mt) (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	122.9	106.0 (86%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	16.3	7.1 (44%)
Cabezon	33.5	21.4 (64%)
Greenling	103.8	12.2 (12%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	11.1	11.3 (102%)



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Recreational Management Measures

Objectives:

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

Management tools:

- Bag limits
- Depth/area closures
- Species-specific prohibitions
- Descending device requirement





Marine Resources

Sport Bottomfish Newsletter

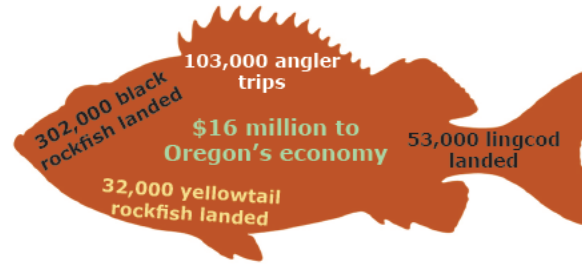


3rd Annual Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Marine Resources Program Sport Bottomfish Review (2020)

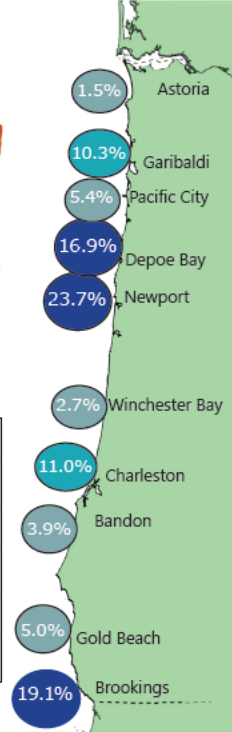


Bottomfishing off the Oregon Coast has become increasingly popular in recent years, and this trend continued in 2020 with more than 103,000 angler trips reported. Here is a summary of Oregon's 2020 sport bottomfish fishery, a season like no other due to the pandemic.

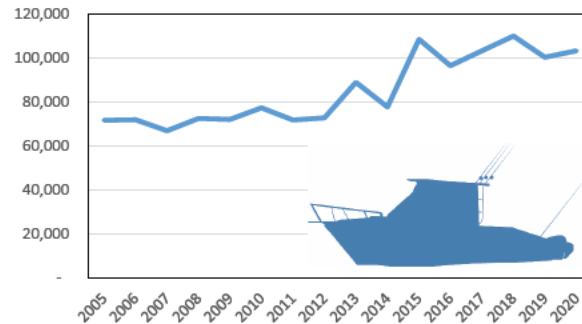
2020 Season Highlights



Percentage of bottomfish angler trips by port in 2020



Number of Bottomfish Angler Trips



ODFW Marine Resources Program | 2040 SE Marine Science Dr, Newport, OR 97365
541-867-4741 | <https://myodfw.com/sport-bottomfish-seasons>

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Have a Question?

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Visit our website:
<https://myodfw.com/sport-bottomfish-seasons>

Annual newsletter available each spring

<https://myodfw.com/sport-bottomfish-seasons>



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2021 Recreational Season Recap

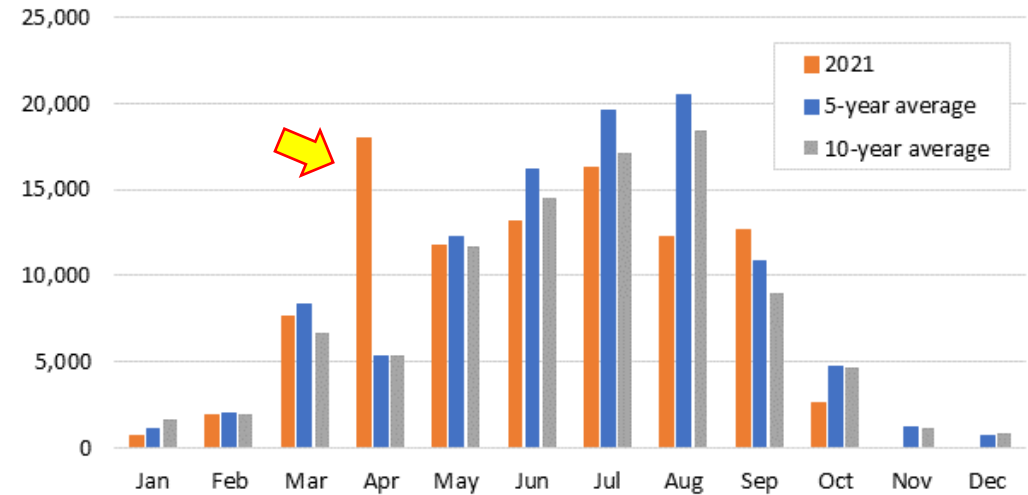
2021 Season:

Very high effort in April

Bag limit reduced to 5

Less effort than expected in August

Bottomfish angler-trips by month



Projected impacts through 12/31/2021:

2021 Recreational Harvest Guideline, in metric tons

Projected impacts through 12/31, in mt (% of HG)

Black Rockfish	389.1	344.3 (88 %)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	73.7	18.3 (25 %)
Cabazon	19.4	12.5 (65 %)
Greenling	35.8	21.6 (60 %)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	10.8	9.3 (87 %)

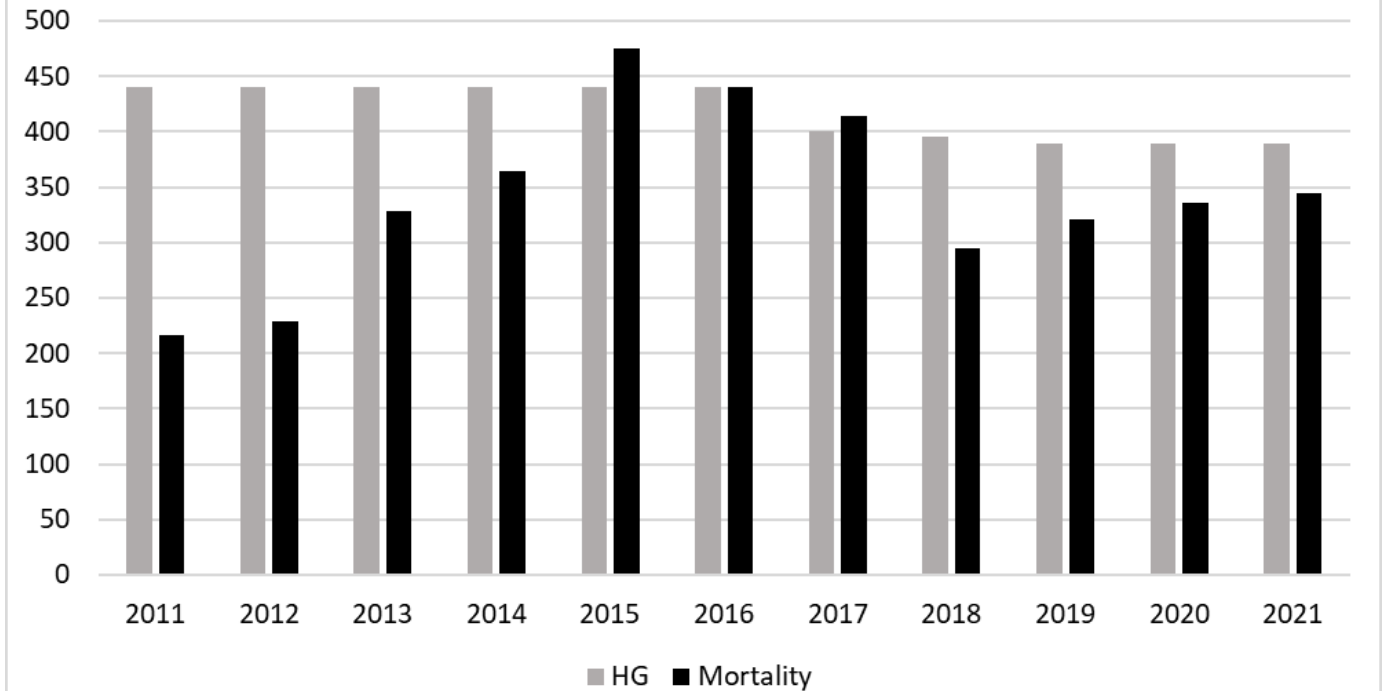


Marine Resources

Black Rockfish



OR Rec. Black Rockfish HG and mortality, 2011-2021 (metric tons)





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2022 Bag Limits

Staff recommend:

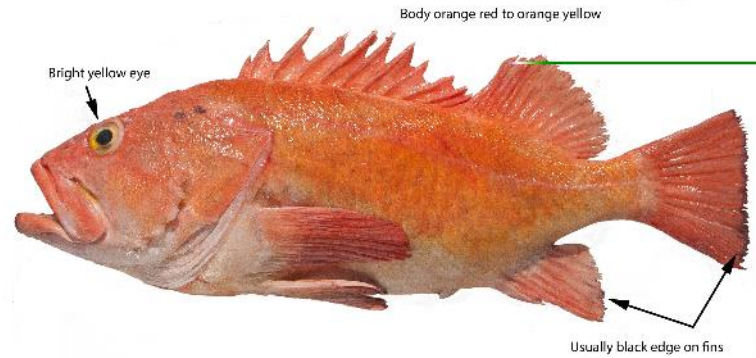
- **5 fish general marine bag limit**
- **Sub-bag limit for copper rockfish and China rockfish – within the general marine bag, anglers may keep no more than one of either species**
- **No retention of quillback rockfish**

- All other groundfish bag limits status quo
 - Cabezon = 1-fish sub-bag, opens July 1
 - Lingcod = 2 fish
 - Longleader = 10 fish, select midwater species only
 - Flatfish = 25 fish (not halibut)
 - No retention of yelloweye rockfish



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Recreational Groundfish Depth Restriction



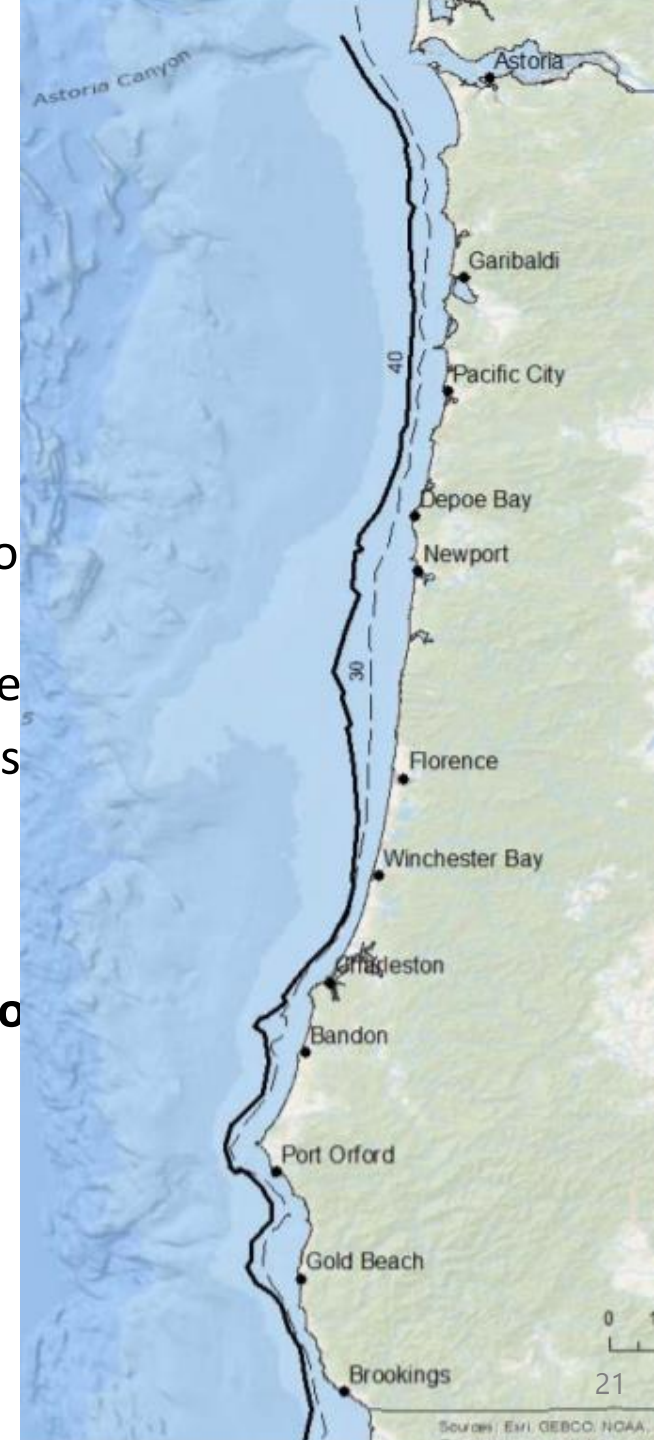
Area restrictions have been used since 2004 to protect yelloweye rockfish

- Initially <30 fathoms (180') April – September
- 2020-2021: <40 fathoms (240') June – August

Staff recommend:

- **Between July 1 and Aug. 31, traditional* groundfish fishing restricted to shoreward of the 40-fathom line**

** Offshore longleader and flatfish fishing are not subject to the seasonal depth restriction*





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Projected Recreational Mortality in 2022

Projected catch and HG attainment under the recommended management measures:

	Recommended 2022 Recreational HG (mt)	Projected 2022 impacts (mt) (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	389.1	321.2 (83 %)
Blue & Deacon Rockfish	71.2	18.8 (26 %)
Cabazon	18.6	16.5 (89 %)
Greenling	34.4	22.5 (65 %)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	10.5	10.3 (98 %)



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Summary of Staff Recommendations

As provided in Exhibit C, Amended Attachment 3 (Draft OARs), adopt the following changes for 2022:

- Updated federal rules (by reference)
- Recreational and commercial harvest guidelines
- Commercial nearshore bimonthly trip limits
- Recreational bag limits and depth restriction
- Prohibit retention of quillback rockfish in recreational and commercial non-trawl fisheries
- Suspend daily trip limits in commercial Black Rockfish Management Areas



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ODFW Groundfish Management Staff



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Questions?

