



Exhibit H. 2023 Groundfish Fisheries Regulations and 2021 Nearshore Logbook Report

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

December 16, 2022

Jessica Watson, Marine Resources Program



Photo credit: ODFW



Photo credit: ODFW



Photo credit: ODFW





Marine
Resources



Photo credit: ODFW

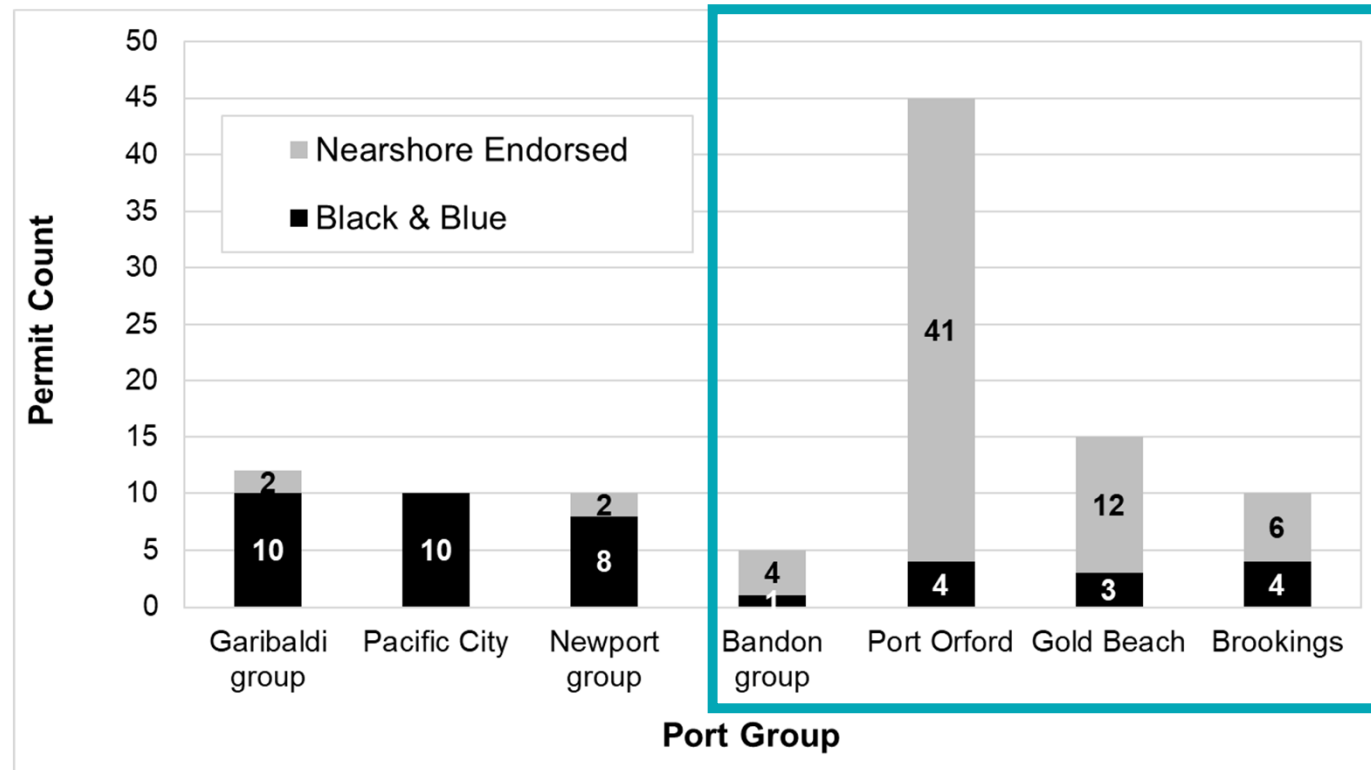
Issue 1. Nearshore Fishery Report

Annual report to the Commission on the
commercial nearshore fishery



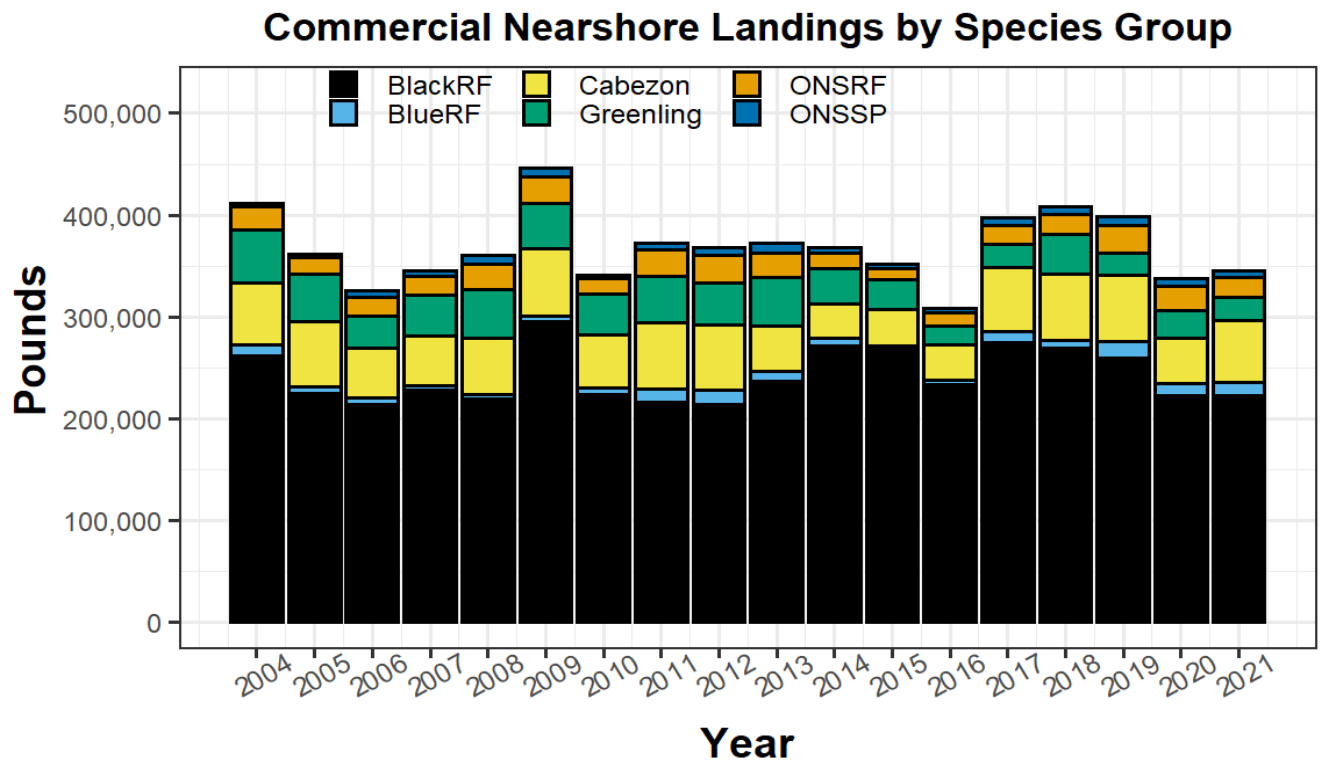
2021 Commercial Nearshore Permits

- 107 Black & Blue Rockfish permits
- 67 of which have a Nearshore Endorsement
- Permits concentrated in the south



2021 Commercial Nearshore Catch Area and Landings (logbooks)

- Logbook required
- Fishery catch higher on the south coast
- Black rockfish make up the majority of catch





Marine
Resources

Issue 2. Groundfish Regulations

- 2023 Federal Rules
- State Harvest Guidelines
- Commercial Management Measures
- Recreational Management Measures

5

Photo credit: ODFW

Photo credit: ODFW



2023 Federal Rules



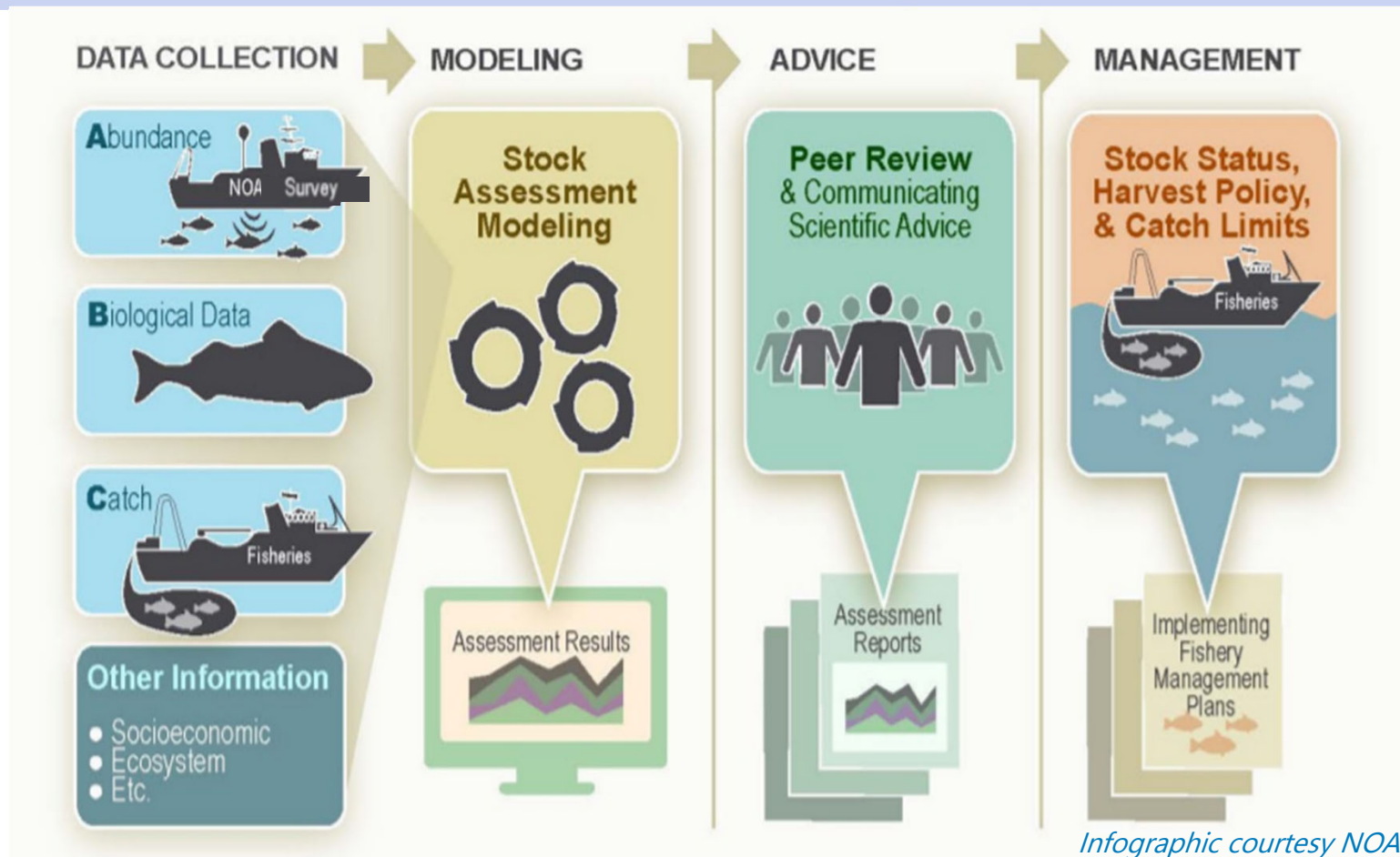
- Federal regulations are developed based on best available science and with ODFW participation

Staff recommend adopting the updated federal rules by reference, without modification



Setting Sustainable Groundfish Catch Limits

Federal catch limits must be set **at or below** sustainable long-term yield, to account for scientific uncertainty





State Harvest Guidelines (HG)

- Federal catch limits are set for Oregon by PFMCC
- State harvest guidelines allocate federal catch limits to sectors (recreational and commercial)
- When state HG is approached, management actions may be taken

Species/Mgt. Group (2023 total limit)	Sector	Allocation	2022 HG	Reccomended 2023 HG
Black rockfish (512 mt)	Commercial	24.0%	122.9	122.9
	Recreational	76.0%	389.1	389.1
Blue & deacon rockfish (84.5 mt)	Commercial	18.6%	16.3	15.7
	Recreational	81.4%	71.2	68.8
Nearshore rockfish (32.4 mt)	Commercial	51.3%	11.1	16.6
	Recreational	48.7%	10.5	15.8
Cabezon (50.5 mt)	Commercial	64.3%	33.5	32.4
	Recreational	35.7%	18.6	18.0
Greenling (134.1 mt)	Commercial	75.1%	103.8	100.7
	Recreational	24.9%	34.4	33.4

Staff recommend the HGs above (right) for 2023





Commercial Nearshore Management Measures



Objectives:

- Maximize opportunity while not exceeding catch limits
- Predictable, year-round season
- Accommodate seasonal pattern market demand for Black rockfish

Management Tools:

- Limited-entry permit system (caps total potential effort)
- Bimonthly cumulative vessel landing limit by species (stabilizes season)





2022 Commercial Nearshore Season Recap

- Harvest for all species is projected to be under the state specific HG
- Black rockfish tracked higher than average
- Greenling tracked lower than average

Projected impacts through 12/31/2022:

2022 Commercial HG (mt)		Projected Impacts (mt) (% HG)
Black Rockfish	122.9	121.9 (99%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	16.3	12.6 (79%)
Cabazon	33.5	25.2 (75%)
Greenling	103.8	18.2 (18%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	11.1	9.9 (89%)





2023 Commercial Nearshore Trip Limits

- Trip limits distribute harvest throughout the year
- Caps the amount of fish (by species) a vessel can land in each two-month period

Staff recommend the trip limits (right) for 2023

Species/group	2022 Initial Trip Limit (after inseason adj.) in Pounds	Recommended 2023 Trip Limit in Pounds
Black Rockfish		
Jan - Feb	1,800	1,800
Mar – Apr	1,800	1,800
May – Jun	2,400	2,400
Jul – Aug	2,400	2,400
Sep – Oct	1,800	1,800
Nov – Dec	1,800 (200)	1,800
Blue/Deacon Rockfish	1,500	1,500
Other Nearshore RF	350	450
Cabezon	1,500 (2,000)	1,500
Greenling	1,000 (1,200)	1,200



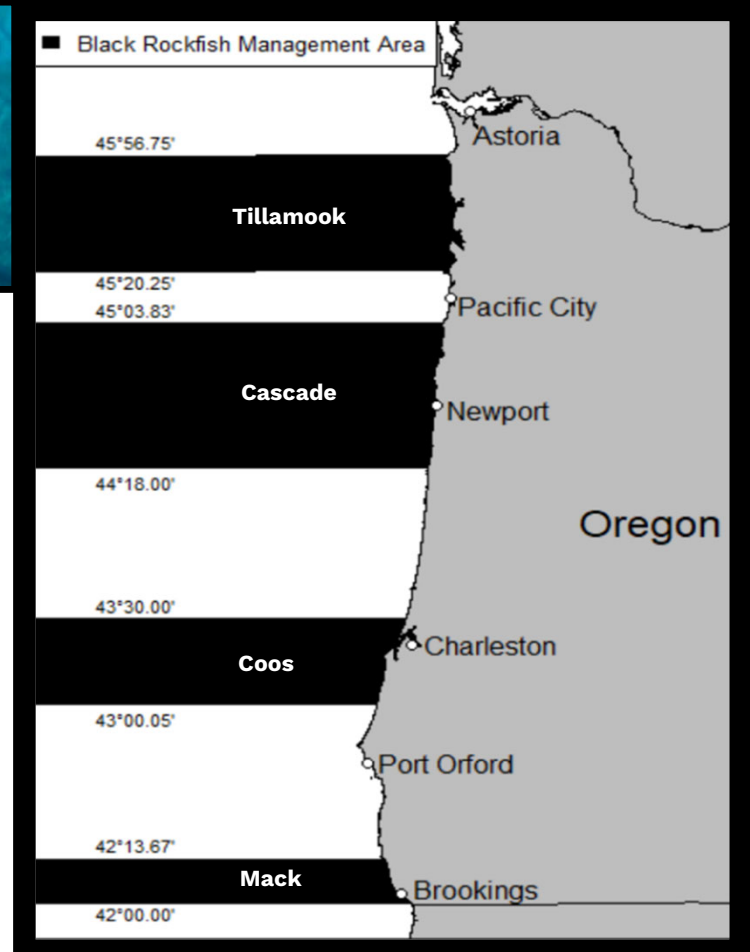


Commercial Nearshore Black Rockfish Management Areas



- Trip limits may no longer be necessary to achieve management objectives
- Conclusions based on limited data

Staff recommend suspending the pre-trip limits in BRMAs for an additional three years (2023-2025) and reevaluating the impacts in fall of 2025



Recreational Management Measures

Photo credit: Maggie Sommer



Objectives:

- Maximize opportunity while not exceeding catch limits
- Predictable, year-round season
- Bag limit of at least 5 fish

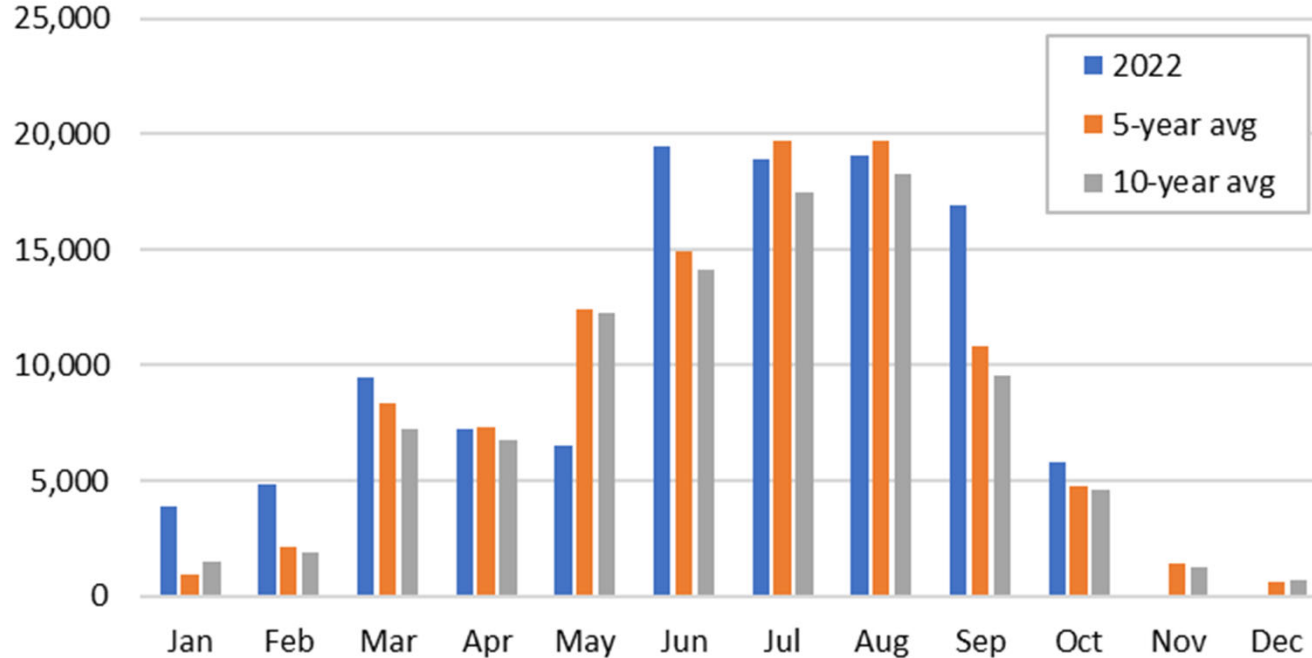
Management Tools:

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



2022 Recreational Season Recap

Bottomfish Angler Trips by Month



- Very high effort
- Inseason action taken on September 6th
 - Reduced bag limit to 4
 - No retention of Copper and China rockfish, and Cabezon



2022 Recreational Season Recap

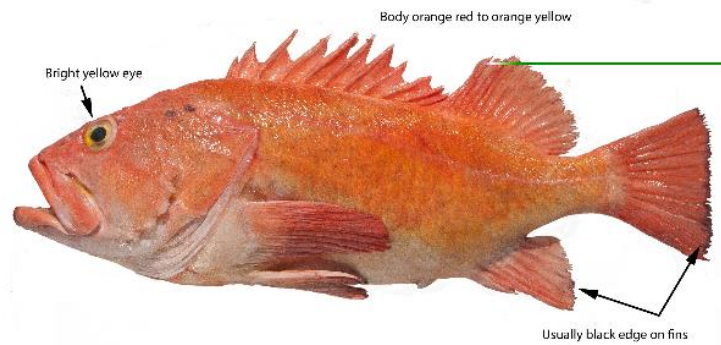
- Even with inseason action harvest for Black rockfish and other nearshore rockfish will exceed the 2022 state specific HG

2022 Projected impacts through 12/31/2022:

	Recreational HG (mt)	Projected Impacts in mt (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	389.1	413.7 (106%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	71.2	22.6 (32%)
Cabazon	18.6	18.6 (92%)
Greenling	34.4	23.0 (67%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	10.5	12.7 (121%)



Recreational Groundfish Depth Restriction



Area restrictions have been used since 2004 to protect yelloweye rockfish

- Initially <30 fathoms (180 ft) April – September
- 2020-2021: <40 fathoms (240 ft) June – August
- 2022: <40 fathoms (240 ft) July – August

Staff recommended no depth restriction for traditional* groundfish fishing

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



2023 Bag Limits

Staff recommend:

- **5 fish general marine fish bag limit**
- **Remove sub bag limit**
- 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 and quillback rockfish



2023 Recreational Projected Fishery Mortality

Projected catch and HG attainment under the recommended management measures:

	Recommended 2023 Recreational HG (mt)	Projected 2023 Impacts (mt) (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	389.1	342.0 (88%)
Blue & Deacon Rockfish	68.8	21.2 (31%)
Cabazon	18.0	21.3 (118%)
Greenling	33.4	22.4 (67%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	15.8	10.9 (69%)





Summary of Staff Recommendations

As provided in Exhibit H, Attachment 3 (Draft OARs), adopt the following changes for 2023:

- Updated federal rules (by reference)
- Recreational and commercial harvest guidelines
- Commercial nearshore bimonthly trip limits
- Suspend daily trip limits in commercial Black Rockfish Management Areas for an additional three years (2023 - 2025)
- Recreational bag limits and depth restriction removal





ODFW Groundfish Management Staff



Jessica Watson
Interim Marine Fishery
Management Section
Leader

Troy Buell
State Fishery
Management Program
Leader

Lynn Mattes
Halibut & Recreational
Groundfish Project
Leader

Katie Pierson
Commercial
Groundfish Project
Leader

Christian Heath
Groundfish & Halibut
Assistant Project Lead

Cathleen Vestfals
State Fishery
Management
Assistant Project
Leader

Lindsey Noordman
Nearshore Logbook
Data Analyst





Questions?