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PUBLIC NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Trawl Rationalization Program:

1. Observer discard data entered into IFQ vessel accounts
2. QS accounts to be “topped-up” for some IFQ species
3. Whiting allocations available for Coops

Observer Discard Data

For participants in the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program, NMFS has populated vessel accounts with observer discard data. The observer data includes trips taken between January 11, 2011 and May 13th, 2011. Please note that the following can delay observer data from being entered into vessel accounts:

1. Entry of data into the observer program database.
2. Sampling issues.

For questions on observer data, please call (206) 861-7607.

For questions on vessel accounts, please call (206) 526-4140.

Vessel account owners should check their vessel accounts for potential deficits that may result from the additional observer discard data entering the vessel account system.

NMFS would like to remind vessel account owners that they have 30 days from the date a deficit occurs in the online vessel account system to either 1) get the necessary quota pounds (QP) to clear the deficit, or 2) use QP from the next year under the carryover provision and declare out of the IFQ fishery for the

remainder of the calendar year. For more details on the carryover provisions, see the regulations at 50 CFR 660.140(e)(5).

QS Account Top-up

In January 2011, NMFS issued interim allocations to the Shorebased IFQ Program and to quota share (QS) permit owners through their QS accounts. The interim allocations were conservative allocations in place until the final harvest specifications for the groundfish fishery and the whiting fishery were implemented. The final harvest specifications for all groundfish, except Pacific whiting, became effective May 11, 2011 (76 FR 27508).

The final whiting harvest specifications are applicable beginning May 15, 2011, and were published in the Federal Register on May 19, 2011 (76 FR 28897).

NMFS Trawl Program website:

<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Groundfish-Halibut/Groundfish-Fishery-Management/Trawl-Program/index.cfm>

Groundfish E-mail Group

Subscribe to “**wcgroundfish**” by visiting the following website: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Groundfish-Halibut/Groundfish-Fishery-Management/Public-Notices/Index.cfm> and clicking “sign up”.

QS accounts will be “topped-up” in the next couple of weeks for IFQ species where the final shorebased trawl allocation increased from the interim value. QS permit owners should check their QS accounts for additional QP. **As a reminder, all QP in a QS account must be transferred to one or more vessel accounts by September 1 each year.** See the attached table titled, “2011 Shorebased Trawl Allocations for IFQ Species” for the final allocations to the Shorebased IFQ Program and which species increased. This table is also available on our trawl rationalization program website under “informational documents.”

The QP vessel limits for 2011 will be updated to reflect these increases in allocation to the Shorebased IFQ Program. For the resulting pounds associated with vessel limits, see the attached table titled, “2011 Shorebased Trawl Vessel Limits.” This table is also available on our trawl rationalization program website under “informational documents.”

Whiting Allocations available for Coops

The allocation of Pacific whiting between the at-sea sectors is as follows:

53,038.80 mt for the mothership sector; and
75,138.30 mt for the catcher/processor sector.

For 2011, there is one mothership cooperative (coop). All mothership catcher vessel (MS/CV) endorsed limited entry trawl permits owners elected to participate in the coop fishery. There is no allocation to the non-coop fishery because no permits are assigned to the non-coop fishery. Accordingly, the mothership coop is allocated 100% of the mothership sector allocation. 100% of the catcher/processor sector allocation is allocated to the single catcher/processor coop, as per 660.160(c)(2). The coops have been notified of their allocation of Pacific whiting and allocations of non-groundfish species through a cover letter with their coop permit.

2011 SHOREBASED TRAWL ALLOCATIONS FOR IFQ SPECIES

5/20/2011

Below is a table showing the final shorebased trawl allocations for IFQ species in pounds based on values published in the final rule for the 2011 groundfish harvest specifications (76 FR 27508, May 11, 2011) and in the Pacific whiting harvest specifications final rule (publication information pending). This table also shows the difference between the interim pounds allocated in January 2011 and the final pounds allocated for 2011. Some values in this table have increased from the interim 2011 Shorebased IFQ Program allocation (75 FR 82296, December 30, 2010) and are denoted in bold. To calculate total quota pounds (QP) for 2011, divide the QS percent for an IFQ species as given on your QS permit by 100, then take the resulting value and multiply it by the value for that species in the "total final pounds" column of this table.

<i>IFQ category</i>	total final pounds for the Shorebased IFQ Program	<i>interim pounds</i>	<i>difference</i>
Arrowtooth flounder	27,406,105	16,804,295	10,601,810
<i>Bocaccio rockfish South of 40°10' N.</i>	132,277	132,277	0
<i>Canary rockfish</i>	57,100	57,100	0
<i>Chilipepper rockfish South of 40°10' N.</i>	3,252,370	3,252,370	0
Cowcod South of 40°10' N.	3,968	2,976	992
<i>Darkblotched rockfish</i>	552,997	552,997	0
Dover sole	49,018,682	31,216,354	17,802,328
English sole	41,166,808	20,189,383	20,977,425
<i>Lingcod</i>	4,107,873	4,107,873	0
<i>Longspine thornyheads North of 34°27' N.</i>	4,334,839	4,334,839	0
<i>Minor shelf rockfish North of 40°10' N.</i>	1,150,813	1,150,813	0
<i>Minor shelf rockfish South of 40°10' N.</i>	189,598	189,598	0
<i>Minor slope rockfish North of 40°10' N.</i>	1,828,779	1,828,779	0
<i>Minor slope rockfish South of 40°10' N.</i>	831,958	831,958	0
<i>Other flatfish</i>	9,253,683	9,253,683	0
<i>Pacific cod</i>	2,502,247	2,502,247	0
<i>Pacific halibut (IBQ) North of 40°10' N.</i>	257,524	257,524	0
<i>Pacific ocean perch North of 40°10' N.</i>	263,148	263,148	0
Pacific whiting	204,628,442	40,712,766	163,915,676
Petrале sole	1,920,226	1,896,130	24,096
<i>Sablefish North of 36° N.</i>	5,613,719	5,613,719	0
Sablefish South of 36° N.	1,170,390	1,133,352	37,038
<i>Shortspine thornyheads North of 34°27' N.</i>	3,156,138	3,156,138	0
<i>Shortspine thornyheads South of 34°27' N.</i>	110,231	110,231	0
Splitnose rockfish South of 40°10' N.	3,045,245	950,854	2,094,391
Starry flounder	1,471,586	1,168,450	303,136
Widow rockfish	755,348	622,916	132,432
Yelloweye rockfish	1,323	661	662
<i>Yellowtail rockfish North of 40°10' N.</i>	6,821,455	6,821,455	0

2011 SHOREBASED TRAWL VESSEL LIMITS

5/20/2011

Below is a table showing the shorebased trawl vessel limits for IFQ species in pounds based on the final Shorebased IFQ Program allocation for 2011 (76 FR 27508, May 11, 2011) and the vessel limits specified at 50 CFR 660.140(e)(4). Some values in this table have increased from the interim 2011 Shorebased IFQ Program allocation (75 FR 82296, December 30, 2010) and are denoted in **bold**. These values are used to calculate the amount of QP that can be transferred to a vessel account.

The **Annual QP Limit** is the total amount of QP (used and unused) that may be registered to a single vessel during the year. It applies to the sum of your current QP and your catch to date (landings + discards), which is displayed in the year to date column on your vessel account summary page. The Non-whiting Groundfish Species Annual QP Limit is an overall limit applying to the sum of every IFQ species (excluding Pacific whiting and Pacific halibut).

The **Daily QP Limit** is the total amount of unused QP that may be registered to a vessel at any time. It applies to your current QP (as listed in your vessel account).

IFQ Category	Total Pounds for Shorebased IFQ Program	QP Vessel Limit (Annual Limit) %	Associated Annual QP Limit (pounds)	Unused QP Vessel Limit (Daily Limit) %	Associated Daily QP Limit (pounds)
Arrowtooth flounder	27,406,105	20.0%	5,481,221		
Bocaccio rockfish South of 40°10' N.	132,277	15.4%	20,371	13.2%	17,461
Canary rockfish	57,100	10.0%	5,710	4.4%	2,512
Chilipepper rockfish South of 40°10' N.	3,252,370	15.0%	487,855		
Cowcod South of 40°10' N.	3,968	17.7%	702	17.7%	702
Darkblotched rockfish	552,997	6.8%	37,604	4.5%	24,885
Dover sole	49,018,682	3.9%	1,911,729		
English sole	41,166,808	7.5%	3,087,511		
Lingcod	4,107,873	3.8%	156,099		
Longspine thornyheads North of 34°27' N.	4,334,839	9.0%	390,136		
Minor shelf rockfish North of 40°10' N.	1,150,813	7.5%	86,311		
Minor shelf rockfish South of 40°10' N.	189,598	13.5%	25,596		
Minor slope rockfish North of 40°10' N.	1,828,779	7.5%	137,158		
Minor slope rockfish South of 40°10' N.	831,958	9.0%	74,876		
Other flatfish	9,253,683	15.0%	1,388,052		
Pacific cod	2,502,247	20.0%	500,449		
Pacific halibut (IBQ) North of 40°10' N.	257,524	14.4%	37,083	5.4%	13,906
Pacific ocean perch North of 40°10' N.	263,148	6.0%	15,789	4.0%	10,526
Pacific whiting	204,628,442	15.0%	30,694,266		
Petrale sole	1,920,226	4.5%	86,410		
Sablefish North of 36° N.	5,613,719	4.5%	252,617		
Sablefish South of 36° N.	1,170,390	15.0%	175,559		
Shortspine thornyheads North of 34°27' N.	3,156,138	9.0%	284,052		
Shortspine thornyheads South of 34°27' N.	110,231	9.0%	9,921		
Splitnose rockfish South of 40°10' N.	3,045,245	15.0%	456,787		
Starry flounder	1,471,586	20.0%	294,317		
Widow rockfish	755,348	8.5%	64,205	5.1%	38,523
Yelloweye rockfish	1,323	11.4%	151	5.7%	75
Yellowtail rockfish North of 40°10' N.	6,821,455	7.5%	511,609		
Non-whiting Groundfish Species	170,118,904	3.2%	5,443,805		