



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region  
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[www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/index.html](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/index.html)



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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NMFS-SEA-15-33  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 28, 2015

### **PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY**

#### **2015 Year-End and Gearing Up for 2016**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is addressing a few frequently asked questions regarding fishing regulations as we approach 2016. These questions include:

1. What if I am fishing into the New Year?
2. What regulations will be in place in January 2016?

Regulations, public notices and compliance guides, along with other useful information, including more detailed information for vessels participating in the Trawl Rationalization Program, are posted on the NMFS West Coast Region Groundfish website (listed in the box below).

#### **Fishing into the New Year**

If you are planning to fish during the last days of December 2015 and wait to land until the first days of 2016, the landings will count towards 2016 trip limits, even if the harvest actually occurred in 2015. However, vessels may not take and retain species for which the season is closed (e.g. sablefish) until the next legal period (e.g. January 1).

#### **Regulatory Changes for 2016**

For 2016 harvest specifications will be in effect. Many of the fishery management measures that were in place in January 2015 will still be in place in 2016 (including most trip limits, with changes as described below).

In 2015, several modifications were made to regulations for the groundfish fisheries. These include clarifications for vessels using midwater trawl gear (Public Notice NMFS-SEA-15-31) and a new Seabird Avoidance Program for vessels using longline gear (Public Notice NMFS-SEA15-28). These are described in public notices that can found on the WCR website Public Notices page (listed in the box below).

***NMFS West Coast Region (WCR) Groundfish Website***

*<http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish/index.html>*

***NMFS WCR Groundfish Public Notices***

*<http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish/index.html>*

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

## Commercial Trip Limits for 2016

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### Big Skate:

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) recommended changes to big skate trip limits in the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program for 2016 at their November 13-19, 2015 meeting in Garden Grove, CA. NMFS is implementing those changes to trip limits, which will be published in a *Federal Register* notice on December 31, 2015 and effective January 1, 2016. That rule will be available on the West Coast Region website (listed in the box above).

### **Two-month cumulative trip limits in the Shorebased IFQ Program for big skate, beginning January 1, 2016:**

- Period 1 (January-February):  
5,000 pounds/2 months;
- Period 2 (March-April):  
25,000 pounds/2 months;
- Period 3 (May-June):  
30,000 pounds/2 months
- Period 4 (July-August);  
35,000 pounds/2 months
- Period 5 (September-October):  
10,000 pounds/2 months; and
- Period 6 (November-December)  
5,000 pounds/2 months.

These changes to big skate limits, as well as unchanged 2016 trip limits for other groundfish species, are described in the tables attached to this public notice.

### Sablefish:

The limited entry fixed gear (LEFG) and open access (OA) sablefish daily trip limit fisheries north of 36° N. lat. were closed for the end of 2015 to reduce the risk of overfishing sablefish in 2015. The 2016 annual catch limit (ACL) for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. is higher than in 2015, and previously scheduled 2016 trip limits will be in place, unchanged, for 2016. **The limited entry fixed gear and open access sablefish fisheries north of 36° N. lat. will re-open on January 1, 2016, with the following trip limits:**

- *LEFG sablefish north of 36° N. lat.:*  
1,275 lb/week, not to exceed 3,375 lb/ 2 months in Periods 1-6 (January-December). See Tables 2 North and South.
- *OA sablefish north of 36° N. lat.:*  
300 lb/day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 2,000 lb/ 2 months in Periods 1-6 (January-December). See Tables 3 North and South.

The fishery is closed through December 31, 2015, and will re-open on January 1, 2016. It is prohibited to take and retain, possess, or land sablefish in the LEFG and OA fisheries north of 36° N. lat. until 0001 hours local time on January 1, 2016.

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 1 (North) to Part 660, Subpart D -- Limited Entry Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Landing Allowances for non-IFQ Species and Pacific Whiting North of 40°10' N. Lat.**

This table describes Rockfish Conservation Areas for vessels using groundfish trawl gear. This table describes incidental landing allowances for vessels registered to a Federal limited entry trawl permit and using groundfish trawl or groundfish non-trawl gears to harvest individual fishing quota (IFQ) species.								
Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.10 - § 660.399 before using this table						01012016		
Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) <sup>1/</sup> :		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
1	North of 48°10' N. lat.	shore - modified <sup>2/</sup> 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	shore - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	shore - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		shore - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	shore - modified <sup>2/</sup> 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	
2	48°10' N. lat. - 45°46' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
3	45°46' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - modified <sup>2/</sup> 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
Selective flatfish trawl gear is required shoreward of the RCA; all bottom trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA. Large footrope and small footrope trawl gears (except for selective flatfish trawl gear) are prohibited shoreward of the RCA. Midwater trawl gear is permitted only for vessels participating in the primary whiting season. <b>Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry groundfish trawl fishery landing allowances in this table, regardless of the type of fishing gear used. Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry fixed gear non-trawl RCA, as described in Tables 2 (North) and 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E.</b>								
See § 660.60, § 660.130, and § 660.140 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.70-660.74 and §§ 660.76-660.79 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).								
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.								
4	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>	300 lb/ month						
5	<b>Whiting<sup>3/</sup></b>							
6	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season: CLOSED. -- During the primary season: mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA. See §660.131 for season and trip limit details. -- After the primary whiting season: CLOSED.						
7	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season: 20,000 lb/trip. -- During the primary season: 10,000 lb/trip. -- After the primary whiting season: 10,000 lb/trip.						
8	<b>Cabezon<sup>4/</sup></b>							
9	North of 46°16' N. lat.	Unlimited						
10	46°16' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	50 lb/ month						
11	<b>Shortbelly</b>	Unlimited						
12	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	60,000 lb/ month						
13	<b>Big skate</b>	5,000 lb/ 2 months	25,000 lb/ 2 months	30,000 lb/ 2 months	35,000 lb/ 2 months	10,000 lb/ 2 months	5,000 lb/ 2 months	
14	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited						
15	<b>Other Fish<sup>4/</sup></b>	Unlimited						
1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours, and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to the RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.								
2/ The "modified" fathom lines are modified to exclude certain petrale sole areas from the RCA.								
3/ As specified at §660.131(d), when fishing in the Eureka Area, no more than 10,000 lb of whiting may be taken and retained, possessed, or landed by a vessel that, at any time during the fishing trip, fished in the fishery management area shoreward of 100 fm contour.								
4/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington								
<b>To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.</b>								

**TABLE 1 (North)**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 1 (South) to Part 660, Subpart D -- Limited Entry Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Landing Allowances for non-IFQ Species and Pacific Whiting South of 40°10' N. Lat.**

This table describes Rockfish Conservation Areas for vessels using groundfish trawl gear. This table describes incidental landing allowances for vessels registered to a Federal limited entry trawl permit and using groundfish trawl or groundfish non-trawl gears to harvest individual fishing quota (IFQ) species.							
Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.10 - § 660.399 before using this table							01012016
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)1/:</b>							
1	South of 40°10' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/2/</sup>					
Small footrope trawl gear is required shoreward of the RCA; all trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, midwater trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA. Large footrope trawl gear and midwater trawl gear are prohibited shoreward of the RCA. <b>Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry groundfish trawl fishery landing allowances in this table, regardless of the type of fishing gear used. Vessels fishing groundfish trawl quota pounds with groundfish non-trawl gears, under gear switching provisions at § 660.140, are subject to the limited entry fixed gear non-trawl RCA, as described in Tables 2 (North) and 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E.</b>							
See § 660.60, § 660.130, and § 660.140 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.70-660.74 and §§ 660.76-660.79 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).							
State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.							
2	<b>Longspine thornyhead</b>						
3	South of 34°27' N. lat.	24,000 lb/ 2 months					
4	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>	300 lb/ month					
5	<b>Whiting</b>						
6	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season: CLOSED. -- During the primary season: mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA. See §660.131 for season and trip limit details. -- After the primary whiting season: CLOSED.					
7	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season: 20,000 lb/trip. -- During the primary season: 10,000 lb/trip. -- After the primary whiting season: 10,000 lb/trip.					
8	<b>Cabezon</b>	50 lb/ month					
9	<b>Shortbelly</b>	Unlimited					
10	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	60,000 lb/ month					
11	<b>Big skate</b>	5,000 lb/ 2 months	25,000 lb/ 2 months	30,000 lb/ 2 months	35,000 lb/ 2 months	10,000 lb/ 2 months	5,000 lb/ 2 months
12	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited					
13	<b>California scorpionfish</b>	Unlimited					
14	<b>Other Fish</b> <sup>3/</sup>	Unlimited					
1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours, and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to the RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.							
2/ South of 34°27' N. lat., the RCA is 100 fm line - 150 fm line along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm line around islands.							
3/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington							
<b>To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.</b>							

**TABLE 1 (South)**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 2 (North) to Part 660, Subpart E -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table		1012016						
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>								
1	North of 46°16' N. lat.	shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
2	46°16' N. lat. - 42°00' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
3	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.</p>								
4	<b>Minor Slope Rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	4,000 lb/ 2 months						
5	<b>Pacific ocean perch</b>	1,800 lb/ 2 months						
6	<b>Sablefish</b>	1,275 lb/week, not to exceed 3,375 lb/ 2 months						
7	<b>Longspine thornyhead</b>	10,000 lb/ 2 months						
8	<b>Shortspine thornyhead</b>	2,000 lb/ 2 months			2,500 lb/ 2 months			
9	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	5,000 lb/ month						
10		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line, are not subject to the RCAs.						
11								
12								
13								
14	15	<b>Whiting</b>	10,000 lb/ trip					
16	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow &amp; Yellowtail rockfish</b>	200 lb/ month						
17	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED						
18	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED						
19	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>							
20	North of 42°00' N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish or blue rockfish <sup>4/</sup>						
21	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	8,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish				6,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish		
22	<b>Lingcod<sup>5/</sup></b>	200 lb/2 months		1,200 lb/ 2 months			600 lb/ month	200 lb/ month
23	<b>Pacific cod</b>	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
24	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
25	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited						
26	<b>Other Fish<sup>6/</sup> &amp; Cabezon in Oregon and California</b>	Unlimited						

**TABLE 2 (North)**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.									
2/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish and splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish.									
3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.									
4/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. (46°38.17' N. lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lb or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.									
5/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.									
6/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.									
<b>To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.</b>									

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 2 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear South of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table								1012016
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>								
1	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>						
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> (also applies around islands)						
<p><b>See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b></p> <p>State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.</p>								
3	<b>Minor Slope rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	40,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,375 lb may be blackgill rockfish			40,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,600 lb may be blackgill rockfish			
4	<b>Splitnose rockfish</b>	40,000 lb/ 2 months						
5	<b>Sablefish</b>							
6	40°10' N. lat. - 36°00' N. lat.	1,275 lb/week, not to exceed 3,375 lb/ 2 months						
7	South of 36°00' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ week						
8	<b>Longspine thornyhead</b>	10,000 lb/ 2 months						
9	<b>Shortspine thornyhead</b>							
10	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months			2,500 lb/ 2 months			
11	South of 34°27' N. lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months						
12	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	5,000 lb/ month						
13		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line, are not subject to the RCAs.						
14								
15								
16								
17		10,000 lb/ trip						
18	<b>Whiting</b>							
19	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow rockfish (including Bocaccio and Chilipepper between 40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.)</b>							
20	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish, bocaccio & chilipepper: 2,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 500 lb may be any species other than chilipepper.						
21	South of 34°27' N. lat.	4,000 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	4,000 lb/ 2 months				
22	<b>Chilipepper</b>							
23	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	Chilipepper included under minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish and bocaccio limits - - See above						
24	South of 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months, this opportunity only available seaward of the non-trawl RCA						
25	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED						
26	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED						
27	<b>Cowcod</b>	CLOSED						
28	<b>Bronzespotted rockfish</b>	CLOSED						
29	<b>Bocaccio</b>							
30	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	Bocaccio included under Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish & chilipepper limits - - See above						
31	South of 34°27' N. lat.	750 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	750 lb/ 2 months				

**TABLE 2 (South)**

## National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

Table 2 (South). Continued		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
32	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>							
33	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	1,000 lb/ 2 months	
34	Deeper nearshore							
35	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months		1,000 lb/ 2 months	
36	South of 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months				
37	California scorpionfish	1,200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months				
38	<b>Lingcod<sup>4/</sup></b>	200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months			400 lb/ month	200 lb/ month
39	<b>Pacific cod</b>	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
40	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
41	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited						
42	<b>Other Fish<sup>5/</sup> &amp; Cabezon</b>	Unlimited						

TABLE 2 (South)

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ POP is included in the trip limits for Minor Slope Rockfish. Blackgill rockfish have a species specific trip sub-limit within the Minor Slope Rockfish cumulative limit. Yellowtail rockfish are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish. Bronzespotted rockfish have a species specific trip limit.

3/ "Other Flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

4/ The commercial minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

5/ "Other Fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.

**To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 3 (North) to Part 660, Subpart F -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Open Access Gears North of 40° 10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table		01012016					
		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	North of 46° 16' N. lat.				shoreline - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
2	46° 16' N. lat. - 42° 00' N. lat.				30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
3	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.				30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 100 fm line <sup>1/</sup>		
<p>See §§660.60, 660.330 and 660.333 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.</p>							
4	<b>Minor Slope Rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
5	<b>Pacific ocean perch</b>	100 lb/ month					
6	<b>Sablefish</b>	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 2,000 lb/ 2 months					
7	<b>Shortpine thornyheads and longspine thornyheads</b>	CLOSED					
8	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs.					
9		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
10							
11							
12							
13		300 lb/ month					
14	<b>Whiting</b>	300 lb/ month					
15	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow &amp; Yellowtail rockfish</b>	200 lb/ month					
16	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
17	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
18	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish					
19	North of 42° 00' N. lat.						
20	42° 00' N. lat. - 40° 10' N. lat.	8,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish			6,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish		
21	<b>Lingcod<sup>5/</sup></b>	100 lb/ month		600 lb/ month			100 lb/ month
22	<b>Pacific cod</b>	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
23	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
24	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited					
25	<b>Other Fish<sup>6/</sup> &amp; Cabezon in Oregon and California</b>	Unlimited					

**TABLE 3 (North)**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

Table 3 (North). Continued		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
26	<b>SALMON TROLL</b> (subject to RCAs when retaining all species of groundfish, except for yellowtail rockfish and lingcod, as described below)						
27	North	<p>Salmon trollers may retain and land up to 1 lb of yellowtail rockfish for every 2 lbs of salmon landed, with a cumulative limit of 200 lb/month, both within and outside of the RCA. This limit is within the 200 lb per month combined limit for minor shelf rockfish, widow rockfish and yellowtail rockfish, and not in addition to that limit. Salmon trollers may retain and land up to 1 lingcod per 15 Chinook per trip, plus 1 lingcod per trip, up to a trip limit of 10 lingcod, on a trip where any fishing occurs within the RCA. This limit only applies during times when lingcod retention is allowed, and is not "CLOSED." This limit is within the per month limit for lingcod described in the table above, and not in addition to that limit. All groundfish species are subject to the open access limits, seasons, size limits and RCA restrictions listed in the table above, unless otherwise stated here.</p>					
28	<b>PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL</b> (not subject to RCAs)						
29	North	<p><b>Effective April 1 - October 31:</b> Groundfish: 500 lb/day, multiplied by the number of days of the trip, not to exceed 1,500 lb/trip. The following sublimits also apply and are counted toward the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits: lingcod 300 lb/month (minimum 24 inch size limit); sablefish 2,000 lb/month; canary, thomyheads and yelloweye rockfish are PROHIBITED. All other groundfish species taken are managed under the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits. Landings of these species count toward the per day and per trip groundfish limits and do not have species-specific limits. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.</p>					
<p>1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.</p>							
<p>2/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod rockfishes are included in the trip limits for Minor Shelf Rockfish. Splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish.</p>							
<p>3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.</p>							
<p>4/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. (46°38.17' N. lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lbs or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.</p>							
<p>5/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.</p>							
<p>6/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.</p>							
<p><b>To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.</b></p>							

**TABLE 3 (North) cont'd**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

**Table 3 (South) to Part 660, Subpart F -- Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas and Trip Limits for Open Access Gears South of 40°10' N. lat.**

Other limits and requirements apply -- Read §§660.10 through 660.399 before using this table

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		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
<b>Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)<sup>1/</sup>:</b>							
1	40°10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	30 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> (also applies around islands)					
<p><b>See §§660.60 and 660.230 for additional gear, trip limit and conservation area requirements and restrictions. See §§660.70-660.74 and §§660.76-660.79 for conservation area descriptions and coordinates (including RCAs, YRCAs, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than Federal trip limits or seasons, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.</p>							
3	<b>Minor Slope Rockfish<sup>2/</sup> &amp; Darkblotched rockfish</b>	10,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 475 lb may be blackgill rockfish			10,000 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 550 lb may be blackgill rockfish		
4	<b>Splitnose rockfish</b>	200 lb/ month					
5	<b>Sablefish</b>						
6	40° 10' N. lat. - 36°00' N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 2,000 lb/ 2 months					
7	South of 36°00' N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,600 lb, not to exceed 3,200 lb/ 2 months					
8	<b>Shortpine thornyheads and longspine thornyheads</b>						
9	40° 10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED					
10	South of 34°27' N. lat.	50 lb/ day, no more than 1,000 lb/ 2 months					
11	<b>Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole, English sole, starry flounder, Other Flatfish<sup>3/</sup></b>	3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs.					
12		South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 0.44 in (11 mm) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
13							
14							
15							
16	<b>Whiting</b>	300 lb/ month					
18	<b>Minor Shelf Rockfish<sup>2/</sup>, Shortbelly, Widow rockfish and Chilipepper</b>						
19	40° 10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	200 lb/ 2 months	300 lb/ 2 months		
20	South of 34°27' N. lat.	1500 lb/ 2 months		1500 lb/ 2 months			
21	<b>Canary rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
22	<b>Yelloweye rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
23	<b>Cowcod</b>	CLOSED					
24	<b>Bronzespotted rockfish</b>	CLOSED					
25	<b>Bocaccio</b>						
26	40° 10' N. lat. - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	100 lb/ 2 months	200 lb/ 2 months		
27	South of 34°27' N. lat.	250 lb/ 2 months		250 lb/ 2 months			

**TABLE 3 (South)**

# National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region

Table 3 (South). Continued		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
28	<b>Minor Nearshore Rockfish &amp; Black rockfish</b>						
29	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	1,000 lb/ 2 months
30	Deeper nearshore						
31	40° 10' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months		1,000 lb/ 2 months
32	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months			
33	California scorpionfish	1,200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months			
34	<b>Lingcod<sup>4/</sup></b>	100 lb/ month	CLOSED	400 lb/ month			100 lb/ month
35	<b>Pacific cod</b>	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
36	<b>Spiny dogfish</b>	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
37	<b>Longnose skate</b>	Unlimited					
38	<b>Other Fish<sup>5/</sup> &amp; Cabezon</b>	Unlimited					
39	<b>RIDGEBACK PRAWN AND, SOUTH OF 38° 57.50' N. LAT., CA HALIBUT AND SEA CUCUMBER NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL</b>						
40	<b>NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for CA Halibut, Sea Cucumber &amp; Ridgeback Prawn:</b>						
41	40° 10' N. lat. - 38° 00' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>				100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 200 fm line <sup>1/</sup>
42	38° 00' N. lat. - 34° 27' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup>					
43	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	100 fm line <sup>1/</sup> - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm line <sup>1/</sup> around islands					
44		Groundfish: 300 lb/trip. Species-specific limits described in the table above also apply and are counted toward the 300 lb groundfish per trip limit. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of the target species landed, except that the amount of spiny dogfish landed may exceed the amount of target species landed. Spiny dogfish are limited by the 300 lb/trip overall groundfish limit. The daily trip limits for sablefish coastwide and thornyheads south of Pt. Conception and the overall groundfish "per trip" limit may not be multiplied by the number of days of the trip. Vessels participating in the California halibut fishery south of 38°57.50' N. lat. are allowed to (1) land up to 100 lb/day of groundfish without the ratio requirement, provided that at least one California halibut is landed and (2) land up to 3,000 lb/month of flatfish, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, sand sole, stary flounder, rock sole, curffin sole, or California scorpionfish (California scorpionfish is also subject to the trip limits and closures in line 31).					
45	<b>PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL GEAR (not subject to RCAs)</b>						
46	South	Effective April 1 - October 31: Groundfish: 500 lb/day, multiplied by the number of days of the trip, not to exceed 1,500 lb/trip. The following sublimits also apply and are counted toward the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits: lingcod 300 lb/month (minimum 24 inch size limit); sablefish 2,000 lb/ month; canary, thornyheads and yelloweye rockfish are PROHIBITED. All other groundfish species taken are managed under the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits. Landings of all groundfish species count toward the per day, per trip or other species-specific sublimits described here and the species-specific limits described in the table above do not apply. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.					

**TABLE 3 (South) cont'd**

1/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is an area closed to fishing by particular gear types, bounded by lines specifically defined by latitude and longitude coordinates set out at §§ 660.71-660.74. This RCA is not defined by depth contours (with the exception of the 20-fm depth contour boundary south of 42° N. lat.), and the boundary lines that define the RCA may close areas that are deeper or shallower than the depth contour. Vessels that are subject to RCA restrictions may not fish in the RCA, or operate in the RCA for any purpose other than transiting.

2/ POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish. Blackgill rockfish have a species specific trip sub-limit within the minor slope rockfish cumulative limits. Yellowtail rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish. Bronzespotted rockfish have a species specific trip limit.

3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curffin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.

4/ The commercial minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.

5/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and includes kelp greenling, leopard shark, and cabezon in Washington.

**To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.**