



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Sustainable Fisheries Division F/NWR2
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

DEC 14 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

For William W. Stelle, Jr.
Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: REAPPORTIONMENT OF MOTHERSHIP SECTOR
NONWHITING CATCH ALLOCATIONS TO
CATCHER/PROCESSOR SECTOR

Regulations at 50 CFR 660.150(c)(4)(ii) provide for the Regional Administrator to make available for harvest to the catcher/processor sector of the Pacific whiting fishery, the mothership sector's nonwhiting catch allocation remaining when the Pacific whiting allocation is reached or participants in the sector do not intend to harvest the remaining allocation. Consistent with these provisions, the Whiting Mothership Cooperative Manager notified NMFS in writing on December 13, 2011 that the Whiting Mothership Cooperative has concluded their harvest of mothership sector whiting for 2011. The best available information on December 14, 2011 indicates that approximately 4.3 metric tons (mt) of Darkblotched rockfish, 6.5 mt of Pacific Ocean Perch, 3.3 mt of Canary rockfish, and 48.3 mt of Widow rockfish allocated to the mothership sector for the Pacific whiting fishery in 2011, will not be used by December 31, 2011. Therefore, taking into account the best available data on total projected fisheries impacts, NMFS is taking action at this time to reapportion Darkblotched rockfish, Pacific Ocean Perch, Canary rockfish, and Widow rockfish from the mothership sector to the catcher/processor sector.

Effective **1600, local time, December 14, 2011**, 4.3 mt of Darkblotched rockfish, 6.5 mt of Pacific Ocean Perch, 3.3 mt of Canary rockfish, and 48.3 mt of Widow rockfish are reallocated from the mothership sector to the catcher/processor sector. The revised nonwhiting catch allocations between the catcher/processor and mothership sectors for these species are: Darkblotched rockfish, 12.8 mt, catcher/processor sector, 1.7 mt, mothership sector; Pacific Ocean Perch, 16.7 mt, catcher/processor sector, 0.66 mt, mothership sector; Canary rockfish, 8.1 mt, catcher/processor sector, 0.08 mt, mothership sector; and Widow rockfish, 135 mt, catcher/processor sector, 12.86 mt, mothership sector.

This communication serves as official notice of the reapportionment.

