possession limit; and May 22–October 11 and November 1–December 31 fishing seasons for Federal waters. This alternative provides the lowest associated economic impacts to small entities of the measures considered for Federal waters that also meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for the 2011 fishery. Alternative 1 (a 13.0-inch (33.02-cm) minimum fish size, a 25-fish per person possession limit, and open season of July 1 through October 1 and November 1 through December 31), originally proposed by NMFS for 2011, was projected to achieve the conservation objectives for the 2011 black sea bass fishery; however, the landings level reduction imposed by the alternative's measures is more restrictive than necessary. The Alternative 3 measures proposed (12.5-inch (31.75-cm) minimum fish size, a 25-fish per person possession limit, and open seasons of January 1 through December 31) were not projected to achieve the necessary reduction in landings for 2011 and, as such, could not be implemented by NMFS.

Small Entity Compliance Guide

Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 states that, for each rule or group of related rules for which an agency is required to prepare a FRFA, the agency shall publish one or more guides to assist small entities in complying with the rule, and shall designate such publications as ''small entity compliance guides.'' The agency shall explain the actions a small entity is required to take to comply with a rule or group of rules. As part of this rulemaking process, a letter to permit holders that also serves as the small entity compliance guide was prepared and will be sent to all holders of Federal party/charter permits issued for the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries. In addition, copies of this final rule and the small entity compliance guide are available from NMFS (see **ADDRESSES**) and at the following Web site: *http://www.nero.noaa.gov.*

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 648

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: June 27, 2011.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 648 is amended as follows:

PART 648—FISHERIES OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 648 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

■ 2. In § 648.103, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 648.103 Minimum fish sizes.

* * * * *

(b) Unless otherwise specified pursuant to § 648.107, the minimum size for summer flounder is 18.5 inches (46.99 cm) TL for all vessels that do not qualify for a moratorium permit, and charter boats holding a moratorium permit if fishing with more than three crew members, or party boats holding a moratorium permit if fishing with passengers for hire or carrying more than five crew members.

* * * * *

■ 3. In § 648.107, paragraph (a) introductory text and paragraph (b) are revised to read as follows:

§ 648.107 Conservation equivalent measures for the summer flounder fishery.

(a) The Regional Administrator has determined that the recreational fishing measures proposed to be implemented by Massachusetts through North Carolina for 2011 are the conservation equivalent of the season, minimum fish size, and possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.102, 648.103, and 648.105(a), respectively. This determination is based on a recommendation from the Summer Flounder Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

* * * * *

(b) Federally permitted vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, and other recreational fishing vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part and registered in states whose fishery management measures are not determined by the Regional Administrator to be the conservation equivalent of the season, minimum size, and possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.102, 648.103(b) and 648.105(a), respectively, due to the lack of, or the reversal of, a conservation equivalent recommendation from the Summer Flounder Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, shall be subject to the following precautionary default measures: Season—May 1 through September 30; minimum size—20.0 inches (50.80 cm); and possession limit—two fish.

[FR Doc. 2011–16517 Filed 6–29–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

Docket No. 100804324–1265–02]

RIN 0648–BB21

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule; inseason adjustments to biennial groundfish management measures; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This final rule announces inseason changes to management measures in the commercial Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries. These actions, which are authorized by the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP), are intended to allow fisheries to access more abundant groundfish stocks while protecting overfished and depleted stocks.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours (local time) July 1, 2011. Comments on this final rule must be received no later than 5 p.m., local time on August 1, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 0648–BB21 by any one of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submissions:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal *http://www.regulations.gov.*
- *Fax:* 206–526–6736, Attn: Gretchen Hanshew.
- *Mail:* William W. Stelle, Jr., Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115–0070, Attn: Gretchen Hanshew.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to *http://www.regulations.gov* without change. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields, if you wish to remain anonymous). You may submit

attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gretchen Hanshew (Northwest Region, NMFS), 206–526–6147, fax: 206–526–6736, *gretchen.hanshew@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

This final rule is accessible via the Internet at the Office of the **Federal Register**'s Web site at *http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html.* Background information and documents are available at the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Web site at *http://www.pcouncil.org/.*

Background

The Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP and its implementing regulations at title 50 in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 660, subparts C through G, regulate fishing for over 90 species of groundfish off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. Groundfish specifications and management measures are developed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), and are implemented by NMFS. On November 3, 2011, NMFS published a proposed rule to implement the 2011–2012 harvest specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery (75 FR 67810). The final rule to implement the 2011–2012 harvest specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery was published on May 11, 2011 (76 FR 27508). These specifications and management measures are codified in the CFR (50 CFR part 660, subparts C through G).

Changes to current groundfish management measures implemented by this action were recommended by the Council at its June 6–13, 2011 meeting in Spokane, Washington. The Council recommended adjustments to current groundfish management measures to respond to updated fishery information and other inseason management needs. The projected impacts to two of the eight overfished species (canary rockfish and yelloweye rockfish) will increase slightly with the adjustments to the deeper nearshore rockfish limits in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fisheries south of 40°10.00′ N. lat. However, these impacts, when combined with the impacts from all other fisheries, are not projected to exceed the 2011 rebuilding annual catch limits (ACLs) for these species. All other adjustments to fishery management measures are not expected to result in greater impacts to overfished species than originally projected through the end of 2011. Estimated mortality of overfished and target species are the result of management measures designed to achieve, to the extent possible, but not exceed, ACLs of target species while fostering the rebuilding of overfished stocks by remaining within their rebuilding ACLs.

Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area

The Council recommended and NMFS is implementing a shift in the seaward boundary of the trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for the area from 48°10′ N. lat. (Cape Alava) to 45°46′ N. lat. (Cape Falcon) by shifting the seaward boundary of the trawl RCA boundary from the boundary line approximating the 200-fm (366-m) depth contour to the boundary line approximating the 150-fm (274-m) depth contour.

In June 2010, the Council recommended that the trawl RCA boundaries that were scheduled for the 2010 calendar year, as of June 2010, be in place for the 2011 start of the rationalized trawl fishery. Boundaries of the trawl RCA were left in place as they existed in 2010 due to the uncertainty in how the rationalized fishery would perform. One of the goals of the trawl rationalization program was to allow individual accountability to drive bycatch rates of overfished species down, and the Council acknowledged that once fishery information was available from the rationalized fishery, adjustments to the trawl RCA boundaries may be made in the future.

At its March 2011 meeting, the Council considered changes to the trawl RCA boundaries after a request from industry. However, the Council did not recommend changes due to the limited amount of fishery information on landings and bycatch at that time.

At its June 2011 meeting, the Council considered a different, more limited, industry request to shift the seaward boundary of the trawl RCA shoreward to open some areas for harvesting Dover sole and sablefish. The Council carefully weighed the potential risks and benefits of opening some deeper areas that are currently closed by the trawl RCA where the fleet may have higher encounters with darkblotched rockfish and Pacific halibut.

The most recent fishery information on total catch, including discards, of darkblotched rockfish in the IFQ fishery indicated that as of June 6, 2011, only 27.3 mt of darkblotched rockfish have been harvested. In light of the low catch levels of darkblotched rockfish to date, opening some deeper areas that are currently closed by the RCA could increase accessibility of some of the more valuable target resources on the slope, such as Dover sole and sablefish. This change to the RCA structure would also give fishers a chance to demonstrate the benefits of individual accountability that they have in the trawl rationalization program.

The Council acknowledged that as of June 6, 2011, there was no information available on catch stratified by the depths that vessels were fishing. This information would help inform the catch levels of overfished species and how they vary by depth, and could be informative for decisions on changes to the RCA. However, the Council noted that this information is being collected and processed, and is anticipated to be available by its September 2011 meeting. The Council also considered that west coast groundfish observer program (WCGOP) data on the trip-limit fishery from 2006–2009 indicated that the requested change to the seaward RCA boundary would open areas where bycatch rates of darkblotched rockfish have been documented to be higher than in some other areas.

If a vessel had a large catch of darkblotched, as seen in WCGOP data where a single tow could catch more than 1 mt of darkblotched rockfish, or of Pacific halibut, fishers may not be able to cover their catch with their available quota pounds, and it may force them to cease fishing until any overage can be covered. If large tows of darkblotched rockfish occur several times and inadequate darkblotched rockfish quota is available, it could even mean that fishing opportunities seaward of the RCA could be in jeopardy for all of the shorebased non-whiting IFQ vessels.

The Council also considered additional factors that supported making the requested changes to the trawl RCA boundaries. First, vessels operating in the IFQ fishery, with full observer coverage, have strong incentives to avoid catch levels of species that they cannot cover with available quota pounds (*e.g.,* darkblotched rockfish or Pacific halibut). In addition, the full observer coverage and increased ability to track catch inseason could allow the Council to make necessary adjustments if excessive catch is observed. Therefore, the risk of several large tows of darkblotched rockfish threatening fishing opportunities for all of the shorebased non-whiting IFQ vessels is minimized. Second, the Council acknowledged that the request was limited to only a specific portion of the coast; from Cape Alava in northern Washington (48°10′ N. lat.) south to

Cape Falcon in northern Oregon (45°46′ N. lat.), just below the Columbia River. The Council also recognized that additional fishery information will become available prior to the September 2011 Council meeting, and further adjustments to RCA boundaries may be considered for the end of 2011 if necessary.

Therefore, the Council ultimately recommended and NMFS is implementing a shift in the seaward boundary of the trawl RCA for the area from 48°10′ N. lat. (Cape Alava) to 45°46′ N. lat. (Cape Falcon): Open fishing area between the boundary line approximating the 150-fm (274-m) depth contour and the boundary line approximating the 200-fm (366-m) depth contour, by shifting the seaward boundary of the trawl RCA boundary from the boundary line approximating the 200-fm (366-m) depth contour to the boundary line approximating the 150-fm (274-m) depth contour beginning on September 1 through the end of the year.

Limited Entry Fixed Gear and Open Access Fishery Management Measures

Minor Nearshore and Black Rockfish Trip Limits Between 42° N. Lat. and 40°10.00′ N. Lat.

The Council recommended and NMFS is implementing an increase to the bi-monthly limit for minor nearshore and black rockfish in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fisheries between 42° N. lat. and 40°10.00′ N. lat. beginning on July 1, through the end of the year. The change allows for increased landings of black rockfish.

Black rockfish is a nearshore rockfish species that was assessed in 2007. The 2011 black rockfish commercial catch target in the California nearshore fishery is 82 mt. At its June meeting, the Council considered the most recent fish ticket data and projected impacts to black rockfish in the nearshore fishery off the California coast through the rest of the year. These estimates indicated that under the current trip limit structure, catch was estimated to be only 68 mt, or 83 percent of the 82 mt catch target. Industry requested an increase to black rockfish trip limits in northern California, between 42° N. lat. and 40°10.00′ N. lat., because they have had limited nearshore fishing opportunities due in part to poor weather conditions and the impacts of the tsunami on infrastructure and fishing vessels. Some vessels have not been able to resume full time operations since the tsunami and other vessels which sustained damage are taking longer to resume operations than previously thought.

The Council considered increases to black rockfish trip limits to allow additional harvest of this healthy stock, and the potential impacts to overfished species. An increase in trip limits is not anticipated to increase projected impacts to overfished species because projected impacts to overfished species are calculated assuming that up to 82 mt of black rockfish are harvested in this fishery.

Therefore, the Council recommended and NMFS is implementing trip limit changes for minor nearshore and black rockfish in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fishery between 42° N. lat. and 40°10.00′ N. lat.: From ''7,000 lb (3,175 kg) per two months, no more than 1,200 lb (544 kg) of which may be species other than black rockfish'' to ''8,500 lb (3,856 kg) per two months, no more than 1,200 lb (544 kg) of which may be species other than black rockfish'' beginning in Period 4, on July 1, through the end of the year.

Deeper Nearshore Rockfish South of 40°10′ N. Lat.

The Council recommended and NMFS is implementing trip limit increases for deeper nearshore rockfish in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fishery south of 40°10′ N. lat.

At its June meeting, the Council considered the most recent fish ticket data indicating that landings of deeper nearshore rockfish south of 40°10′ N. lat. have been lower in 2011 than in previous years. An industry request came forward to increase the deeper nearshore rockfish trip limits to provide more access to black and blue rockfish while keeping their total catch within the state fishery harvest guidelines for these species.

Modest increases to the deeper nearshore rockfish trip limits in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fisheries in Periods 4–6 (July 1 through December 31) are projected to slightly increase impacts to co-occurring overfished rockfish, particularly canary rockfish and yelloweye rockfish. Projected impacts to canary rockfish increase by 0.1 mt and projected impacts to yelloweye rockfish are projected to increase by less than 0.05 mt. These slightly higher projected impacts in the deeper nearshore fishery, when combined with the anticipated impacts to these species in all other fisheries through the end of the year, are not anticipated to exceed the 2011 rebuilding ACLs for canary rockfish or yelloweye rockfish.

Therefore, the Council recommended and NMFS is implementing trip limit changes for deeper nearshore rockfish in the limited entry fixed gear and open access fishery south of 40°10.00′ N. lat.: From ''700 lb (318 kg) per 2 months'' between 40°10′ N. lat. and 34°27′ N. lat. and ''600 lb (272 kg) per 2 months'' south of 34°27′ N. lat. in Period 4 (July-August), and from ''800 lb (363 kg) per 2 months'' south of 40°10.00′ N. lat. in Periods 5–6 (September-December) to ''900 lb (408 kg) per 2 months'' beginning in Period 4, on July 1, through the end of the year.

Open Access Fishery, Minor Shelf Rockfish Trip Limits South of 34°27′ N. Lat.

At its June 2011 meeting, the Council received a request to increase trip limits for minor shelf rockfish south of 34°27′ N. lat. Total mortality of minor shelf rockfish south of 40°10′ N. lat. has been well below the optimum yield for this area in 2006–2009. Beginning in 2011, formal allocations of this species complex were made between the trawl and the non-trawl fisheries, with 87.8 percent of the ACL for this species complex being allocated to the non-trawl fisheries, including both commercial and recreational fisheries. The Council considered total mortality of this species complex in 2006–2009 if that formal non-trawl allocation had been in place in those years. If that formal non-trawl allocation had been in place, no more than 52 percent of what would have been the non-trawl allocation would have been caught in any of those years. The Council also considered anecdotal information that catch of speckled rockfish, a species in the minor shelf rockfish complex south of 40°10′ N. lat., has been high for vessels that are targeting deeper nearshore and vermilion rockfish. Industry is requesting an increase to the minor shelf rockfish trip limits for the area south of 34°27′ N. lat. to turn catch of speckled rockfish, which may have been discarded under lower limits, into landed catch.

There is no formal model to project impacts to co-occurring overfished species in this non-nearshore fishery south of 34°27′ N. lat. However, as included in the transmittal letter from the Director of the Council, dated June 23, 2011, the Groundfish Management Team (GMT), an advisory body to the Council, analyzed data from the west coast groundfish observer program indicate that very few encounters with overfished species occur in this fishery and this area, including encounters with bocaccio. However, if bocaccio catch were to increase as a result of the increase to minor shelf rockfish trip limits, it is anticipated that increased

catch would be accommodated under the current bocaccio trip limits for this fishery. Under the current trip limit structure for minor shelf rockfish species, state fish ticket information indicates that the 100 lb (45 kg) per 2 months trip limit for bocaccio is not being attained by most fishers. The landings of bocaccio being below the bi-monthly trip limit indicates that if higher catch of bocaccio were to occur under a modest increase in shelf rockfish trip limits, the catch could be accommodated by the current bocaccio trip limits and would therefore not increase overall projected impacts of bocaccio in the open access fishery.

Therefore, the Council recommended and NMFS is implementing trip limit changes for minor shelf rockfish in the open access fishery south of 34°27′ N. lat.: From ''750 lb (340 kg) per 2 months'' to ''1,000 lb (454 kg) per 2 months'' beginning in Period 4, on July 1, through the end of the year.

Limited Entry Fixed Gear Sablefish Daily Trip Limit Fishery, North of 36° N. Lat.

The Council recommended and NMFS is implementing decreases in trip limits for the limited entry fixed gear sablefish fishery north of 36° N. lat.

At its March 2011 meeting, the Council took action to reduce limits in the limited entry fixed gear sablefish daily trip limit (DTL) fishery north of 36° N. lat. This recommendation was precautionary, in response to the discovery of an error in the methods that were used to estimate landings of sablefish in the DTL fishery. Since March, staff at NMFS, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and the GMT have worked to correct the algorithm that is used in PacFIN to estimate sablefish landings in the DTL fishery. The new, corrected algorithm in PacFIN produced higher than anticipated landings estimates of sablefish in this fishery. Even with the precautionary adjustments to the limited entry fixed gear sablefish DTL fishery limits that were recommended in March, without any additional changes to current management measures, landings of sablefish in the limited entry fixed gear DTL fishery north of 36° N. lat. are projected to be 439 mt, 160 percent of the 273 mt fishery landed catch harvest guideline. Considerable reductions to the bi-monthly cumulative limits are necessary, as quickly as possible, to keep projected catch through the end of the year within the fishery harvest guideline and to prevent exceeding the non-trawl fishery allocation for sablefish in 2011.

Decreases in trip limits to keep catch within the fishery harvest guideline are not anticipated to change projected impacts to overfished species because projected impacts to overfished species are calculated assuming that the entire sablefish allocation is harvested.

Therefore, the Council recommended and NMFS is implementing changes for the limited entry fixed gear fishery north of 36° N. lat. that decrease sablefish DTL fishery limits from ''2,000 lb (907 kg) per week, not to exceed 6,500 lb (2,948 kg) per 2 months'' to ''2,000 lb (907 kg) per week, not to exceed 3,500 lb (1,588 kg) per 2 months'' beginning in period 4, on July 1, through the end of the year.

Open Access Sablefish DTL Fishery North of 36° N. Lat.

The Council recommended and NMFS is implementing a decrease for the open access sablefish fishery trip limits north of 36° N. lat.

The most recent landings projections for the open access sablefish DTL fishery, combined with the addition of anticipated discard mortality, indicate that catches of sablefish in the open access fishery north of 36° N. lat. through the end of the year would exceed the fishery harvest guideline. Without any changes to current management measures, landings are projected to be 436 mt, or 101 percent of the 433 mt landed catch harvest guideline for the directed open access fishery. The Council considered modest decreases to the weekly and bi-monthly limits for sablefish in the open access fishery north of 36° N. lat. in order to approach, but not exceed, the fishery harvest guideline. This modest decrease in trip limits is not anticipated to change projected impacts to overfished species because projected impacts to overfished species are calculated assuming that the entire sablefish allocation is harvested.

Therefore, the Council recommended and NMFS is implementing a decrease for the open access fishery trip limits north of 36° N. lat. from ''300 lb (136 kg) per day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,200 lb (544 kg), not to exceed 2,250 lb (1,021 kg) per 2 months'' to ''300 lb (136 kg) per day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb (476 kg), not to exceed 2,100 lb (953 kg) per 2 months'' beginning in period 4, on July 1, through the end of the year.

Classification

This final rule makes routine inseason adjustments to groundfish fishery management measures based on the best available information and is taken pursuant to the regulations implementing the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP.

These actions are taken under the authority of 50 CFR 660.60(c) and are exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

These inseason adjustments are taken under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), and are in accordance with 50 CFR part 660, subparts C through G, the regulations implementing the FMP. These actions are based on the most recent data available. The aggregate data upon which these actions are based are available for public inspection at the Office of the Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS (see **ADDRESSES**), during business hours.

For the following reasons, NMFS finds good cause to waive prior public notice and comment on the revisions to biennial groundfish management measures under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) because notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. Also, for the same reasons, NMFS finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in effectiveness pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), so that this final rule may become effective as quickly as possible.

The recently available data upon which these recommendations were based was provided to the Council, and the Council made its recommendations, at its June 6–13, 2011, meeting in Spokane, Washington. The Council recommended that these changes be implemented by July 1, 2011 or as quickly as possible thereafter. There was not sufficient time after that meeting to draft this document and undergo proposed and final rulemaking before these actions need to be in effect. For the actions to be implemented in this final rule, affording the time necessary for prior notice and opportunity for public comment would prevent the Agency from managing fisheries using the best available science to approach, without exceeding, the ACLs for federally managed species in accordance with the FMP and applicable laws. The adjustments to management measures in this document affect commercial fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California.

Changes to sablefish trip limits in the limited entry fixed gear and open access sablefish DTL fisheries north of 36° N. lat. are needed to prevent the 2011 sablefish ACL for the area north of 36° N. lat. from being exceeded. These changes must be implemented in a timely manner by July 1, 2011 because failure to implement trip limit restrictions by July 1, 2011 could risk

catch of sablefish in the fishery north of 36° N. lat. exceeding the 2011 sablefish non-trawl allocation or even the 2011 sablefish ACL for the area north of 36° N. lat. These revisions are needed to keep the harvest of groundfish species within the harvest levels in place for 2011, while allowing fishermen access to healthy stocks. Delaying these changes beyond July 1, 2011 would allow fishers to access the higher bi-monthly trip limit in Period 4 (July-August) and could require even larger restrictions or closures later in the year. Such a delay would keep management measures in place that are not based on the best available data and that could lead to exceeding ACLs. Such delay could impair achievement of one of the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP goals to prevent overfishing and to promote year-round fishing opportunities.

Changes to trip limits for black rockfish in the minor nearshore rockfish complex, deeper nearshore rockfish, and minor shelf rockfish in the south will allow fishermen additional harvest opportunities for black rockfish, blue rockfish, spotted rockfish, and other stocks within those complexes. These changes are necessary to relieve a restriction by allowing additional harvest opportunities, while staying within ACLs. These changes must be implemented in a timely manner, as quickly as possible, so that fishermen are allowed increased opportunities to harvest available healthy stocks while preventing stocks from exceeding their ACLs. These changes are intended to meet the goal of the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP to achieve maximum biological yield while keeping within the constraints of overfished species rebuilding requirements. Changes to trawl RCA boundaries will allow fishermen additional harvest opportunities for Dover sole and sablefish. These changes are necessary to relieve a restriction by allowing additional harvest opportunities, while staying within ACLs. These changes must be implemented in a timely manner, on September 1, so that fishermen are allowed increased opportunities to harvest available healthy stocks while preventing stocks from exceeding their ACLs. It would be contrary to the public interest to wait to implement these changes until after public notice and comment, because that would prevent fishermen from taking these fish at the time they are available, preventing additional harvest in fisheries that are important to coastal communities.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 660

Fisheries, Fishing, Indian Fisheries.

Dated: June 24, 2011.

Margo Schulze-Haugen,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 660 is amended as follows:

PART 660—FISHERIES OFF WEST COAST STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 660 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.,* 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.,* and 16 U.S.C. 7001 *et seq.*

■ 2. Table 1 (North) to part 660, subpart D, is revised to read as follows:

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

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 07012011

TABLE 1 (North)

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[1/]:							
1	North of 48°10' N. lat.	shore - modified[2/] 200 fm line[1/]	shore - 200 fm line[1/]	shore - 150 fm line[1/]		shore - 200 fm line[1/]	shore - modified[2/] 200 fm line[1/]
2	48°10' N. lat. - 45°46' N. lat.	75 fm line[1/] - modified[2/] 200 fm line[1/]	75 fm line[1/] - 200 fm line[1/]	75 fm line[1/] - 150 fm line[1/]	100 fm line[1/] - 150 fm line[1/]	75 fm line[1/] - 150 fm line[1/]	
3	45°46' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.			75 fm line[1/] - 200 fm line[1/]	100 fm line[1/] - 200 fm line[1/]	75 fm line[1/] - 200 fm line[1/]	75 fm line[1/] - modified[2/] 200

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. **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 1 (North) and 1 (South) to Part 660, Subpart E.**

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	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**	300 lb/ month
5	**Whiting**	
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	**Cabezon**	
9	North of 46°16' N. lat.	Unlimited
10	46°16' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	50 lb/ month
11	**Shortbelly**	Unlimited
12	**Spiny dogfish**	60,000 lb/ month
13	**Longnose skate**	Unlimited
14	**Other Fish** [3/]	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/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include sharks (except spiny dogfish), skates (except longnose skate), ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling.

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

■ 3. Table 2 (North) and Table 2 (South) to part 660, subpart E, are revised to read as follows:

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 - § 660.399 before using this table 07012011

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[6/]:						
1	North of 46°16' N. lat.	shoreline - 100 fm line[6/]					
2	46°16' N. lat. - 43°00' N. lat.	30 fm line[6/] - 100 fm line[6/]					
3	43°00' N. lat. - 42°00' N. lat.	20 fm line[6/] - 100 fm line[6/]					
4	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	20 fm depth contour - 100 fm line[6/]					
	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, 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.						
5	**Minor slope rockfish[2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	4,000 lb/ 2 months					
6	**Pacific ocean perch**	1,800 lb/ 2 months					
7	**Sablefish**	1,900 lb per week, not to exceed 6,500 lb/ 2 months[7/]	2,000 lb/ week, not to exceed 7,000 lb/ 2 months		2,000 lb/ week, not to exceed 3,500 lb/ 2 months		
8	**Longspine thornyhead**	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
9	**Shortspine thornyhead**	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
10	**Dover sole**	5,000 lb/ month 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 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
11	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
12	**Petrale sole**						
13	**English sole**						
14	**Starry flounder**						
15	**Other flatfish[1/]**						
16	**Whiting**	10,000 lb/ trip					
17	**Minor shelf rockfish[2/], Shortbelly, Widow, & Yellowtail rockfish**	200 lb/ month					
18	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
19	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
20	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**						
21	North of 42° N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish [3/]					
22	42° - 40°10' N. lat.	6,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish [3/]	8,500 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish [3/]				
23	**Lingcod[4/]**	CLOSED		800 lb/ 2 months		400 lb/ month	CLOSED
24	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
25	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
26	**Other fish[5/]**	Unlimited					

TABLE 2 (North)

1/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.
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/ 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.
4/ 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.
5/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include sharks (except spiny dogfish), skates (except longnose skates), ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling. Cabezon and longnose skate are included in the trip limits for "other fish."
6/ 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.
7/ The trip limit that was in place for sablefish north of 36° N. Lat. in Jan-Feb 2011 was "1,750 lb per week, not to exceed 7,000 lb per 2 months".

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

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 - § 660.399 before using this table 07012011

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[5/]:						
1	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	30 fm line[5/] - 150 fm line[5/]					
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm line[5/] - 150 fm line[5/] (also applies around islands)					
	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, 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.						
3	**Minor slope rockfish[2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
4	**Splitnose**	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
5	**Sablefish**						
6	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	1,900 lb per week, not to exceed 6,500 lb/ 2 months[6/]	2,000 lb/ week, not to exceed 7,000 lb/ 2 months		2,000 lb/ week, not to exceed 3,500 lb/ 2 months		
7	South of 36° N. lat.	2,000 lb per week[6/]	2,100 lb/ week				
8	**Longspine thornyhead**	10,000 lb / 2 months					
9	**Shortspine thornyhead**						
10	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
11	South of 34°27' N. lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months					
12	**Dover sole**	5,000 lb/ month 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 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
13	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
14	**Petrale sole**						
15	**English sole**						
16	**Starry flounder**						
17	**Other flatfish[1/]**						
18	**Whiting**	10,000 lb/ trip					
19	**Minor shelf rockfish[2/], Shortbelly, Widow rockfish, and Bocaccio (including Chilipepper between 40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.)**						
20	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish, bocaccio & chilipepper: 2,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 500 lb/ 2 months may be any species other than chilipepper.					
21	South of 34°27' N. lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	3,000 lb/ 2 months			
22	**Chilipepper rockfish**						
23	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	Chilipepper included under minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow and bocaccio limits - - See above					
24	South of 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months, this opportunity only available seaward of the nontrawl RCA					
25	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
26	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
27	**Cowcod**	CLOSED					
28	**Bronzespotted rockfish**	CLOSED					
29	**Bocaccio**						
30	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	Bocaccio included under Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow & chilipepper limits -- See above					
31	South of 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	300 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 2 (South)

Table 2 (South). Continued

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
32	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**							
33	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	600 lb/ 2 months	
34	Deeper nearshore							
35	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 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[7/]	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months	1,200 lb/ 2 months			
38	**Lingcod[3/]**	CLOSED		800 lb/ 2 months			400 lb/ month	CLOSED
39	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
40	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
41	**Other fish[4/]**	Unlimited						

TABLE 2 (South)

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

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

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

4/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include sharks (except spiny dogfish), skates (except longnose skates), ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling. Cabezon and longnose skate are included in the trip limits for "other fish."

5/ 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.

6/ The trip limit that was in place for sablefish north of 36° N. Lat. in Jan-Feb 2011 was "1,750 lb per week, not to exceed 7,000 lb per 2 months". The trip limit that was in place for sablefish south of 36° N. Lat. in Jan-Feb 2011 was "400 lb per week, not to exceed 1,500 lb per 2 months".

7/ The trip limit that was in place for California scorpionfish south of 40°10' N. Lat. in Jan-Feb 2011 was "600 lb per 2 months".

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

■ 4. Table 3 (North) and Table 3 (South) to part 660, subpart F, are revised to read as follows:

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 - § 660.399 before using this table 07012011

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[6/]:						
1	North of 46°16' N. lat.	shoreline - 100 fm line[6/]					
2	46°16' N. lat. - 43°00' N. lat.	30 fm line[6/] - 100 fm line[6/]					
3	43°00' N. lat. - 42°00' N. lat.	20 fm line[6/] - 100 fm line[6/]					
4	42°00' N. lat. - 40°10' N. lat.	20 fm depth contour - 100 fm line[6/]					
	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, 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.						
5	**Minor slope rockfish[1/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
6	**Pacific ocean perch**	100 lb/ month					
7	**Sablefish**	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months	300lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 950 lb, not to exceed 1,900 lb/ 2 months		300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb, not to exceed 2,100 lb/ 2 months		
8	**Thornyheads**	CLOSED					
9	**Dover sole**	3,000 lb/month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs. 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 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
10	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
11	**Petrale sole**						
12	**English sole**						
13	**Starry flounder**						
14	**Other flatfish[2/]**						
15	**Whiting**	300 lb/ month					
16	**Minor shelf rockfish[1/], Shortbelly, Widow, & Yellowtail rockfish**	200 lb/ month					
17	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
18	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
19	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**						
20	North of 42° N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish [3/]					
21	42° - 40°10' N. lat.	6,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish [3/]	8,500 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black rockfish [3/]				
22	**Lingcod[4/]**	CLOSED		400 lb/ month			CLOSED
23	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
24	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
25	**Other Fish[5/]**	Unlimited					

TABLE 3 (North)

Table 3 (North). Continued

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC	
26	**SALMON TROLL** *(subject to RCAs when retaining all species of groundfish except for yellowtail rockfish and lingcod, as described below)*							**TABLE 3 (North) con't**
27	North	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.						
28	**PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL** *(not subject to RCAs)*							
29	North	**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 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.						

1/ 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.

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

3/ 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.

4/ 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.

4/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include sharks (except spiny dogfish), skates (except longnose skates), ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling. Cabezon and longnose skate are included in the trip limits for "other fish."

6/ 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.

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

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 - § 660.399 before using this table 07012011

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[5/]:						
1	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	30 fm line[5/] - 150 fm line[5/]					
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm line[5/] - 150 fm line[5/] (also applies around islands)					
	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, 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.						
3	**Minor slope rockfish[1/] & Darkblotched rockfish**						
4	40°10' - 38° N. lat.	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
5	South of 38° N. lat.	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
6	**Splitnose**	200 lb/ month					
7	**Sablefish**						
8	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months	300lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 950 lb, not to exceed 1,900 lb/ 2 months		300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb, not to exceed 2,100 lb/ 2 months		
9	South of 36° N. lat.	400 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 6,000 lb/ 2 months[6/]	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,200 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months				
10	**Thornyheads**						
11	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED					
12	South of 34°27' N. lat.	50 lb/ day, no more than 1,000 lb/ 2 months					
13	**Dover sole**	3,000 lb/month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs. 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 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
14	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
15	**Petrale sole**						
16	**English sole**						
17	**Starry flounder**						
18	**Other flatfish[2/]**						
19	**Whiting**	300 lb/ month					
20	**Minor shelf rockfish[1/], Shortbelly, Widow & Chilipepper rockfish**						
21	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	200 lb/ 2 months		300 lb/ 2 months	
22	South of 34°27' N. lat.	750 lb/ 2 months		750 lb/ 2 months	1,000 lb/ 2 months		
23	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
24	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
25	**Cowcod**	CLOSED					
26	**Bronzespotted rockfish**	CLOSED					
27	**Bocaccio**						
28	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	100 lb/ 2 months		200 lb/ 2 months	
29	South of 34°27' N. lat.	100 lb/ 2 months		100 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 3 (South)

Table 3 (South). Continued

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
30	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**						
31	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	600 lb/ 2 months
32	Deeper nearshore						
33	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months		
34	South of 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months			
35	California scorpionfish	1,200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	1,200 lb/ 2 months			
36	**Lingcod[3/]**	CLOSED		400 lb/ month			CLOSED
37	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
38	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
39	**Other Fish[4/]**	Unlimited					
40	**RIDGEBACK PRAWN AND, SOUTH OF 38°57.50' N. LAT., CA HALIBUT AND SEA CUCUMBER NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL**						
41	**NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for CA Halibut, Sea Cucumber & Ridgeback Prawn:**						
42	*40° 10' - 38° N. lat.*	*100 fm line - 200 fm line [6/]*	*100 fm line [5/] - 150 fm line [5/]*				*100 fm line [5/] - 200 fm line [5/ 6/]*
43	*38° - 34° 27' N. lat.*	*100 fm line [5/] - 150 fm line [5/]*					
44	*South of 34° 27' N. lat.*	*100 fm line [5/] - 150 fm line [5/] along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm line [5/] around islands*					
45		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, starry flounder, rock sole, curlfin sole, or California scorpionfish (California scorpionfish is also subject to the trip limits and closures in line 31).					
46	**PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL GEAR** *(not subject to RCAs)*						
47	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) con't

1/ Yellowtail rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish. POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish. Bronzespotted rockfish have a species specific trip limit.
2/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.11 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.
3/ The commercial mimimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length South of 42° N. lat.
4/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.11 and include sharks (except spiny dogfish), skates (including longnose skates), ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling.
5/ 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.
6/ The trip limit that was in place for sablefish south of 36° N. Lat. in Jan-Feb 2011 was "400 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 8,000 lb/ 2 months".

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

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