


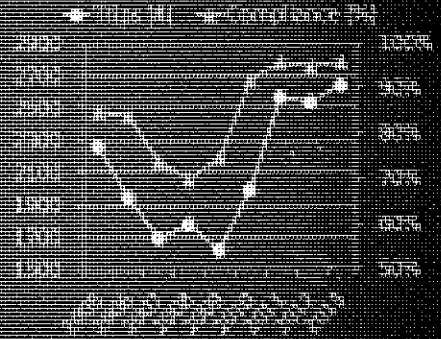
Review of the 2013 Nearshore Logbook Report and Adoption of 2015 Groundfish Fishery Regulations

Gway Kirchner
 Marine Fishery Management Section Manager
 January 9, 2015
 Exhibit D



Review of 2013 Commercial Nearshore Logbook Data

Species	2013 Total Catch	Percent of 2012 Catch
Black Rockfish	100.2	100%
Other Nearshore Fish	80.7	75%
Groundfish	219	84%
Crab	89.8	80%





Regulation Changes

- Federal 2015-2016 fishery regulations
- Nearshore rockfish management
 - Harvest guidelines
 - Recreational fishery
 - Commercial fishery
- Housekeeping
 - Grass Rockfish scientific name correction
 - Gilled/gutted rockfish conversion factor



2015-2016 Federal Regulations

- Expected to publish March 2015
- Big successes for Oregon:
 - Canary Rockfish retention allowed in the sport fishery
 - Lingcod retention allowed in winter commercial fisheries
- Notable change:
 - Sorting requirements for Rougheye/Blackspotted and Shortfin Mako
- Impactful reduction:
 - Reduction to allowable minor nearshore rockfish harvest



Lingcod Trip Limits

Trip limit increases for federal limited entry and open access commercial fisheries in 2015 - 2016

Sector	Season	2013-14	2015-16	Nov.	Dec.
Limited Entry	2013-14	Closed	600 lbs. per 2 months	400 lbs.	Closed
Limited Entry	2015-16	200 lbs. per 2 months	1,200 lbs. per 2 months	600 lbs.	200 lbs.
Open Access	2013-14	Closed	400 lbs. per 1 month	400 lbs.	Closed
Open Access	2015-16	100 lbs. per 1 month	600 lbs. per 1 month	600 lbs.	300 lbs.



Minor Nearshore Rockfish Complex

Group of rockfish species managed as a single unit
(one quota for all species)



Water Rockfish



Quillback Rockfish

DOES NOT INCLUDE BLACK ROCKFISH

Also: Black and Yellow, Brown, Calfed, Dusky, Glass, Kelp, Olive, and Tautog



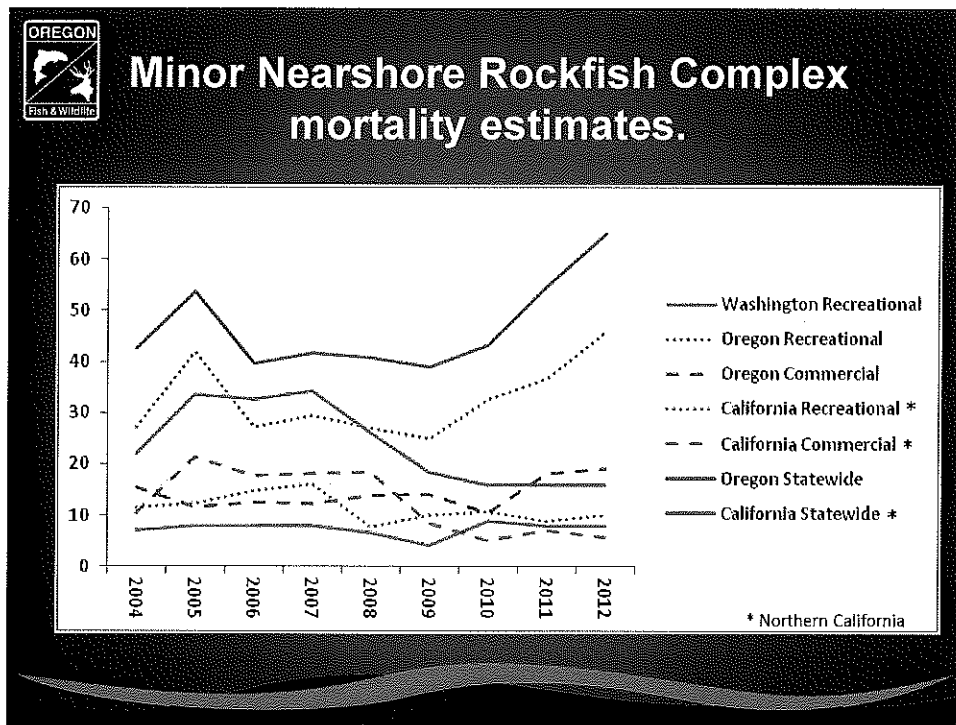
Complex Management

- A group of species are managed together under one harvest level
- Individual "contributions" are summed to determine the allowable harvest
- A variety of assessment methods may be used to determine the individual "contribution"




Recent Federal Assessments

- New federal stock assessments for China, Copper, and Brown Rockfishes
 - China: not as healthy as it should be; slight reduction
 - Copper: healthy stock; shift in apportionment to Southern California; large reduction
 - Brown: healthy stock; small reduction
- Previous assessment for CA Blue Rockfish
 - Not as healthy as it should be; precautionary adjustment applied; large reduction
- **Federal ACL = 68.7 mt = 27% reduction**




-
- ### State Harvest Guidelines
- Currently manage with harvest and landing caps
 - Walls off individual fisheries
 - Staff recommends managing with harvest guidelines
 - Provides flexibility to manage sport and commercial fisheries
 - Provides ability to work with other states
 - Apply to Black Rockfish, Blue and Other Nearshore Rockfish combined, Cabezon, and Kelp Greenling



Blue and Other Nearshore Rockfish Combined Harvest Guideline

- Maintain allocation of 'Other Nearshore Rockfish'
- Recent average catches of Blue Rockfish

	Status Quo Harvest (tmt)	Harvest Guideline (tmt)
Recreational	35.5	25.0
Commercial	10.1	10.4
Total	45.6	35.4



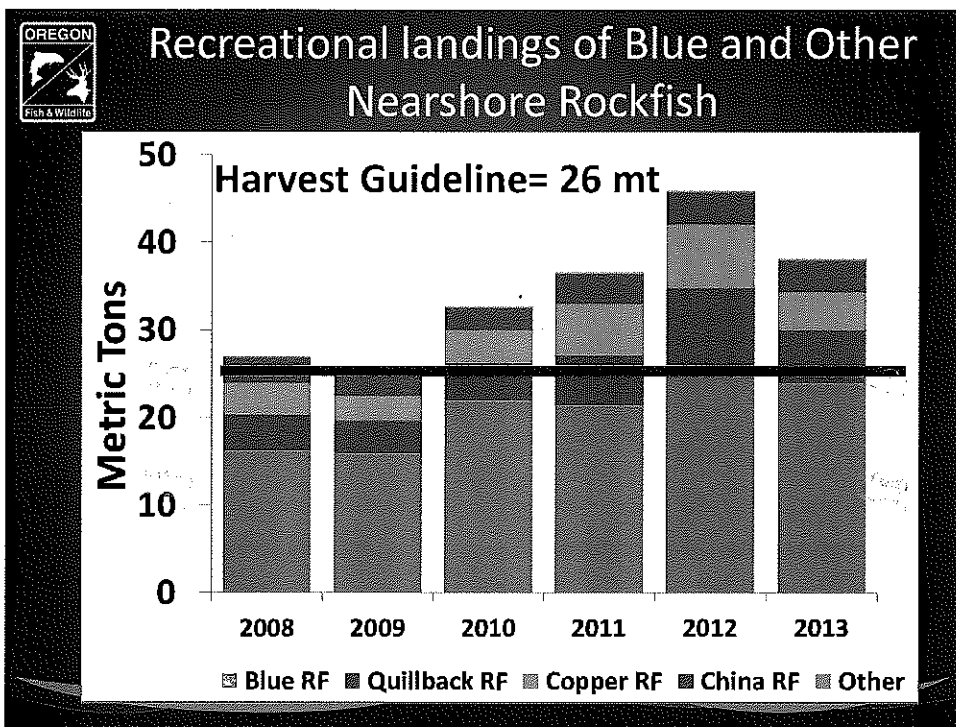
Problem

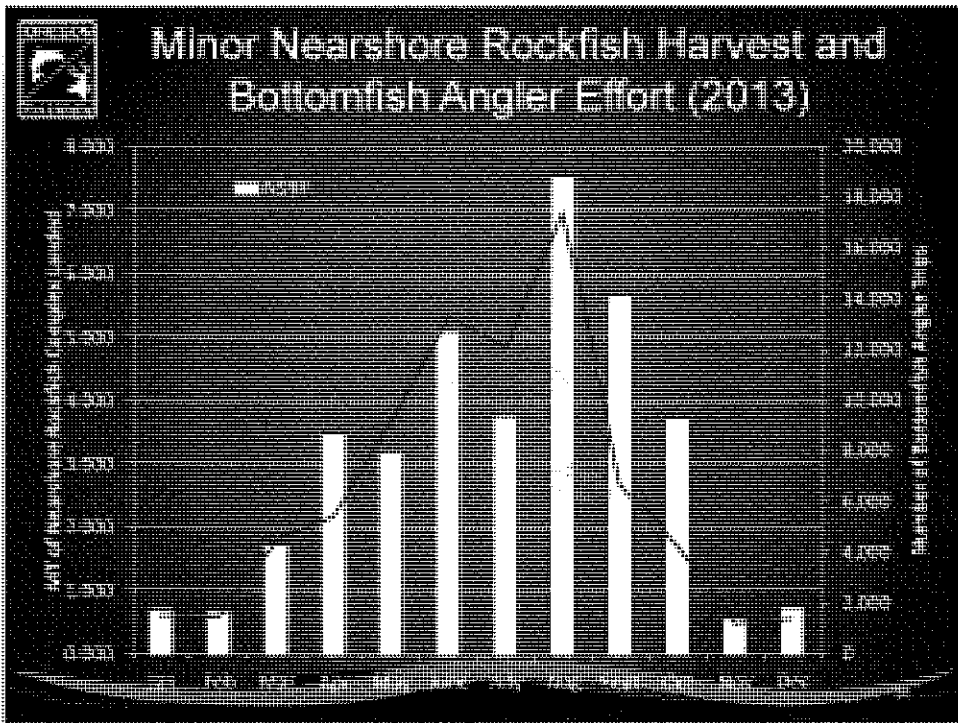
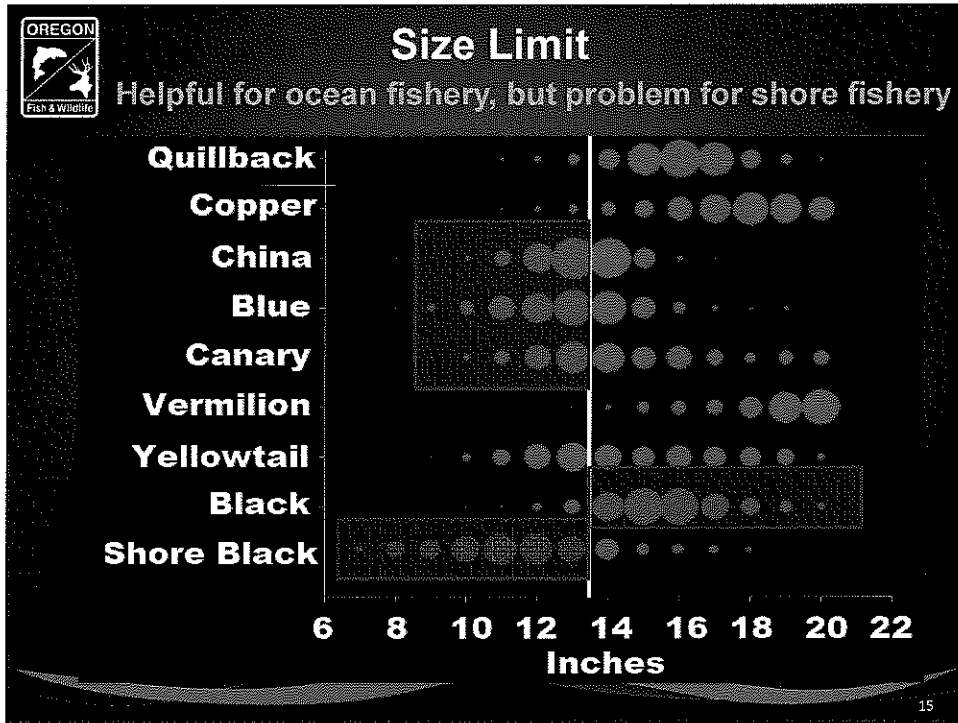
How to reduce recreational and commercial harvest (landings + discard mortality) of minor nearshore rockfish by 27%

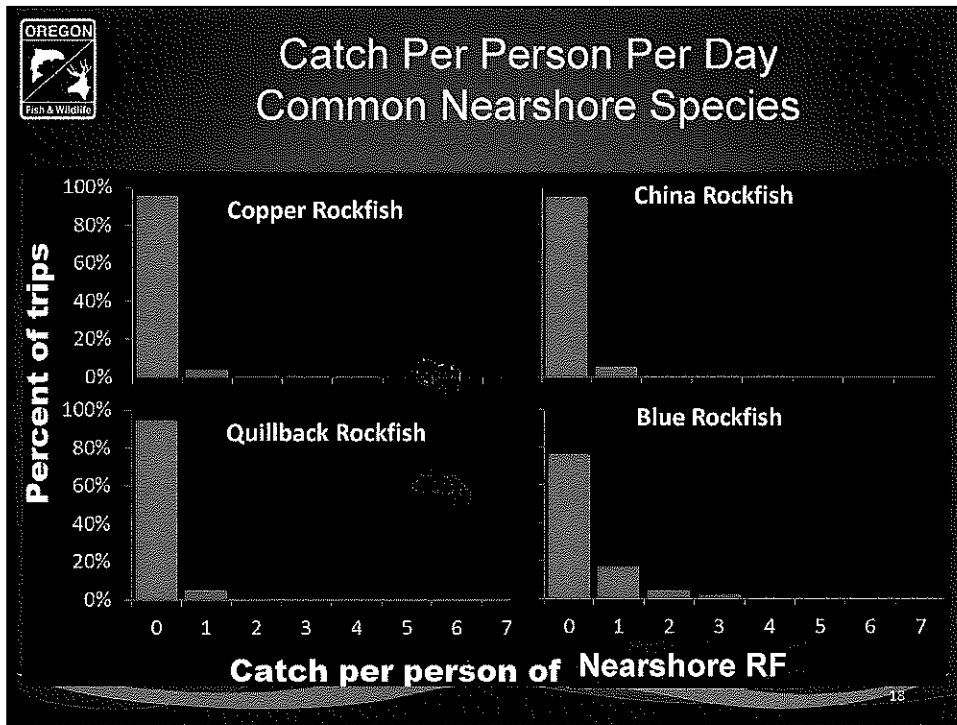
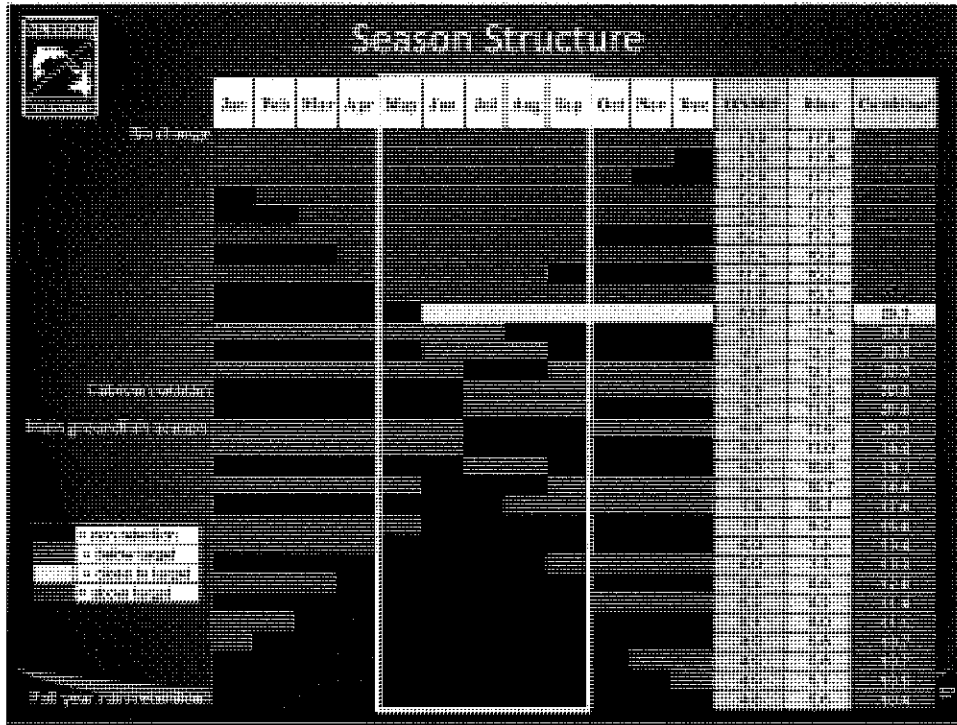


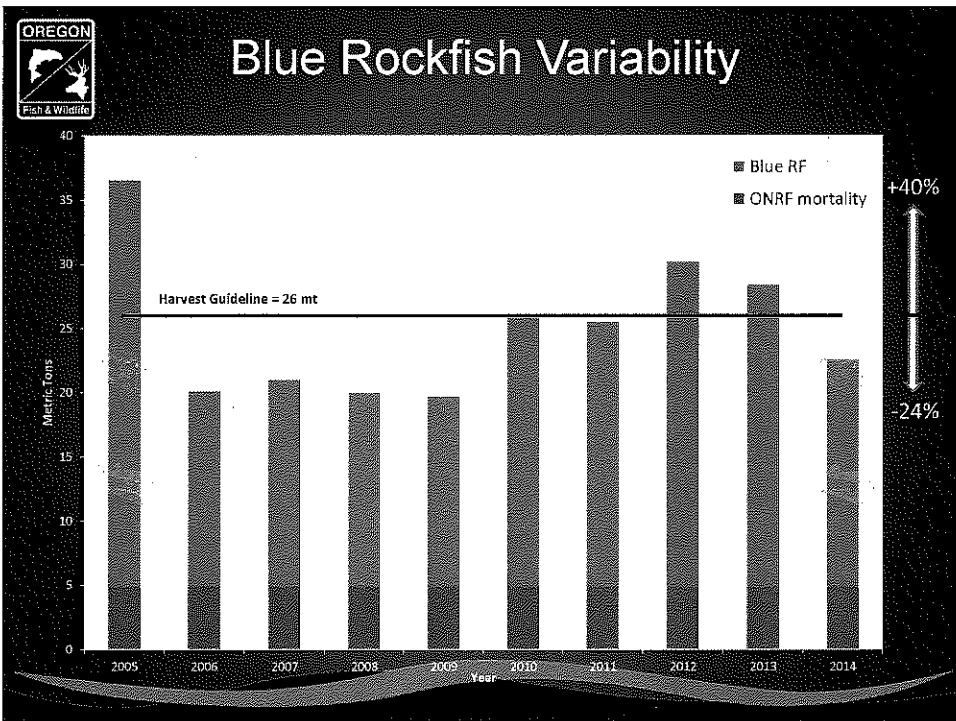
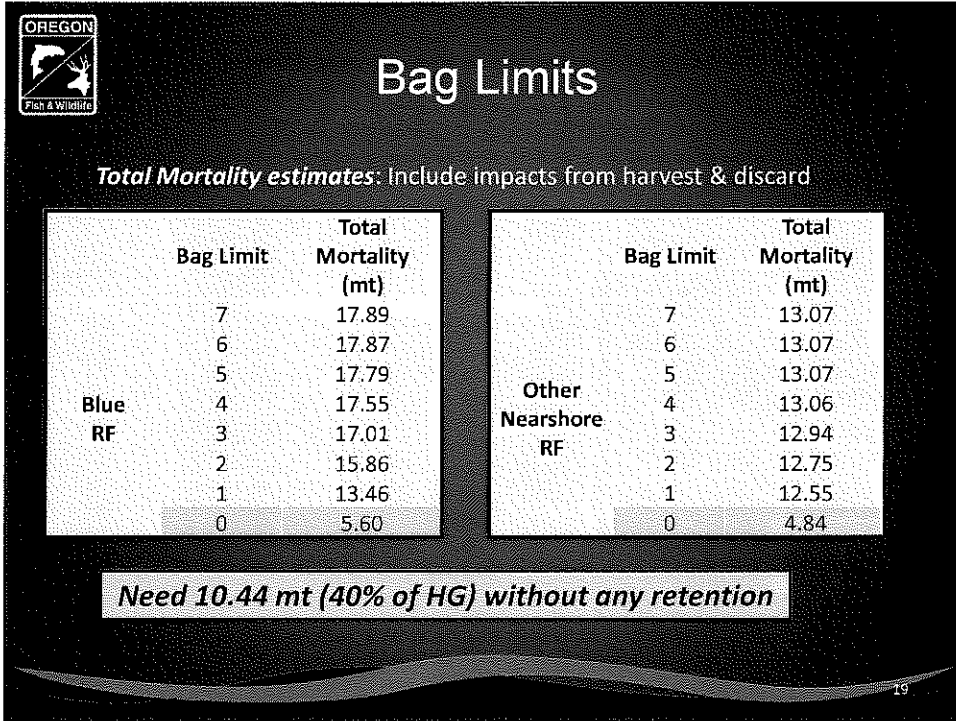
Recreational Nearshore Rockfish Fishery

- Mostly incidentally caught species; some targeting
- Most anglers don't catch any
- Catches can be highly variable from year to year
- Few tools to manage these species
 - Length limit
 - Bag limit
 - Season











Bag Limit Alternatives


- 1 Blue Rockfish, no Other Nearshore Rockfish
– 18.3 mt (~14-26 mt)
- 2 Blue Rockfish, no Other Nearshore Rockfish
– 20.7 mt (~16-29 mt)
- 7 Blue Rockfish, no Other Nearshore Rockfish
– 22.7 mt (~17-32 mt)

Variability in Blue RF -24% to +40% of HG




Public Comment Conflicting

- No size limits
- Use size limits
- Blue vs. Black JD is difficult
- Season structure is good
- Year-round access is good
- I catch more Blue Rockfish, so allow more Blues
- I catch more colored fish, so allow more Nearshore



Public Comment Consensus

- **Do what is needed to maintain year-round access in the Black Rockfish and Lingcod fisheries**




Staff Recommendation

- Prohibit retention of China, Copper, and Quillback Rockfishes
- Retain Blue Rockfish in the Marine Fish Bag Limit
 - Implement a 1-fish Blue Rockfish sub-bag limit
- Monitor closely inseason and take action when needed
 - to increase the bag limit if quota remains, or
 - Prohibit Blue Rockfish



Rationale

- 12-month season for Black Rockfish and Lingcod
- Risk averse approach, estimated to achieve ~20 mt of harvest (75% of HG)
 - High variability of blooms
 - Avoid early closure of nearshore groundfish fisheries
- Simple regulations, targets most common species
 - Blue, China, Copper, and Quillback Rockfishes
 - Allows some mis-identification of Blue Rockfish
- Easier to remove restrictions in season



Education

Black & Blue Rockfish Identification Tips

Black Rockfish

- No 'hump' between the eyes
- Mouth large, upper jaw past the middle of the eye
- Pelvic fin rays not distinct, dull gray color

- Spots on dorsal fin
- White or light belly
- Anal fin rounded

Blue Rockfish

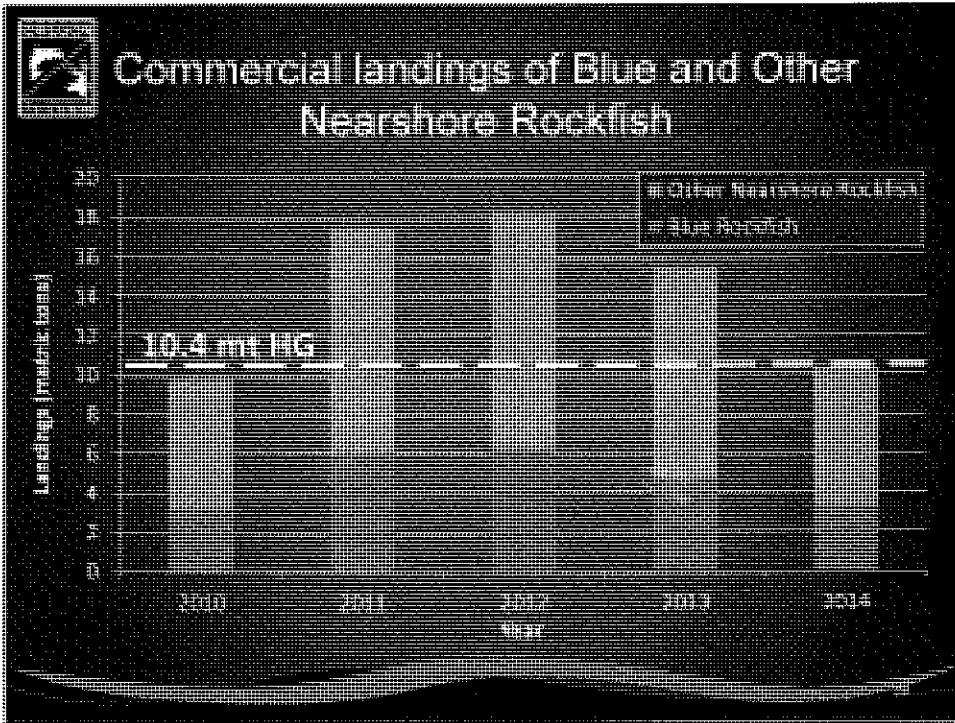
- Enlarged 'hump' between the eyes
- Mouth small, upper jaw generally not past middle of eye
- Pelvic fin rays distinct, white or light blue in color

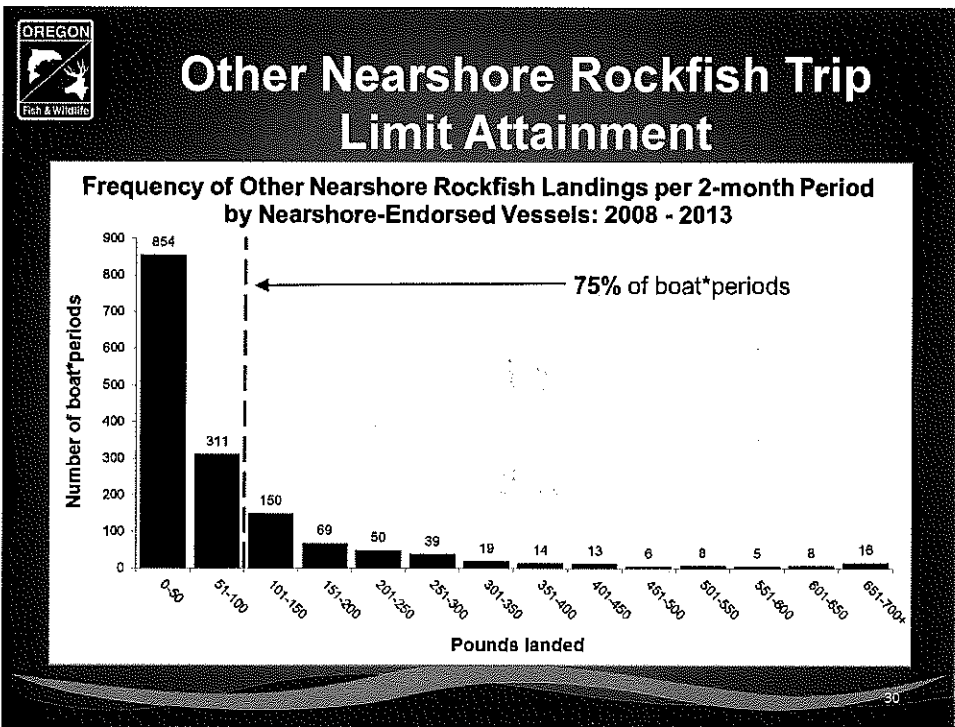
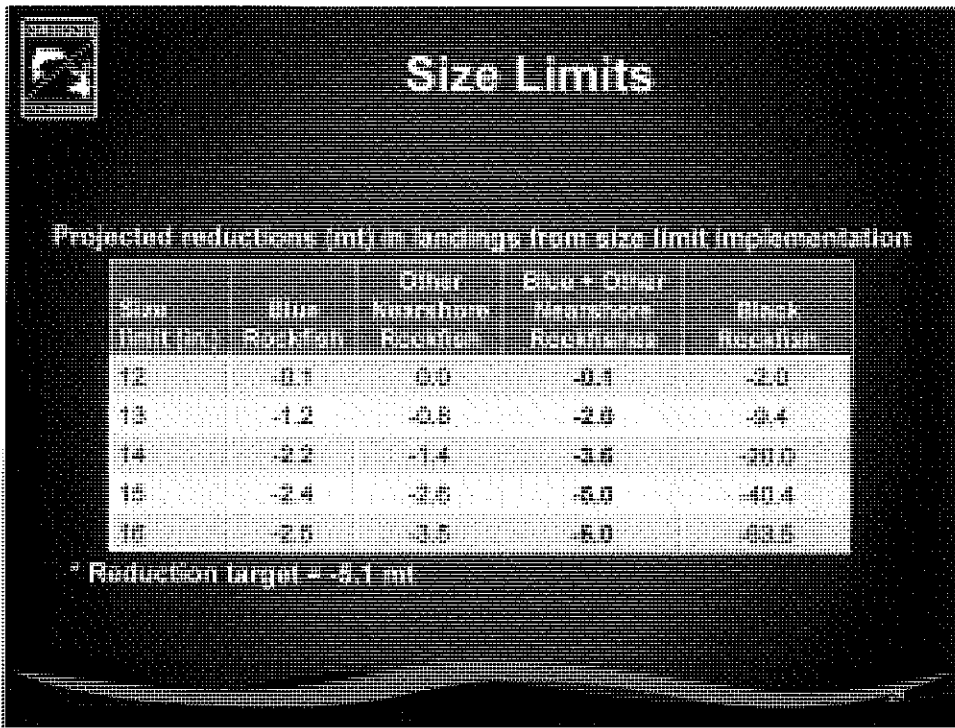
- No spots on dorsal fin
- Anal fin edge straight



Commercial Nearshore Rockfish Fishery

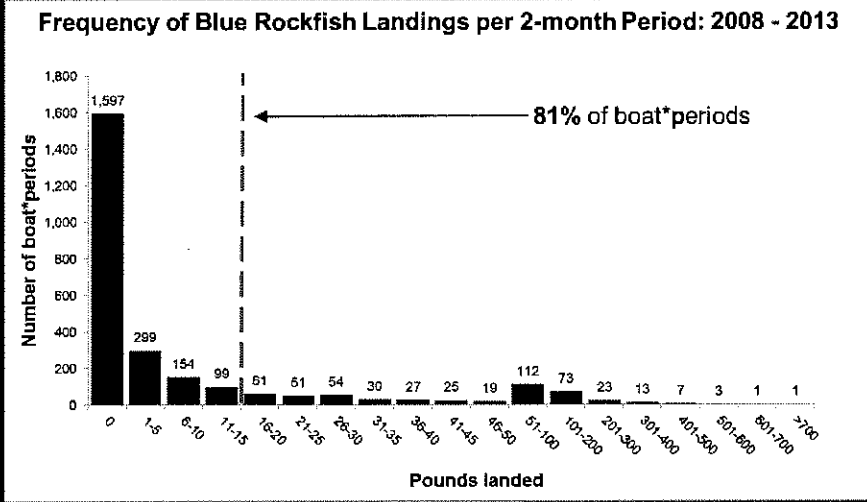
- Some targeting
- Catches can be highly variable from year to year
- Few attain current cumulative trip limits
- Few tools
 - Size limits
 - Cumulative trip limits








Blue Rockfish Trip Limit Attainment



Public Comment

- Make no changes and let it run until it closes
- Do what you need to do to provide a 12-month season
- Provide more Other Nearshore Rockfish
- Provide more Blue Rockfish





Staff Recommendation

Adopt the following cumulative period trip limits:

Species group	2013 with In-season changes	2014 Outset of Year	2014 with In-season changes	2015
Black & Blue RF	P1 = 800 P2 = 1,000 P3 = 1,200 P4 = 1,300 P5 = 1,400 P6 = 1,500	P1 = 1,050 P2 = 1,200 P3 = 1,300 P4 = 1,400 P5 = 1,500 P6 = 1,600	P1 = 1,200 P2 = 1,300 P3 = 1,400 P4 = 1,500 P5 = 1,600 P6 = 1,700	P1 = 1,200* P2 = 1,400* P3 = 1,700* P4 = 1,800* P5 = 1,900* P6 = 1,900*
Blue RF	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
Other NS RF	100	100	100	100
Cabezon	1,500 P5 & 6 = 2,000	1,400	1,500	1,300
Grounding	300	300	300	300

*P1-P6 = 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, 2000

- 
- ### Rationale
- Provides for some Blue Rockfish harvest
 - Maximizes the economic value of the fishery as a whole
 - Provides low risk of prohibiting Nearshore Rockfish inseason



Other Changes

- Implement sorting requirements in state rule
 - Rougheye/Blackpotted and Shortraker Rockfish
- Correct scientific name for Grass Rockfish (*Sebastes rastrelliger*)
- Adopt a gilled/gutted rockfish conversion factor



Staff Recommendations

- Adopt federal regulations
- Adopt recommended harvest guidelines
- Recreational fishery
 - 1-fish Blue Rockfish sub bag limit
 - Prohibit China, Copper, and Quillback Rockfishes
- Commercial fishery
 - Trip limits for Black Rockfish and Other Nearshore Rockfish
 - Blue Rockfish 15-pound per period trip limit



Staff Recommendations cont.

- Other
 - Sorting requirements for Rougheye, Blackspotted and Shortraker Rockfishes
 - Grass Rockfish (*Sebastes castruliger*) scientific name
 - Gilled/gutted rockfish conversion factor



Public Comment

Questions?

