# 2015

# The Oregon Commercial Nearshore Fishery Summary



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September 2016



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#### Introduction

Oregon's nearshore waters support a limited-entry commercial fishery that targets rocky reef associated groundfish species. This document summarizes the 2015 commercial nearshore fishery including management goals, harvest specifications, fishing effort, landed poundage, ex-vessel value, fishery-dependent biological data, and compliance with the commercial nearshore logbook requirement. To maintain individual confidentiality as some ports have small numbers of participating vessels, data from Garibaldi and Astoria are combined and presented in the Garibaldi port group, data from Depoe Bay and Newport are combined in the Newport port group, and data from Winchester Bay, Charleston, and Bandon are combined in the Bandon port group. Although fishers sometimes use more than one gear type during a trip, landings in this document are summarized by the primary gear used during the trip that is recorded on Oregon commercial fish receiving tickets (hereafter, fish tickets).

### Background

Oregon's commercial nearshore fishery first developed as an open access fishery in the early 1990's and transitioned to a State limited-entry permit system in 2004. The commercial nearshore fleet is composed of small vessels, averaging 25 ft., that target shallow (< 180 ft.) nearshore rocky reefs. Vessels use mostly hook & line jig or bottom longline fishing gear, but fish pots may also be utilized if a Developmental Fisheries Permit for nearshore species for this gear type was issued in 2003.

A variety of groundfish species are harvested and managed in this fishery including Black Rockfish, Blue Rockfish and the 21 "nearshore species" (Table 1) defined in Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs). These species are managed in six State management groups: Black Rockfish, Blue Rockfish, Other Nearshore Rockfish, Greenling, Cabezon, and Other Nearshore Species. Blue Rockfish became a State management group for the first time in 2015 for reasons discussed below (see Fishery Management and Harvest Specifications).

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) adopts rules for this fishery annually at Commission meetings. Many but not all of the species in these groups are also included in the federal Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (GFMP) and are subject to federal fishery regulations. The Commission has the authority to adopt concurrent or more conservative rules, but not more liberal regulations for species included in the GFMP. In practice, federal regulations primarily set Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) for groundfish species or management groups, while the Commission adopts regulations intended to maintain total fishery mortality (harvest and discard) within the federal limits.

Rules adopted by the Commission are implemented by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) and are found on the Department website in Divisions 004 and 006 at <a href="http://dfw.state.or.us/OARs/oars.asp#Fish">http://dfw.state.or.us/OARs/oars.asp#Fish</a>. For 2015, these rules included annual harvest guidelines, cumulative bimonthly trip limits (hereafter, bimonthly limits), daily trip limits, incidental landing limits, and fish length limits. A daily trip limit for commercial harvest of Black Rockfish of 300 lbs is also in effect in specific geographic areas where extensive recreational harvest occurs.

Two separate permit types exist for Oregon's limited-entry commercial nearshore fishery. These two permits allow access to different harvest allocations. The first permit type, the Black and Blue

Rockfish permit, allows for the harvest of Black and Blue Rockfish in amounts up to the bimonthly limits set by the Commission for that State management group (Appendix A), while allowing for only incidental harvest of the daily trip limit of 15 lbs per day of all other nearshore fish species, combined. The second permit type, the Black and Blue Rockfish permit with a Nearshore Endorsement, allows for harvest up to the maximum bimonthly limits specified by the Commission for Black and Blue Rockfish, Other Nearshore Rockfish, Greenling, and Cabezon. The nearshore endorsement is also required to catch the federal monthly landing limit of Tiger and Vermilion Rockfish, both of which are on Oregon's nearshore species list.

Fishers in this fishery land primarily Black Rockfish, Cabezon, Kelp Greenling, China Rockfish, Blue Rockfish, Vermilion Rockfish, Quillback Rockfish, and Copper Rockfish, with the remaining nearshore species (Table 1) making up a very small portion of the catch. Lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*) is also frequently landed by vessels participating in this fishery and this species is included in the federal GFMP. However, Lingcod is not included on Oregon's nearshore species list, and is not managed under the State limited-entry permit system. Little information on commercial Lingcod harvest is included in this report.

Each fishing "season" consists of the calendar year, with boats fishing year-round as weather and quotas allow. A small amount of nearshore species is harvested as incidental catch in other fisheries. These other fisheries use primarily troll or trawl gear. Fish caught in the commercial nearshore fishery supply both live and fresh (dead) fish markets, though the live fishery largely occurs on the Southern Oregon coast. Oregon's commercial nearshore fishery has a diverse group of participants; many fishers participate in several fisheries, others solely participate in this fishery.

### **Fishery Management and Harvest Specifications**

Fishery managers from the Department set specific management goals at the outset of 2015 to maintain a sustainable fishery from both a natural resources and a socio-economic perspective. Commercial fishers and other interested parties have the opportunity to provide input on management goals at a series of public meetings held by the Department each fall, or can provide testimony directly to the Commission when regulations are adopted. Largely based on public input, the primary goal for 2015 was to provide fishing opportunities throughout the calendar year without exceeding State annual commercial harvest guidelines or allowable impacts to prohibited species that have been declared overfished, primarily Yelloweye Rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*).

One significant change to State commercial nearshore fishery management in 2015 was the establishment of Blue Rockfish bimonthly limits separate from Black Rockfish bimonthly limits. The separation resulted in a new Blue Rockfish management group. Historically, Blue Rockfish and Black Rockfish were included together in both a single State management group and bimonthly limit. However, at the federal level, Blue Rockfish are managed in the Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex, which also includes State Other Nearshore Rockfish species, but not Black Rockfish. Due to new or revised stock assessments for several species within the federal Minor Nearshore Rockfish Complex, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) significantly decreased the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) for the complex from 94 to 69 metric tons (mt). Because the federal ACL for this complex applies to all fisheries North of Cape Mendocino, California, the Council further subdivided the available catch into state specific harvest guidelines. The Oregon portion of the 69 mt of Minor Nearshore Rockfish was 36.4 mt, of which 10.4 mt were apportioned to the commercial nearshore fishery for the combined harvest of Blue and Other Nearshore Rockfish. The

State separated Blue Rockfish bimonthly limits from Black Rockfish bimonthly limits to maintain high Black Rockfish bimonthly limits and mitigate reductions to Other Nearshore Rockfish bimonthly limits, while regulating impacts to Blue Rockfish.

For 2015, the State adopted harvest guidelines instead of commercial harvest caps and landing caps because of the reduced federal Minor Nearshore Rockfish ACL for the 2015-16 biennium. Harvest guidelines are specified numerical harvest objectives that are not quotas. The attainment of the harvest guideline does not necessarily cap impacts of the fishery. This differs from harvest caps and landing caps in that attainment of a cap results in fishery shutdown. Harvest guidelines were implemented to provide flexibility in management under the reduced Minor Nearshore Rockfish ACL.

Commercial harvest guidelines for 2015 are listed in Table 2. No harvest guideline exists for Other Nearshore Species though daily trip limits apply. All 2015 harvest guidelines were set at 2014 levels except for Other Nearshore Rockfish and Blue Rockfish. For 2015, Blue Rockfish and Other Nearshore Rockfish fishery impacts were included together under a single State harvest guideline in order to match the species included in the federal Minor Nearshore Rockfish complex. In general, harvest allocations remain unchanged unless new information, such as a stock assessment, suggests harvest levels should be adjusted. Discard mortality for this fishery is quantified by the West Coast Observer Program and summarized in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries annual reports.

The Department implemented six bimonthly periods (Table 3) for which bimonthly limits are set for individual vessels (Table 4; Figures 1 - 5; Appendix A). Bimonthly limits facilitate management of commercial harvest relative to harvest guidelines and are intended to balance the tradeoff of early attainment, potentially resulting in fishery closure, with providing year-round fishery access.

Public input regarding bimonthly limits and other management measures for 2015 was sought both at the annual commercial nearshore fishery meetings held in October 2014 and at the January 9, 2015 Commission meeting. Based on both meeting input and recommendations from the Department, the Commission adopted annual harvest guidelines, bimonthly limits, and other fishery regulations for 2015 at the January 2015 Commission meeting. The bimonthly limits put into effect at the outset of 2015 were intended to require few or no in-season changes and to provide predictable bimonthly limits, season lengths, and market supply. Bimonthly limits can be adjusted up or down, in season, to allow greater opportunity for reaching harvest guidelines or to slow harvest to stay within harvest guidelines. In 2015, bimonthly limits were raised in-season for Black Rockfish and Greenling for periods 4 - 6 and for Blue Rockfish and Other Nearshore Rockfish in periods 5 and 6 (Table 4) to provide greater opportunities for attaining harvest guidelines. No bimonthly limits exist for Other Nearshore Species group (Table 1) because these species are not currently targeted in this fishery. However, Other Nearshore Species are subject to incidental limits for nearshore species.

# Blue Rockfish Cryptic Speciation Confirmed

In recent years, numerous studies have concluded that what was previously identified and managed as a single species, Blue Rockfish (*Sebastes mystinus* [Jordan and Gilbert, 1881]), is actually composed of two genetically distinct cryptic species (Cope 2004; Burford 2009; Burford et al. 2011). In July 2015, these two species were formally described and acknowledged as distinct, Blue Rockfish (*S. mystinus*) and Deacon Rockfish (*S. diaconus*; Frable et al. 2015). The Department has begun

documenting species-specific life history characteristics for these two species (Hannah et al. 2015), however these species were documented as a species group in 2015 State landings.

#### Fishery Landings Monitoring and Data Collection

To understand the dynamics of harvest in the commercial nearshore fishery in 2015, the Department collected various types of data to document resources impacted by the fishery. These data allow Department staff to adaptively manage the fishery throughout the year. In addition, these data are necessary for the assessment of Oregon's nearshore stocks.

Landed fish were sorted and recorded on fish tickets to the species level for all species management groups except Greenling and Blue Rockfish/Deacon Rockfish. The Blue Rockfish group is not sorted by buyers and processors due to difficulties in differentiating the two cryptic species. For Greenling, almost all fish landed commercially were Kelp Greenling as determined from port biologists' species composition sampling. For groups that were sorted, pounds landed were documented by species on fish tickets submitted to the Department.

Port biologists and samplers collected biological data on the landed catch. Those data included species and sex compositions of landings, fish lengths (Table 5, Appendices B - D), fish weights (Table 6, Appendices B - D), age structures (otoliths) and sexual maturity information. The percent of Blue vs. Deacon Rockfish in the Blue Rockfish management group was informally noted by biologists in 2015 market sample comments for some ports. In 2016, port biologists and samplers began officially sampling nominal Blue Rockfish landings for species composition percentages as part of the Department's formal commercial fisheries sampling design.

Through the commercial nearshore logbook program, the Department also collected information on fishing effort, harvest locations, harvest methods, and discards from the fishery. Fleet-wide compliance with the nearshore logbook requirement was 88.7% for the year and is summarized in Table 7 (these data also include fixed gear trips landing Lingcod which require submission of a log). A summary of retained and released fishes by species and period is listed in Table 8.

#### Black and Blue Rockfish Commercial Nearshore Limited Entry Permits

In total, 119 permits were renewed in 2015; 69 permits with nearshore endorsements and 50 without. This total is down two from 2014 as these permits were not renewed. A home port was assigned to each permit based on which port group accounted for the most landing events (trips) for that permit. The number of permits by home port and permit type is summarized in Figure 6. Of the renewed permits, 65 (94.2%) with nearshore endorsements and 42 without (84.0%) landed nearshore species. There were 15 permits transferred to new owners in 2015; seven with endorsements and eight without. Port Orford was the home port with the most total permits, and the home port of the most permits with nearshore endorsements. Pacific City was the home port of total permits without nearshore endorsements. The Bandon port group had the least number of total permits and permits without nearshore endorsements. The Garibaldi port group had the fewest permits with nearshore endorsements.

# **Fishery Effort**

In 2015, commercial nearshore fishery effort totaled 2,597 trips, near the 11-year average of 2,590 trips per year. For this summary, effort was quantified as the number of trips landing nearshore species during the season. 2015 effort is summarized by species and period in Table 9 and by gear type in Figure 7. Data suggest commercial nearshore fishery effort shifted to targeting Lingcod due to increased trip limits in that fishery. In addition, commercial salmon catches were not as strong in 2015 as in 2014 likely contributing to increased effort in this fishery. Period 3 had the most effort while period 6 had the least. Fishers using primarily vertical hook & line gear made 2,385 landings (91.8%), fishers using primarily longline gear made 104 landings (4.0%), and the remaining 108 landings (4.2%) were made by a combination of other gear types.

# **Total Landings: All Species Combined**

Landings of all species combined in the 2015 commercial nearshore fishery totaled 351,794 pounds (Figure 8) for a total ex-vessel value of \$901,344 (Figure 9). Landings were down 4.5% by weight and 6.5% in value from 2014 landings. Black Rockfish landings for 2015 decreased slightly (1.0%) in volume relative to 2014. Landings from other management groups were also down from 2014 levels except for Cabezon which rose 6.4%. Live Other Nearshore Rockfish were the most valuable species landed on a per pound basis (Table 10). Hook & line gear was used to land 93.0% of the fish (Figure 10). Period 3 had the highest total of pounds landed (24.9%) and period 6 the least (8.0%; Figure 11). Most fish were landed in live condition (65.5%; Figure 12). Port Orford landed 43.6% of the fishery total (Figure 13). Average pounds landed per fish ticket were similar across modes of gear and market conditions except for longline fresh landings, the low outlier (Figure 14).

### **Black Rockfish Landings**

Black Rockfish annual landings totaled 268,691 lbs or 87.6% attainment of the harvest guideline (Table 9). Hook & line gear landed the majority of the harvest taking 96.5% of the fish (Figure 15). Although hook & line landings were up 2.1% from 2014, longline landings of Black Rockfish dropped approximately 50%. As in past years, Port Orford was the port landing the majority of the Black Rockfish at 38.7% (Figure 16). The majority of landings occurred in period 3 and the least during period 6 (Table 9; Figure 17). Live fish comprised 58.3% of the landings with 41.7% landed fresh (Table 10; Figure 18). Ex-vessel value of this group fell 3.7% from 2014, however, 2015 was the second most valuable year for the commercial fishery (Figure 19). The fall in value of the Black Rockfish resource in 2015 was the first since 2010 as price per pound was down. Increased Lingcod trip limits and availability likely drove Black Rockfish prices down. Fishing trips using hook & line gear for live fish again landed the most pounds per ticket, while those fishers using longline gear for fresh fish landed the least fish per ticket (Figure 20). On a per pound basis, live fish were 35% more valuable than fresh fish (Table 10).

# Blue (and Deacon) Rockfish Landings

The 2015 landing total was the lowest for this group since management of the fishery began in 2004 (Figure 21). This low landing total was primarily driven by the establishment of reduced trip limits for Blue Rockfish (see Fishery Management and Harvest Specifications). Hook & line gear was used

to land 94.3% of Blue Rockfish. Port Orford had the highest landings (49.8%) while the Bandon group had the lowest (2.8%; Figure 22). Period 5 was when the most Blue Rockfish were landed (37.3%) while period 2 had the lowest landings (8.2%; Table 9; Figure 23). Nearly all landings of Blue Rockfish were fresh (96.9%; Figure 24). The total value of Blue Rockfish landings in 2015 dropped 63.1% in conjunction with the decrease in landed pounds (Figure 25). Fish landed live with hook & line gear had the highest average pounds per ticket, however, hook & line landed fresh fish composed the largest percentage of landings (Figure 26).

### Other Nearshore Rockfish Landings

Like Blue and Deacon Rockfish, 2015 landings of Other Nearshore Rockfish were the lowest since State limited-entry management of the fishery began in 2004 (Figure 27). This decrease was due, in large part, to the decreased State harvest guideline and bimonthly limits (Table 2; Appendices A-B). Landings decreased for the three main species harvested from this group: China, Quillback and Copper Rockfishes. Landings from both hook & line and longline gears again declined in 2015, with the greatest absolute decrease coming from longline gear (Figure 28). As in years past, Port Orford was the port of landing for the majority of the catch, with 73.4% of total pounds of Other Nearshore Rockfish (Figure 29). Landings in Gold Beach declined 67.3% for the year. While reductions to Other Nearshore Rockfish harvest guidelines and bimonthly limits were factors in lower landing totals in Gold Beach, anecdotal information indicates ocean access was challenging due to a sanded-in bar. Other Nearshore Rockfish were primarily landed during period 5 and the lowest landings for the group occurred during period 2 (Table 9; Figure 30). By weight, 84.2% of fishes were landed live; 15.8% were landed fresh (Table 10; Figure 31). As a proportion of the total catch, live catch increased over 6% in 2015 from the prior year, likely driven by demand in the wake of the lower harvest guideline and bimonthly limits. Likewise, total ex-vessel value of this management group fell to its lowest level on record in the managed fishery (Figure 32). Price per pound for live fish of this management group remained high, at 3 to 4.5 times greater than fresh fish prices per pound (Table 10). In 2015, bottom longline gear landing live fish averaged the most pounds per ticket, while those using hook & line gear for fresh fish landed the least fish (Figure 33).

### **Greenling Landings**

Greenling landings in 2015 were also a record low since management of the State limited-entry fishery began in 2004 (Figure 34). Declines were consistent across ports, though landings in Brookings increased relative to the other ports and years (Figure 35). The lowest landings occurred in period 6 and greatest during periods 1 and 2 (Figure 36). For landing condition by weight, 98.4% of fish were live and 1.6% landed fresh (Figure 37). The record low landing of Greenling was echoed in the record low ex-vessel value for this fishery (Figure 38). Landings of live fish using hook & line gear had the greatest average pounds per ticket, while those tickets landing live fish using longline gear had the least (Figure 39). Live Greenling were approximately 4.5 times more valuable than fresh fish (Table 10).

### **Cabezon Landings**

Landings of Cabezon in 2015 totaled 36,072 lbs, a rise of 6.3% from the 2014 low (Figure 40). The increase in harvest came primarily via hook & line. The largest relative increase in landings of

Cabezon came from Brookings, with a notable decrease in landings in Gold Beach (Figure 41). Cabezon were landed in the greatest amounts during period 5 and the least during period 3 (Figure 42). Like Greenling, the vast majority of Cabezon were landed live (97.7%); with only 2.3% of landings by weight landed fresh (Figure 43). Ex-vessel value for Cabezon rose 5.1% from the 2014 historic low (Figure 44). In 2015, fishers using bottom longline gear to land live Cabezon averaged the greatest pounds per ticket, while those using hook & line gear for fresh fish landed the least pounds per ticket (Figure 45). This is also likely due to live fish being 1.7 times more valuable than fresh fish (Table 10).

### Other Nearshore Species Landings

For the Other Nearshore Species group, Vermilion Rockfish composed the bulk of the landings (81.2%) and total ex-vessel value (69.7%; Figure 46). Vermilion Rockfish were sold mainly to the fresh fish market (85.1%) which accounted for 67.8% of the total ex-vessel value for this species. Hook & line gear accounted for 61.1% of the catch of this species, while bottom longline and all other gear combined composed 38.0% of the pounds landed (Figure 47). The majority of pounds landed occurred in Port Orford at 64.0% (Figure 48). Landings of Other Nearshore Species were consistent throughout the year during all bimonthly periods, however, the largest portion were landed during period 5 (Figure 49). Fresh fish landings composed 73.9% of the market for Other Nearshore Species (Figure 50). Ex-vessel value of Other Nearshore Species dropped 14.9% in 2015 (Figure 51). Fishers using bottom longline gear averaged the most pounds per fish ticket, however, fresh hook & line caught fish composed most of the landings (Figure 52).

### Acknowledgements

We thank Troy Buell for review and thoughtful suggestions for improving this document. Nadine Hurtado ensured all fish ticket landings data were accurate and up-to-date. Port biologists and samplers spent long hours in the field collecting biological samples and logbook pages. In addition, appreciation goes out to all the nearshore fishers for their efforts in the commercial nearshore fishery, and for providing quality logbook data.

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# Tables

**Table 1.** Fish species on Oregon's nearshore species list, including the State management group under which each is managed.

State Management Group	Common Name	Scientific Name
Black Rockfish	Black Rockfish	Sebastes melanops
Blue Rockfish	Blue Rockfish	Sebastes mystinus
	Deacon Rockfish	Sebastes diaconus
Other Nearshore Rockfish	Kelp Rockfish	Sebastes atrovirens
	Brown Rockfish	Sebastes auriculatus
	Gopher Rockfish	Sebastes carnatus
	Copper Rockfish	Sebastes caurinus
	Black & Yellow Rockfish	Sebastes chrysomelas
	Calico Rockfish	Sebastes dallii
	Quillback Rockfish	Sebastes maliger
	China Rockfish	Sebastes nebulosus
	Grass Rockfish	Sebastes rastrelliger
	Olive Rockfish	Sebastes serranoides
	Treefish	Sebastes serriceps
Greenling	Kelp Greenling	Hexagrammos decagrammus
	Rock Greenling	Hexagrammos lagocephalus
	Whitespotted Greenling	Hexagrammos stelleri
	Painted Greenling	Oxylebius pictus
Cabezon	Cabezon	Scorpaenichthys marmoratus
Other Nearshore Species	Buffalo Sculpin	Enophrys bison
	Red Irish Lord	Hemilepidotus hemilepidotus
	Brown Irish Lord	Hemilepidotus spinosus
Federal Shelf Rockfish	Vermilion Rockfish	Sebastes miniatus
	Tiger Rockfish	Sebastes nigrocinctus

		Blue & Other			
Voor	Black	Nearshore Rockfish,	Cabazon	Croopling	Other Nearshore
rear	ROCKHSH	combined	Cabezon	Greening	species
<b>2015</b> <sup>1</sup>	139.2	10.4	30.0	23.4	N/A
	Black & Blue	Other Nearshore			Other Nearshore
Year	Rockfish	Rockfish	Cabezon	Greenling	Species
<b>2014</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	$30.0^{5}$	23.4	N/A
<b>2013</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	$30.0^{5}$	23.4	N/A
<b>2012</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	$30.5^{6}$	23.4	N/A
<b>2011</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	31.3	23.4	N/A
<b>2010</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	31.3	23.4	N/A
<b>2009</b> <sup>2</sup>	141.9 (137.9) <sup>3,4</sup>	14.3	31.3	23.4	N/A
20082,7	$104.6 (100.6)^3$	12.0	31.3	23.4	N/A
2007	$104.6 (100.6)^3$	12.0	31.3	23.4	N/A
2006	$106.5 (102.5)^3$	$13.5^{8}$	31.3	23.4	N/A
2005	$108.7 (104.8)^3$	$13.5^{8}$	31.3	23.4	N/A
2004	$111.9 (108.0)^3$	$16.0^{8}$	31.3	23.4	N/A

**Table 2.** History of State quotas (mt) for management groups. Blue Rockfish was managed by the State with Other Nearshore Rockfish in 2015 but with Black Rockfish prior.

<sup>1</sup> Harvest Guidelines

<sup>2</sup>Landing Caps

<sup>3</sup> values in parentheses are landing caps for Black Rockfish, alone.

<sup>4</sup> harvest cap of 139.2 mt for Black Rockfish, alone.

<sup>5</sup> harvest cap of 30.2 mt.

<sup>6</sup> harvest cap of 30.8 mt.

<sup>7</sup> first year both harvest caps were implemented; prior harvest cap equaled landing cap.

<sup>8</sup> includes Vermilion and Tiger Rockfishes.

Table 3. Bimonthly cumulative period durations.

Duration
January - February
March - April
May - June
July - August
September - October
November - December

Management Group	Period(s)	2015 Outset Limit – lbs (In-season change)
Black Rockfish	1	1,200
	2	1,400
	3	1,700
	4	1,600 ( <i>1,800</i> )
	5	1,400 ( <i>1,600</i> )
	6	1,000 ( <i>1,200</i> )
Blue Rockfish	1 - 4	15
	5 - 6	15 (30)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	1 - 4	100
	5 - 6	100 ( <i>300</i> )
Greenling	1 - 3	300
	4 - 6	300 ( <i>400</i> )
Cabezon	1 - 6	1,500

**Table 4.** Bimonthly limits from commercial nearshore State management groups at the outset of 2015. In-season management changes are depicted in *italics*.

Table 5. Summary of 2015 length samples (in) from the Oregon commercial nearshore fishery.

Species	Sample Size	Mean Length (in)	Range	95% C.I.
Black & Yellow Rockfish	4	13.6	13.0 - 14.2	0.5
Black Rockfish	6,426	15.6	10.2 - 24.0	0.0
Blue Rockfish	272	13.6	8.3 - 18.9	0.2
Buffalo Sculpin	51	10.6	7.9 - 16.1	0.4
Cabezon	606	20.3	13.4 - 27.6	0.2
China Rockfish	475	13.7	11.4 - 17.3	0.1
Copper Rockfish	27	16.6	13.0 - 20.5	0.7
Gopher Rockfish	3	13.9	13.8 - 14.2	0.3
Grass Rockfish	20	15.2	12.2 - 17.7	0.8
Kelp Greenling	1,463	14.3	11.0 - 17.7	0.1
Quillback Rockfish	102	15.8	11.8 - 21.3	0.4
Tiger Rockfish	38	16.2	11.4 - 19.3	0.6
Vermilion Rockfish	72	19.4	14.2 - 24.0	0.5

Species	Sample Size	Mean Weight (lbs)	Range	95% C.I.
Black & Yellow Rockfish	4	2.1	1.8 - 2.3	0.2
Black Rockfish	5,307	2.4	0.6 - 7.8	0.0
Blue Rockfish	260	1.8	0.4 - 3.3	0.1
Buffalo Sculpin	51	1.1	0.5 - 2.8	0.1
Cabezon	606	6.1	2.3 - 17.0	0.2
China Rockfish	475	2.3	1.1 - 4.1	0.0
Copper Rockfish	27	3.9	1.8 - 7.5	0.6
Gopher Rockfish	3	2.4	2.2 - 2.7	0.3
Grass Rockfish	20	2.8	1.5 - 4.6	0.5
Kelp Greenling	1,463	1.7	0.7 - 3.4	0.0
Quillback Rockfish	102	3.3	1.2 - 6.6	0.2
Tiger Rockfish	38	3.3	1.2 - 5.2	0.3
Vermilion Rockfish	72	5.7	2.0 - 9.9	0.4

Table 6. Summary of 2015 weight samples (lbs) from the Oregon commercial nearshore fishery.

Table 7. 2015 logbook program compliance by port group including open access lingcod trip logs.

Port	Days Fished	Days with no Log Submitted	Compliance
Garibaldi group	208	8	96.2%
Pacific City	330	24	92.7%
Newport group	194	15	92.3%
Bandon group	284	79	72.2%
Port Orford	1,103	175	84.1%
Gold Beach	333	20	94.0%
Brookings	430	5	98.8%
Total	2,882	326	88.7%

	Peri	od 1	Perio	od 2	Perio	od 3	Perio	od 4	Perio	od 5	Perio	od 6	Tot	als
Species	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.
Black-and- Yellow RF	4	0	2	0	11	0	4	0	40	0	2	0	63	0
Black RF	32,169	146	43,611	385	65,682	575	53,019	481	32,257	179	12,387	174	239,125	1,940
Blue RF	222	1,713	232	673	224	1,018	199	1,995	935	2,220	1,003	842	2,815	8,461
Bocaccio	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	64	0
Brown RF	0	0	10	0	0	38	0	0	0	28	9	0	19	66
Buffalo Sculpin	0	0	0	0	69	0	43	3	0	1	0	0	112	4
Cabezon	5,145	430	4,298	466	3,929	272	6,178	400	8,544	217	3,980	170	32,074	1,955
Canary RF	0	28	0	28	7	158	0	132	0	226	0	46	7	618
China RF Chinook	1,078	161	630	56	932	68	1,558	184	2,174	142	883	76	7,255	687
Salmon	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	43
Coho Salmon	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Copper RF Giant Pacific	93	2	68	4	122	5	100	0	284	12	87	2	754	25
Octopus	0	0	0	0	790	0	675	0	1,506	0	258	0	3,229	0
Gopher RF	8	0	9	0	4	0	9	4	6	0	4	0	40	4
Grass RF	7	0	30	0	128	1	177	0	19	0	0	0	361	1
Greenlings	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kelp Greenling	5,307	430	5,448	453	4,578	305	4,519	353	4,128	278	2,301	164	26,281	1,983
Lingcod	125	16,591	7,916	9,783	55,644	4,707	39,378	2,971	47,926	4,179	23,173	4,406	174,162	42,637
Longnose Skate	0	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	0
Mackerels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
Pacific Halibut	0	0	0	0	94	40	132	90	0	0	0	0	226	130
Quillback RF	155	11	69	0	170	3	178	49	438	29	168	4	1,178	96
Red Irish Lord	0	5	0	1	0	12	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	25
Rock Greenling	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0

**Table 8.** Summary of commercial nearshore logbook reported retained (Ret.) and released (Rel.) fish (lbs) by species and period. Rockfish is abbreviated in species names as RF.

Table 8. conti	nued														
	Period 1		Perio	d 2	Perio	Period 3		Period 4		Period 5		Period 6		Totals	
Species	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	Ret.	Rel.	
Rosy RF Sculpins	0 0	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\end{array}$	3 0	0 0	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \end{array}$	0 0	0 0	0 15	0 0	3 15	
Tiger RF	8	0	5	0	151	0	73	0	110	3	67	0	414	3	
Vermilion RF	332	0	370	0	480	0	584	15	523	20	221	0	2,510	35	
Widow RF	3	5	0	0	16	0	51	5	7	1	19	0	96	11	
Wolf-Eel	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	
Yelloweye RF	0	0	0	3	0	79	0	74	9	76	0	53	9	285	
Yellowtail RF	61	65	80	92	790	174	1,023	212	581	341	128	223	2,663	1,107	

The Oregon Commercial Nearshore Fishery Summary: 2015

Doriod	Trip	Black	Blue	Other Nearshore	Graanling	Cabazon	Other Nearshore
renou	Count	NOCKIISII	ROCKIISII	NOCKIISII	Greening	Cabezon	species
1	369	36,333	254	1,441	5,689	5,248	369
2	395	47,326	227	907	5,691	4,479	432
3	595	70,700	236	1,611	4,943	4,154	843
4	546	62,402	228	2,618	5,002	7,232	875
5	479	36,208	1,027	3,500	4,619	10,130	1,075
6	213	15,722	782	1,577	2,551	4,829	393
Total	2,597	268,691	2,754	11,654	28,495	36,072	3,987
Attainment	: %	87.6	6	5.0	57.2	56.6	N/A

**Table 9.** Number of trips landing nearshore species, and landings in pounds for State management groups per bimonthly period in 2015. Periods with the highest totals are in *italics*.

**Table 10.** Total pounds landed, total value, and average prices of live and fresh fish by species and State management group in 2015.

Species	Live the	Ereah lba	Live Value	Dead Value	Avg. Live	Avg. Fresh
species	Live ibs	TTESH IDS	(\$)	(\$)	Filee (\$/10)	Filee (\$/10)
Black Rockfish	156,562	112129	372,023.50	197,631.76	2.38	1.76
Blue Rockfish	85	2669	230.00	3,820.46	2.71	1.43
Cabezon	34,713	1359	122,093.75	2,787.08	3.52	2.05
Greenling	28,028	467	127,679.30	510.22	4.56	1.09
Black & Yellow Rockfish	44	8	209.75	12.00	4.77	1.50
Brown Rockfish	19	101	83.25	151.50	4.38	1.50
China Rockfish	7,586	932	51,461.21	1,395.75	6.78	1.50
Copper Rockfish	739	180	3,139.50	301.77	4.25	1.68
Gopher Rockfish	41	6	197.00	10.10	4.80	1.68
Grass Rockfish	334	23	2,338.00	72.00	7.00	3.13
Olive Rockfish	NA	3	NA	2.40	NA	0.80
Quillback Rockfish	1,055	583	5,058.41	849.59	4.79	1.46
Buffalo Sculpin	113	NA	266.50	NA	2.36	NA
Tiger Rockfish	444	199	2,236.25	322.28	5.04	1.62
Vermilion Rockfish	483	2748	2,355.50	4,104.79	4.88	1.49

#### Figures



Figure 1. Black Rockfish bimonthly trip limit history.



Figure 2. Blue Rockfish bimonthly trip limit history.



Other Nearshore Rockfish Bimonthly Trip Limit

#### Figure 3. Other Nearshore Rockfish bimonthly trip limit history.



Figure 4. Greenling bimonthly trip limit history.

3,500

3,000



Figure 5. Cabezon bimonthly trip limit history.



Hook & Line

#### Commercial Nearshore Effort (Trips) by Gear Type

Bottom Longline

All Other Gear

Figure 7. Commercial nearshore fishery effort (day trip) by year and gear type.



Figure 6. 2015 commercial nearshore Black and Blue Rockfish permits.

500,000 - BlackRF BlueRF Cabezon Greenling ONSRF ONSSP

**Commercial Nearshore Landings by Species Group** 

**S** 300,000 200,000 100,000 0 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 **Year** 

Figure 8. Commercial nearshore landings (lbs) by year and management group.

# 2015 Commercial Nearshore Permits by Port Group



The Oregon Commercial Nearshore Fishery Summary: 2015

Figure 9. Commercial nearshore landings ex-vessel value (\$) by year and management group.



Figure 10. Commercial nearshore landings (lbs) by year and gear type.



Commercial Nearshore Landings by Bimonthly Period

Figure 11. Commercial nearshore landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.



#### **Commercial Nearshore Landings by Condition**

Figure 12. Commercial nearshore landings (lbs) by year and market condition for the commercial nearshore fishery.



Figure 13. Commercial nearshore landings (lbs) by year and port group.



**Figure 14.** Mean (average) pounds landed per fish ticket for all nearshore species combined by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.







#### Black Rockfish Landings by Port Group

Figure 16. Black Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and port group.



Figure 17. Black Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.



Figure 18. Black Rockfish landed by year, species and market condition.



Black Rockfish Ex-Vessel Value by Year

Figure 19. Ex-vessel value (\$) of Black Rockfish by year.



Black Rockfish Mean Pounds per Fish Ticket

**Figure 20.** Mean (average) pounds landed per fish ticket for Black Rockfish by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.



Figure 21. Blue and Deacon Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and gear type.



Figure 22. Blue and Deacon Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and port group.



Blue & Deacon Rockfish Landings by Bimonthly Period

Figure 23. Blue and Deacon Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.



Blue & Deacon Rockfish Landings by Condition

Figure 24. Blue and Deacon Rockfish landings by year and condition.



Blue & Deacon Rockfish Ex-Vessel Value by Year

Figure 25. Blue and Deacon Rockfish ex-vessel value.



Figure 26. Mean pounds landed per fish ticket for Blue and Deacon Rockfish by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.



#### Other Nearshore Rockfish (ONSRF) Landings by Species

Figure 27. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and species. Fishes landed in this species group prior to 2008 were unsorted.



#### Other Nearshore Rockfish Landings by Gear Type

Figure 28. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and gear type.



Figure 29. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and port group.



Figure 30. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.



#### Other Nearshore Rockfish Landings by Condition

Figure 31. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings (lbs) by year and market condition.



Other Nearshore Rockfish (ONSRF) Value by Species

Figure 32. Other Nearshore Rockfish landings ex-vessel value (\$) by year and species. Fishes landed in this species group prior to 2008 were unsorted.



Brookings Dort Orf Gold Beach Bandon Port Orford Newport Garibaldi 60.000 Pacific City 50,000 Pounds 40,000 30,000 20,000 10,000 0

Greenling Landings by Port Group

Figure 33. Mean pounds landed per fish ticket for Other Nearshore Rockfish by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.



Figure 34. Greenling landings (lbs) by year and gear type.





Figure 36. Greenling landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.





Figure 37. Greenling landings (lbs) by year and market condition.



**Greenling Mean Pounds per Fish Ticket** 

**Figure 39.** Mean (average) pounds landed per fish ticket Greenling by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.



Cabezon Landings by Gear Type





Figure 38. Greenling landings ex-vesssl value (\$) by year.



Cabezon Landings by Condition



Figure 41. Cabezon landings (lbs) by year and port group.



Figure 42. Cabezon landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.

Figure 43. Cabezon landings (lbs) by year and condition.



#### Cabezon Ex-Vessel Value by Year

Figure 44. Cabezon landings ex-vesssl value (\$) by year.



Figure 45. Mean (average) pounds landed per fish ticket for Cabezon by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.



Figure 46. Other Nearshore Species landings (lbs) by year and species or species group.



Figure 47. Other Nearshore Species landings (lbs) by year and gear type.



Other Nearshore Species Landings by Port Group

Figure 48. Other Nearshore Species landings by port group.



Figure 49. Other Nearshore Species landings (lbs) by year and bimonthly period.



Figure 50. Other Nearshore Species landings (lbs) by year and condition.



Figure 51. Ex-vessel value of Other Nearshore Species.



#### Other Nearshore Species: Mean Pounds per Fish Ticket

**Figure 52.** Mean (average) pounds landed per fish ticket for Other Nearshore Species by year, gear type and market condition. The area of each bubble is weighted by the percentage of pounds landed by each sector.

# Appendices

**Appendix A.** History of cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs) set by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and implemented by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for the commercial nearshore fishery. Season outset limits set for each period are in normal text without parentheses. In-season changes effective for each period are dated with amended limits in parentheses. Dates with multiple increases listed on a single day indicate the bimonthly limit was increased multiple times throughout the year with the same effective date. A dash indicates no change. RF = Rockfish.

**Table A1.** 2015 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs). Blue Rockfish had a separate trip limit beginning this year (see the Fishery Management and Harvest Specifications section).

Period	Black RF	Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	1,200	15	100	1,500	300
Period 2	1,400	15	100	1,500	300
Period 3	1,700	15	100	1,500	300
Period 4	1,600	15	100	1,500	300
July 5	(1,800)	-	-	-	(400)
Period 5	1,400	15	100	1,500	300
Sept 1	(1,600)	(50)	(300)	-	(400)
Period 6	1,000	15	100	1,500	300
Nov 1	(1,200)	(50)	(300)	-	(400)

Table A2. 2014 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	1,000	700	1,500	300
Period 2	1,400	100	1,500	300
Period 3	1,700	100	1,500	300
Period 4	1,600	100	1,500	300
Period 5	1,400	100	1,500	300
Oct 13	(1,600)	(300)	-	(350)
Period 6	1,000	100	1,500	300
Nov 1	(1,200)	(300)	-	(350)

Table A3. 2013 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	1,000	700	1,500	300
Period 2	1,200	700	1,500	300
Period 3	1,700	700	1,500	300
Period 4	1,600	700	1,500	300
Period 5	1,200	700	1,500	300
Sept 1	(2,100)	-	(2,000)	-
Period 6	1,000	700	1,500	300
Nov 1	(1,800)	-	(2,000)	-

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	800	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 3	1,400	700	1,500	300
June 1	(1,800)	-	-	-
Period 4	1,400	700	1,500	250
July 1	(1,800)	-	-	-
Period 5	1,000	700	1,500	250
Sept 1	-	-	-	(400)
Sept 11	(2,100)	-	-	-
Period 6	800	700	1,500	250
Nov 1	(2,100)	-	(100)	(400)

Table A4. 2012 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Table A5. 2011 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	800	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 3	1,400	700	1,500	250
Period 4	1,400	700	1,500	250
July 5	(1,600)	-	-	-
Period 5	1,000	700	1,500	250
Sept 1	(1,200)	-	-	-
Sept 15	(1,400)	-	-	-
Period 6	800	700	1,500	250
Nov 1	(1,000)	-	-	-
Nov 11	(1,200)	-	-	-

Table A6. 2010	cumulative	bimonthly	period	trip	limits	(lbs).
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Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	800	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 3	1,400	700	1,500	250
Period 4	1,400	700	1,500	250
Aug 1	(1,600)	-	-	(300)
Period 5	1,000	700	1,500	250
Sept 1	(1,200)	-	(1,600)	(300)
Oct 15	(1,400)	-	(Closed)	(350)
Period 6	800	700	1,500	250
Nov 1	-	-	(1,600)	-
Nov 1	(1,200)	-	(100)	(350)

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	800	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Mar 1	-	-	-	(250)
Period 3	1,600	700	2,500	450
May 1	-	-	-	(250)
Period 4	1,600	700	2,500	450
July 1	-	-	-	(250)
July 1	-	-	(1,250)	(150)
Period 5	1,200	700	2,500	450
Oct 1	-	-	(1,250)	(250)
Oct 10	(15 per day/1,200 per month	-	(Closed)	(150)
Period 6	1,000	700	2,500	450
Nov 1	-	-	-	(250)
Nov 1	(15 per day/400 per month)	-	(Closed)	(150)

Table A7. 2009 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Table A8. 2008 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	600	700	2,500	450
Period 2	800	700	2,500	450
Period 3	1,600	700	2,500	450
Period 4	1,600	700	2,500	450
July 1	(1,200)	-	-	-
Period 5	1,600	700	2,500	450
Oct 1	(1,000)	-	-	-
Oct 2	(15 per day/1,200 per month)	-	-	-
Period 6	800	700	2,500	450
Nov 1	(15 per day/400 per month)	-	-	-

Table A9. 2007	' cumulative	bimonthly	period	trip limits	(lbs).
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Period	Black & BlueRF	Other Nearshore RF	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	600	600	2,000	400
Period 2	800	600	2,000	400
Period 3	1,600	600	2,000	400
Period 4	1,600	600	2,000	400
Period 5	1,600	600	2,000	400
Sept 1	(2,000)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
Period 6	800	600	2,000	400
Nov 1	(15 per day/400 per month)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
Nov 28	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)

Period	Black & BlueRF	Other Nearshore RF <sup>1</sup>	Cabezon	Greenling
January	600	600	2,000	400
February	800	600	2,000	400
March	1,600	600	2,000	400
April	1,600	600	2,000	400
May	1,600	600	2,000	400
June	(2,000)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
July	800	600	2,000	400
Nov 1	(15 per day/400 per month)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
August	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)
Aug 1	(15 per day/400 per month)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
Aug 11	(15 per day/400 per month)	(700)	(4,000)	(800)
Sept	1,600	600	2,000	400
Sept 1	1,600	600	2,000	400
Sept 1	1,600	600	2,000	400
October	1,600	600	2,000	400
Oct 1	1,600	600	2,000	400
Oct 1	1,600	600	2,000	400
November	1,600	600	2,000	400
Nov 1	1,600	600	2,000	400
December	1,600	600	2,000	400
Dec 1	1,600	600	2,000	400

Table A10.	2006	cumulative	monthly	period	trip	limits (	(lbs)	
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<sup>1</sup> - sub-limit of Black & Blue RF; included Vermilion and Tiger RF

Table A11.	2005	cumulative	bimonthly	period	trip	limits	(lbs).
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Period	Black & Blue Rockfish	Other Nearshore Rockfish <sup>1</sup>	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 3	1,500	700	2,500	450
May 1	-	-	-	(250)
Period 4	1,500	700	2,500	450
Aug 1	-	-	-	(250)
Aug 4	(700)	-	(1,250)	(150)
Period 5	800	700	2,500	450
Oct 1	-	(325)	-	(225)
Oct 1	(700)	-	-	(175)
Oct 11	(500	(400)	-	-
Period 6	500	450	2,000	350
Dec 1	-	(400)	-	(175)
Dec 1	-	-	-	(275)

<sup>1</sup> - sub-limit of Black & Blue RF; included Vermilion and Tiger RF

Period	Black & Blue RF	Other Nearshore RF <sup>1</sup>	Cabezon	Greenling
Period 1	800	700	1,500	250
Period 2	1,000	700	1,500	250
Period 3	1,400	700	1,500	250
Period 4	1,400	700	1,500	250
July 5	(1,600)	-	-	-
Period 5	1,000	700	1,500	250
Sept 1	(1,200)	-	-	-
Sept 15	(1,400)	-	-	-
Period 6	800	700	1,500	250
Nov 1	(1,000)	-	-	-
Nov 11	(1,200)	-	-	-

Table A12. 2004 cumulative bimonthly period trip limits (lbs).

<sup>1</sup> - sub-limit of Black & Blue RF; included Vermilion and Tiger RF

















Appendix C. 2015 nearshore species commercial length and weight sample means by port with sample sizes and 95% confidence intervals.







Port Group





Appendix D. 2015 nearshore species commercial length and weight sample means by gear type with sample sizes (top) and 95% confidence intervals.



78 11 13 78 11 13 17 Mean Weight (lb) Mean Length (in) 16 15 2.5 14 Hook & Line Longline Hook & Line Longline All Other All Other Gear Gear



2015 Kelp Greenling commercial length samples by gear

2015 Kelp Greenling commercial weight samples by gear





2015 Vermilion Rockfish commercial length samples by gear

2015 Vermilion Rockfish commercial weight samples by gear



