

*Open access fishery* means the fishery composed of vessels using open access gear fished pursuant to the harvest guidelines, quotas, and other management measures governing the open access fishery. Any commercial fishing vessel that does not have a limited entry permit and which lands groundfish in the course of commercial fishing is a participant in the open access fishery.

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*Trawl fishing line* means a length of chain or wire rope in the bottom front end of a trawl net to which the webbing or lead ropes are attached.

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*Trip limit* means the total amount of a groundfish species or species complex by weight, or by percentage of weight of fish on board the vessel, that may legally be taken and retained, possessed, or landed per vessel from a single fishing trip.

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3. In § 660.304, the section heading, the heading of paragraph (a), and paragraphs (b) through (d) are revised to read as follows:

**§ 660.304 Management areas, including conservation areas, and commonly used geographic coordinates.**

(a) *Management areas.* \* \* \*

(b) *Commonly used geographic coordinates.*

(1) Cape Falcon, OR—45°46' N. lat.

(2) Cape Lookout, OR—45°20'15" N. lat.

(3) Cape Blanco, OR—42°50' N. lat.

(4) Cape Mendocino, CA—40°30' N. lat.

(5) North/South management line—40°10' N. lat.

(6) Point Arena, CA—38°57'30" N. lat.

(7) Point Conception, CA—34°27' N. lat.

(c) *Cowcod Conservation Areas (CCAs).*

(1) The Western CCA is an area south of Point Conception that is bound by straight lines connecting all of the following points in the order listed:

33°50' N. lat., 119°30' W. long.;

33°50' N. lat., 118°50' W. long.;

32°20' N. lat., 118°50' W. long.;

32°20' N. lat., 119°37' W. long.;

33°00' N. lat., 119°37' W. long.;

33°00' N. lat., 119°53' W. long.;

33°33' N. lat., 119°53' W. long.;

33°33' N. lat., 119°30' W. long.;

and connecting back to 33°50' N. lat., 119°30' W. long.

(2) The Eastern CCA is a smaller area west of San Diego that is bound by straight lines connecting all of the following points in the order listed:

32°42' N. lat., 118°02' W. long.;

32°42' N. lat., 117°50' W. long.;

32°36'42" N. lat., 117°50' W. long.;

32°30' N. lat., 117°53'30" W. long.;

32°30' N. lat., 118°02' W. long.;

and connecting back to 32°42' N. lat., 118°02' W. long.

(d) *Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area (YRCA).* The YRCA is an C-shaped area off the northern Washington coast that is bound by straight lines connecting all of the following points in the order listed:

48°18' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.;

48°18' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;

48°11' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;

48°11' N. lat.; 125°11' W. long.;

48°04' N. lat.; 125°11' W. long.;

48°04' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;

48°00' N. lat.; 124°59' W. long.;

48°00' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.;

and connecting back to 48°18' N. lat.; 125°18' W. long.

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4. In § 660.322, revise paragraph (b)(5) and add a new paragraph (b)(6) to read as follows:

**§ 660.322 Gear restrictions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) *Trawl gear* \* \* \*

(5) *Large and small footrope trawl gear.* Large footrope trawl gear is bottom trawl gear, as specified at § 660.302, with a footrope diameter larger than 8 inches (20 cm) (including rollers, bobbins or other material encircling or tied along the length of the footrope). Small footrope trawl gear is bottom trawl gear, as specified at § 660.302 and 660.322(b), with a footrope diameter 8 inches (20 cm) or smaller (including rollers, bobbins or other material encircling or tied along the length of the footrope). Chafing gear may be used only on the last 50 meshes of a small footrope trawl, measured from the terminal (closed) end of the coded. Other lines or ropes that run parallel to the footrope may not be augmented or modified to violate footrope size restrictions. For enforcement purposes, the footrope will be measured in a straight line from the outside edge to the opposite outside edge at the widest part on any individual part, including any individual disk, roller, bobbin, or any other device.

(6) *Pelagic or "midwater" trawls.*

Pelagic trawl nets must have unprotected footropes at the trawl mouth, and must not have rollers, bobbins, tires, wheels, rubber discs, or any similar device anywhere in the net. The footrope of pelagic gear may not be enlarged by encircling it with chains or by any other means. Ropes or lines running parallel to the footrope of pelagic trawl gear must be bare and may not be suspended with chains or any

other materials. Sweepings, including the bottom leg of the bridle, must be bare. For at least 20 ft (6.15 m) immediately behind the footrope or headrope, bare ropes or mesh of 16-inch (40.6-cm) minimum mesh size must completely encircle the net. A band of mesh (a "skirt") may encircle the net under transfer cables, lifting or splitting straps (chokers), but must be: Over riblines and restraining straps; the same mesh size and coincide knot-to-knot with the net to which it is attached; and no wider than 16 meshes.

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5. In § 660.323, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

**§ 660.323 Catch restrictions.**

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(b) *Routine management measures.* In addition to the catch restrictions in this section, other catch restrictions that are likely to be adjusted on an annual or more frequent basis may be imposed and announced by a single notification in the Federal Register if they have been designated as routine through the two-meeting process described in the FMP. The following catch restrictions have been designated as routine:

(1) *Commercial limited entry and open access fisheries*—(i) *Trip landing and frequency limits, size limits, all gear.* Trip landing and frequency limits have been designated as routine for the following species or species groups: widow rockfish, canary rockfish, yellowtail rockfish, Pacific ocean perch, yelloweye rockfish, splitnose rockfish, bocaccio, cowcod, minor nearshore rockfish or shallow and deeper minor nearshore rockfish, shelf or minor shelf rockfish, and minor slope rockfish; Dover sole, sablefish, shortspine thornyheads, longspine thornyheads, and the "DTS complex," which is composed of those species; petrale sole, rex sole, arrowtooth flounder, Pacific sanddabs, and the flatfish complex, which is composed of those species plus any other flatfish species listed at § 660.302; Pacific whiting; lingcod; and "other fish" as a complex consisting of all groundfish species listed at § 660.302 and not otherwise listed as a distinct species or species group. Size limits have been designated as routine for sablefish and lingcod. Trip landing and frequency limits and size limits for species with those limits designated as routine may be imposed or adjusted on an annual or more frequent basis for the purpose of keeping landings within the harvest levels announced by NMFS, and for the other purposes given in paragraph (b)(1)(i)(A) and (B) of this section.