

proxy harvest rate of 45%. In estimating the current biomass, NMFS used a medium level recruitment assumption of a recent (1999) large year class. The U.S. ABC of 188,000 mt is 80 percent of the coastwide ABC. The U.S. whiting OY is 148,200 mt which is 80 percent of the coastwide OY (185,325 mt) and is based on the application of the 40-10 harvest rate policy. The total catch OY is further reduced by 25,000 mt for the tribal allocation, 200 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, and 1,800 mt for the estimated catch in non-groundfish fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 121,200 mt. The commercial OY is allocated between the sectors with 42 percent (50,904 mt) going to the shore-based sector, 34 percent (41,208 mt) going to the catcher/processor sector, and 24 percent (29,088 mt) going to the mothership sector. Discards of whiting are estimated from the observer data and counted towards the OY inseason.

e/ Sablefish north of 36° N. lat. - NMFS did a new sablefish assessment in 2001 for the area north of Point Conception (34°27'N lat.) and updated it for 2002. Following the assessment update, sablefish north of 34°27'N lat. was believed to be between 31 percent and 38 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC for the surveyed area (8,459 mt) is based on environmentally driven projections with the Fmsy proxy of F45%. The ABC for the management area north of 36° N. lat. is 8,209 mt (97.04 percent of the ABC from the surveyed area). The total catch OY for the area north of 36° N. lat. is 6,500 mt and is 97.04 percent of the OY from the surveyed area with a risk averse precautionary adjustment. The total catch OY is reduced by 10 percent (650 mt) for the tribal set aside, by 11.1 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, 53.0 mt for the amount estimated to be taken as research catch, and 18.5 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in non-groundfish fisheries. The remainder (5,767 mt) is the commercial total catch OY. The open access allocation is 9.4 percent of the commercial OY, resulting in an open access total catch OY of 542 mt. The limited entry total catch OY is 5,225 mt. The limited entry total catch OY is further divided with 58 percent (3,031 mt) allocated to the trawl fishery and 42 percent (2,194 mt) allocated to the non-trawl fishery. To provide for bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery 15 mt of the limited entry trawl allocation will be set aside. Discard rates will be applied as follows: 21 percent for limited entry trawl, 8 percent for limited entry fixed gear and open access, and 3 percent for the tribal fisheries. Landed catch OYs are 2,364 mt for limited entry trawl, excluding the at-sea whiting fishery, 2,019 mt for limited entry fixed gear, 499 mt for open access, and 631 mt for the tribal fisheries.

f/ Sablefish south of 36° N. lat. - The ABC of 441 mt is the sum of 250 mt (2.96 percent of the ABC from the 2002 survey based assessment update) and 191 mt (based on historical landings). The total catch OY (294 mt) is the sum of 198 mt (2.96 percent of the OY from the 2002 update of the survey based assessment with a risk averse precautionary adjustment) and 96 mt (that portion of the ABC based on historical landings which was reduced by 50 percent to address uncertainty, due to limited information). There are no limited entry or open access allocations in the Conception area at this time. The assumed discard value is 8 percent, resulting in a landed catch value of 271 mt.

g/ Dover sole north of 34°27'N lat. was assessed in 2001 and was believed to be at 29 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC (8,510 mt) is based on an Fmsy proxy of F40%. Because the biomass is estimated to be in the precautionary zone, the total catch OY of 7,440 mt is based on the application of the 40-10 harvest rate policy. The OY is reduced by 62.4 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, 58 mt for the amount estimated to be taken as research catch, and 2 mt for estimated catch in non-groundfish fisheries resulting in commercial OY of 7,318 mt. Discards are assumed to be 5 percent, resulting in a landed catch OY of 7,006 mt.

h/ Petrale Sole was believed to be at 42 percent of its unfished biomass following a 1999 assessment. For 2002, the ABC for the Vancouver-Columbia area (1,262 mt) is based on a F40% Fmsy proxy. The ABCs for the Eureka, Monterey, and Conception areas (1,500 mt) continue at the same level as 2001.

i/ Other flatfish are those species that do not have individual ABC/OYs and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sand dab, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole, and starry flounder. The ABC is based on historical catch levels.

j/ Pacific ocean perch (POP) was declared overfished on March 3, 1999. The ABC (689 mt) was projected from the 2000 assessment which was updated for 2001 and is based on an Fmsy proxy of F50%. The OY (377 mt) is based on a 70 percent probability of