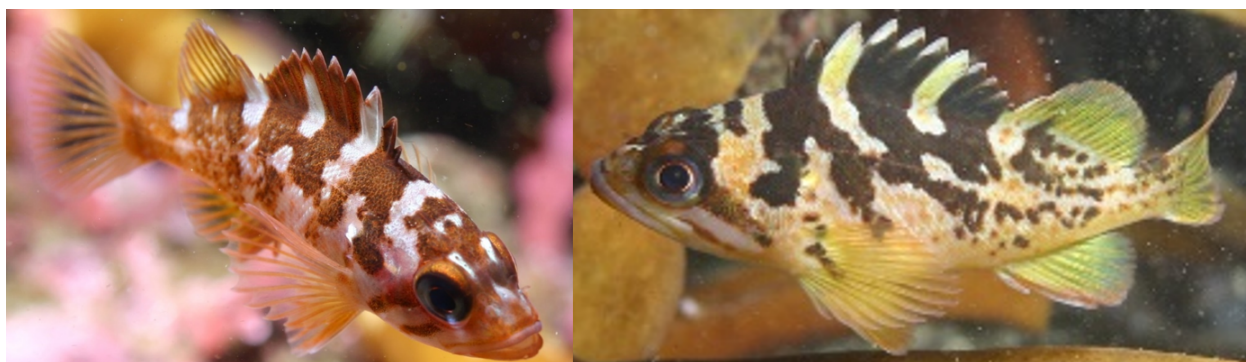# The Combined Status of Gopher (*Sebastes carnatus*) and Black-and-Yellow Rockfishes (*Sebastes chrysomelas*) in U.S. Waters Off California in 2019

Gopher rockfish (left) and black-and-yellow rockfish (right). Photos by Steve Lonhart.

Melissa H. Monk[1]

Xi He[1]

[1]Southwest Fisheries Science Center, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, 110 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, California 95060

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The Combined Status of Gopher (*Sebastes carnatus*) and Black-and-Yellow Rockfishes (*Sebastes chrysomelas*) in U.S. Waters Off California in 2019

Contents

Executive Summary

Stock

This assessment reports the status of the GBYR (*Sebastes carnatus/Sebastes chrysomelas*) resource in U.S. waters off the coast of ... using data through 2018.

Catches

Information on historical landings of GBYR are available back to xxxx... (Table a). Commercial landings were small during the years of World War II, ranging between 4 to 28 metric tons (mt) per year.

(Figures a-b)
(Figure c)

Since 2000, annual total landings of GBYR have ranged between 70-168 mt, with landings in 2018 totaling 91 mt.
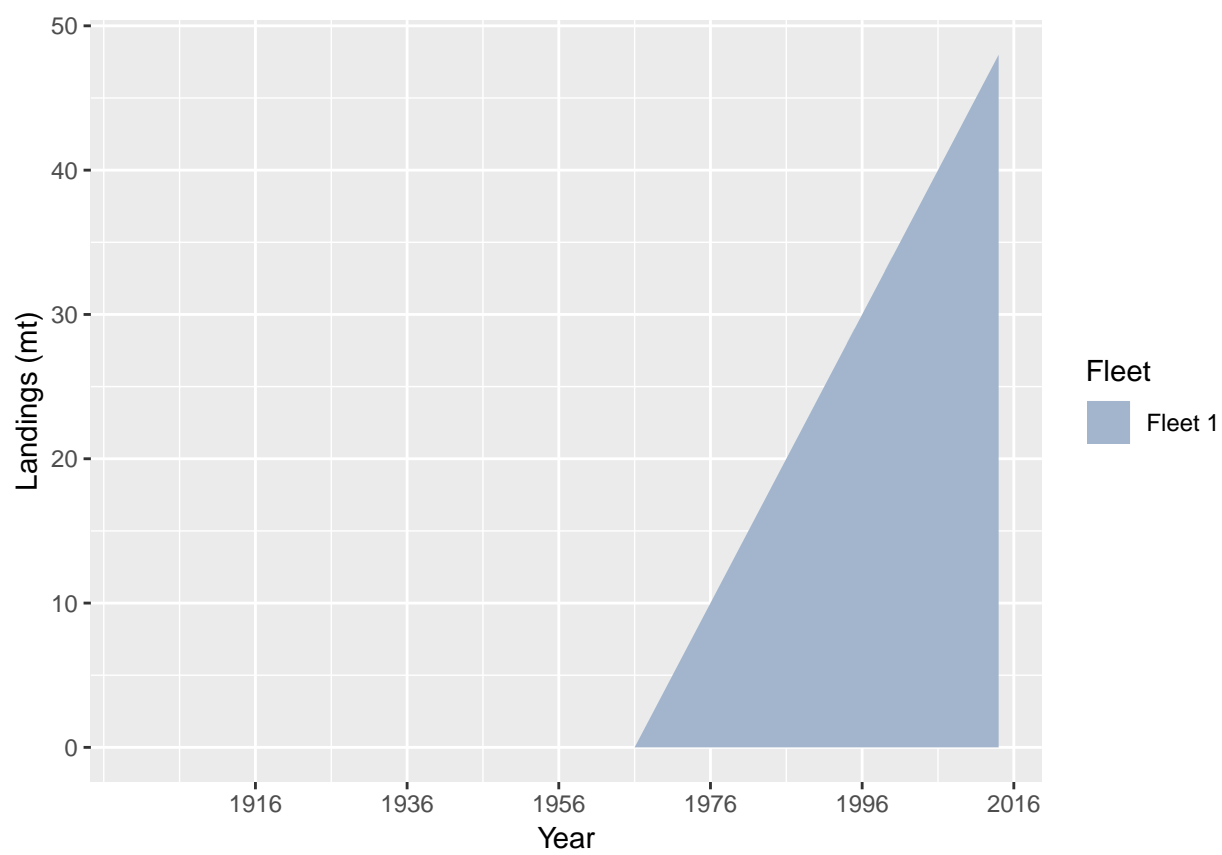
Figure a: GBYR catch history for the recreational fleets. `fig:Exec_catch1`
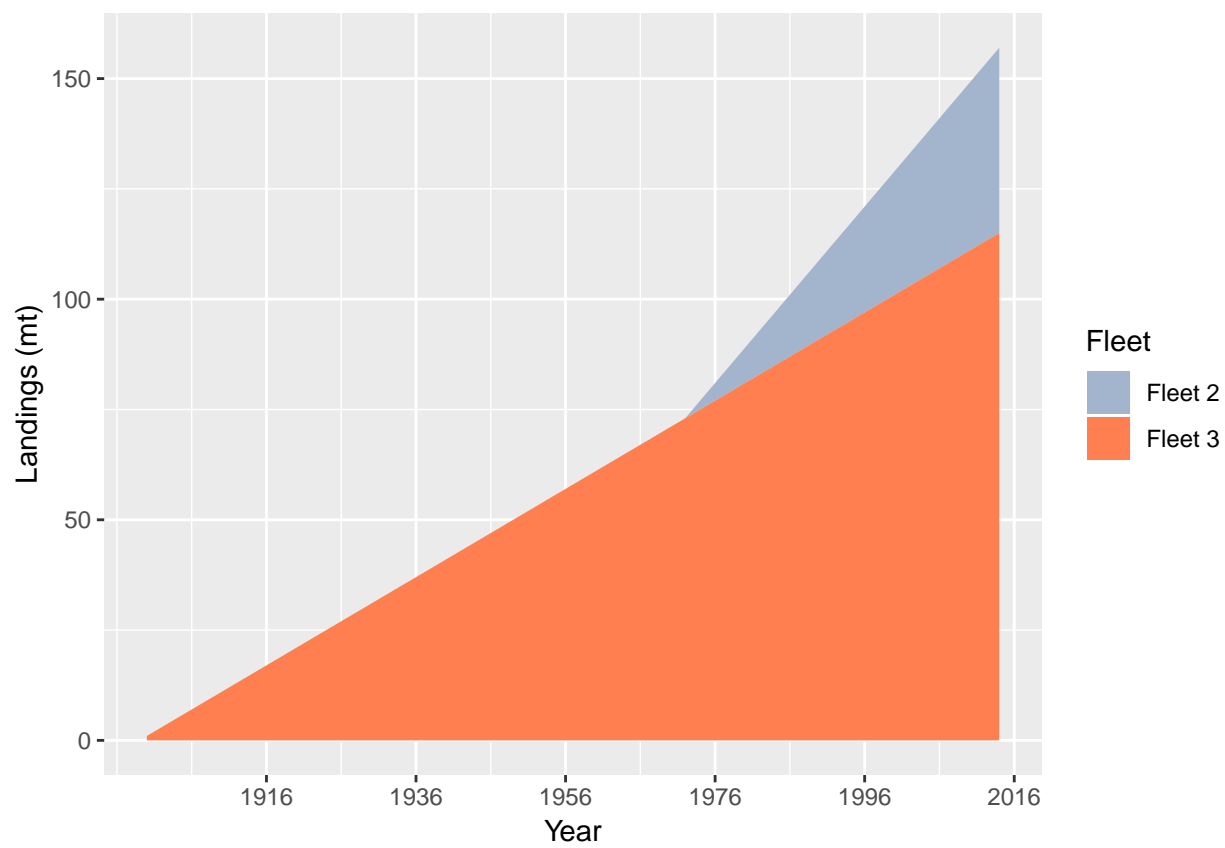
Figure b: Stacked line plot of GBYR catch history for the commercial fleets. `fig:Exec_catch2`

Table a: Recent GBYR landings (mt) by fleet.

Year	Landings 1	Landings 2	Landings 3	Landings 4	Landings 5	Total
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-
2006	-	-	-	-	-	-
2007	-	-	-	-	-	-
2008	-	-	-	-	-	-
2009	-	-	-	-	-	-
2010	-	-	-	-	-	-
2011	-	-	-	-	-	-
2012	-	-	-	-	-	-
2013	-	-	-	-	-	-
2014	-	-	-	-	-	-

tab:Exec_catch

Figure c: Catch history of GBYR in the model. fig:r4ss_catches

Data and Assessment

This a new full assessment for GBYR, which was last assessed in ... using Stock Synthesis Version xx. This assessment uses the newest version of Stock Synthesis (3.30.xx). The model begins in 1916, and assumes the stock was at an unfished equilibrium that year.

(Figure d).
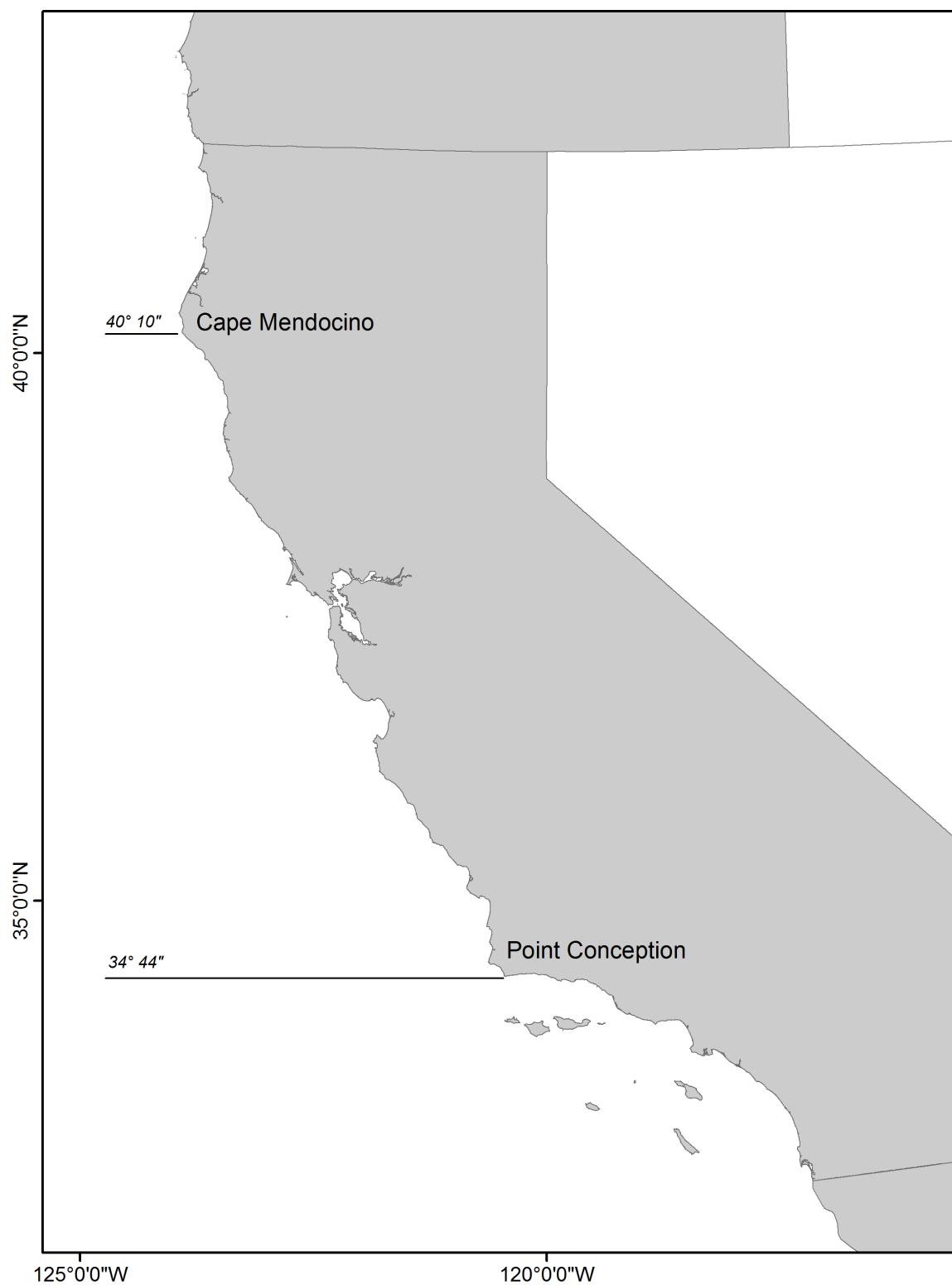
Figure d: Map depicting the core distribution of gopher and black-and-yellow rockfishes. The stock assessment is bounded at Cape Mendocino in the north to the U.S./Mexico border in the south. fig:assess_region_map

Stock Biomass

(Figure e and Table b).

The 2018 estimated spawning biomass relative to unfished equilibrium spawning biomass is above the target of 40% of unfished spawning biomass at 45.2% (95% asymptotic interval: ± 23.4%-67.0%) (Figure f). Approximate confidence intervals based on the asymptotic variance estimates show that the uncertainty in the estimated spawning biomass is high.

Table b: Recent trend in beginning of the year spawning output and depletion for the model for GBYR.

Year	Spawning Output (million eggs)	˜ 95% confidence interval	Estimated depletion	˜ 95% confidence interval
2010	877.448	(549.98-1204.92)	0.633	(0.457-0.81)
2011	804.627	(496.68-1112.57)	0.581	(0.416-0.745)
2012	744.862	(454.06-1035.67)	0.538	(0.384-0.691)
2013	711.832	(434.03-989.64)	0.514	(0.369-0.658)
2014	688.204	(419.66-956.74)	0.497	(0.359-0.635)
2015	658.051	(395.31-920.79)	0.475	(0.341-0.609)
2016	633.608	(372.02-895.2)	0.457	(0.324-0.591)
2017	615.664	(350.91-880.42)	0.444	(0.308-0.58)
2018	610.721	(337.68-883.76)	0.441	(0.299-0.582)
2019	625.830	(332.24-919.42)	0.452	(0.234-0.67)

Spawning output with ~95% asymptotic intervals
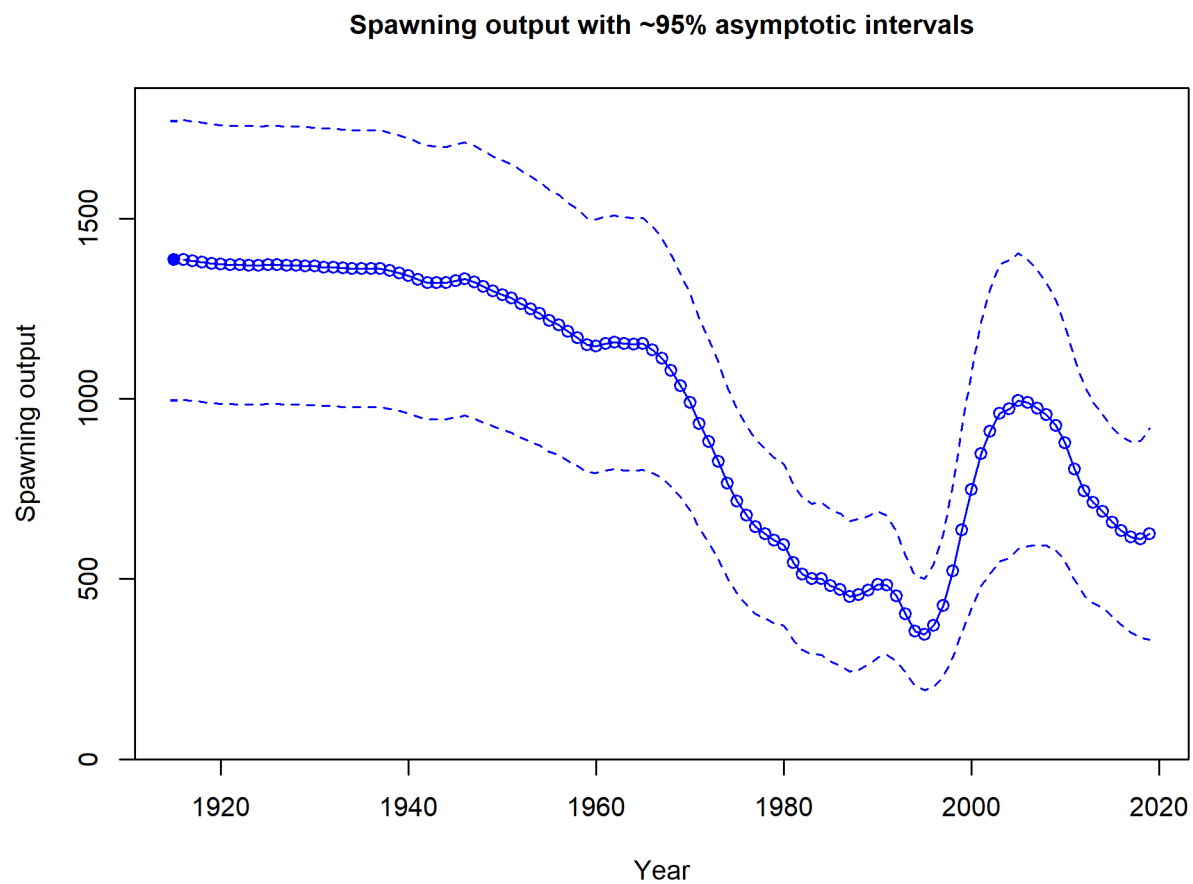
Figure e: Time series of spawning biomass trajectory (circles and line: median; light broken lines: 95% credibility intervals) for the base case assessment model. fig:Spawnbio_all

%unfished with ~95% asymptotic intervals
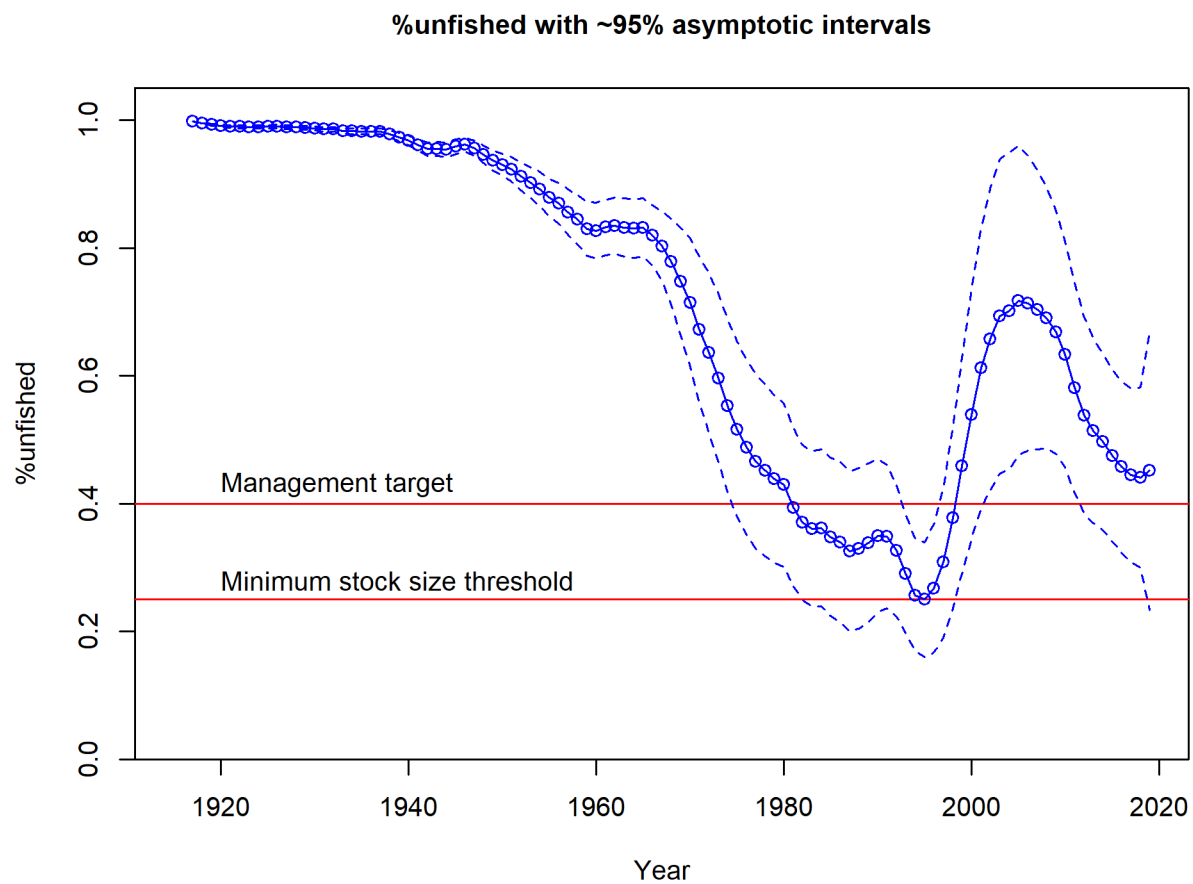
Figure f: Estimated percent depletion with approximate 95% asymptotic confidence intervals (dashed lines) for the base case assessment model. fig:RelDeplete_all

112 Recruitment

113 Recruitment deviations were estimated from xxxx-xxxx (Figure g and Table c).

Table c: Recent recruitment for the model.

Year	Estimated Recruitment (1,000s)	~ 95% confidence interval
2010	3817.00	(1496.08 - 9738.44)
2011	3563.74	(1357.75 - 9353.86)
2012	3610.02	(1346.49 - 9678.7)
2013	4354.96	(1619.5 - 11710.84)
2014	6350.74	(2368.03 - 17031.84)
2015	8323.36	(3082.27 - 22476.39)
2016	7554.20	(2744.73 - 20791.09)
2017	5962.99	(2111.17 - 16842.47)
2018	4790.15	(1661.06 - 13813.81)
2019	4789.48	(1610.44 - 14244.05)

Age-0 recruits (1,000s) with ~95% asymptotic intervals
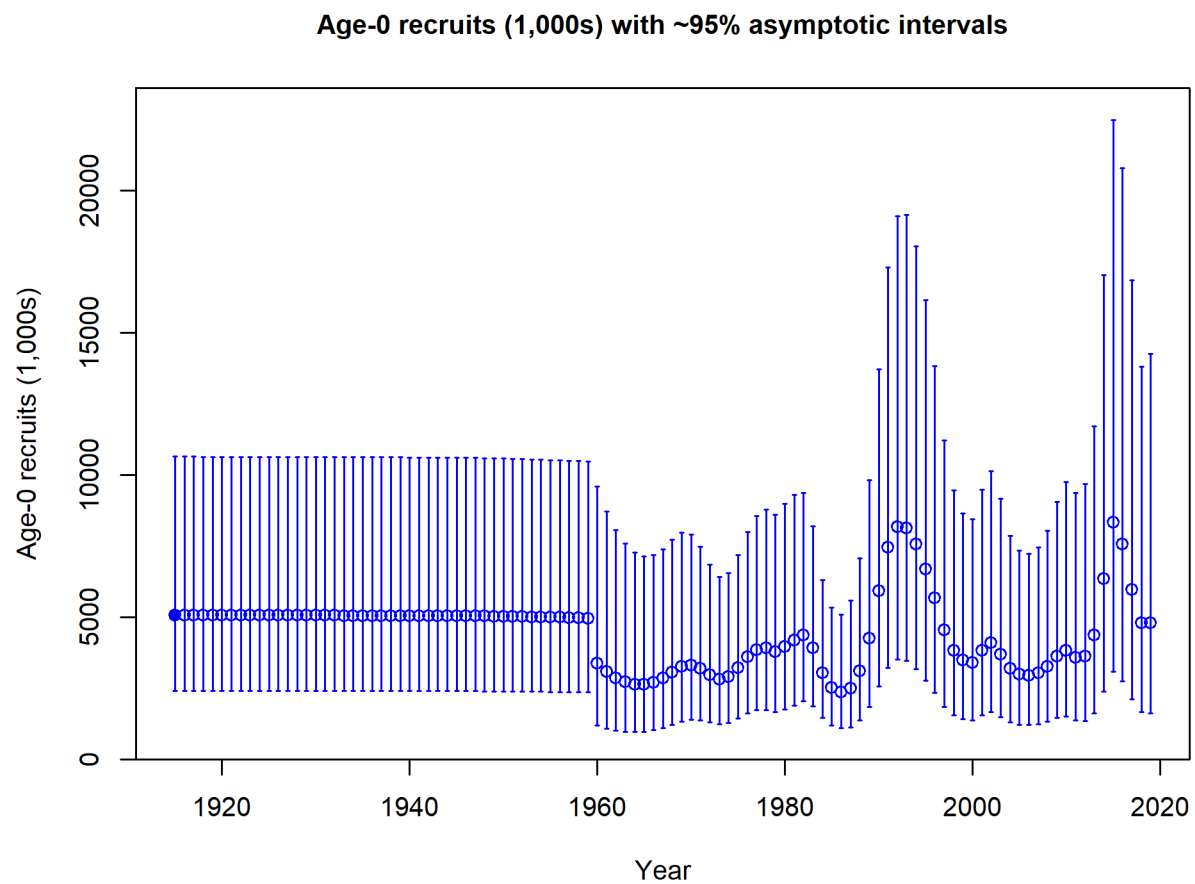
Figure g: Time series of estimated GBYR recruitments for the base-case model with 95% confidence or credibility intervals. fig:Recruits_all

Exploitation status

Harvest rates estimated by the base model ..... management target levels (Table d and Figure h).

Table d: Recent trend in spawning potential ratio and exploitation for GBYR in the model. Fishing intensity is (1-SPR) divided by 50% (the SPR target) and exploitation is F divided by F_{SPR}.

tab:SPR_Exploit_mod1

Year	Fishing intensity	˜ 95% confidence interval	Exploitation rate	˜ 95% confidence interval
2009	0.60	(0.37-0.82)	0.07	(0.05-0.1)
2010	0.74	(0.49-0.98)	0.11	(0.07-0.15)
2011	0.73	(0.48-0.98)	0.10	(0.06-0.14)
2012	0.62	(0.39-0.86)	0.07	(0.05-0.1)
2013	0.60	(0.37-0.83)	0.07	(0.04-0.09)
2014	0.70	(0.45-0.95)	0.09	(0.05-0.12)
2015	0.73	(0.48-0.99)	0.09	(0.05-0.13)
2016	0.77	(0.5-1.03)	0.09	(0.05-0.13)
2017	0.76	(0.49-1.03)	0.08	(0.04-0.12)
2018	0.72	(0.45-0.98)	0.07	(0.03-0.1)
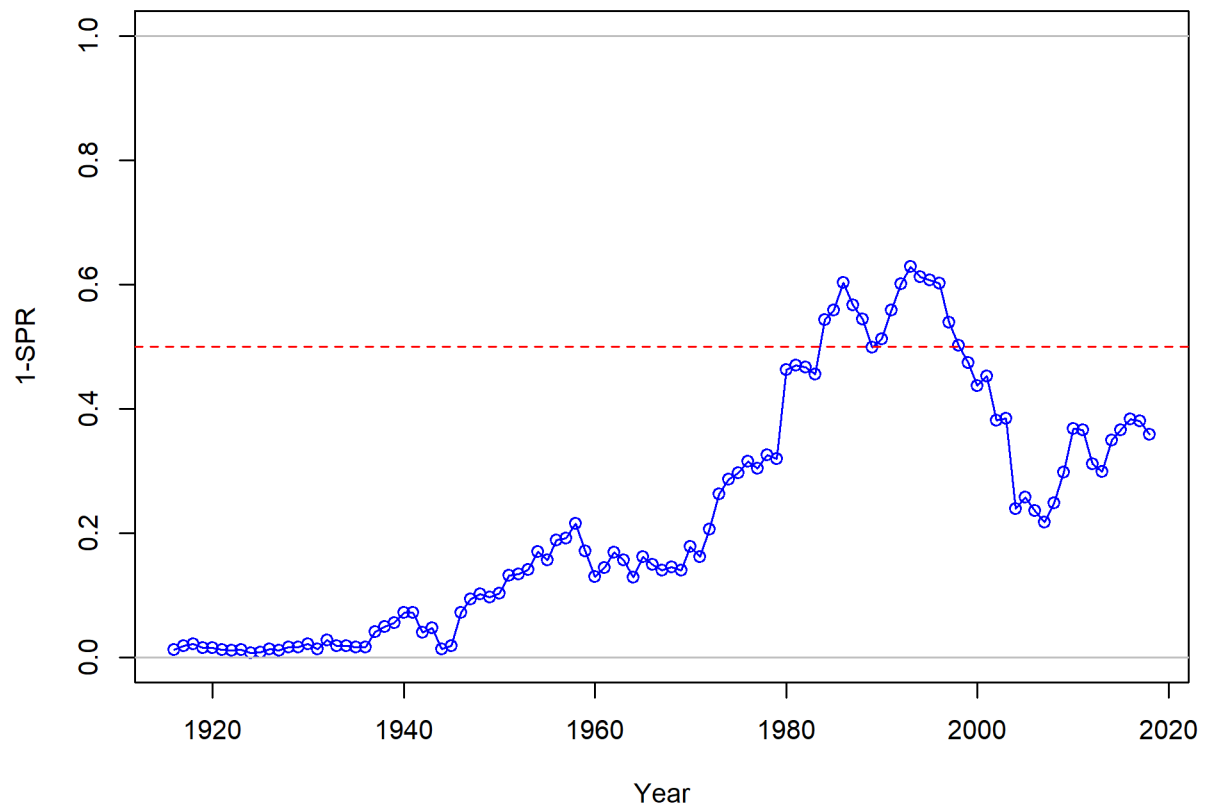
Figure h: Estimated spawning potential ratio (SPR) for the base-case model. One minus SPR is plotted so that higher exploitation rates occur on the upper portion of the y-axis. The management target is plotted as a red horizontal line and values above this reflect harvests in excess of the overfishing proxy based on the $SPR_{50\%}$ harvest rate. The last year in the time series is 2018.

fig:SPR_all

Ecosystem Considerations

In this assessment, ecosystem considerations were not explicitly included in the analysis. This is primarily due to a lack of relevant data and results of analyses (conducted elsewhere) that could contribute ecosystem-related quantitative information for the assessment.

Reference Points

This stock assessment estimates that GBYR in the model is above the biomass target ($SB_{40\%}$), and well above the minimum stock size threshold ($SB_{25\%}$). The estimated relative depletion level for the base model in 2019 is 45.2% (95% asymptotic interval: $\pm$ 23.4%-67.0%, corresponding to an unfished spawning biomass of 625.83 million eggs (95% asymptotic interval: 332.24-919.42 million eggs) of spawning biomass in the base model (Table e). Unfished age 1+ biomass was estimated to be 2,206 mt in the base case model. The target spawning biomass ($SB_{40\%}$) is 554 million eggs, which corresponds with an equilibrium yield of 181 mt. Equilibrium yield at the proxy F_{MSY} harvest rate corresponding to $SPR_{50\%}$ is 169 mt (Figure i).

Table e: Summary of reference points and management quantities for the base case model.

Quantity	Estimate	Low 2.5% limit	High 2.5% limit
Unfished spawning output (million eggs)	1,386	997	1,774
Unfished age 1+ biomass (mt)	2,206	1,701	2,710
Unfished recruitment (R_0)	5,057	1,156	8,958
Spawning output(2018 million eggs)	611	338	884
Depletion (2018)	0.441	0.299	0.582
Reference points based on SB$_{40\%}$			
Proxy spawning output ($B_{40\%}$)	554	449	659
SPR resulting in $B_{40\%}$ ($SPR_{B40\%}$)	0.458	0.458	0.458
Exploitation rate resulting in $B_{40\%}$	0.151	0.109	0.194
Yield with $SPR_{B40\%}$ at $B_{40\%}$ (mt)	181	110	252
Reference points based on SPR proxy for MSY			
Spawning output	618	501	735
SPR_{proxy}	0.5		
Exploitation rate corresponding to SPR_{proxy}	0.132	0.095	0.169
Yield with SPR_{proxy} at SB_{SPR} (mt)	169	104	235
Reference points based on estimated MSY values			
Spawning output at MSY (SB_{MSY})	298	239	357
SPR_{MSY}	0.291	0.282	0.3
Exploitation rate at MSY	0.262	0.18	0.344
Dead Catch MSY (mt)	209	123	296
Retained Catch MSY (mt)	209	123	296

131 # Management Performance

132 Table f

133 # Unresolved Problems and Major Uncertainties

Table f: Recent trend in total catch and commercial landings (mt) relative to the management guidelines. Estimated total catch reflect the commercial landings plus the model estimated discarded biomass.

Year	OFL (mt; ABC prior to 2011)	ABC (mt)	ACL (mt; OY prior to 2011)	Estimated total catch (mt)
2007	-	-	-	-
2008	-	-	-	-
2009	-	-	-	-
2010	-	-	-	-
2011	-	-	-	-
2012	-	-	-	-
2013	-	-	-	-
2014	-	-	-	-
2015	-	-	-	-
2016	-	-	-	-
2017	-	-	-	-
2018	-	-	-	-

134 Decision Table

Table g: Projections of potential OFL (mt) for each model, using the base model forecast.

Year	OFL
2019	182.79
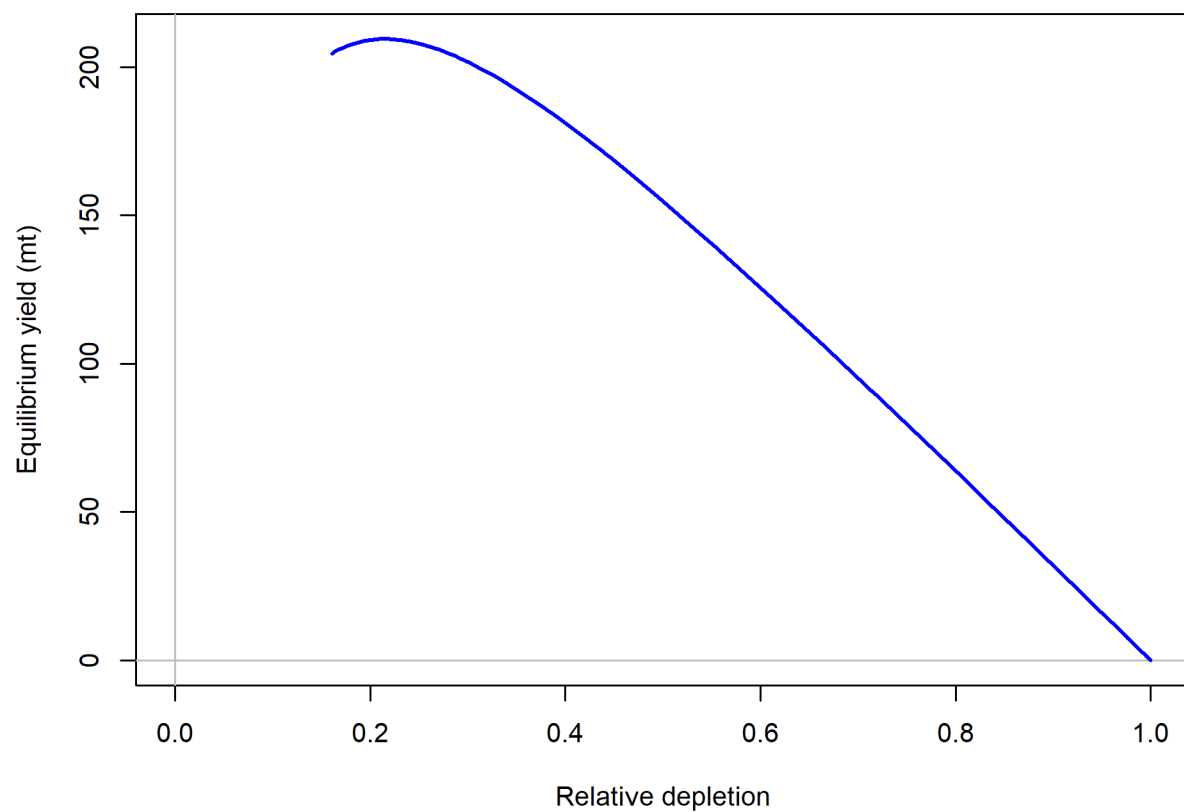
Figure i: Equilibrium yield curve for the base case model. Values are based on the 2018 fishery selectivity and with steepness fixed at 0.718. fig:Yield_all

Table h: Summary of 10-year projections beginning in 2020 for alternate states of nature based on an axis of uncertainty for the model. Columns range over low, mid, and high states of nature, and rows range over different assumptions of catch levels. An entry of "–" indicates that the stock is driven to very low abundance under the particular scenario.

`tab:Decision_table_mod1`

| | | | **States of nature** | | | | | |
| | | | Low M 0.05 | | Base M 0.07 | | High M 0.09 | |
	Year	Catch	Spawning Output	Depletion	Spawning Output	Depletion	Spawning Output	Depletion
40-10 Rule, Low M	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2024	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2027	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40-10 Rule	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2024	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2027	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40-10 Rule, High M	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2024	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2027	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average Catch	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2024	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2026	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2027	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2028	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table i: Base case results summary.

Quantity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Landings (mt)										
Total Est. Catch (mt)										
OFL (mt)										
ACL (mt)										
$(1\text{-}SPR)(1\text{-}SPR_{50\%})$	0.74	0.73	0.62	0.60	0.70	0.73	0.77	0.76	0.72	
Exploitation rate	0.11	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.07	
Age 1+ biomass (mt)	1483.34	1412.40	1322.19	1255.68	1227.62	1215.60	1203.97	1213.90	1250.81	1322.40
Spawning Output	877.4	804.6	744.9	711.8	688.2	658.1	633.6	615.7	610.7	625.8
95% CI	(549.98-1204.92)	(496.68-1112.57)	(454.06-1035.67)	(434.03-989.64)	(419.66-956.74)	(395.31-920.79)	(372.02-895.2)	(350.91-880.42)	(337.68-883.76)	(332.24-919.42)
Depletion	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
95% CI	(0.457-0.81)	(0.416-0.745)	(0.384-0.691)	(0.369-0.658)	(0.359-0.635)	(0.341-0.609)	(0.324-0.591)	(0.308-0.58)	(0.299-0.582)	(0.234-0.67)
Recruits	3817.00	3563.74	3610.02	4354.96	6350.74	8323.36	7554.20	5962.99	4790.15	4789.48
95% CI	(1496.08 - 9738.44)	(1357.75 - 9353.86)	(1346.49 - 9678.7)	(1619.5 - 11710.84)	(2368.03 - 17031.84)	(3082.27 - 22476.39)	(2744.73 - 20791.09)	(2111.17 - 16842.47)	(1661.06 - 13813.81)	(1610.44 - 14244.05)

tab:base_summary

xx

Research and Data Needs

We recommend the following research be conducted before the next assessment:

1. **xxxx**:

2. **xxxx**:

3. **xxxx**:

4. **xxxx**:

5. **xxxx**:

1 Introduction

1.1 Basic Information and Life History

1.2 Early Life History

1.3 Map

A map showing the scope of the assessment and depicting boundaries for fisheries or data collection strata is provided in Figure 1.

1.4 Ecosystem Considerations

In this assessment, ecosystem considerations were not explicitly included in the analysis. This is primarily due to a lack of relevant data and results of analyses (conducted elsewhere) that could contribute ecosystem-related quantitative information for the assessment.

1.5 Fishery Information

1.6 Summary of Management History

1.7 Management Performance

Table f

1.8 Fisheries Off Mexico or Canada

2 Assessment

2.1 Data

Data used in the GBYR assessment are summarized in Figure 2. Descriptions of the data sources are in the following sections.

1

2.1.1 Commercial Fishery Landings

Commercial landings in California are based on two primary data sources: a cooperative port sampling program (California Cooperative Groundfish Survey, CALCOM) that collects information including species composition data (i.e. the proportion of species landed in a sampling stratum), and landing receipts (sometimes called "fish tickets") that are a record of pounds landed in a given stratum. Strata in California are defined by market category, year, quarter, gear group, port complex, and disposition (live or dead). Although many market categories are named after actual species, catch in a given market category can consist of several species. All landings used in this assessment are "expanded" landings, i.e., species composition data collected by port samplers were used to allocate pounds recorded on landing receipts to species. Use of the "Gopher Rockfish" or the "Black-and-Yellow Rockfish" categories alone to represent actual landings of GBY would not be accurate. See Pearson et al. Appendix C (2008) for a simple example of the expansion calculations. Data from the California Cooperative Groundfish Survey, species compositions, and expanded landings estimates are stored in the CALCOM database at the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, a central repository of commercial landings data for the U.S. West Coast.

Commercial catches of black-and-yellow rockfish from 1916-1968 and for gopher rockfish from 1937-1968 were queried (4 April 2019) from the California Catch Reconstruction (Ralston et al. 2010). Landings in this database are divided into trawl and 'non-trawl.' Since the majority of GBYR are caught in the commercial fixed gear fisheries, only estimated catch in the 'non-trawl' was used. A total of 0.154 mt (3.18%) were removed from Eureka commercial landings (based on current proportions of commercial catch from north of Cape Mendocino in Eureka) since the assessment represents the GBYR stock south of Cape Mendocino.

Commercial landings from 1969-2018 were queried for a final time from the CALCOM database on 4 April 2019 (Table ??. Commercial landings were also queried from PacFIN (Pacific Fisheries Information Network) for a final time on 3 June 2019 for comparison to CALCOM landings. There are very small differences in commercial landings between CAL-COM and PacFIN from 1981-2018 (Figure ??fig:Calcom_vs_Pacfin}). Landings estimates from CALCOM were used in the assessment. Landings were stratified by year, quarter, live/dead, market category, gear group, port complex, and source of species composition data (actual port samples, borrowed samples, or assumed nominal market category). Data from individual quarters were aggregated at the year level. Fish landed live or dead were combined, due to changes over time in the reliability of condition information (D. Pearson, pers. comm.). From 1916-1968, on average, 74% of GBYR were landed north of Point Conception, which rose to 97% from 1978-2018. Given the smaller landings south of Point Conception and the similar length composition of GBYR north and south of Pt. Conception, no spatial separation was considered for the commercial fleet.

2.1.2 Commercial Discards

The West Coast Groundfish Observer Program (WCGOP) provides observer data on discarding across fishery sectors back to 2003. Gopher and black-and-yellow rockfishes have different depth-stratified commercial fishery discard mortality rates (Pacific Fishery Management Council 2018). In consultation with WCGOP staff, the STAT used estimates of total discard mortality from WCGOP's Groundfish Expanded Mortality Multiyear (GEMM) report. WCGOP observes between 1-5% of nearshore fixed gear landings annually south of 40°10′ N. latitude (coverage rates available here). The expanded estimates of total discard weight by species is calculated as the ratio of the observed discard weight of the individual species divided by the observed landed weight
from PacFIN landing receipts. WCGOP discard estimates for the nearshore fixed gear fishery take into account the depth distribution of landings in order to appropriately apply the depth-stratified discard mortality rates by species (Somers, K.A., J. Jannot, V. Tuttle, K. Richerson and McVeigh 2018). The discard mortality for 2018 was estimated as an average of the discard mortality from 2013-2017. Discard mortality was estimated from the period prior to WCGOP discard estimates (1916-2002) based on the average discard mortality rate from 2003-2016 (2017 was excluded because 2017 discard mortality was disproportionately higher than all other years) (Table 1).

2.1.3 Commercial Fishery Length and Age Data

Biological data from the commercial fisheries that caught GBYR were extracted from CALCOM on 9 May 2019. The CALCOM length composition data were catch-weighted to "expanded" length the raw lenght composition data. The 2005 assessment used commercial length composition informtion from CALCOM, but did not include black-and-yellow rockfish and is not directly comparable. The 2005 assessment used 2 cm length bins from 16-40 cm, where this assessment uses 1 cm length bins from 4-44 cm. Sex was not available for the majority (99.5%) of the commercial length, and the assessment did not find sexual dimorphism in growth for eithee species. We aggregated the commercial length composition among all gears and regions south of Cape Mendocino.

Discard length compositions from WCGOP (2003-2017) were expanded based on the the discard estimates and were aggregated for all regions south of Cape Mendocino and across all fixed gear fisheries.

A total of 46 ages were available for gopher rockfish from the commercial fisheries 2009-2011, 2016, and 2018. Though sparse, the data were included as conditional age-at-length for the commercial fleet.

The input sample sizes for commercial length composition data were calculated via the Stewart Method for fisheries (Ian Stewart, personal communication, IPHC):

$$\text{Input effN} = N_{\text{trips}} + 0.138 * N_{\text{fish}} \text{ if } N_{\text{fish}}/N_{\text{trips}} \text{ is } < 44$$

$$\text{Input effN} = 7.06 * N_{\text{trips}} \text{ if } N_{\text{fish}}/N_{\text{trips}} \text{ is } \geq 44$$

2.1.4 Sport Fishery Removals and Discards

`sport-fishery-removals-and-discards`

Recreational discards were only added to the California Catch Reconstruction landings, as Ralston et al. (**???**) did not address discards for the recreational recontruction. Recreational removals from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife MRFSS era (1980-2003) includes catch type A + B1. Catch type A refers to estimates of catch based on sampler-examined catch. Catch type B1 includes mainly angler-reported discard, but also angler-reported retained fish that were unavailable to the sampler during the interview (e.g., fillets). (2004-2018) databases. The CRFS era removals account for depth-stratified discard mortality rate and the catch time series includes both retained and discarded catch (toal mortality). We calculated the ratio of dead discards to total mortality from the CRFS era by region and mode. The region average across modes was applied to the California Catch Reconstruction as a constant. The result added 4.68% annually to recreational removals north of Pt. Conception and 4.05% annutally to the removals South of Pt. Conception).

Historical recreational landings and discard, 1928-1980

Ralston et al. (2010) reconstructed estimates of recreational rockfish catch and discard in California, 1928-1980. Reported landings of total rockfish were allocated to species based on several sources of species composition data. Estimates of GBYR landings and discard (combined) from 1928-1979 are available from the SWFSC. For this assessment, historical recreational catch was stratified by year and area (north and south of Point Conception). The catches of GBYR reported in Ralston et al. (2010) are higher than expected given the more recent catches of GBYR south of Pt. Conception and the species' ranges (Figure 4). The California Catch Reconstruction used a linear ramp from from 1928-1936 that was not altered in this assessment. From 1937-1979 linear ramp to the average recreational landing from 1980 and 1983 (1981-1982 catches interpolated as described in the next section) of 4.3 mt. The recreational catches north of Pt. Conception were not altered from the original catch reconstruction. The resulting alternate recreational catch streams are in (Table 2 and Figure 5).

Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS), 1980-2003

From 1980-2003, the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) executed a dockside (angler intercept) sampling program in Washington, Oregon, and California. Data from this survey are available from the Recreational Fisheries Information Network RecFIN. RecFIN serves as a repository for recreational fishery data for California, Oregon, and Washington. Catch estimates for years 1980-2003 were downloaded on 23 March 2019 (), and are consistent with the previous assessment [Key2005]. - need to check again)

MRFSS-era recreational removals for California were estimated for two regions: north and south of Point Conception. No finer-scale estimates of landings are available for this period. Catches were downloaded in numbers and weight. Catch in weight is sometimes missing from the database due to missing average weight estimates. We estimated average weights based on adjacent strata as needed, although the effect was relatively minor (7.4 mt over all years for gopher rockfish and 0.6 mt for black-and-yellow rockfish). Data were not available for the CPFVs in Northern California from 1980-1982, and we used the average value from this mode and region from 1983-1987 for these three years. MRFSS sampling was temporarily suspended from 1990-1992, and we used linear interpolation to fill the missing years. Sampling of CPFVs in Northern California was further delayed, and the linear interpolation spans the period 1990-1995 for this boat mode and region. Landings data for the shore-based modes (beach/bank, man-made/jetty and shore) were sparse throughout the MRFSS sampling. All three shore-based modes were combined by region and linear interpolations were applied missing data in 1981 for the Northern California and 1995, 1996-2001, and 2004 in Southern California.

Catches from north of Cape Mendocino were removed based on a CRFS-era average of fraction of recreational landings north of Cape Mendocino by mode (3.3% of shore-based, 0.1% of CPFV, and 0.2% of private/rental were removed). From 1980-1989, San Luis Obispo County was sampled as part of Southern California (personal observation from MRFSS Type 3 sampler examined catch where county is available for 1980-2004). This assessment separates the recreational fleet at Pt. Conception. Recreational landings were re-allocated from southern California from 1980-1992 by fleet based on the average proportion of recreational landings in northern California from 1996-2004 (after sampling of the CPFV fleet in northern California resumed). The average proportion re-allocated from southern to northern California for the CPFV mode was 85%, 97% for the private/rental mode, and 81% for the shore-based modes. Data were pooled over all years and modes to estimate the landings re-allocation for the shore-based modes. Total recreational landings for 1981 and 1982 were 18.8 mt and 18.6 mt, respectively. These landings were >60 mt lower than any of the neighboring years. Landings from 1981-1982 were interpolated from the 1980 and 1983 landings.

California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS), 2004-2016

MRFSS was replaced with the California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) beginning January 1, 2004. Among other improvements to MRFSS, CRFS provides higher sampling intensity, finer spatial resolution (6 districts vs. 2 regions), and onboard CPFV sampling. Estimates of catch from 2004-2018 were downloaded from the RecFIN database a final time on 4 June 2019, We queried and aggregated CRFS data to match the structure of the MRFSS data, by year, and region (Table 2. Catches in the shore-based modes are small compared to the CPFV and private rental modes. All modes are combined, but separated at Point Conception for two recreational fleets in this assessment, just as was done for the California Catch Recontruction and MRFSS time series.

Recreational Discard

Estimates of discards were not available prior to 1980. The final time series of landings and discard mortality are in Table 2.

2.1.5   Recreational Fishery Length and Age Data

`recreational-fishery-length-and-age-data`

Recreational length composition samples for California were obtained from several sources, depending on the time period and boat mode. This assessment makes use of a much longer time series of length composition data, relative to the previous assessment, as described below. Input sample sizes for recreational length composition data were based on the number of observed trips, when available. Other proxies that were used to estimate the number of trips are described below.

There were no standardized coastwide surveys measure retained or discarded fish from the recreational fleet prior to 1980.

CPFV length composition data, 1959-1978

The earliest available length data for this assessment were described by Karpov et al. (**???**), who assembled a time series (1959-1972) of available California CPFV length data (made available courtesy of W. Van Buskirk). For GBYR, data from 1959-1961 and 1966 were available north of Pt. Conception and from 1959-1961 from south of Pt Conception. A total of 716 (680 north of Pt. Conception) unsexed measurement of retained fish (no discards,) were included in the assessment (Table). Sampling of these length data did not follow consistent protocol over time and areas (data are unweighted), and therefore may not be representative of total catch. Since the number of trips sampled was not reported by Karpov et al. (1995), we assume the number of sampled trips is proportional to the number of measured fish in each year, and estimated the number of trips using the ratio of fish measured per trip in the MRFSS data (roughly 10 fish per trip).

Collins and Crooke (**???**) conducted an onboard observer survey of the CPFV fleet in southern California from 1975-1978. A total of 1,308 GBYR lengths were available from the study and were assumed to all be from retained fish.

MRFSS Recreational Length Data, 1980-1989 and 1993-2003

Unsexed length data of retained fish were collected by MRFSS dockside samplers and downloaded from the RecFIN website. We identified a subset of lengths that were converted from weight measurements, and these were excluded from the final data set.

(Table **??**). The length measurements from Collins and Crooke (**???**) are assumed to all be from retained fish.

As of 2003, Onboard Observer program has taken length measurements for discarded fish. The retained catch is measured during the dockside (angler intercept) surveys, and cannot

necessarily be matched to a trip with the discard lengths prior to 2012. Additional discarded length measurements were available from both CDFW unpublished data (1984, 1988-1989) and the Ally et al. (**???**) onboard observer program from 1985-1987. The sample sizes of measured discarded fish in the 1980s is small. The mean length of discarded fish is smaller than for years when the length restriction was in place (Table **??** and Figure **??**).

2.1.6 Fishery-Dependent Indices of Abundance

`fishery-dependent-indices-of-abundance`

Data Source 1

Data Source 1 Index Standardization

Data Source 1 Length Composition

Data Source 2

Data Source 3

2.1.7 Fishery-Independent Data Sources

`fishery-independent-data-sources`

Data Source 1

Data Source 1 Index Standardization

Data Source 1 Length Composition

Data Source 2

2.1.8 Biological Parameters and Data

`biological-parameters-and-data`

Length and Age Compositions

Length compositions were provided from the following sources:

- Source 1 (*type, e.g., commercial dead fish, research, recreational*, yyyy-yyyy)
- Source 2 (*type*, yyyy-yyyy)
- Source 3 (*research*, yyyy, yyyy, yyyy, yyyy)

The length composition of all fisheries aggregated across time by fleet is in Figure **??**. Descriptions and details of the length composition data are in the above section for each fleet or survey.

Age Structures

von Bertalanffy growth curve (Bertalanffy [1938](#)), $L_i = L_\infty e^{(-k[t-t_0])}$, where L_i is the length (cm) at age i, t is age in years, k is rate of increase in growth, t_0 is the intercept, and L_∞ is the asymptotic length.

Aging Precision and Bias

Weight-Length

Sex Ratio, Maturity, and Fecundity

Natural Mortality

2.1.9 Environmental or Ecosystem Data Included in the Assessment
environmental-or-ecosystem-data-included-in-the-assessment

In this assessment, neither environmental nor ecosystem considerations were explicitly included in the analysis. This is primarily due to a lack of relevant data and results of analyses (conducted elsewhere) that could contribute ecosystem-related quantitative information for the assessment.

2.2 Previous Assessments
previous-assessments

2.2.1 History of Modeling Approaches Used for this Stock
history-of-modeling-approaches-used-for-this-stock

2.2.2 yyyy Assessment Recommendations
yyyy-assessment-recommendations

Recommendation 1:

STAT response: xxxxx

388 **Recommendation 2:**

389

390   STAT response: xxxxx

391 **Recommendation 3:**

392

393   STAT response: xxxx

2.3 Model Description

394

2.3.1 Transition to the Current Stock Assessment

395

2.3.2 Summary of Data for Fleets and Areas

396

397 There are xxx fleets in the base model. They include:

398 *Commercial*: The commercial fleets include . . .

399 *Recreational*: The recreational fleets include . . .

400 *Research*: There are xx sources of fishery-independent data available . . .

2.3.3 Other Specifications

401

2.3.4 Modeling Software

402

403 The STAT team used Stock Synthesis 3 version 3.30.05.03 by Dr. Richard Methot at the
404 NWFSC. This most recent version was used, since it included improvements and corrections
405 to older versions. The r4SS package (GitHub release number v1.27.0) was used to post-
406 processing output data from Stock Synthesis.

2.3.5 Data Weighting

407

2.3.6 Priors

408

409 The log-normal prior for female natural mortality were based on a meta-analysis completed
410 by Hamel (2015), as described under "Natural Mortality." Female natural mortality was fixed

411 at the median of the prior, 0.xxx for an assumed maximum age of xx. An uninformative
412 prior was used for the male offset natural mortality, which was estimated.

413 The prior for steepness (h) assumes a beta distribution with parameters based on an update
414 for the Thorson-Dorn rockfish prior (Dorn, M. and Thorson, J., pers. comm.), which was
415 endorsed by the Science and Statistical Committee in 2018. The prior is a beta distribution
416 with mu=0.xxx and $sigma$=0.xxx. Steepness is fixed in the base model at the mean of the
417 prior. The priors were applied in sensitivity analyses where these parameters were estimated.

2.3.7 Estimated and Fixed Parameters

estimated-and-fixed-parameters

419 A full list of all estimated and fixed parameters is provided in Tables **??**.

420 The base model has a total of xxx estimated parameters in the following categories:

421 - xxx,

422 - xxx

423 - xxx, and

424 - xxx selectivity parameters

425 The estimated parameters are described in greater detail below and a full list of all estimated
426 and parameters is provided in Table **??**.

427 *Growth.*

428 *Natural Mortality.*

429 *Selectivity.*

430 *Other Estimated Parameters.*

431 *Other Fixed Parameters.*

2.4 Model Selection and Evaluation

`model-selection-and-evaluation`

2.4.1 Key Assumptions and Structural Choices

`key-assumptions-and-structural-choices`

2.4.2 Alternate Models Considered

`alternate-models-considered`

2.4.3 Convergence

`convergence`

2.5 Response to the Current STAR Panel Requests

`response-to-the-current-star-panel-requests`

Request No. 1:

    Rationale: xxx

    STAT Response: xxx

Request No. 2:

    Rationale: xxx

    STAT Response: xxx

Request No. 3:

    Rationale: x.

    STAT Response: xxx

Request No. 4:

    Rationale: xxx

    STAT Response: xxx

Request No. 5:

    Rationale: xxx

    STAT Response: xxx

2.6 Base Case Model Results

The following description of the model results reflects a base model that incorporates all of the changes made during the STAR panel (see previous section). The base model parameter estimates and their approximate asymptotic standard errors are shown in Table ?? and the likelihood components are in Table ??. Estimates of derived reference points and approximate 95% asymptotic confidence intervals are shown in Table e. Time-series of estimated stock size over time are shown in Table ??.

2.6.1 Parameter Estimates

The additional survey variability (process error added directly to each year's input variability) for all surveys was estimated within the model.

(Figure ??).

The stock-recruit curve ... Figure ?? with estimated recruitments also shown.

2.6.2 Fits to the Data

Model fits to the indices of abundance, fishery length composition, survey length composition, and conditional age-at-length observations are all discussed below.

2.6.3 Uncertainty and Sensitivity Analyses

A number of sensitivity analyses were conducted, including:

1. Sensitivity 1

2. Sensitivity 2

3. Sensitivity 3

4. Sensitivity 4

5. Sensitivity 5, etc/

12

2.6.4 Retrospective Analysis

2.6.5 Likelihood Profiles

2.6.6 Reference Points

Reference points were calculated using the estimated selectivities and catch distribution among fleets in the most recent year of the model, (2017). Sustainable total yield (landings plus discards) were 169 mt when using an $SPR_{50\%}$ reference harvest rate and with a 95% confidence interval of 104 mt based on estimates of uncertainty. The spawning biomass equivalent to 40% of the unfished level ($SB_{40\%}$) was 554 mt.

(Figure **??**

The 2018 spawning biomass relative to unfished equilibrium spawning biomass is above/below the target of 40% of unfished levels (Figure **??**). The relative fishing intensity, $(1 - SPR)/(1 - SPR_{50\%})$, has been xxx the management target for the entire time series of the model.

Table e shows the full suite of estimated reference points for the base model and Figure **??** shows the equilibrium curve based on a steepness value xxx.

3 Harvest Projections and Decision Tables

The forecasts of stock abundance and yield were developed using the final base model, with the forecasted projections of the OFL presented in Table g.

The forecasted projections of the OFL for each model are presented in Table h.

4 Regional Management Considerations

5 Research Needs

There are a number of areas of research that could improve the stock assessment for GBYR. Below are issues identified by the STAT team and the STAR panel:

1. **xxxx**:

503   2. **xxxx**:

504   3. **xxxx**:

505   4. **xxxx**:

506   5. **xxxx**:

6 Acknowledgments

507

14

7 Tables

Table 1: Commercial landings and discards (mt) from the commercial fisheries. Data sources are the California Catch Reconstruction, CALCOM, and WCGOP GEMM report.

Year	Landings	Discards	Total Commercial Removals	Source
1916	3.88	0.38	4.27	Catch Reconstruction
1917	6.03	0.59	6.63	Catch Reconstruction
1918	7.06	0.69	7.75	Catch Reconstruction
1919	4.91	0.48	5.39	Catch Reconstruction
1920	5.01	0.49	5.50	Catch Reconstruction
1921	4.13	0.41	4.54	Catch Reconstruction
1922	3.56	0.35	3.90	Catch Reconstruction
1923	3.84	0.38	4.22	Catch Reconstruction
1924	2.22	0.22	2.44	Catch Reconstruction
1925	2.78	0.27	3.05	Catch Reconstruction
1926	4.48	0.44	4.92	Catch Reconstruction
1927	3.81	0.37	4.18	Catch Reconstruction
1928	4.60	0.45	5.06	Catch Reconstruction
1929	3.81	0.37	4.18	Catch Reconstruction
1930	5.40	0.53	5.93	Catch Reconstruction
1931	1.93	0.19	2.11	Catch Reconstruction
1932	6.24	0.61	6.85	Catch Reconstruction
1933	2.58	0.25	2.84	Catch Reconstruction
1934	1.75	0.17	1.92	Catch Reconstruction
1935	0.43	0.04	0.47	Catch Reconstruction
1936	0.01	0.00	0.01	Catch Reconstruction
1937	7.27	0.71	7.98	Catch Reconstruction
1938	10.29	1.01	11.30	Catch Reconstruction
1939	13.13	1.29	14.42	Catch Reconstruction
1940	16.90	1.66	18.56	Catch Reconstruction
1941	17.06	1.67	18.73	Catch Reconstruction
1942	8.55	0.84	9.38	Catch Reconstruction
1943	11.00	1.08	12.08	Catch Reconstruction
1944	0.05	0.00	0.05	Catch Reconstruction
1945	0.59	0.06	0.65	Catch Reconstruction
1946	16.71	1.64	18.35	Catch Reconstruction
1947	26.71	2.62	29.33	Catch Reconstruction
1948	23.95	2.35	26.30	Catch Reconstruction
1949	18.29	1.79	20.09	Catch Reconstruction
1950	17.15	1.68	18.83	Catch Reconstruction
1951	24.83	2.44	27.26	Catch Reconstruction

Continues next page

Table 1: Commercial landings and discards (mt) from the commercial fisheries. Data sources
are the California Catch Reconstruction, CALCOM, and WCGOP GEMM report.

Year	Landings	Discards	Total Commercial Removals	Source
1952	27.59	2.71	30.29	Catch Reconstruction
1953	32.30	3.17	35.47	Catch Reconstruction
1954	40.75	4.00	44.74	Catch Reconstruction
1955	29.49	2.89	32.38	Catch Reconstruction
1956	40.66	3.99	44.65	Catch Reconstruction
1957	37.52	3.68	41.20	Catch Reconstruction
1958	33.56	3.29	36.86	Catch Reconstruction
1959	19.62	1.92	21.54	Catch Reconstruction
1960	11.30	1.11	12.41	Catch Reconstruction
1961	17.49	1.72	19.20	Catch Reconstruction
1962	27.18	2.67	29.85	Catch Reconstruction
1963	22.29	2.19	24.48	Catch Reconstruction
1964	16.55	1.62	18.17	Catch Reconstruction
1965	21.50	2.11	23.61	Catch Reconstruction
1966	13.44	1.32	14.76	Catch Reconstruction
1967	6.70	0.66	7.36	Catch Reconstruction
1968	8.29	0.81	9.10	Catch Reconstruction
1969	9.99	0.98	10.97	CALCOM
1970	14.21	1.39	15.60	CALCOM
1971	14.41	1.41	15.83	CALCOM
1972	19.42	1.91	21.33	CALCOM
1973	31.43	3.08	34.51	CALCOM
1974	33.41	3.28	36.69	CALCOM
1975	33.08	3.25	36.33	CALCOM
1976	33.90	3.33	37.23	CALCOM
1977	30.13	2.96	33.09	CALCOM
1978	43.41	4.26	47.67	CALCOM
1979	34.24	3.36	37.60	CALCOM
1980	63.65	6.24	69.89	CALCOM
1981	52.67	5.17	57.84	CALCOM
1982	38.96	3.82	42.78	CALCOM
1983	26.89	2.64	29.52	CALCOM
1984	14.82	1.45	16.27	CALCOM
1985	8.42	0.83	9.25	CALCOM
1986	25.49	2.50	27.99	CALCOM
1987	34.21	3.36	37.57	CALCOM
1988	55.73	5.47	61.20	CALCOM
1989	45.48	4.46	49.94	CALCOM

Continues next page

Table 1: Commercial landings and discards (mt) from the commercial fisheries. Data sources are the California Catch Reconstruction, CALCOM, and WCGOP GEMM report.

Year	Landings	Discards	Total Commercial Removals	Source
1990	46.77	4.59	51.36	CALCOM
1991	68.85	6.75	75.60	CALCOM
1992	83.99	8.24	92.23	CALCOM
1993	74.09	7.27	81.35	CALCOM
1994	60.06	5.89	65.95	CALCOM
1995	91.42	8.97	100.39	CALCOM
1996	94.71	9.29	104.00	CALCOM
1997	69.37	6.81	76.18	CALCOM
1998	65.28	6.40	71.68	CALCOM
1999	62.70	6.15	68.85	CALCOM
2000	53.91	5.29	59.20	CALCOM
2001	53.41	5.24	58.65	CALCOM
2002	42.28	4.15	46.42	CALCOM
2003	20.18	13.04	33.22	CALCOM & WCGOP
2004	26.27	2.66	28.93	CALCOM & WCGOP
2005	28.09	3.33	31.42	CALCOM & WCGOP
2006	23.87	4.10	27.96	CALCOM & WCGOP
2007	30.14	4.50	34.64	CALCOM & WCGOP
2008	36.06	1.63	37.69	CALCOM & WCGOP
2009	35.42	5.38	40.80	CALCOM & WCGOP
2010	38.65	3.92	42.57	CALCOM & WCGOP
2011	42.28	5.72	48.01	CALCOM & WCGOP
2012	33.46	1.93	35.39	CALCOM & WCGOP
2013	33.17	2.85	36.02	CALCOM & WCGOP
2014	36.15	2.85	39.00	CALCOM & WCGOP
2015	43.18	2.93	46.11	CALCOM & WCGOP
2016	36.84	2.42	39.26	CALCOM & WCGOP
2017	41.51	1.65	43.15	CALCOM & WCGOP
2018	46.08	2.54	48.62	CALCOM & WCGOP

Table 2: Recreational removals (mt) of GBYR. Data sources are the California Catch Reconstruction (modified for south of Pt. Conception), MRFSS (modified for 1981-1982), and CRFS.

Year	North of Pt. Conception	South of Pt. Conception	Total Recreational Removals	Source
1928	0.84	0.02	0.85	Catch Reconstruction
1929	1.67	0.03	1.70	Catch Reconstruction
1930	1.92	0.05	1.97	Catch Reconstruction
1931	2.56	0.06	2.62	Catch Reconstruction
1932	3.20	0.08	3.28	Catch Reconstruction
1933	3.84	0.09	3.93	Catch Reconstruction
1934	4.48	0.11	4.59	Catch Reconstruction
1935	5.12	0.12	5.24	Catch Reconstruction
1936	5.76	0.22	5.98	Catch Reconstruction
1937	6.82	0.31	7.14	Catch Reconstruction
1938	6.71	0.41	7.12	Catch Reconstruction
1939	5.87	0.50	6.37	Catch Reconstruction
1940	8.45	0.60	9.05	Catch Reconstruction
1941	7.81	0.69	8.51	Catch Reconstruction
1942	4.15	0.79	4.94	Catch Reconstruction
1943	3.97	0.88	4.85	Catch Reconstruction
1944	3.26	0.98	4.24	Catch Reconstruction
1945	4.35	1.07	5.42	Catch Reconstruction
1946	7.48	1.17	8.65	Catch Reconstruction
1947	5.92	1.26	7.18	Catch Reconstruction
1948	11.81	1.36	13.17	Catch Reconstruction
1949	15.30	1.45	16.76	Catch Reconstruction
1950	18.65	1.55	20.20	Catch Reconstruction
1951	22.97	1.64	24.61	Catch Reconstruction
1952	19.99	1.74	21.73	Catch Reconstruction
1953	17.02	1.83	18.85	Catch Reconstruction
1954	21.16	1.93	23.09	Catch Reconstruction
1955	25.23	2.02	27.25	Catch Reconstruction
1956	28.17	2.12	30.28	Catch Reconstruction
1957	31.80	2.21	34.01	Catch Reconstruction
1958	48.15	2.31	50.46	Catch Reconstruction
1959	38.25	2.40	40.65	Catch Reconstruction
1960	28.66	2.50	31.15	Catch Reconstruction
1961	27.74	2.59	30.33	Catch Reconstruction
1962	28.04	2.69	30.73	Catch Reconstruction
1963	27.53	2.78	30.32	Catch Reconstruction
1964	21.73	2.88	24.61	Catch Reconstruction

Continues next page

Table 2: Recreational removals (mt) of GBYR. Data sources are the California Catch Reconstruction (modified for south of Pt. Conception), MRFSS (modified for 1981-1982), and CRFS.

Year	North of Pt. Conception	South of Pt. Conception	Total Recreational Removals	Source
1965	31.10	2.97	34.07	Catch Reconstruction
1966	33.85	3.07	36.91	Catch Reconstruction
1967	37.08	3.16	40.25	Catch Reconstruction
1968	36.78	3.26	40.03	Catch Reconstruction
1969	31.46	3.35	34.81	Catch Reconstruction
1970	41.25	3.45	44.70	Catch Reconstruction
1971	31.18	3.54	34.72	Catch Reconstruction
1972	41.50	3.64	45.13	Catch Reconstruction
1973	50.02	3.73	53.75	Catch Reconstruction
1974	51.60	3.83	55.43	Catch Reconstruction
1975	49.01	3.92	52.93	Catch Reconstruction
1976	49.30	4.02	53.32	Catch Reconstruction
1977	41.99	4.11	46.10	Catch Reconstruction
1978	32.57	4.21	36.77	Catch Reconstruction
1979	36.23	4.30	40.53	Catch Reconstruction
1980	80.56	4.54	85.10	MRFSS
1981	81.32	1.42	82.74	Estimated
1982	82.08	0.90	82.99	Estimated
1983	82.85	3.29	86.14	MRFSS
1984	150.47	5.58	156.05	MRFSS
1985	158.34	5.74	164.08	MRFSS
1986	171.81	6.52	178.33	MRFSS
1987	118.51	5.78	124.29	MRFSS
1988	79.43	4.80	84.23	MRFSS
1989	66.61	3.57	70.19	MRFSS
1990	82.33	2.73	85.06	MRFSS
1991	98.04	1.89	99.93	MRFSS
1992	113.76	1.04	114.80	MRFSS
1993	127.71	1.97	129.68	MRFSS
1994	97.39	3.03	100.42	MRFSS
1995	49.25	1.19	50.44	MRFSS
1996	38.06	5.23	43.28	MRFSS
1997	38.15	2.84	40.99	MRFSS
1998	43.55	2.52	46.07	MRFSS
1999	48.17	10.45	58.61	MRFSS
2000	66.53	4.39	70.92	MRFSS
2001	106.23	3.29	109.53	MRFSS

Continues next page

Table 2: Recreational removals (mt) of GBYR. Data sources are the California Catch Reconstruction (modified for south of Pt. Conception), MRFSS (modified for 1981-1982), and CRFS.

Year	North of Pt. Conception	South of Pt. Conception	Total Recreational Removals	Source
2002	84.28	2.15	86.43	MRFSS
2003	111.50	2.70	114.20	MRFSS
2004	41.75	0.98	42.73	CRFS
2005	47.51	6.59	54.10	CRFS
2006	48.10	2.13	50.22	CRFS
2007	32.88	2.70	35.58	CRFS
2008	45.14	3.61	48.74	CRFS
2009	65.64	4.30	69.94	CRFS
2010	106.76	3.90	110.67	CRFS
2011	76.16	10.24	86.40	CRFS
2012	48.25	9.89	58.14	CRFS
2013	38.43	8.86	47.28	CRFS
2014	56.96	9.06	66.02	CRFS
2015	58.09	5.00	63.09	CRFS
2016	65.72	6.57	72.29	CRFS
2017	49.36	11.15	60.51	CRFS
2018	36.48	6.30	42.78	CRFS

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8 Figures

513

figures

9 Figures

4

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45°0'0"N

Florence

6

40°0'0"N

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3

35°0'0"N

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1

125°0'0"W   120°0'0"W
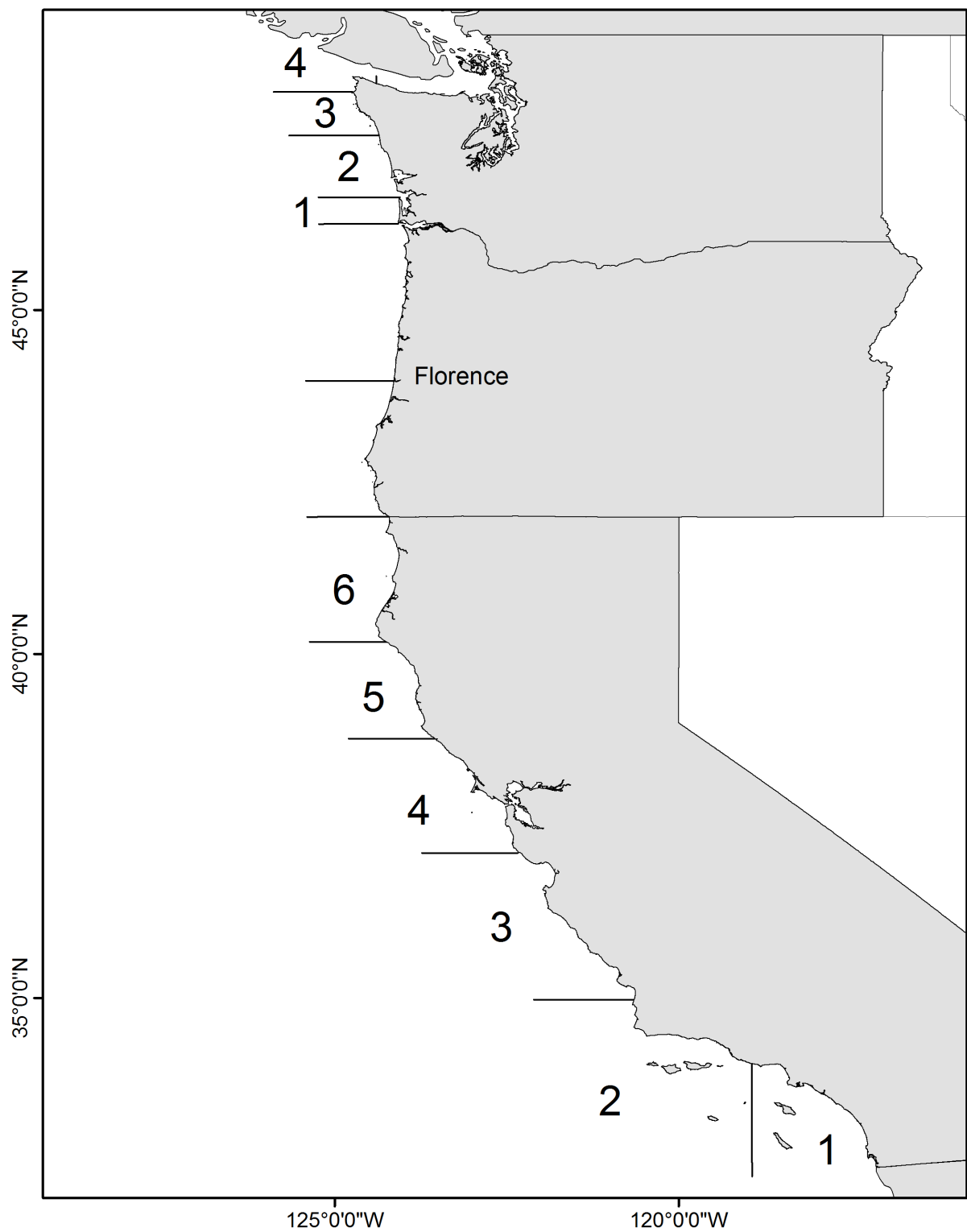
Figure 1: Map showing the state boundary lines for management of the recreational fishing fleets

fig:boundary_map

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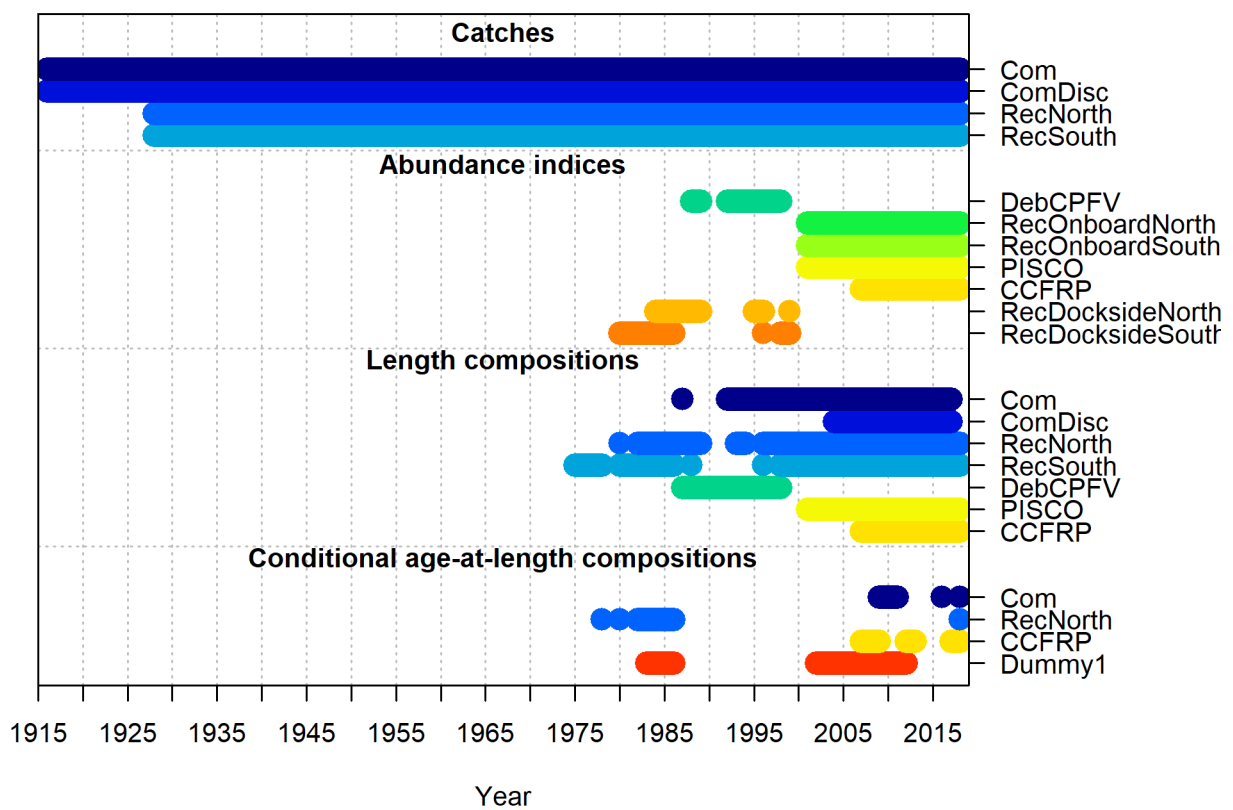
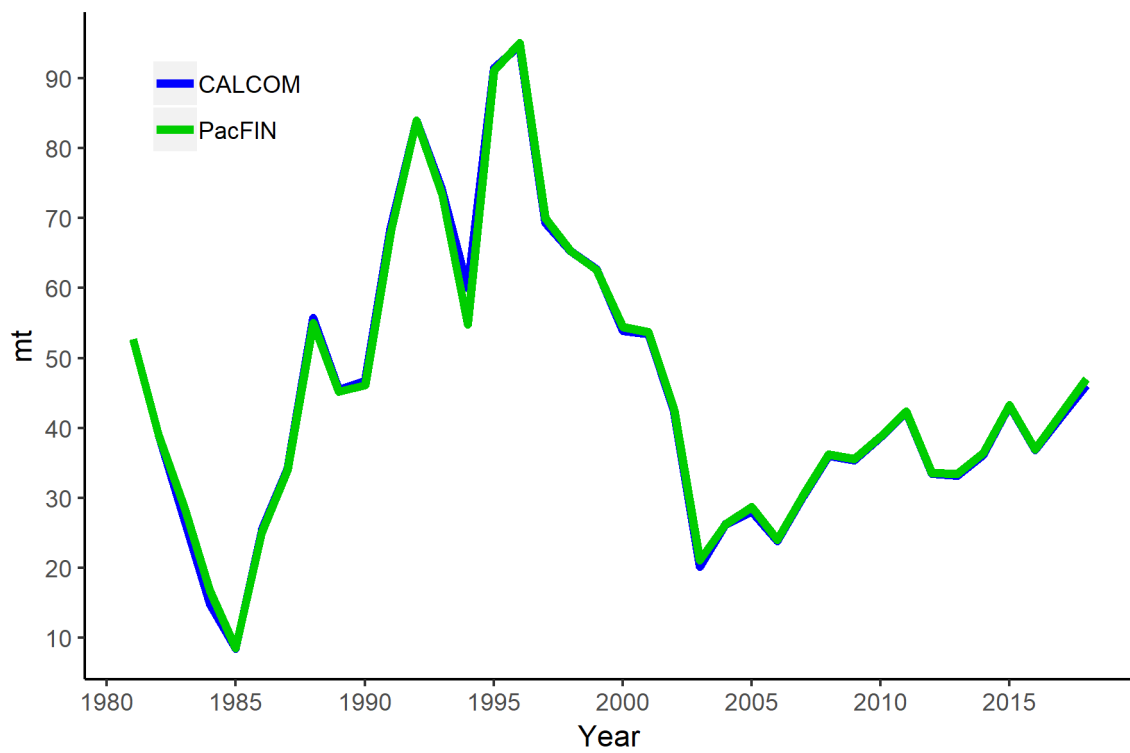Figure 2: Summary of data sources used in the model. fig:data_plot

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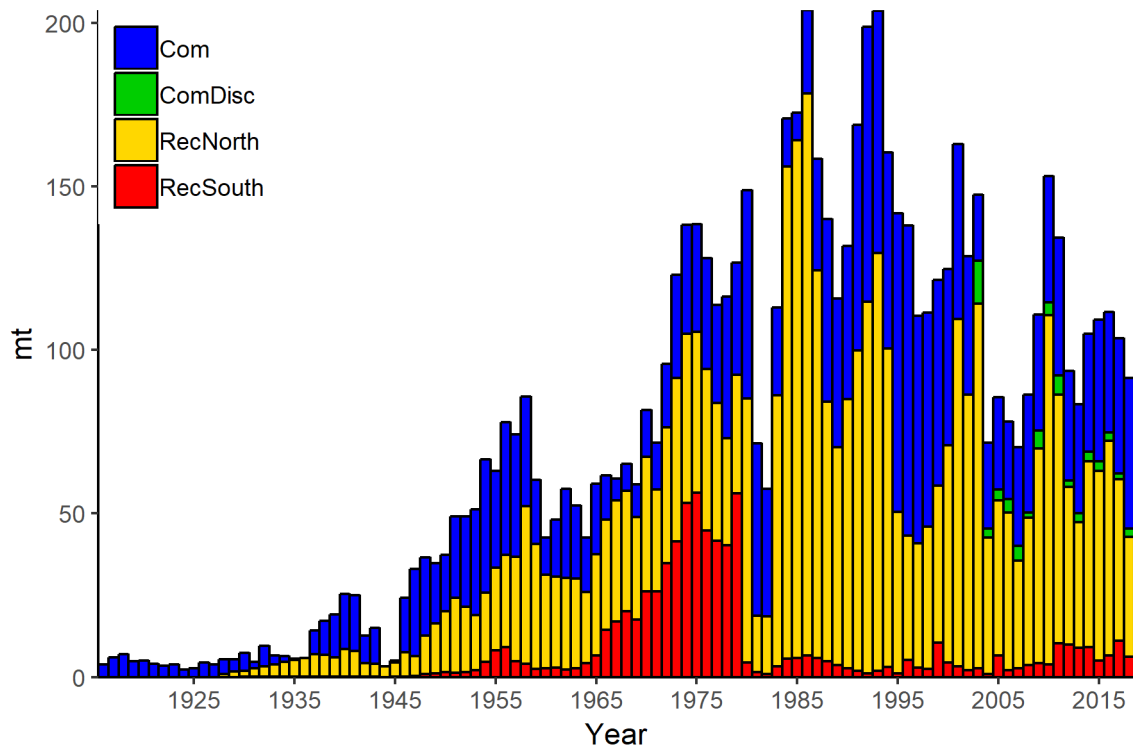Figure 3: Commercial landings estimates from CALCOM add PacFIN. fig:Calcom_vs_Pacfin

Figure 4: Commercial and recreational landings estimates prior to any data modification or
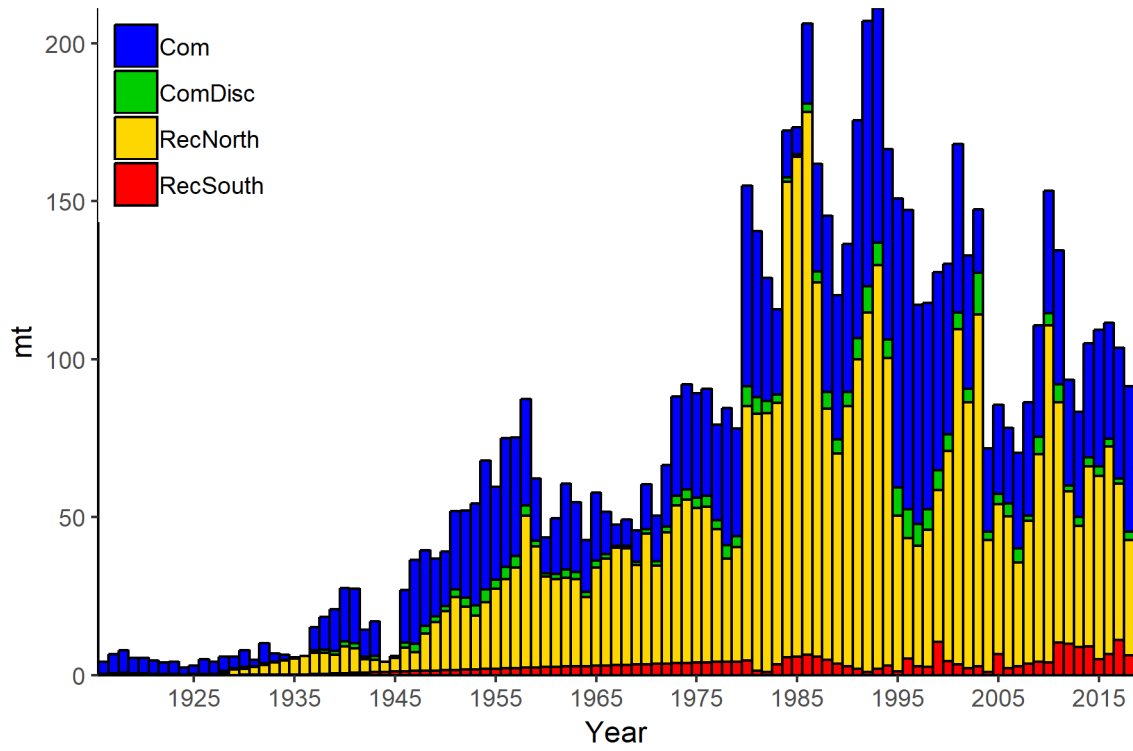interpolation to the recreational catches or hindcasting of commercial discards. fig:Catches_original

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Figure 5: Commercial and recreational landings estimates after data modification and inter-
polations were made to the recreational catches and commercial discards.
fig:Catches_alternate

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