

C1 GOA Groundfish Plan Team Report: Pacific cod

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February 2026, Presentation to the SSC



GOA Groundfish Plan Team Members:

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Meaghan Bryan	AFSC REFM	Paul Spencer	AFSC REFM
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Craig Faunce	AFSC FMA	Sophia Wassermann	AFSC RACE
Lisa Hillier	WDFW	Ben Williams	AFSC ABL



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GOA Groundfish Plan Team- met January 21, 2026

In conjunction with Joint GFPT HCR meeting

- GOA Groundfish PT agenda items:
 - GOA abbreviated ESR (Bridget Ferriss): (no formal recommendations, see report)
 - GOA Pacific cod ESP update (Kalei Shotwell): (no formal recommendations, see report)
 - GOA Pacific cod assessment (Pete Hulson): **recommendations** (next slide)
- Future meetings:
 - September 21-25, 2026 (tentative)
 - November 16-20, 2026 (tentative).
 - Dates will be confirmed after February Council meeting.



GOA GFPT Report: GOA Pacific cod assessment

The Team:

- Discussed projected near-term decline in SSB followed by increase:
 - Minor effect on 2026/2027 ABCs
 - Carry-over of poor recruitment followed by “mean expected”
- **Concurred with authors for model and OFLs and ABCs**
 - Model 24.0, maximum permissible from FMP
- **Recommended:**
 - Evaluating projections using recent vs long-term recruitment estimates (as done previously)

Commendations to the authors for work completed on shortened timeline and out-of-cycle

