

AFSC SSMA and MESA Program Managers Groundfish Plan Team September 2026

Chris Lunsford and Melissa Haltuch

September models: data updates

AFSC proposes all available data be added to September models

- Helpful for less frequent assessments (2, 4 year)

- Helps reduce October model fitting issues for authors

- Helps address author workload concerns in October

Suggested process

- Make changes to the model structure and/or data treatment (e.g. adding sex structure) in a stepwise fashion

- Add all data available since the last assessment

- Make any model changes needed to fit the data added in point 2

Stock projections

Is AFSC currently providing projections that are not needed or used?

Currently use scenarios 2, 3, 6, and 7

Propose to only provide those four

5 year table in the executive summary

Added in 2026 to help provide specifications more than +2 years

Are there any alternative preferences besides scenario 3?

AFSC will standardize the projection model and output in 2027

Assessment summary slides

Authors will produce a standardized set of summary slides as part of their PT presentation

These will help provide basis for SSC presentation by co-chairs

Age Data

Lack of age data in 2026 (~9300 samples)

Atka mackerel (AI fishery (2025) and AI survey (2024) sampling reduced)

Greenland turbot (1983-2023 BS fishery)

Northern rockfish (2024-2025 GOA fishery)

Pacific cod (2025 BS fishery)

POP (2025 BS and GOA fishery)

Rex sole (2025 GOA fishery)

Rougheye rockfish (2024-2025 BS fishery and 2025 GOA fishery)

Sablefish (2025 BS/AI/GOA fishery sampling reduced)

Yellowfish sole (2025 BS fishery)

Common Name	Year Collected	Region	Collection Type	Typical Request	Number Aged	Status
Atka Mackerel	2024	ai	survey	1166	750	Reduced
Atka Mackerel	2025	ai	fishery	1000	750	Reduced
Greenland Turbot	1983-2023	bs	fishery	2100	0	Delayed
Northern rockfish	2024	goa	fishery	426	0	Not Aged
Northern rockfish	2025	goa	fishery	600	0	Not Aged
Pacific cod	2025	bs	fishery	400	0	Not Aged
Pacific Ocean Perch	2025	bs	fishery	1100	0	Not Aged
Pacific Ocean Perch	2025	goa	fishery	1000	0	Not Aged
Rex sole	2025	goa	fishery	100	0	Not Aged
Rougheye Rockfish	2024	bs	fishery	603	0	Not Aged
Rougheye Rockfish	2025	bs	fishery	600	0	Not Aged
Rougheye Rockfish	2025	goa	fishery	400	0	Not Aged
Sablefish	2025	bs/ai/goa	fishery	1200	600	Reduced
Yellowfin sole	2025	bs	fishery	700	0	Not Aged