

Whatcom County
Grant # G0200274

Whatcom County Bottomfish Project Final Report

Prepared by People For Puget Sound
March 31, 2003
For the
Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee



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Executive Summary

Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee from October 2002 to February 2003 engaged in the Whatcom County Bottomfish Project to raise resident awareness of bottomfish (flatfish, lingcod, and rockfish) resources in county waters, including their current and historical status, and to involve residents in discussing options to help manage these species.

The project was funded through a Northwest Straits Commission grant to Whatcom County and furthers progress toward the Commission's benchmark to exhibit measurable increases in factors supporting recovery of bottomfish (such as rockfish)—including number of fish of broodstock size an age, average fish size and abundance of prey species—as well as sufficient amounts and quality of protected habitat. This project also supports the goal of the Northwest Straits Initiative to achieve a science-based, regional system of marine protected areas.

Through this project the Whatcom County MRC developed, printed and distributed fact sheets on flounder and sole, lingcod, and rockfish in addition to a brochure on bottomfish resources and management in county waters. The MRC also developed a PowerPoint presentation and conducted three community workshops in Bellingham and Blaine attended by a total of approximately 50 residents. Workshop participants provided anecdotal information on bottomfish resources through discussion and a mapping exercise.

The Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee's Bottomfish Project provides an important first step in educating and involving residents in protection and restoration of bottomfish resources. The project found that existing data of fish locations, abundance and size were generalized and sometimes contentious. The project found, however, that there are several locations, identified by existing management data and confirmed by anecdotal information, where rockfish or lingcod are present in Whatcom County waters. These locations are also in proximity to areas under protection and can provide a focal point for data collection, education, and public involvement in developing site-specific strategies for species protection and enhancement.

The project also found support among recreational SCUBA divers for voluntary dive surveys and monitoring to assess bottomfish populations, sizes and habitat conditions. This interest, as well as interest from other segments of the public, may provide valuable information and support for developing site-specific strategies.

Table of Contents

Bottomfish Resources in Whatcom County

- Existing data sources

- Public comments on bottomfish resources

Bottomfish Management and Recovery

- Existing management

- Public comments on management and recovery

Findings & Recommendations

APPENDIX A

- Flounder and Sole Fact Sheet

- Lingcod Fact Sheet

- Rockfish Fact Sheet

- Bottomfish of Whatcom County Brochure

- PowerPoint Presentation

APPENDIX B

- Public Workshop Format and Content

APPENDIX C

- Anecdotal Locations of Bottomfish in Whatcom County

APPENDIX D

- Charts of Commercial Catch in Whatcom County of Bottomfish Species
(Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife)

APPENDIX E

- Tulalip Tribes Fishery Regulations

APPENDIX F

- Selected Bibliography

BOTTOMFISH RESOURCES IN WHATCOM COUNTY

“Bottomfish,” for the purposes of this project, included demersal (bottom-dwelling) species having commercial and sport value: flounder and sole, lingcod, and rockfish. Pacific cod, which feeds on the bottom, was included but not focused on in this project.

Existing Data Sources

Marine Resources of Whatcom County (Anchor Environmental, 2001) identified a broad range of groundfish species captured by trawl surveys in Whatcom County waters as reported by Palsson et al., 1998. Generalized locations where demersal, pelagic, and reef-dwelling species were found were depicted using 1992 Washington Department of Fisheries catch data. Generalized locations based on trawl surveys where English sole, starry flounder, Dover sole, rock sole, and sand sole were found were also depicted (Palsson, et al., 1998).

For the purposes of this project, generalized maps showing ranges of flounder and sole, lingcod, and rockfish were developed using data from the *Washington Marine Atlas* (Department of Natural Resources 1974); *Anglers’ Guide to the United States Pacific Coast* (Squire and Smith 1977); *Geographical Distribution of Puget Sound Fishes* (Miller and Borton 1980); *Technical Report No. 79* (Washington Department of Fisheries 1992); and the *Puget Sound Groundfish Management Plan* (Palsson et al. 1998).

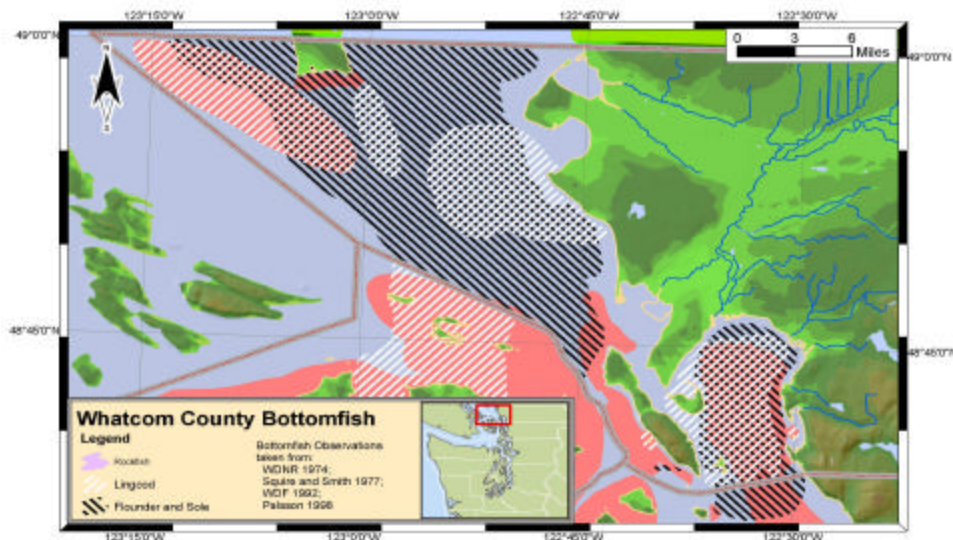


Figure 1: Flatfish, Lingcod, and Rockfish in Whatcom County

The depiction of these data sets in graphic formats is limited inasmuch as they show a historical compilation of presence of flatfish, lingcod, and rockfish in county waters. A

depiction of an absence of bottomfish may be a lack of data and not necessarily indicative of “real world” conditions.

Abundance and size data for these species has been historically dependent on commercial and sport catch records and, more recently, on survey trawls and underwater videography. In general, species abundance and size have been extrapolated from harvest data based on size and fishing effort (i.e. the smaller the fish, the smaller the spawning potential; the fewer fish caught per hour/day, the fewer fish there are to catch).

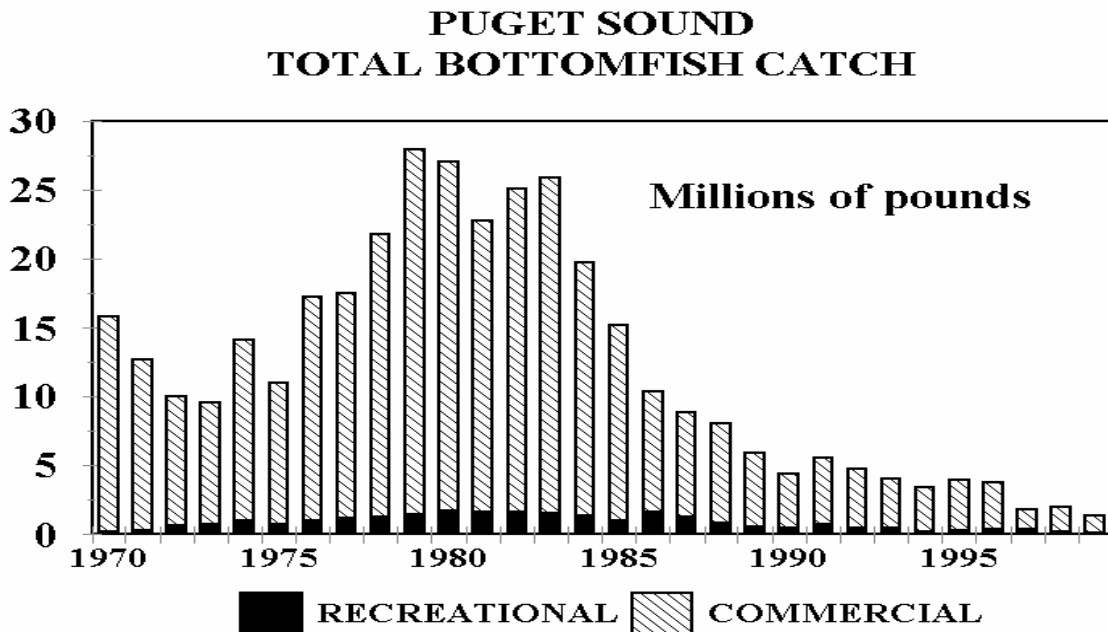


Figure 2: Total Bottomfish Catch, 1970-1999 (WDFW)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (WDFW) management area for Whatcom County marine waters includes both Whatcom and San Juan county waters (Strait of Georgia and San Juan Islands). In their 2002 review of the state of Puget Sound groundfish in the Strait of Georgia and the San Juan Islands, WDFW preliminarily assessed the status of English sole, rock sole, starry flounder and sand sole as “above average,” the status of Dover sole as “critical,” the status of lingcod as “above average,” and the status of rockfish as “unknown” (PSWQAT 2002).

These preliminary assessments are based on a comparison of recent harvest numbers, size and fishing effort to a 20-year average. The assessments for the Georgia Strait/San Juan management basin “should be considered tentative pending a more full review of the data quality, statistical variability, and population dynamics” (PSWQAT 2002).

Local Knowledge

The project solicited “local knowledge” of bottomfish resources through three community meetings. Participants identified themselves as recreational divers, commercial (trawl) fishermen, and interested residents, some of whom were sport fishers.

Participants were encouraged to talk about where bottomfish are or used to be in Whatcom County waters and to indicate locations on a map.

Rockfish locations identified include: southeast of Lummi Island (small fish; large tiger and copper rockfish in deep water), south of Lummi Island (deep water), north side of Lummi Island, north end of Chuckanut Bay, and off the Point Roberts buoy. In addition, a few rockfish were reportedly seen off Lummi Rocks and there were conflicting accounts of rockfish at Alden Banks.

Lingcod were only identified in the area southwest of Lummi Island.

Commercial (trawl) fishers identified current flatfish (English sole) and Pacific cod locations west of Alden Bank at 100 fathoms up to the Canadian border. These fish were previously caught west of the bank at 17-40 fathom depths, but now there are only a few flounders and rock soles there. In the opinion of the commercial fishers, the movement of flounders and sole to deeper water is due to warm water effluent released by Cherry Point industries.

Commercial fishers took exception to the use of fishing effort (the number of fish caught per hour/day) for estimating stock status and determining limits and seasons. The commercial fishers believe that an individual's skills play an important role in the number of fish caught per hour/day.

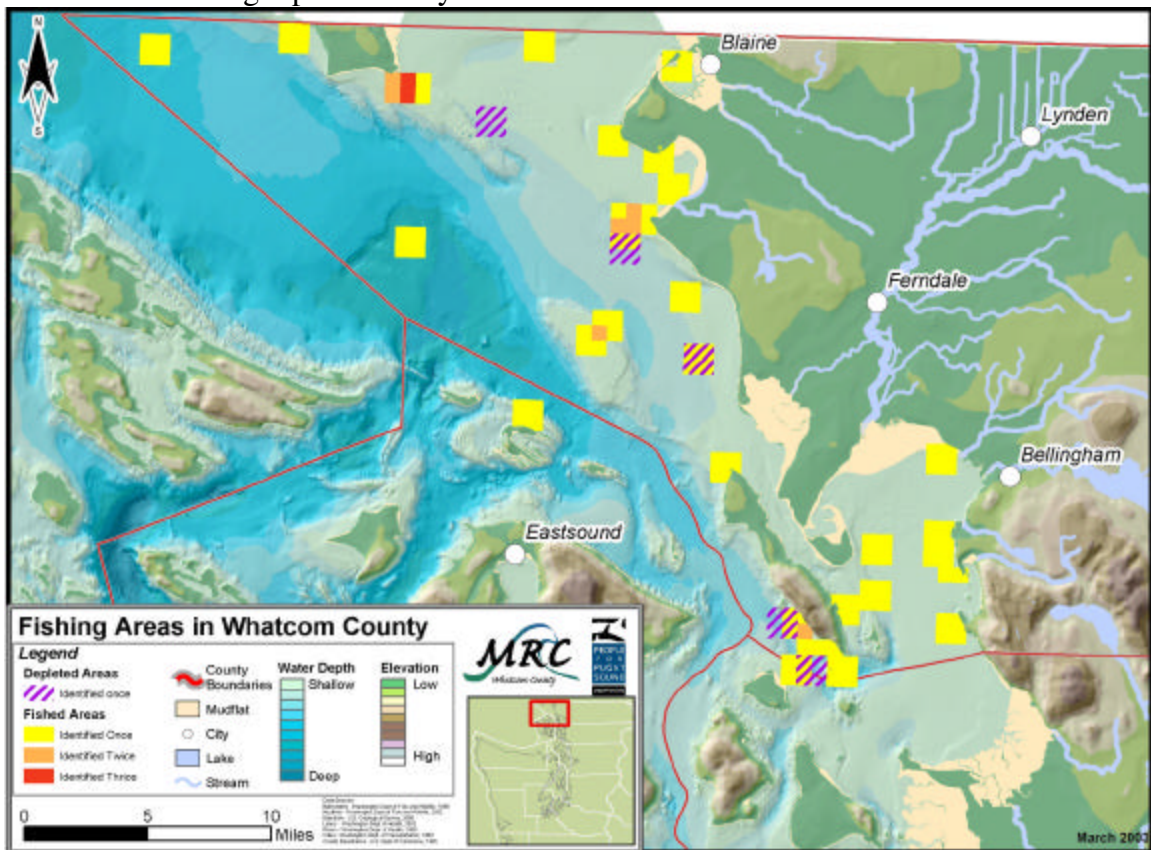


Figure 3: Anecdotal locations of bottomfish in Whatcom County

BOTTOMFISH MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY

Existing Management

In Whatcom County waters and in Washington State, harvest of marine resources is, by law, jointly managed by both the state and by treaty tribes with Usual and Accustomed (U&A) fishing areas in county waters. The habitats depended on by these marine resources are, by agreement, to be protected and restored cooperatively. (Treaty tribes with U&As in county waters are: Lummi, Nooksack, Tulalip, Swinomish, Suquamish, and Upper Skagit.)

Each treaty tribe with a U&A in county waters manages its own commercial harvests. (See Appendix E: Tulalip Tribes fishing regulations.) Tribal members also fish in U&A waters for ceremonial and subsistence purposes.

WDFW manages commercial and sport harvest for non-tribal fishers. Starry flounder is commercially harvested in Bellingham Bay and Georgia Strait; sole and Pacific cod harvest is now limited to Georgia Strait. Commercial harvest of starry flounder, sole and Pacific cod continue at a drastically reduced level in the Strait of Georgia. Rock cod (rockfish) and lingcod are closed to commercial harvest.

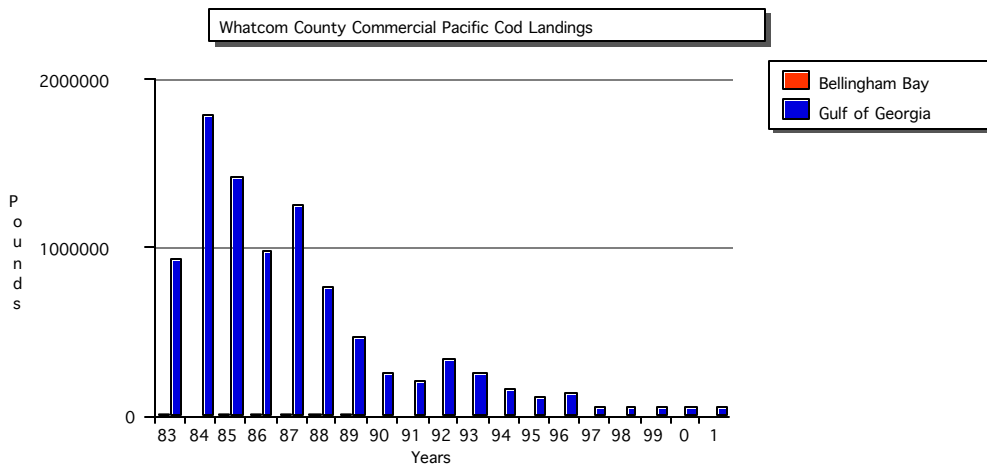


Figure 4: Whatcom County Commercial Pacific Cod Landings, 1983-2001 (WDFW)

Sport harvest of Pacific cod, rockfish, flounders and sole is open year-round with daily bag limits of two (cod), one (rockfish), and 15 (flatfish). Hook-and-line harvest of lingcod is limited to a six-week season in late Spring with a limit of one fish/day no smaller than 26 inches and no larger than 40 inches. Spearfishing season for lingcod is limited to a three-week season with a limit of one fish/day of any size.

For the 2003-2004 sport fishing season, the Fish & Wildlife Commission has closed the harvest of canary and yelloweye rockfish in all Strait of Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound waters.

The Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission in 1998 adopted a Puget Sound Groundfish Management Plan. In 2000, WDFW began negotiations with treaty tribes on a Groundfish Conservation Plan to co-manage the recovery of depleted species by setting strict limits on harvest, developing marine protected areas, and using ecosystem management principles. Conservation management of flounder and sole species, lingcod, rockfish, and Pacific cod, walleye pollock and Pacific whiting (hake) would be included in an adopted conservation plan. The draft plan recognizes the uncertainties inherent in management data and proposes the use of the Precautionary Principle to guide management decisions. To date, negotiations continue between WDFW and treaty tribes, with focus on species-by-species catch management.

There are no protected areas or reserves in Whatcom County that have been specifically established by Federal, tribal, state or local jurisdictions to protect or aid in the recovery of marine organisms. There are, however, a number of areas that may provide some level of protection to marine resources through other programs. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has designated two terrestrial bird refuges as part of its San Juan Islands National Wildlife Refuge (Eliza Rock and Viti Rocks terrestrial and intertidal) in Whatcom waters surrounded by an advisory 200-yard buffer. WDFW has established the Lummi Island Natural Area Preserve (terrestrial and intertidal) for priority bird species protected by no access rules. (As a Natural Area Preserve, public access is intended to be restricted but no management plan has been developed for the site and the “no access” rule is not strictly enforced.) The Washington Department of Natural Resources has withdrawn state tidelands from leasing activity in the Cherry Point area under its Aquatic Reserves Program.

The Nature Conservancy, a private non-profit organization, owns and manages the Chuckanut Island/Cyrus Gates Memorial (terrestrial and intertidal) to protect rare plants and animals, to encourage scientific research, and to promote environmental education. The Conservancy prohibits collecting of any organisms in the Preserve’s rich intertidal zone or on the uplands.

Local Comments

The project solicited local comments on bottomfish management at its three community meetings. Participants identified themselves as recreational divers, commercial (trawl) fishermen, and interested residents, some of whom were sport fishers. Participants were encouraged to discuss various management options.

Commercial (trawl) fishers, as noted above, took strong exception to how WDFW establishes stock status and seasonal and catch limits. In their opinion, flatfish and true cod populations are up but they are not allowed to fish due to WDFW’s flawed methods in determining stock status.

Some local divers confirmed an increase in lingcod populations since the season was shortened and bag and size limits were imposed for sport hook-and-line fishers. Some divers who harvest lingcod objected to continuation of the short seasonal restriction and bag limit of one fish/day. They consider their harvest to be selective (unlike that of hook-and-line sport fishers) and that the increase in lingcod numbers justifies relaxing regulations at this time.

Sport fishers had varying views of harvest closures, fishing moratoriums, and reserve areas in contrast to non-extractive recreational users. Temporary harvest closures involved discussion of how long such closures would be necessary for specific species to recover, whether such closures favor certain fish like lingcod which prey on other species including rockfish, how the effectiveness of such closures would be measured, how they would be enforced, and how reasons for closures would be understood by the public.

Those divers familiar with Edmonds Underwater Park recognized the efficacy of no-harvest marine reserves in increased size and abundance of lingcod and rockfish species and were supportive of reserve areas. Several participants, however, pointed to other possible causes of bottomfish declines such as water quality and habitat loss that restricting or prohibiting harvest would not address. There was general consensus that it would take education to gain the support of sport fishers for either further restricted harvest or limited or no harvest in reserve areas. In addition, it was believed that it would be asking too much to expect voluntary compliance and self-policing.

Many participants had questions about rockfish life histories and management details: how far do rockfish larvae disperse on water currents, how large an area should be in reserve, and the research that needs to be done. Divers suggested using established protocols to do fish surveys for baseline and ongoing monitoring. Another suggestion was to raise money to allow WDFW to buy another underwater video camera.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings

1) This project developed an information base of stock status (for flatfish, lingcod, rockfish, and general bottomfish species) and management options that can provide an ongoing education and involvement program for the MRC. The project scope included providing general Whatcom County bottomfish information and eliciting public comment. The broad species focus diffused public comments over several issues such as commercial and sport fishing, different habitats and species life histories, and different management techniques.

2) Despite extensive public outreach, the participation of sport hook-and-line fishers was lower than that of similar workshops in Skagit and San Juan counties. The public workshops did benefit from the participation of commercial (trawl) fishers and extractive and non-extractive divers.

3) The project did not succeed in engaging the participation of treaty tribes with U&As in county waters. However, the project did receive review of printed educational materials from state managers.

4) The scientific and monitoring data for this project's bottomfish stocks are, in most cases, generalized and time-dated. There is long-standing disagreement on commercial catch data between fishers and state managers. There was agreement among sport fishers and recreational users that lingcod populations have increased in abundance. Local knowledge of rockfish trends are, like state fisheries data, inconclusive.

5) Local knowledge of fish resources and management options vary considerably, depending on familiarity with specific species and how management (regulations) affect the individual's livelihood or recreation.

6) Anecdotal data from the workshops, while limited, coincide with existing survey data for rockfish or lingcod presence at Point Roberts, Point Whitehorn, north Lummi Island, southwest Lummi Island, southeast Lummi Island, and Bellingham Bay. Anecdotal data of species presence at Alden Bank does not reflect patterns seen in existing survey data.

7) Local divers who know bottomfish and their associated habitats and can survey and monitor these populations and habitats provide one of the best examples of local knowledge and the opportunity for public involvement.

8) Although Whatcom County does not have as many established intertidal and upland protected areas as San Juan County, it does have opportunities for working towards a network of marine protected areas associated with some established sites.

Recommendations

1) The MRC should focus future information and involvement efforts on rockfish and lingcod species, their life histories, and their habitats. These species share similar habitats and provide a focus for engaging sport fishers and non-extractive recreationalists.

2) The MRC should continue public information presentations to dive groups, fishing clubs, and recreational interest groups.

3) The authority for management of bottomfish species by season, size, gear limits and establishment of limited- or no-harvest protected areas resides exclusively with the treaty tribes and state co-managers. The MRC should share this report with the co-managers and consult with the co-managers on the opportunities for the MRC to be involved in the process of protecting bottomfish species.

4) The MRC should update their database with current WDFW commercial and recreational catch records for Areas 21A (Bellingham Bay), 20A (Gulf of Georgia), and 20B (San Juan) on a regular basis.

- 5) The MRC should consult with Skagit and San Juan county MRCs on the use of underwater survey and monitoring protocols developed for baseline and monitoring surveys of rockfish and lingcod and their habitats. The MRC should facilitate volunteer diver participation in a dive survey program.
- 6) The MRC should consult with Skagit and San Juan county MRCs on coordinating public education and outreach efforts related to rockfish and lingcod species. County “borders” do not limit sport fishers and non-extractive recreationalists.
- 7) The MRC should consult with US Fish and Wildlife, WDFW, WDNR, and The Nature Conservancy to gather information regarding their existing Wildlife Refuges, Natural Area Preserve, Aquatic Reserve, and Memorial in Whatcom County with intertidal protections. This information may be useful in future public education and outreach programs.
- 8) The MRC should provide public comment and technical review on WDNR’s Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve and to WDFW’s 2004 Sportfishing Regulations cycle.
- 9) The marine areas in the vicinity of Lummi Rocks, Eliza Rock, Viti Rocks, and Chuckanut Island are identified both anecdotally and by past surveys as both rockfish and lingcod habitat. These areas are also in the vicinity of a WDFW Natural Resources Preserve, US Fish & Wildlife Refuge, and a Nature Conservancy memorial preserve. These areas should be given priority and focus in data collection, public education and involvement, and development of site management plans for rockfish or lingcod protection and conservation.
- 10) The marine areas in the vicinity of Point Roberts and Point Whitehorn are also identified both anecdotally and by past surveys as rockfish and lingcod habitat. One of these areas is under protective designation (Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve) and should be given priority and focus in data collection, public education and involvement, and development of site management plans for rockfish or lingcod protection and conservation.

APPENDIX A

Fact Sheets:

Flounder and sole

Lingcod

Rockfish

Brochure:

Bottomfish of Whatcom County

Power Point Presentation:

Whatcom County Bottomfish: Protecting and Restoring Our Marine Resources

APPENDIX B

Public Workshop Format and Content

Public workshops were held on the following dates at the following locations:

February 18, Whatcom County Civic Center Annex, 7 PM.

February 19, Blaine Marina Conference Center, 7 PM.

February 27, Squaticum Boathouse, 7 PM.

Workshop agenda:

Welcome and Introductions (Michelle Evans)

PowerPoint Presentation, Part I (Michelle Evans)

PowerPoint Presentation, Part II (Chris Fairbanks)

Discussion

Discussion format:

Participants were asked to address three questions:

Are there areas where there were once fish that now have no fish?

Are there areas where there are still fish?

Are there areas where fish need greater protection?

Discussion was recorded by volunteer recorders and compiled into a written record:

February 18: Daphne Bristol, Lee Hawley, Jill Fullagar

February 19: Francesca Perez, Mike Sato

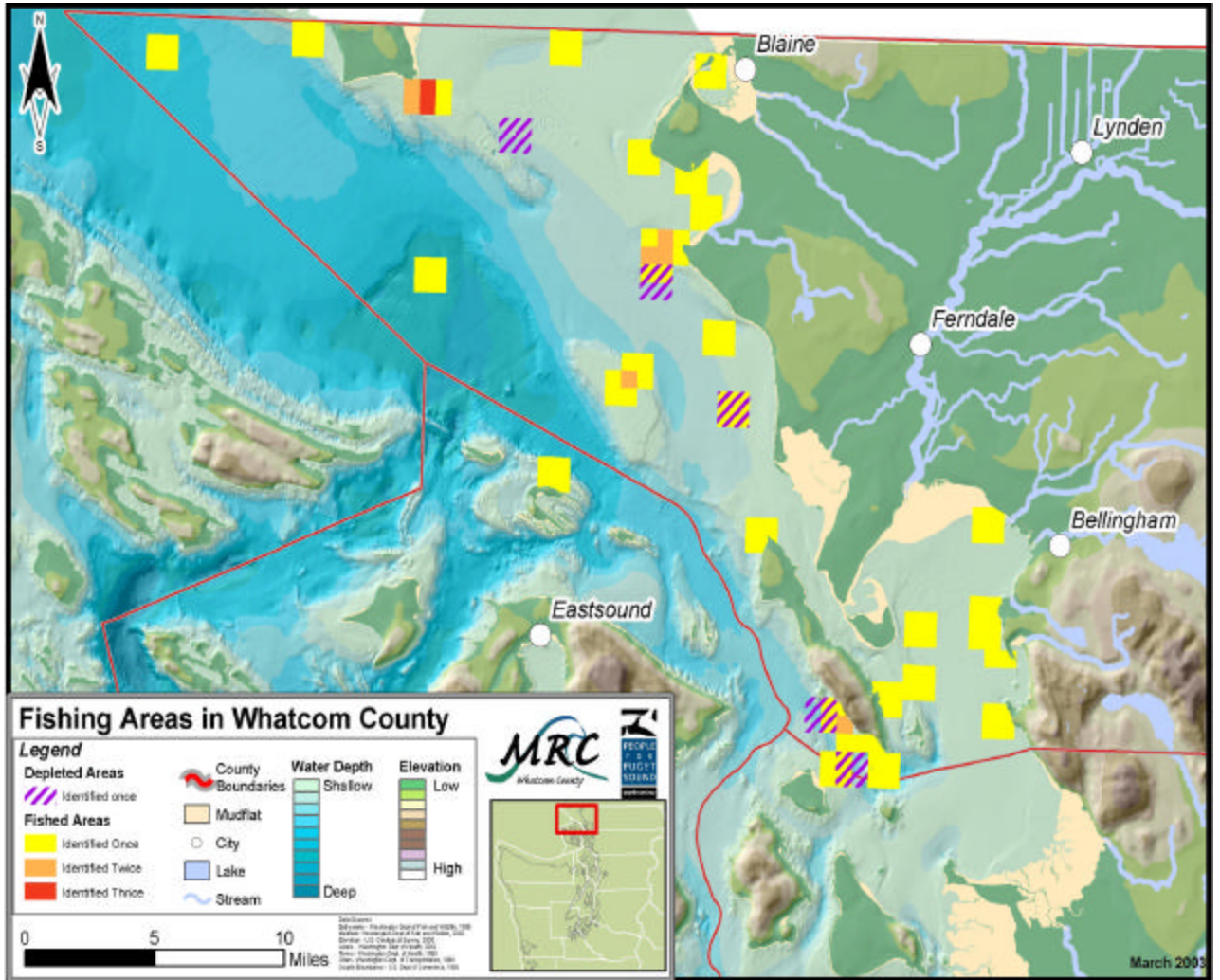
February 27: Lee Hawley, Christa Strickwerda, Todd TenBrink, Peter Arneil

Participants were asked to identify with colored dots on a map of Whatcom County areas where there were still bottomfish (green), areas where there were no longer any bottomfish (red), and areas where additional protection may be justified (orange).

Locations and frequency of dots were compiled using a grid system and depicted as a map (Appendix C).

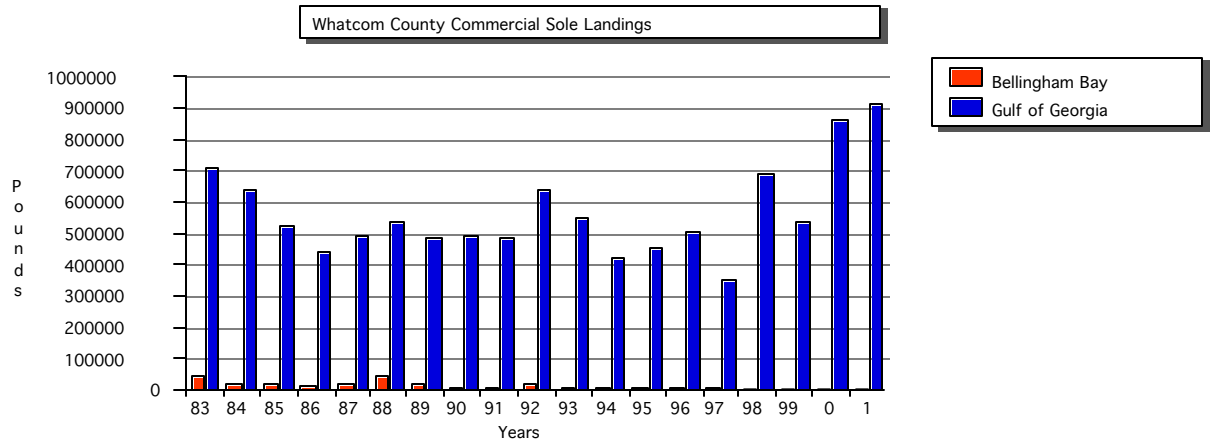
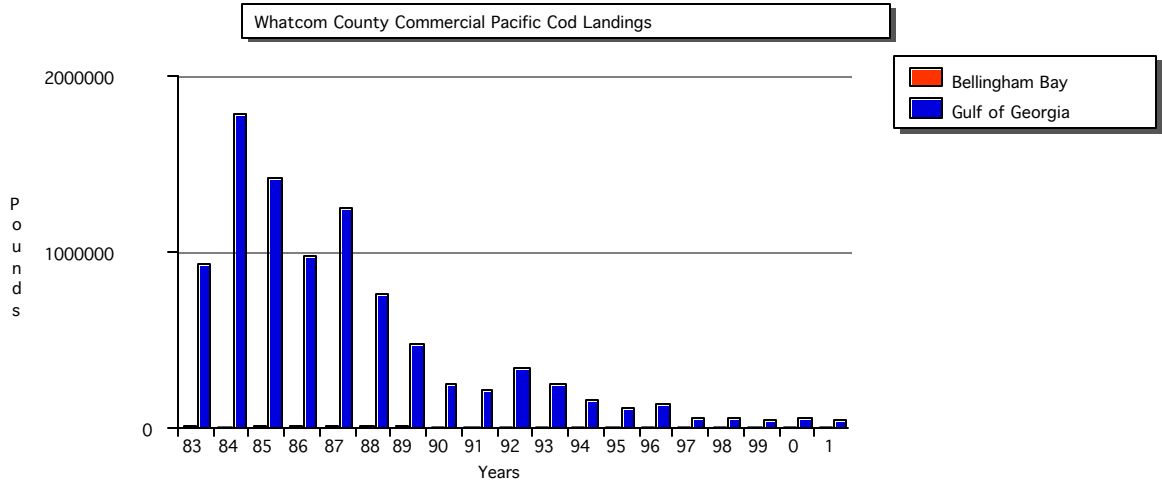
APPENDIX C

Anecdotal Locations of Bottomfish in Whatcom County

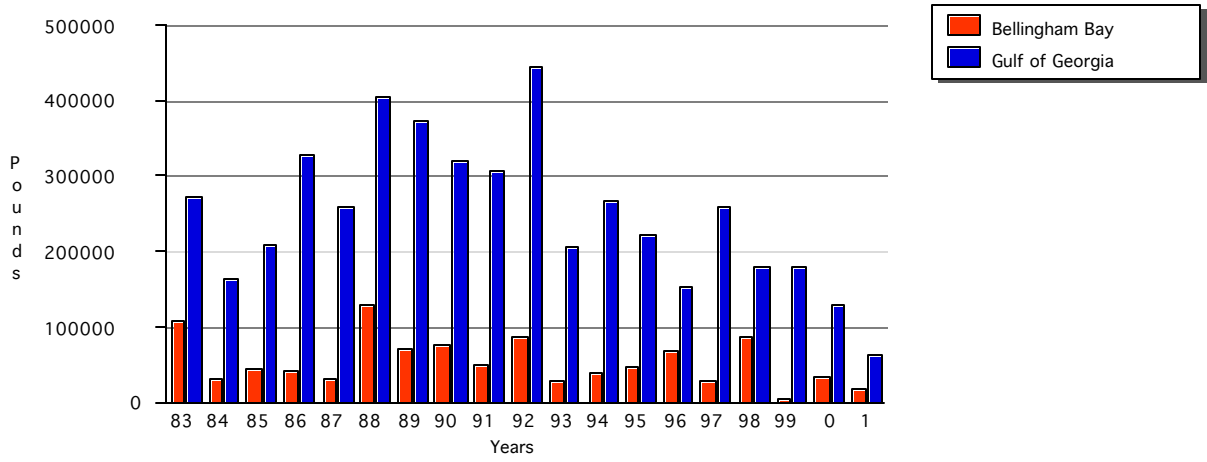


APPENDIX D

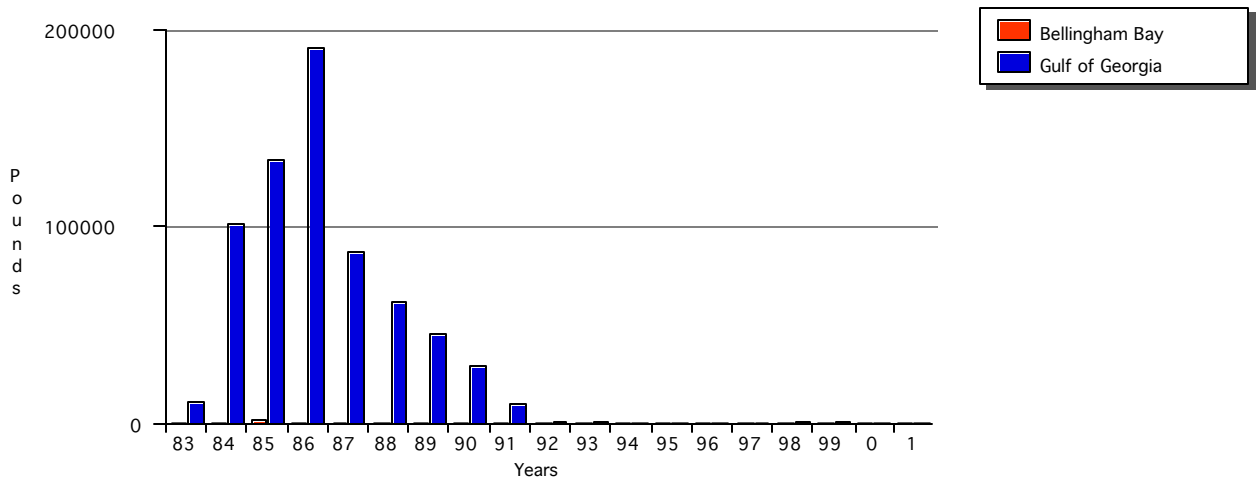
Charts of Commercial Catch in Whatcom County of Bottomfish Species (Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife)



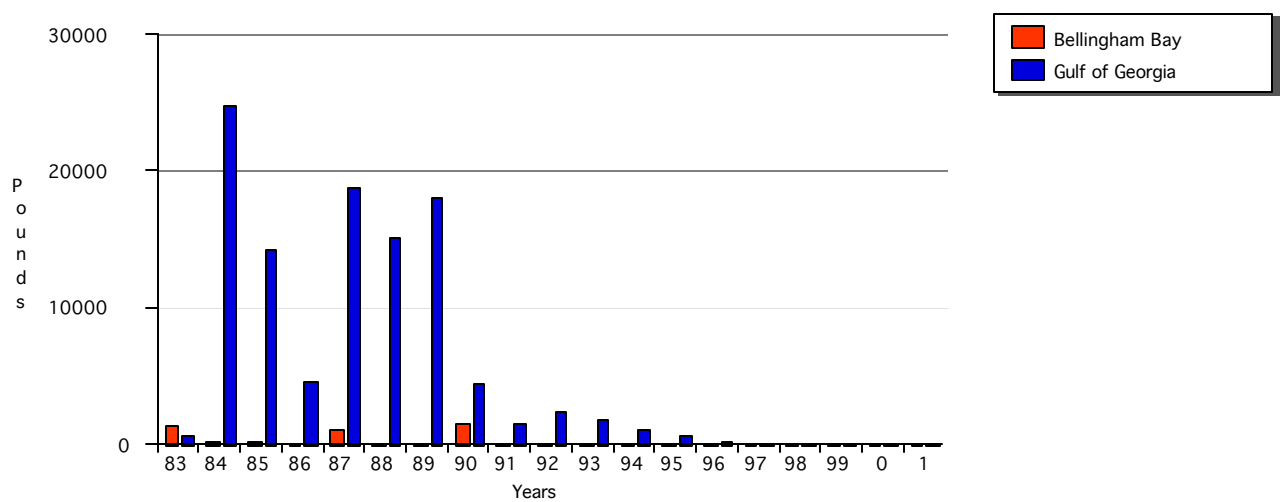
Whatcom County Commercial Starry Flounder Landings



Whatcom County Commercial Ling Cod Landings



Whatcom County Commercial Rock Cod Landings



APPENDIX E

TULALIP TRIBES FISHING REGULATION

DATE: April 26, 2002

REGULATION NO: 2002- -02

Annual bottomfish and marine fish regulation. This regulation covers ceremonial, subsistence, and commercial fishing.

SPECIES: Pacific cod, walleye pollock, Pacific tomcod, pacific whiting, flounders, dabs, soles (excluding Pacific halibut which is covered by another regulation), greenlings (including lingcod), rattfish, sablefish, cabezon, spiny dogfish, all species of sharks, all species of rockfish, all surf perches.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective April 29, 2002. Supersedes all previous marine fish regulations of the Tulalip Tribes. Remains in effect until superseded.

AREAS: Area designations are from Washington Department of Fisheries map "Marine Fish - Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Areas", dated January 1, 1985. Open areas include 20A, 20B, 21A (west of a line from the southernmost tip of Lummi Island to Vendovi Island), 22A, 22B (west of a line from Vendovi Island to the northernmost tip of Guemes Island, thence along the eastern shore of Guemes Island to Clark Point, thence to March Point), 23A (northeast of a line from Trial Island light to Protection Island), 23B, 24B, 24C (south of a line extended due west from Camano City to Whidbey Island), 24D, 25A (north and east of a line from Trial Island light to Protection Island, thence to McCurdy Point), 25B (east of a line from Point Wilson to Marrowstone Point, thence along the eastern shore of Marrowstone Island to Liplip Point, thence to Foulweather Bluff), 26A, 26B (excluding Port Madison west of a line from Point Jefferson to Point Monroe, and excluding that portion of Area 26B east of a line from Meadow Point to West Point, thence to Alki Point). Other areas are closed at this time but may be open by subsequent regulation.

CLOSURE OF SAN JUAN ISLANDS MARINE PRESERVES: The following areas within Area 22A remain closed to protect shellfish and marine fish production areas and to protect long-term research projects.

False Bay. The tidelands of False Bay on San Juan Island and the waters 500 yards seaward of its entrance, beginning at a line bearing due south (180° true) from the east entrance of the bay (longitude 123° 04' 00" W) to a line bearing due south from the west side of the small peninsula at the west entrance of the bay (longitude 123° 04' 30" W). the tidelands extending 400 feet to the west of the entrance of the bay and 600 feet to the east of the entrance of the bay also remain closed.

Point Caution Area. The shore of San Juan Island from near the Port of Friday Harbor to the vicinity of Point Caution to 500 yards seaward, beginning north of a line from the point of land (latitude 48° 32' 26.5" N, longitude 123° 0' 53" W) between the port of Friday harbor and Beaverton Cove (bearing 65° true) to Reid Rock buoy and ending east of a line perpendicular to the shore 500 yards west of Point Caution; to a distance of 500 yards offshore between these lines.

Argyle Lagoon. The waters enclosed by the inner spit of Argyle Lagoon on San Juan Island.

Yellow and Low Islands. The tidelands and waters to 300 yards seaward around yellow Island and the tidelands and waters to 300 yards seaward around Low Island (a small island south of Yellow Island).

Southwest Shore of Shaw Island. The area on the southwest shore of Shaw Island, beginning from a line south from Hicks Bay (longitude 122° 58' 15" W) continuing west and north to a line which bears 261° true from the marker on the shore of Parks Bay to Point Caution and which passes just south of the unnamed island at the north entrance of Parks Bay (latitude 48° 33' 57" N, longitude 122° 58' 58" W).

LEGAL GEAR: All legal bottomfish, dogfish setnet, and hook and line gear as described in the Tulalip General Fishing Regulation.

GEAR MARKING: Gear marking requirements are specified in the General Fishing Regulation.

CATCH REPORTING: All commercial catch must be reported on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets. All catch of rockfish, lingcod, and Pacific cod, for whatever purpose, must be reported on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets or reported in person or by phone (360-651-4600) to the Tulalip Fisheries Office within 24 hours of the harvest.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AND PERMITS: All persons engaging in fishing under this regulation must have in their possession the official identification card for Tulalip Tribes fishing as defined in the General Fishing Regulation. All persons engaged in commercial fishing must have a current Tulalip operator's or special family assistance permit in their own name in their possession. A currently valid gear license, in the name of the owner of the gear and valid for the type of gear being used, must also be in the possession of the operator of the gear while fishing commercially and while selling fish.

SEASON: Year-round, except as otherwise noted below. 24 hours/day, seven days/week, except as otherwise noted below. Season, days, and hours may be modified by emergency regulation.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS/LIMITS/RESTRICTIONS BY GEAR:

1. Beam trawl, otter trawl, pelagic trawl, and bottomfish trawl gears remain closed in all areas unless and until opened by emergency regulation.
2. Beach seines or drag seines may not be used for capture of surf perches between May 1 and August 31, or for other species between May 1 and September 30, except that subsistence fishing for bottomfish with beach seines is allowed year-round from beaches located on the Tulalip Reservation (within Area 24B).
3. Dogfish setnets may only be used in the following areas and seasons: Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 22A, and 22B (open May 1 through April 30); Areas 24B, 25A, 25B, 26A, and 26B (open May 1 through April 30). These areas and times may be modified or extended by emergency regulation.
4. Bottomfish pots are open in Areas 20A, 21A, 23A,, and 23B May 1 through November 30. Other areas are closed the entire year unless opened by emergency regulation.

5. All gears. No bottomfish or marine fish gear may be left unattended in areas that would conflict with other legal Tulalip tribal fishing activities.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS/LIMITS/RESTRICTIONS BY SPECIES:

1. All English sole measuring less than 12” total length and all starry flounder measuring less than 14” total length must be released unharmed.
2. Lingcod regulations:
 - 2a) Commercial harvest of lingcod closed December 1 through April 30 in all areas, unless open by emergency regulation. At other times, commercial harvest of lingcod shall be limited to at most 200 pounds per landing within any 24-hour period.
 - 2b) Subsistence harvest of lingcod is closed in all areas December 1 through April 30. At other times, up to two (2) lingcod of any size may be retained per day per person for subsistence purposes. All lingcod retained for any purpose must be reported on fish tickets or by telephone (360-651-4600) to the Tulalip Fisheries Office within 24 hours of the harvest.
3. The current condition of Pacific cod stocks in Puget Sound necessitates limited harvest activity. Accordingly, commercial harvest of Pacific cod under this regulation shall be limited to at most 200 pounds per landing within any 24-hour period.
4. The current condition of rockfish stocks in Puget Sound necessitates limited harvest activity. Accordingly, commercial harvest of all species of rockfish under this regulation shall be limited to at most 200 pounds, in the aggregate, per landing within any 24-hour period.
5. Salmon (including steelhead) and Pacific halibut may not be sold under this regulation. The retention of up to two salmon or steelhead per day for subsistence use only is permitted under this regulation. The salmon must have been caught incidental to the harvest of marine fish and they must be recorded in the “take-home” portion of the fish ticket for the date and location on which they were harvested or otherwise reported to the Tulalip Fisheries Department within 24 hours. Retention limits for Pacific halibut are covered under a separate regulation.

If salmon or steelhead are retained in excess of the 2 per day subsistence limit, they must be recorded on the fish ticket and they will immediately become the property of the Tulalip Tribes. It is the responsibility of the operator of the marine fishing gear to deliver such excess incidental harvest of salmon to the Tulalip Tribes in a condition suitable for freezing and storage in the ceremonial fish bank.

6. All salmon, steelhead, Pacific halibut, lingcod, rockfish, and Pacific cod harvested under Tulalip Tribes fishing regulations, for whatever purpose, must be recorded on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets, properly recorded on Catch Record Cards provided by Tulalip Fisheries, or reported directly to the Tulalip Fisheries Office where they will be recorded on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets.

PERSONAL USE/SUBSISTENCE BAG AND RETENTION LIMITS: Subsistence harvest of bottomfish shall be subject to the following daily bag and retention limits.

Off-Reservation: 15 fish daily bag limit, with no more than 2 rockfish, 2 Pacific cod, 5 pollock, 10 surf perches, and 2 lingcod included. On-Reservation: 25 fish per person daily bag limit. Lingcod, rockfish, and Pacific cod limits the same as off-reservation.

EMERGENCY REGULATIONS: Any provision of the above may be modified at any time by emergency regulation.

THE TULALIP TRIBES

Joseph M. Hatch, Sr.
Fisheries/Wildlife Director

APPENDIX F

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