

## Widow Rockfish Assessment “Q&A”

The following questions are based on [Agenda Item F.2.a., Supplemental GAP Report 1, November 2025](#) and other industry comments.

1. Why does simplifying the fleets result in the October model result in a large change in the Overfishing Limit (OFL) in 2027?
2. The fishery is congregated in a couple of areas, with limited fishing on the stock on the remainder of the coast which is known to have aggregations of widow rockfish. How does the model account for expected differences in spatial distribution between the survey and the fishery?
  - a. If there is an expectation that this could be explained by hyperstability, what evidence is there that widow rockfish exhibit that sort of behavior/population dynamics and that that could have such a pronounced impact on fishery dependent data versus fishery independent data for this stock.
3. How does the change in hook-and-line discard data result in such a large change in biomass when hook-and-line mortality is such a small fraction of overall mortality for this stock?
4. How does the model take into account that the trawl survey occurs during the day, but the fishery occurs at night?
5. How does the model take into account the influence of the season extension via the exempted fishing permit (EFP)? Prior to 2017, the midwater rockfish was only allowed to use midwater trawl gear during the primary whiting season. In 2018, an EFP was started and continues today that allows year-round midwater rockfish fishing with midwater trawl gear.
6. Fishery mortality and CPUE has been stable over the last eight years, how does that comport with the estimated productivity being so low that 10 year projections don't seem very sensitive to the greatly reduced allocations?
7. Why does the fecundity change in the October supplemental model runs have such a large influence on the estimated OFL?