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# **Economic Status of the Groundfish Fisheries off Alaska, 2015**

**Presented by:**

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# Economic Status Report, 2015: Content of the Sept. Draft

- Executive Summary: 2015 highlights
- Overview : Information for understanding economic data
- Economic Data Tables:

- Catch
- Discards, PSC (levels and rates)
- Ex-vessel production, prices and value (based on COAR)

- First-wholesale production, prices and value
- Effort indicators

- Economic Indices – figures and tables only
- Supplementary Data Tables:

- CFEC fish ticket based ex-vessel pricing and value
- Species specific rockfish & flatfish economic data

- Fishmeal economic data
- Export quantities & value; global whitefish production; processing and harvesting employment



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# Economic Status Report, 2015: Additional Final Draft Content (Nov.)

- Economic Indices – analysis
- Wholesale and **ex-vessel** price projections
- Market Profiles (extensively revised last year)
- Catch share performance metrics
- Amendment 80 Economic Data Report
- **Amendment 91 Economic Data Report**
- **Communities Section (revised)**
- Recent and ongoing ESSRP research and publications

(new material in red)

# Where's the data I need?

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Socioeconomics/SAFE/groundfish.php>

## Data Time Series for Tables in the Groundfish Economic Status Report (CSV format)

Time series data for 1991 to the most recent reporting year are available in CSV format for Tables 1-50 in the SAFE. Data and documentation may be downloaded for all tables as a [.zip file](#) or for individual tables by selecting from the links below. Please refer to the documentation and [the most recent Groundfish Economic Status Report](#) for data sources and notes on using and interpreting these data.

*Data files currently report through the year 2013 and reflect the state of data as of November 2014.*

### ▼ Groundfish Catch Data: Tables 1-5

#### [Documentation for Tables 1-5](#)

- [Table 1: Groundfish catch in the commercial fisheries off Alaska by area and species](#)
- [Table 1A: Catch of species other than groundfish in the domestic commercial fisheries](#)
- [Table 2: Groundfish catch off Alaska by area, vessel type, gear and species](#)
- [Table 3-4: Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish catch by species, gear, and target fishery](#)
- [Table 5: Groundfish catch off Alaska by area, residency, and species](#)

### ► Groundfish Discards and Discard Rates: Tables 6-10



# Commonly Used Tables

## Total Catch

- Table 1: big picture, fed + state
- Table 2: detailed, fed only (can combine with discards on Table 6 for retained catch)
- Tables 6 & 11: discards and prohibited species catch (PSC)

## Ex-vessel Market

- Table 18: ex-vessel prices
- Table 19: ex-vessel value

## First-wholesale Market

- Table 25: first-wholesale product quantities and value
- Table 26: first-wholesale product prices

We are planning to extensively revise the economic data tables and are seeking your input! More on this to come.

# Alaska's FMP Groundfish Fisheries in 2015

Total federal catch:

2.2 million t

(no significant change)

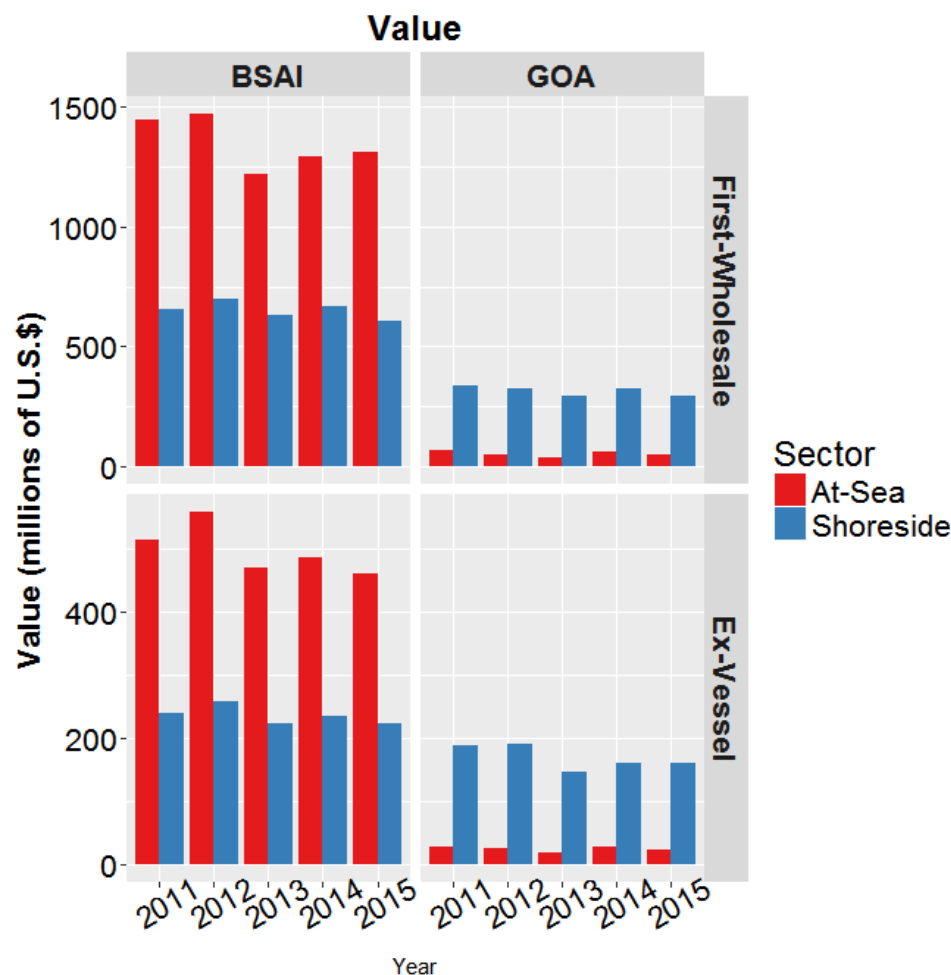
Value decreased across  
regions and sectors

Wholesale value:

\$2.26 billion (down 6.9%)

Ex-vessel value:

\$896 million (down 4.1%)

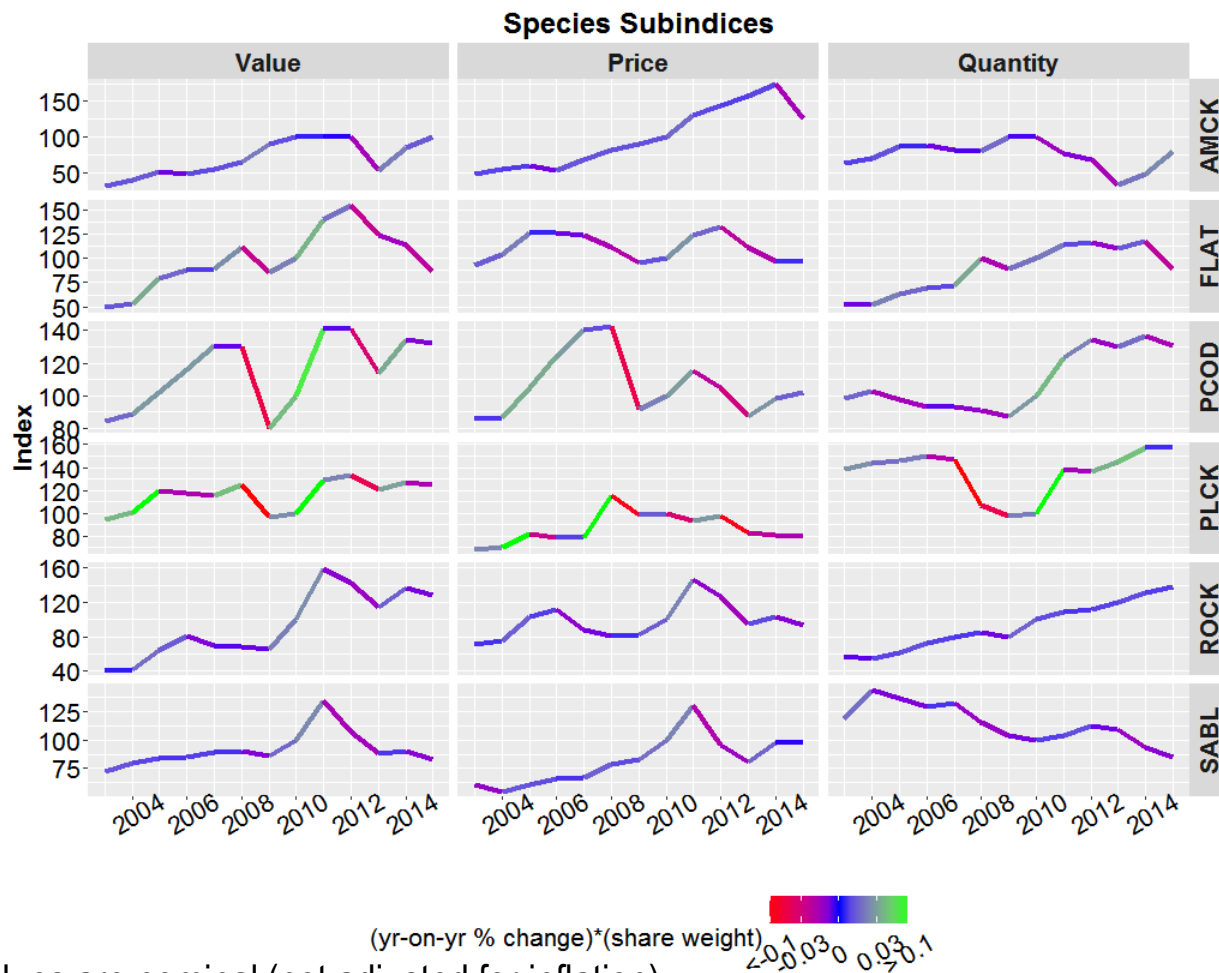


Values nominal (not adjusted for inflation)

Summary: For most species there weren't substantial price changes. Changes in value largely reflect changes in catch and production.

## Species

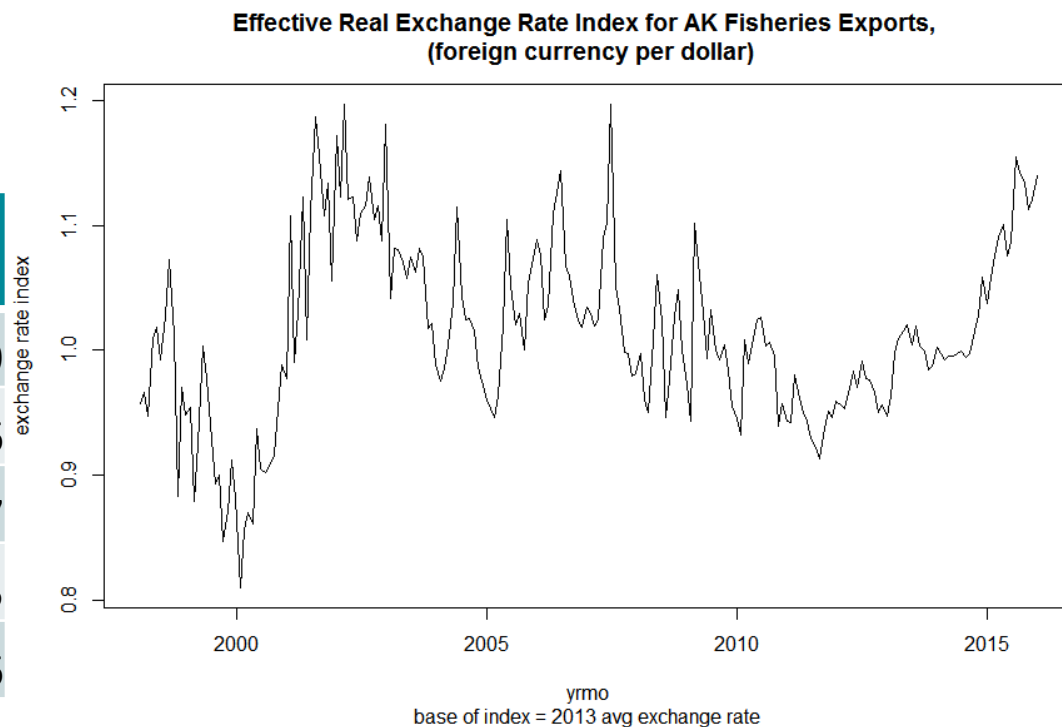
- Value decreases:
  - Flatfish
    - yellowfin and arrowtooth
  - Sablefish
- Value increased:
  - Atka Mackerel
- Not a significant value change:
  - Pacific Cod
  - Pollock



# Export Market

## Exports of AK Groundfish Species from WA and AK

	Quantity K mt	Value M US\$	Price/lb US\$
2011	528.7	\$ 1,525	\$ 1.309
2012	535.4	\$ 1,565	\$ 1.326
2013	605.6	\$ 1,611	\$ 1.207
2014	662.0	\$ 1,758	\$ 1.205
2015	649.5	\$ 1,741	\$ 1.216



Significant increase in the real effective exchange rate index.  
Export quantities decreased with little change in export price.



# Notable Events

1. Flatfish catches and value decreased significantly. Particularly, for yellowfin sole and arrowtooth.
  - GOA arrowtooth down due to mid-year bycatch closure to non-rockfish, non-pollock fisheries.
  - BSAI yellowfin and arrowtooth down with decreased TAC, poor conditions early in year, and halibut avoidance.
2. Increase in Atka mackerel catch/TAC. Increase in rockfish (POP and northern) catch may reflected redirected effort from flatfish.
3. Significant increase in the value of the dollar put negative pressure on export demand market.

# Planning Revisions to Data Tables

In the process of planning revision to the economic data tables to:

- Reduce duplicative reporting of data readily available through other divisions or agencies.
- Adjust to the current use of data through the internet over hard copy.
- Respond to requests for more highly stratified, species specific data for flatfish and rockfish complexes.

Purpose of the economic data tables:

- Serve as an initial resource for economic information and provides enough information to characterize the status of the groundfish fisheries.
  - One-stop-shop for broad measures of fishery performance.
- Serve as a citable source for analysts, managers, and the public.
- Authoritative record of economic information (at a point in time).

# Proposed Changes

- Removing most discard and prohibited species catch (PSC) tables.
- Focus on retained catch rather than total catch.  
Users will be directed to other resources for these data.
- Species specific economic data for flatfish and rockfish.
- Improve online data availability.
- Discuss maintaining current structure of tables vs. restructuring to regional focus.
- See handout.

# GPT Species Economic Performance Report

- Last year GPT discussed a short species level performance report for the stock assessment authors.
- Sablefish example (see handout).
- GPT comments on example report content:
  - Too much/not enough information? Report too long? Different information?
- Propose 10 Economic Performance Reports:
  - BSAI: pollock, Pacific cod, flatfish complex (yellowfin, rocksole, flathead, arrowtooth) , rockfish (Pac. ocean perch, northern), Atka mackerel.
  - GOA: pollock, Pacific cod, arrowtooth, rockfish (Pac. ocean perch, northern).
  - Combined: sablefish.
- The data (variables) and types of information contained will vary by species and region.



# Economic Status Report, 2015: GPT Topics for Comment

- The Economic Status Report serves many purposes.  
Among them is to provide information to the Plan Team.
- Changes to the economic data tables stratification and structure.
    - Big picture (purpose of tables) or table specific (my favorite table is ..., I would like to see... in table ....)
  - GPT species economic performance report.

Economic data for 2015 are still being finalized and validated (typically price and value).

- We invite feedback -- [Ben.Fissel@noaa.gov](mailto:Ben.Fissel@noaa.gov)