

# Washington Fish Dealer's Responsibilities Under NOAA Fisheries Capacity Reduction Program

As a Licensed Commercial Fish Business in the state of Washington, you are obligated under Title 50 Section 600.1102, Pacific Coast Groundfish Fee, to collect fees for repaying the \$35,662,471 reduction loan which financed the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishing Capacity Reduction Program.

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

If you are the first buyer of fish, you are responsible for collecting from the vessels (fish sellers) the fee for every pound of fee fish landed on every day until further notice. Fee fish for buyers in Washington are now:

- Groundfish harvested under a Limited Entry Trawl Permit (except whiting catcher-processors)

## HOW DO I COLLECT THE FEE?

You simply deduct the fee from the net trip proceeds owed to the fish seller. For example, a fish seller sells \$1,000 worth of fish to you. With the 3.5% fee rate, the fee is \$35 ( $\$1,000 \times .035 = \$35$ ). You pay the fish seller \$965 and retain and remit the \$35 collected fee. The fee is based on the full, fair-market value of the fee fish which the vessel sells to you. This includes the value of all in-kind compensation or all other goods and services which you pay the vessel in lieu of cash plus any and all deferred cash compensation.

## FEE RATE

Each fee rate is a percentage of the full, fair market, gross ex-vessel value of the fee fish and is subject to change:

- Groundfish – 3.5%

## WHAT DO I DO WITH THE FEES I COLLECT?

At a minimum, at the end of each month you must deposit the fees collected for that month into a Federally insured depository institution. All deposit accounts must be Federally insured.

You must disburse to NOAA Fisheries the collected fees in the depository accounts at least once a month so that the disbursement reaches NOAA Fisheries by the 14<sup>th</sup> calendar day of the following month. However, if the depository account of any month is less than \$100, then you do not have to disburse the collected fees until there is over \$100 in the account, except at the end of the year, all funds must be disbursed and received by NOAA Fisheries by the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the new year.

You may disburse the collected fees to us either electronically or by check. The electronic payment system is named Pay.Gov and can be access at:

<https://www.pay.gov>

You have two Pay.Gov payment options: 1) Bank account debit (ACH) or 2) Credit Card.

Paper checks shall be mailed to the following address:

NOAA Fisheries Pacific Coast  
Groundfish Buyback  
Post Office Box 979059  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

## FEE COLLECTION REPORT

With each disbursement, you are required to submit a Fee Collection Report that identifies you (the buyer), the fee fish on which the collected fees are being disbursed, and how the disbursement is to be credited to one or more of the fee fisheries. If paying electronically, the report can be completed and transmitted electronically at the same time of payment. If paying by check, the fee collection report must be submitted with the payment. The Fee Collection Report is available at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-and-financial-services/pacific-coast-groundfish-buyback>

## PENALTIES

Fee payment and fee collection is mandatory. There are severe penalties for you and the fish sellers for failing to pay or collect/disburse fees.

This represents a portion of the full regulations governing your responsibilities under the NOAA Fisheries Groundfish Capacity Reduction Program, for a complete set of rules and regulations please visit our website at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-and-financial-services/pacific-coast-groundfish-buyback>

or contact the people listed below:

### NOAA FISHERIES:

**Main Phone:** 301-427-8799

**Kristin.Fonte** 301-427-8727

**Christopher.Mcentee** 301-427-8769

**Michael.A.Sturtevant** 301-427-8782

**E-mail:** (above name)@noaa.gov

## Species list of Groundfish

The term “groundfish” is officially defined at 50 CFR 660.11, which may be amended from time to time. Fish sellers and fish buyers are officially guided by the “groundfish” definition in 50 CFR 660.11 available at:

[https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3dfd47d63d9898bc8efcb38a0505334b&node=pt50.13.660&rgn=div5%23se50.13.660\\_111#se50.13.660\\_111](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3dfd47d63d9898bc8efcb38a0505334b&node=pt50.13.660&rgn=div5%23se50.13.660_111#se50.13.660_111)

A list of species, as of January 1, 2021, is provided below.

Groundfish include:

(a) Sharks, (b) Skates, (c) Sablefish, (d) Morids, (e) Grenadiers, (f) Roundfish, (g) Rockfish, (h) All genera and species of the family Scorpaenidae, and (i) Flatfish.

### Species list

1. Big skate	45. Mexican rockfish
2. Leopard shark	46. Olive rockfish
3. Spiny dogfish	47. Pacific ocean perch
4. Longnose skate	48. Pink rockfish
5. Cabezon	49. Pinkrose rockfish
6. Kelp greenling	50. Pygmy rockfish
7. Lingcod	51. Quillback rockfish
8. Pacific cod	52. Redbanded rockfish
9. Pacific whiting (hake)	53. Redstripe rockfish
10. Sablefish	54. Rosethorn rockfish
11. Aurora rockfish	55. Rosy rockfish
12. Bank rockfish	56. Rougheye rockfish
13. Black rockfish	57. Sharpchin rockfish
14. Black and Yellow rockfish	58. Shortraker rockfish
15. Blackgill rockfish	59. Shortspine thornyhead
16. Blackspotted rockfish	60. Silvergray rockfish
17. Blue rockfish	61. Speckled rockfish
18. Bocaccio	62. Splitnose rockfish
19. Bronzespotted rockfish	63. Squarespot rockfish
20. Brown rockfish	64. Starry rockfish
21. Calico rockfish	65. Stripetail rockfish
22. California scorpionfish	66. Sunset rockfish
23. Canary rockfish	67. Swordspine rockfish
24. Chameleon rockfish	68. Tiger rockfish
25. Chilipepper rockfish	69. Treefish
26. China rockfish	70. Vermilion rockfish
27. Copper rockfish	71. Widow rockfish
28. Cowcod	72. Yelloweye rockfish
29. Darkblotched rockfish	73. Yellowmouth rockfish
30. Deacon rockfish	74. Yellowtail rockfish
31. Dusty rockfish	75. All Scorpaenidae (all other rockfish)
32. Dwarf-red rockfish	76. Arrowtooth flounder (turbot)
33. Flag rockfish	77. Butter sole
34. Freckled rockfish	78. Curlfin sole
35. Gopher rockfish	79. Dover sole
36. Grass rockfish	80. English sole
37. Greenblotched rockfish	81. Flathead sole
38. Greenspotted rockfish	82. Pacific sanddab
39. Greenstriped rockfish	83. Petrale sole
40. Halfbanded rockfish	84. Rex sole
41. Harlequin rockfish	85. Rock sole
42. Honeycomb rockfish	86. Sand sole
43. Kelp rockfish	87. Starry flounder
44. Longspine thornyhead	