

Table 3. Range of Policy Options Proposed For Puget Sound Rockfish Recovery Plan. The preferred option is indicated in bold.

POLICY CATEGORY	RANGE OF ACTION			
	ALTERNATIVE 1 MOST CONSERVATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2 CONSERVATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 3 NO-ACTION/STATUS QUO	ALTERNATIVE 4 LEAST CONSERVATIVE
Natural Production	All fishery and ecosystem management protects and recovers all rockfish species and stocks to healthy levels.	Rockfish management shall place a high priority on the protection of key rockfish species and stocks to maintain and restore stocks to healthy levels using the natural capacity of the population to sustain itself.	Rockfish will be generally managed under the terms of the Puget Sound Groundfish Management Plan.	All rockfish will be managed passively, and rockfish will not be considered in the management plans of other species.
Habitat	Protect and restore all marine habitat types for all rockfish species.	Protect and restore rocky habitats for key rockfish species.	Primarily rely on the HPA process to protect priority rockfish habitats and conduct opportunistic activities to protect rockfish habitats.	Rely on the HPA process to protect rockfish habitats. No research will be conducted.
Fishery Management	All fisheries in Puget Sound waters will be managed to ensure the health and productivity of all rockfish populations.	All fisheries in Puget Sound marine waters will be managed to ensure the health and productivity of key rockfish populations.	Some bottomfish fisheries will be managed to ensure the health and productivity of some rockfish populations.	Fisheries in marine waters will be passively managed with respect to the status of rockfish populations.
Ecosystem	Protect and restore the functions of all rockfishes in the complex marine ecosystem and food web in Puget Sound.	Protect existing functions of key rockfish and conduct opportunistic activities to restore the functions of key rockfish in the complex ecosystem and food web in Puget Sound.	Conduct opportunistic activities to protect and restore the function of some rockfish in the complex ecosystem and food web in Puget Sound. Focus will be on determining the proper ecological functioning of rockfish.	The ecosystem functions of rockfishes are not considered in rockfish management.

RANGE OF ACTION				
POLICY CATEGORY	ALTERNATIVE 1 MOST CONSERVATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 2 CONSERVATIVE	ALTERNATIVE 3 NO-ACTION/STATUS QUO	ALTERNATIVE 4 LEAST CONSERVATIVE
<u>Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Management</u>	All rockfish populations will be monitored emphasizing fishery-independent and fishery-dependent information.	Key rockfish populations will be monitored emphasizing fishery-independent and fishery-dependent information.	Key rockfish populations will be monitored using primarily fishery dependent with some fishery-independent information.	Key rockfish populations will be monitored only with fishery dependent information.
<u>Research</u>	Implement new and cooperative research to understand the diversity, biology and productivity of all rockfish as well as needs for recovery.	Implement new and cooperative research to understand the diversity, biology and productivity of key rockfish as well as needs for recovery.	Conduct rockfish research to examine growth, population structure and habitat requirements for key rockfish populations.	Conduct no research on rockfish; only use information in the existing literature or nearby studies to manage rockfish stocks.
<u>Outreach and Education</u>	Conduct a comprehensive outreach and education program to inform Washington citizens of the value of rockfish populations in Puget Sound.	Conduct a comprehensive outreach and education program to inform Washington fishers of the value of rockfish populations in Puget Sound.	Write occasional popular articles, work with the media, use the rule-making process, and give public presentations on the importance of rockfish populations.	Rely on others to inform the citizens of Washington of the value of rockfish populations in Puget Sound.
<u>Enhancement (Artificial Reef and Hatchery Production)</u>	Develop plans to: 1. Utilize hatchery production to assist in recovery of depleted rockfish populations consistent with natural production goals; and 2. Enhance habitat for all species of rockfish through the use of artificial habitat.	Develop plans to: 1. Utilize hatchery production to assist in recovery of depleted rockfish populations consistent with natural production goals; and 2. Enhance habitat for key species of rockfish through the use of artificial habitat.	Hatchery production for rockfish may be used to recover key depleted populations and for research. Artificial reef habitat will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Artificial reef habitat will be implemented opportunistically with limited or no assessment.

1.6 Key Relationships Within the Plan