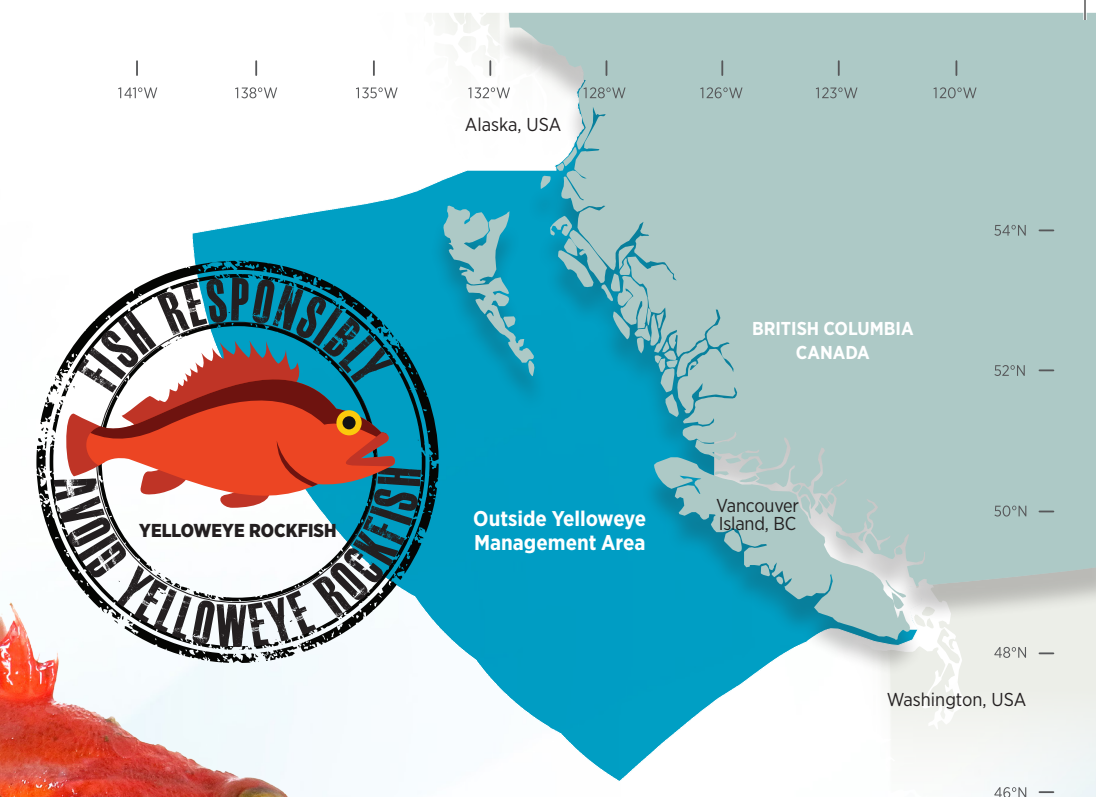


**SPECIES AT RISK**

# Yelloweye Rockfish are counting on you!

## Responsible recreational fishing supports sustainable fisheries

Able to live up to 115 years old, Yelloweye Rockfish is a slow growing and late-maturing species. This makes it extra sensitive to fishing pressure. Although Rockfish Conservation Areas were established and recreational bag limits have been reduced, the Yelloweye stock on BC's outer coast is now in the critical zone of decline and more help is needed to rebuild the stock.



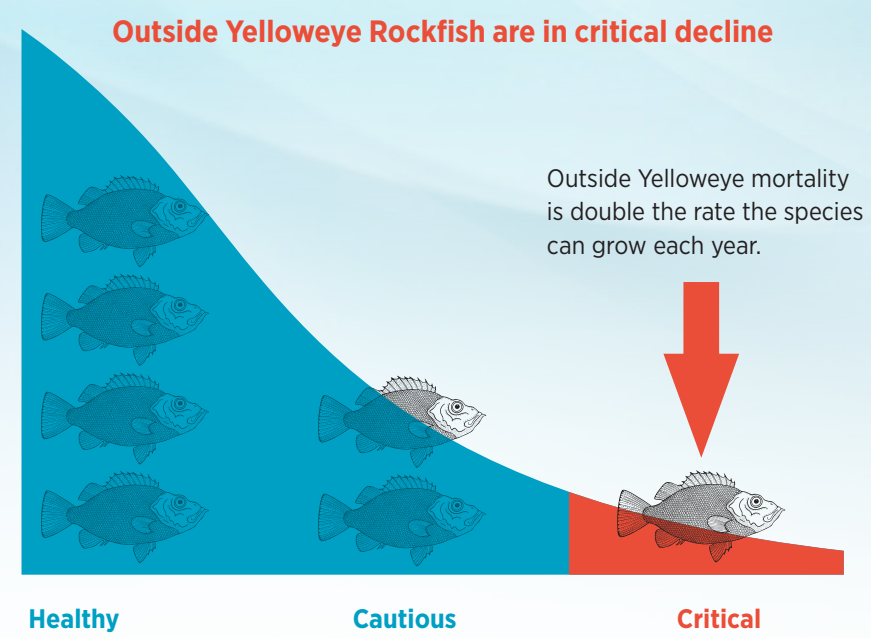
▲ Adult

▲ Juvenile

PHOTO: SCOTT STEVENSON  
www.scottstevensonphotography.ca

**Fishing for halibut or lingcod?**  
Yelloweye Rockfish are often caught when fishing for these species over rocky bottoms.

**Use any model of descending device to release accidental catch.**



## 4 things you can do to help rebuild stocks in outside areas

### 1 Avoid

**Know where Yelloweye are and avoid fishing in their habitat**

**Outside distribution:** West of Vancouver Island, north and south to the US boundaries

**Depth range:** 30-232 meters; juveniles live at shallower depths

**Habitat:** Rocky bottoms

### 2 Identify

**Before you go know how to identify Yelloweye accurately**

**Size:** Up to 91 cm; 11.3 kg (25 lbs)

**Eyes:** Bright yellow

**Colour:** Vibrant orange to red. 2 white to light stripes on the middle of the body that appear more pronounced on juveniles. Colour and stripes fade with age. Fins may have black tips.

### 3 Release

**If you catch one release it quickly using a descending device**

Yelloweye can't adjust to rapid pressure changes and often die when brought to the surface. Always carry a descending device and use it to quickly re-submerge catch to the depth of capture. Handle catch as little as possible using wet hands or cloth to preserve the protective slime coat. To avoid catching more, move to another fishing location.

### 4 Report

**Self-record your fishing effort & prepare to share catch reports**

**catch counts** Catch reporting through DFO's internet survey is a mandatory condition of your BC recreational fishing licence. Make it a best practice to self-record what you catch and what you release, and prepare to share your reports. Your participation in biological monitoring and catch reporting are critical for ongoing, accurate stock assessment.

Thank you for supporting a collaborative vision for a sustainable recreational fishery in BC! [www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/index-eng.html](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/index-eng.html)