

ROCKFISH



There are more than 100 species of rockfish around the world, many of which are found along the Pacific coast of North America, and 24 of those make their homes in the Pacific Northwest.



Are rockfish endangered?



Rockfish are one of the most popular commercial and recreational seafoods, so it's easy to understand why they're susceptible to overfishing. In fact, most rockfish are listed as a fish to avoid by the Seafood Watch program.

How long do rockfish live?



Rockfish are some of the longest-lived fish on Earth. Some species can live well over 100 years. Age and growth rates are determined by analyzing fish ear bones, called otoliths, in a similar fashion to counting tree rings.

Fascinating fact:

Because rockfish are so long-lived, many don't begin breeding until they're nearly 20 years old!

Species common to Puget Sound



What do rockfish eat?



Adult rockfish feed on shrimp, small fish, jellyfish, squid, crab, crab eggs, octopus, sea snails and worms.

Are rockfish spines venomous?



The dorsal fins of many rockfish contain a mild venom. Although not fatal, it can cause a good deal of pain and lead to infection.