

Stop Bottom
Trawling Campaign

Bottom Trawl Gear

Deep Sea Corals:
The Cradle of Sea Life

What You Can Do
to Save the Oceans

Oceana Solutions

Oceana's Pacific
Deep Sea Coral Initiative

Federal Regulation of Roller
and Rockhopper Gear and
Bottom Trawling

Regulation of Roller and
Rockhopper Gear and Bottom
Trawling in State Waters

About Oceana

Federal Regulation of Roller and Rockhopper Gear and Bottom Trawling

1. **Caribbean Fishery Management Council**
 - a. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers
 - b. Hind Bank Marine Conservation District closed to all fishing (50 C.F.R. § 622.33(b)(1))
2. **Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**
 - a. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers
 - b. All “stressed areas,” Tortugas Shrimp Sanctuary, FL Middle Grounds HAPC (Habitat Area of Particular Concern) and Flower Garden Banks HAPC are closed to trawling to protect habitat (50 C.F.R. §§ 622.34(b), (g), (i), (j))
3. **Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council**
 - a. Rollers restricted to 18” only for the scup and black sea bass fisheries (50 C.F.R. §§ 648.123, 648.144(a)(5))
 - b. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers in other fisheries
4. **New England Fishery Management Council**
 - a. Rollers are limited to 12” in the Western Gulf of Maine (50 C.F.R. § 648.80(a)(2)(iv))
 - b. Rollers restricted to 18” for the scup and black sea bass fisheries (50 C.F.R. §§ 648.123, 648.144(a)(5))
 - c. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers in other areas or fisheries
 - d. Relatively moderate trawl closure areas off of Rhode Island and Connecticut
5. **North Pacific Fishery Management Council**
 - a. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers
 - b. Trawl closure areas (Witherell et al., ICES J. Mar. Sci. 57:771-777 (2000))
 - i. Over 90,000 nmi² of the EEZ permanently closed to trawling, which amounts to about only 25% of the Bering Sea and 10% of the Gulf of Alaska
6. **Pacific Fishery Management Council**
 - a. Small footrope (equal to or less than 8” in diameter, including any rollers or rockhoppers) regulated differently than large footropes (66 Fed. Reg. 2354-2355 (January 11, 2001))
 - i. Large footropes aren’t allowed in all fisheries
 - ii. Large footropes have prohibitively small catch limits for many species
 - b. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers in the spot prawn fishery
7. **South Atlantic Fishery Management Council**
 - a. No restrictions on rollers or rockhoppers
 - b. Oculina Bank HAPC closed to trawling (50 C.F.R. § 622.35(c))
 - c. Trawls banned for Caribbean reef fish, snapper/grouper (to protect EFH) and many species of mackerel (50 C.F.R. § 622.41(b), (c), (d))
 - d. Significant shrimp trawl closure areas (to protect EFH) (50 C.F.R. § 622.35(e))
8. **Western Pacific Fishery Management Council**

All bottom trawling banned due to destructive nature of gear (50 C.F.R. § 660.64)