

SAVE A CORAL, GROW A ROCKFISH

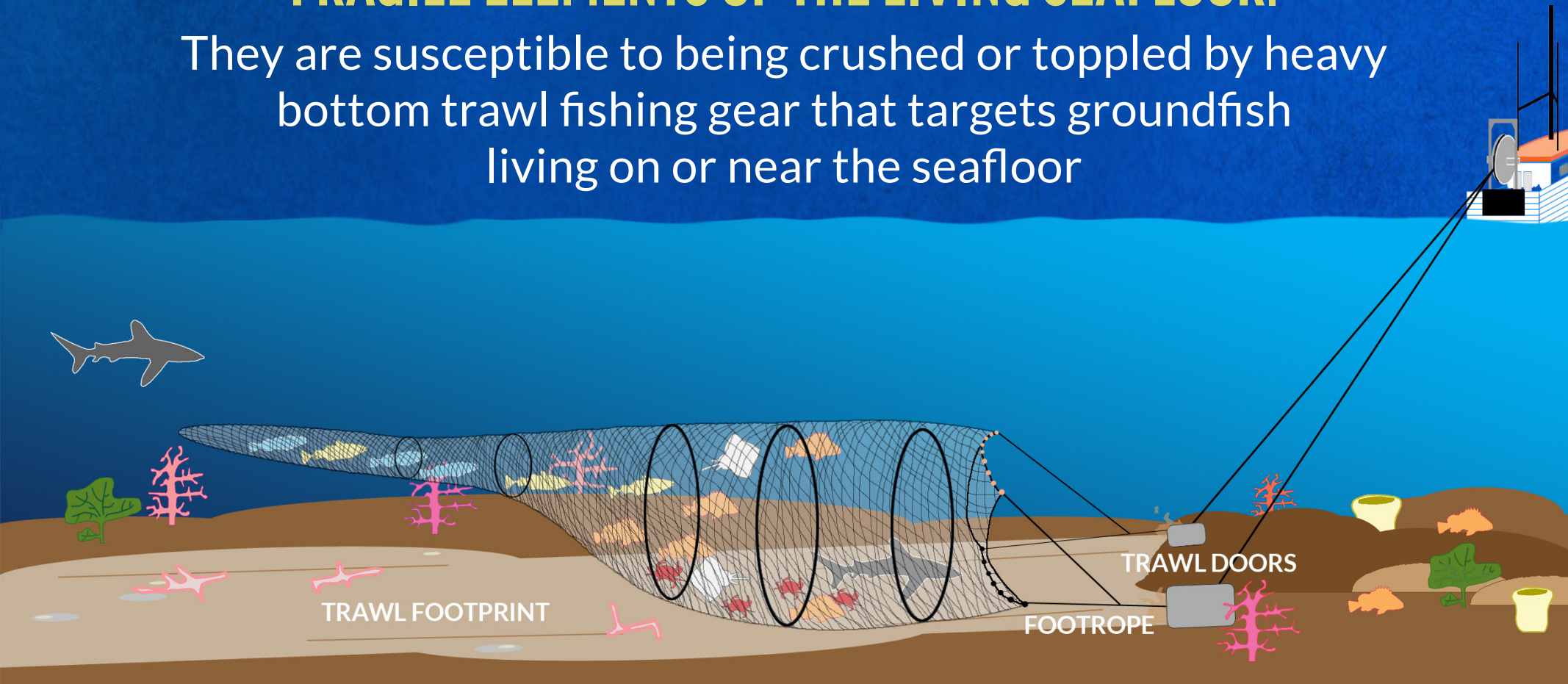
PROTECTING THE U.S. WEST COAST LIVING SEAFLOOR

CORALS, SPONGES, AND ROCKY REEFS ARE HABITAT FOR RECREATIONALLY AND COMMERCIALY IMPORTANT FISH AND OTHER OCEAN ANIMALS

THESE DEEP SEA STRUCTURES ARE HOMES, NURSERIES, FEEDING AND BREEDING AREAS

CORALS AND SPONGES ARE SLOW-GROWING AND FRAGILE ELEMENTS OF THE LIVING SEAFLOOR.

They are susceptible to being crushed or toppled by heavy bottom trawl fishing gear that targets groundfish living on or near the seafloor



** Illustration is representative of gear used, not set to actual scale*

Commercial bottom trawl vessels targeting rockfish, California halibut, dover sole, Pacific cod and lingcod off the U.S. West Coast drag large, heavy doors, nets and footropes across the seafloor. The distance between the heavy trawl doors can be from 110 to 650 feet wide and the doors can weigh up to 1,300 pounds. If the gear is dragged over important coral and sponge habitats, it can destroy nearly everything in its path.

DEEP SEA CORALS CAN LIVE TO BE HUNDREDS TO THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD

NEW HABITAT PROTECTIONS FOR THE U.S. WEST COAST



2006

National Marine Fisheries Service protects more than

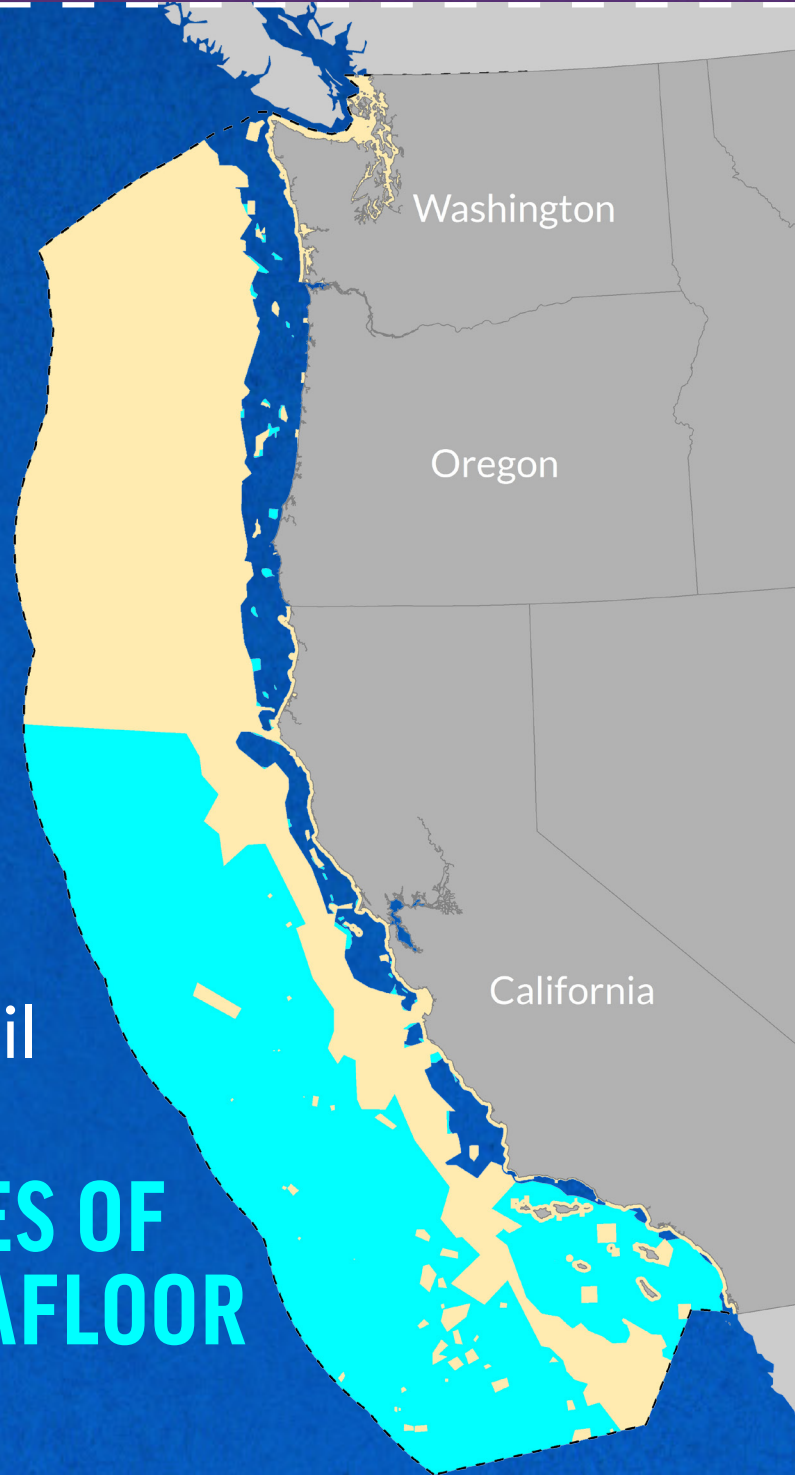
135,000 SQUARE MILES OF LIVING SEAFLOOR



2018

Pacific Fishery Management Council votes to protect

140,000 SQUARE MILES OF ADDITIONAL LIVING SEAFLOOR



PROTECTIONS FOR THE LIVING SEAFLOOR SAFEGUARD SPECTACULAR, DIVERSE, AND FRAGILE HABITATS WHILE SUSTAINING HEALTHY FISH POPULATIONS INTO THE FUTURE.