WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2005 PACIFIC HALIBUT CATCH SHARING PLAN ADDITIONAL PROPOSED REVISION

Washington South Coast Subarea

As described in the Supplemental WDFW Report on this agenda item, we would support using remaining subarea quota to provide an incidental catch allowance in the northern nearshore area subsequent to a closure (if there is not quota sufficient to reopen the offshore area). To ensure this can be accomplished in a timely manner inseason, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife proposes the following language be revised in the catch sharing plan:

(f) SPORT FISHERIES
(1)(iii) Washington south coast subarea

“...Subsequent to this closure, if there is insufficient quota remaining to reopen the entire this subarea for another fishing day, then any remaining quota may be used to accommodate incidental catch in the northern nearshore area or be transferred inseason to another Washington coastal subarea by NMFS via an update to the recreational hotline....”