OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON INSEASON ACTION
AND REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) requests that the Council take action, concurrent with the state, to prohibit the retention of cabezon in Oregon’s recreational ocean boat fishery.

Based on catch estimates through July and projections from historical temporal catch patterns, the state harvest limit for cabezon, which was 15.9 mt, has been reached. Additionally, analysis of the angler effort through Labor Day also suggested that the harvest limit would be attained by late September. State harvest limits apply to landings by recreational ocean boats and do not include shore catch and discards. Effective 11:59 pm on Friday, September 22, 2006, cabezon retention in the recreational ocean and estuary boat fisheries was prohibited. Shore fisheries, including shore-based diving, angling and spear fishing, were not affected by this closure.

The most recent landings update, which includes data through September 3, 2006, confirmed that the management measure was appropriate; cabezon landings were 14.9 mt, or 94 percent of the harvest limit.