

RULEMAKING PLAN FOR 2016
 GROUND FISH

NMFS provides notice of groundfish actions that have published since the June, 2016 Council meeting (Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 1), as well as a list of rulemakings that are currently in progress.

In Progress:

	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Timing (Tentative)</i>	<i>Sectors Affected</i>
1	Midwater Recreational Fishery off Oregon	Proposed rule – fall 2016 Final rule – winter/spring 2017	Oregon Recreational
2	Sablefish Rule Includes: Registering a LE trawl and fixed gear permit to a vessel at same time (joint registration), sablefish-endorsed LE fixed gear ownership issues, electronic fish tickets	Final rule – late summer 2016 Effective October, 2016 Effective January 1, 2017 for electronic fish tickets	LE Trawl (IFQ), LE fixed gear, OA
3	Trawl Gear Modifications	Proposed rule – winter 2017 Final rule – summer 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ/MS/CP)
4	Electronic monitoring	Proposed rule – summer 2016 Final rule – fall 2016	LE Trawl (IFQ)
5	Widow reallocation	Proposed rule – June 2016 Final rule – fall 2016	LE Trawl
6	2017-2018 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures	Proposed rule – fall 2016 Final rule – January 1, 2017	LE, OA, Tribal, Recreational
7	Vessel Movement Monitoring	Proposed rule – fall 2016 Final rule – January 1, 2017	LE and OA

NMFS Near-Term Priorities

NMFS maintains attention to routine actions (e.g. groundfish, whiting, halibut specifications & inseason actions) and actions already at various stages of implementation (e.g., Essential Fish Habitat/RCA).

In addition to rulemakings and responding to litigation (including recent Ninth Circuit Court Decision on Cost Recovery), NMFS has the following near-term priorities:

- Salmon ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP.
- Eulachon ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP.
- Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP.
- ESA section 7 Consultation on Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan