

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) met with Mr. Dayna Mathews regarding the recent interpretation that regulations for commercial and recreational Highly Migratory Species (HMS) fisheries prohibit the possession of several species including salmon and Pacific halibut while fishing for HMS. Absent a cogent explanation of the intent and rationale for this prohibition, the SAS requests the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) suspend the proposed enforcement of this prohibition until such time the regulations can be amended to allow the retention of salmon and Pacific halibut and HMS on a single trip so long as all other permitting and fishery regulations are met.

The SAS requests that the Pacific Fishery Management Council schedule an expedited process to amend the HMS regulations accordingly.

Regarding Pacific halibut management, the SAS recommends that the Council implement a three meeting process (April, September, November) when changes to allocations are being considered. The intent is to improve stakeholder involvement and to include one preliminary meeting (April) that does not fall during the peak fishing season.

PFMC
11/15/14