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**HUMBOLDT BAY  
HARBOR, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**  
(707) 443-0801  
P.O. Box 1030  
Eureka, California 95502-1030



**RECEIVED**

August 29, 2013

SEP 04 2013

Ms. Dorothy M. Lowman, Chair  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

**PFMC**

Re: North Coast California Government Pacific Halibut Management Resolution

Dear Ms. Lowman,

Attached you will find a Resolution from the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District that makes specific requests regarding North Coast California Pacific halibut management in 2014. We have helped organize North Coast California governments so that they can become participants in regional co-management of fish stocks, including Pacific halibut. Because many of these communities recognize the inordinate value of Pacific halibut sportfishing access to our regional economy and quality of life, we anticipate your Council will receive similar requests after your September 2 comment deadline.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, International Pacific Halibut Commission, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to maintain access to recovering Pacific halibut stocks while also sustaining them for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Wilson".

Mike Wilson, Chair

CC: Ms. Deborah Wilson-Vandenberg, Marine Region Manager  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100  
Monterey, CA 93940

Gregg Williams, Research Program Manager  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
2320 W. Commodore Way Suite 300  
Seattle, WA 98199-1287

**HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION  
AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-11**

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING NORTH COAST CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT  
PACIFIC HALIBUT MANAGEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the governments of coastal cities, counties, harbor districts and community services districts of Northwestern California have come together as the North Coast Local Agency Coordinating Committee, which is organized by the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District; and

**WHEREAS**, the group works together to protect fisheries resources, but also to maintain fishing access to healthy stocks of marine fish species, including Pacific halibut; and

**WHEREAS**, the commercial trawl fleet once harvest tens of millions of pounds annually of species, such as Petrale, Dover and English Sole, but these fisheries have been greatly reduced. This trawl fishery reduction has caused a huge decrease in catch and landings in all North Coast ports and a sharp decline in this sector of our economy. The reduction in fishing effort has greatly reduced the by-catch of Pacific halibut, and there is minimal directed commercial fishing effort on the species in the waters of California and the North Coast; and

**WHEREAS**, the historic Pacific halibut landings on the North Coast averaged 400,000 pounds and reached levels as high as 1 million pounds historically. The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) have created a South of Humboldt Mountain Management Zone within Zone 2A that extends from southern Oregon to the Mexican border and includes the entire coast of California, and this management zone spans two states with different regulations and different management methods and is cumbersome and impractical; and

**WHEREAS**, a catch-share of 0.62% was allocated to management area South of Humboldt Mountain, as a target based on old data that has now changed into a not-to-exceed quota; and

**WHEREAS**, South of Humboldt Mountain fishermen began to exceed this quota in years since 2008 and fishing restrictions in 2014 are being considered based on exceeding a non-scientific quota; and

**WHEREAS**, the Humboldt Area Salt Water Anglers, the UC Cooperative Extension, and Humboldt State University are working cooperatively to collect size and age data on Pacific halibut in northern California and providing it to the IPHC in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the IPHC collected data on the North Coast in 2013 using standard long line methods used throughout the Pacific Northwest to gauge the health and abundance of Pacific halibut stocks, but decisions made regarding the 2014 season for South of Humbug Mountain will be set before IPHC North Coast data are available for use; and

**WHEREAS**, North Coast governments strongly favor conserving and protecting marine fisheries resources, which allows continued access for sport fishers and charter boat enterprises that constitute important contributions to the North Coast economy and quality of life.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District as follows:

North Coast governments hereby request that the IPHC and PFMC 1) give California an exclusive management zone that does not include parts of southern Oregon, 2) that any 2014 restrictions on access to North Coast Pacific halibut stocks be deferred until newly collected data are available, and 3) the IPHC expeditiously calculate and implement a science-based Pacific halibut quota.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District at a duly called meeting held on the 22 day of August 2013, by the following polled vote:

**AYES:** Newman, Dale, Wilson, Marks

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:** Higgins



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**MIKE WILSON, President  
Board of Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**



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**PATRICK HIGGINS, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners**

**CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary of the HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT, does hereby certify that the attached Resolution is a true and correct copy of RESOLUTION NO. 2013-11 entitled,

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING NORTH COAST CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT  
PACIFIC HALIBUT MANANGEMENT**

as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT, duly held on the 22 day of August 2013; and further, that such Resolution has been fully recorded in the Journal of Proceedings in my office, and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22 day of August 2013.

  
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PATRICK HIGGINS, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners