Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers

Public comment on 2015 Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations
Summary of HASA Comments already submitted to PFMC

- Consistent with our mission statement, we support PFMC progress towards more balance in:
  - A fairer allocation for California sportfishers
  - Improved regulation of California inseason harvest
- While we would prefer Alternative 5, we are willing to support Alternative 4 provided that continued progress be made in 2016 and beyond to improve a reasonable balance between allocation and harvest regulation
Comments on Season dates and Inseason Action

- Support approach proposed by CDFW commensurate with OR and WA regulatory approach
- Will work with our constituents in the next month to provide input to CDFW on priorities and corresponding season dates
Example of gaming results for different season structure options

### Hypothetical 2015 Pacific Halibut Season for PFMC Alternatives assuming 2013 Maximum harvest rate (43,254 lb) would occur in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Days Open</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 5</td>
<td>30,600 lb</td>
<td>163 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 4</td>
<td>24,500 lb</td>
<td>153 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternatives 1-3</td>
<td>18,400 lb</td>
<td>79 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status Quo</td>
<td>6,100 lb</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hypothetical 2015 Pacific Halibut Season for PFMC Alternatives assuming 2008-2013 Maximum monthly harvest rate would occur in 2015 (worst case scenario)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Days Open</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 5</td>
<td>30,600 lb</td>
<td>84 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 4</td>
<td>24,500 lb</td>
<td>75 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternatives 1-3</td>
<td>18,400 lb</td>
<td>65 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status Quo</td>
<td>6,100 lb</td>
<td>34 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary results of economic studies of August 2014 Block Closure

- Local Businesses (Humboldt State University)
- Recreational and charter fishers (Ecotrust)
Local business survey underway

Scaled Up Estimates:
• Low: $290,250
• Median: $328,500

Miki Takada, Humboldt State University, 2014
Recreational fishers

- Surveyed Anglers who would have primarily pursued Pacific Halibut: 224
- Average number of forgone August Pacific Halibut trips per Angler: 4.3
- Average expenditure per angler per trip: $278.95

Total estimated forgone recreational trip expenditures over 963 August 2014 trips: $269,000

“There is something really special about the experience of halibut fishing; I always enjoy drifting out in the ocean with the engine off listening to and seeing all that is out there even if I don't catch anything.”

Taylor Hesselgrave, Ecotrust, 2014
Charter boats

Charter business revenues in 2014 compared with revenue made in 2013 were:

“As a charter boat operator I didn’t receive income that is important to be made in the summer season to make it through the winter when there is no fishing season open.”

| Number of identified operating charter businesses in the north coast of California: | 21 |
| % of our respondents who reported lower August 2014 gross revenue compared with August 2013: | 70% |
| Average estimated revenue loss per charter business due to August Pacific Halibut closures: | $20,052 |
| Total estimated loss of revenue across north coast charter businesses due to August Pacific Halibut closures: | $294,766 |

Taylor Hesselgrave, Ecotrust, 2014
Summary

- Support improved allocation and harvest regulation, provided both are fairer and will continue to improve in future
- Recommend Alternative 4 or 5 Allocation for 2015
- Increased harvest regulation in 2015 per CDFW proposal
- Actual 2015 season to be proposed after:
  - CSP adoption by PFMC,
  - TAC allocation from IPHC, and
  - Input from California sportfishers based on experience with 2014 closure approach