

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO  
THE PACIFIC HALIBUT CATCH SHARING PLAN FOR AREA 2A FOR 2002

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife recommends that the following changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A to be distributed for public review:

(f) SPORT FISHERIES

(1) Subarea management

(i) Washington inside waters (Puget Sound) subarea.

“...The structuring objective for this subarea is to provide a stable sport fishing opportunity and maximize the season length. **To that end, the Puget Sound subarea may be divided into two regions with separate seasons to achieve a fair harvest opportunity within the subarea.** Due to inability to monitor the catch in this area inseason, ~~a~~ fixed **seasons, which may vary and apply to different regions within the subarea,** will be established preseason based on projected catch per day and number of days to achievement of the quota. ~~No~~ inseason adjustments ~~will~~ **may** be made, and estimates of actual catch will be made postseason. The fishery will open in **April or** May and continue ~~at least through July 4, or~~ until ~~a~~ **dates** established preseason (and published in the sport fishery regulations) when the quota is predicted to be taken, or until September 30, whichever is earlier....”