

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS STATEMENT ON MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2002  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - FINAL ACTION

The Enforcement Consultants have reviewed the management measures for 2002 and have the following comments:

Limited Entry Fixed Gear:

Some confusion arose this year with vessels transitioning from the primary sablefish fishery into the daily-trip-limit fishery.

The consultants offer two options for the Council to consider to clarify this situation for 2002:

1. Season end Option A: after completing its tier limit fishery, a vessel may not participate in the daily-trip-limit fishery until the next Sunday (new week) after completing offload of tier limits.
2. Season end Option B: after completing its tier limit fishery, a vessel may not participate in the daily-trip-limit fishery until the start of the next 24-hour period following completion of offloading the tier limit.

Recreational Options:

We recommend the following: for Oregon and Washington the 25 fathom curve inseason management measure to protect yelloweye, include a second fathom curve of 20 fathoms be listed as a possibility, or the management measure reflect 20 fathoms. Enforcement is hopeful the no retention measure prohibiting the retention of yelloweye in the all-depth halibut season will be a sufficient measure to meet the goal of yelloweye harvest, as this would be easily enforced.

Reasoning:

With a fathom curve line, like any line, enforcement will have to enforce at some slightly greater depth. The concern is, if we start at 25 fathoms and add some kind of additional buffer, we would then be fishing areas with higher yellowtail interaction.

If Oregon and Washington adopt the 20 fathom curve, this would be consistent with California's proposal.

PFMC  
11/02/01