

SUMMARY OF RECENT ACTIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
REGARDING FEDERAL GROUND FISH REGULATIONS<sup>1/</sup>

1. At a recent meeting, the California Fish and Game Commission (CFGC) concurred with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) regarding 2003 rockfish and lingcod regulations for presentation to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). Also, we selected Option 2 for shallow nearshore rockfish. The list of recommendations has been handed out and provided to the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP).
2. Spot Prawn - Accepted CDFG recommendation for emergency action to reduce bocaccio impacts in the trawl fishery and took action to close the fishery for the rest of the season, through October 31, 2002. We expect the closure to be effective by the end of this week. We had previously directed CDFG to file notice of a suite of management options for the fishery to be implemented before the opening of the 2003 season. Permanent fishery closure will likely be seriously considered.
3. Fishery Observers - Accepted CDFG recommendation for emergency action to require cooperation with federal and state fishery observers as a condition of permitting under CFGC regulations. This affects charterboats as well as shrimp, prawn, sea cucumber trawl vessels; it does not affect trawl or line fisheries for California halibut or white seabass. We expect these regulations will be permanently adopted before expiration of the emergency portion.
4. Nearshore Fishery Management Plan - We adopted the plan at our late August meeting and will consider certifying the environmental document and implementing regulations at our October meeting. We have asked CDFG to provide additional implementing regulations at that meeting, along with a plan to defer management of nearshore rockfish to California beginning in 2004. Delegation of authority of nearshore rockfish to California is on your agenda for discussion on Thursday. We urge you to expedite the delegation process if at all possible.

PFMC  
09/10/02

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<sup>1/</sup> Prepared by Mr. Robert Treanor for presentation to the Council on September 10, 2002.