

<Administrative Record>

<10-30-02>

**DRAFT**

Agenda E.1.d  
Tribal Comments  
November 2002

## **Comments of Jim Harp on Proposed Changes to the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to offer a brief comment on the proposed changes to the catch sharing plan and annual regulations for 2003.

The 2002 Pacific halibut catch sharing plan for Area 2A includes the description for the Treaty Indian fisheries.

The tribes propose no changes be made to the catch sharing plan as it relates to the Treaty Indian allocation of halibut for 2003. That allocation would remain at 35% of the Area 2A TAC, plus the 25,000 lb. adjustment be transferred from the nonTreaty Area 2A halibut allocation, as specified in the Stipulation and Order of the U.S. District Court, Subproceeding No. 92-1.

The tribes continue to support the efforts in the non-Indian fisheries that allow retention in non-directed fisheries as this will reduce discards and thus wastage of a valuable resource.

10/28/02