

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

**Situation:** The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will report on the proposed rule implementing the Council's changes to the 2003 Area 2A halibut catch sharing plan (CSP) and recreational fishery regulations. There were three primary issues addressed: 1) catch division and season dates for the Washington North Coast sport fishery; 2) reconfiguration of the halibut hotspot/yelloweye rockfish conservation area in the Washington North Coast sport fishery; and 3) depth based management for the directed nontribal commercial halibut fishery. In addition, three minor revisions were made to the CSP involving: 1) incidental halibut retention in the primary sablefish fishery; 2) extension of the North Central and South Central Oregon inside-30-fathom season end date; and 3) editorial review of terminology in the Oregon All-Depth fisheries.

### **Council Task:**

#### **1. Receive information for discussion.**

#### **Reference Materials:**

1. NMFS Update on 2003 Pacific Halibut Management (Exhibit F.1, Attachment 1).
2. Proposed 2003 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2a (Exhibit F.1, Attachment 2).

#### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Status of Council Management Measure Recommendations for 2003
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Discussion

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