

# Fax

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MAR 1 2004

PFMC

**Name:** Dr. Donal McIsaac  
**Fax:** Sp. #6  
**From:** Robert D. Alverson  
(206) 284-4720  
**Date:** March 1, 2004  
**Re:** Proposal  
**Pages:** 3

*Comments:*

If you need a formal proposal to discuss options to the 300 lbs. daily trip limit fishery, consider this resubmitted for Council consideration, on behalf of Eric Olsen.

Robert D. Alverson

*from the desk of.....  
Robert D. Alverson, Manager  
Fishing Vessel Owners' Association  
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February 27, 2004

Dr. Donald McIsaac, Executive Director  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 N.E. Ambassador Place, Suite 200  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

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RE: Proposed Groundfish Amendments

PFMC

Dear Dr. McIsaac:

The following groundfish amendments would be compatible with the Rationalization Committee's recommendations for fixed-gear operations. The proposed action would affect fixed-gear limited-entry sablefish-endorsed and non-endorsed operations that participate in the 300-pound daily trip-limit fishery.

Currently, 12 percent of the limited-entry fixed-gear quota is set aside to be accessed by limited-entry fixed-gear vessels both endorsed and unendorsed for sablefish. This proposal would eliminate this fishery and add a fourth tier endorsement for those permit holders that are not endorsed for the tiered fishery.

**Proposal #1:** End the daily trip-limit fishery for sablefish endorsed fixed-gear limited-entry permit holders. Make a determination of what percent of the 15% set-aside has been caught by this group the last two years and add an equal amount to each of the existing tiers. The remaining portion of the set-aside would belong to the unendorsed fixed-gear license holders. Allocate the remainder equally among this group as a new tier 4.

OR

**Proposal #2:** For the endorsed permit holders who participated during the last two years in the 300 lb. set-aside fishery, allocate equally their collective share of the 15% set-aside. Add this amount to their existing tier. The remaining portion of the 15% set-aside would belong to the unendorsed fixed-gear license holders. Allocate the remainder equally among those who participated from this group as a new tier 4.

This action would be an amendment to the current tiered program and thereby, would not be a new IFQ program.

Dr. Donald McIsaac  
February 12, 2002  
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Some of the supporting reasons for this are:

- (1) The current daily trip limit fishery generates more high grading of sablefish at a time of resource decline. This proposed action would tend to force a person to fish the allocated 4<sup>th</sup> tier in a rational-like basis more probably in one trip rather than many small costly trips.
- (2) The original intent of the 300 lbs. daily trip limit was to allow a bycatch of sablefish with the directed rock fish catchers. The new restriction on rock fish basically eliminates most directed rock fish operations by hook and line vessels. Hence, there is no need for the bycatch allowance.
- (3) The current tiered amounts will be reduced by 38 percent for the 2002 season due to needed cuts in quota. Eliminating the 300-pound daily trip limit allows a more rational harvest of quota. The 300 pound trip limit encourages more trips on the water at increased costs and potentially, more bycatch of rock fish. Allowing for a new tier and consolidation of the 12% set-aside could reduce rock fish retention as the fleet would more probably target deeper water for their sablefish.

Sincerely,

Eric Olsen  
President

cmb



# Coastside Rockfish Initiatives

Coastside Fishing Club

March 2004



# Two Initiatives

- Rockfish Re-Compression Device (RCD)
  - Investigate ability to release rockfish with low mortality
- Independent Catch Assessment
  - Support validation of CRFS
  - Provide alternate source of recreational catch estimates

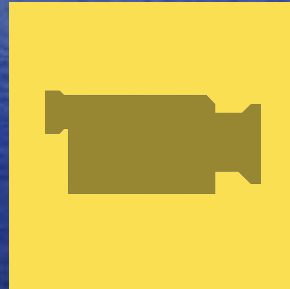


# Rockfish RCD

- Video that demonstrates ability to “revive” released by-catch
- Avoid infections resulting from needle deflation
- Initiating a formal study to investigate long term efficacy
  - Applying for permits
  - Developing partnership with academic Fish and Wildlife graduate program
    - Experimental design and procedures
    - Reporting



# Rockfish RCD Video





# Enhanced Coastside Recreational Rockfish Catch Estimation

- More thorough contact with launch points from Morro Bay north to the Oregon Border
- Treat each launch point as an independent calculation point
  - Allows for unique attributes
    - Number of fishermen per boat, CPUE, % target rockfish, catch size
- Can treat the shallow nearshore as an identifiable catch group





# Enhanced Computation Methodology

- Actual launch data is collected and incorporated into an Excel spreadsheet
  - As reported by each harbor
    - Launch receipts, trailer counts, best estimates
- Fishing attributes for each site are entered
  - Can vary by site and by month
- Catch computation combines the monthly catch from each site



# Coastside Involvement

- Our Rockfish initiatives are intended to improve the recreational rockfish experience, the fishery, and fishery management