

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 2004 Area 2A halibut catch sharing plan (CSP) and recreational fishery regulations. There were three primary issues addressed, (1) public meeting requirements for the Puget Sound catch area season recommendations; (2) season dates for the Washington and Oregon sport fishery; and (3) quota transfer protocol for Washington and Oregon sport fisheries. In addition, two minor revisions were made to the CSP involving, (1) extension of the South of Humber Mt. sport season end date; and (2) changing the Oregon central coast inside 30 fm sport fishery to inside 40 fm to be consistent with groundfish rules.

Council Task:

1. Receive information for discussion.

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit F.1.a, Attachment 1: Proposed Changes to the 2004 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Exhibit F.1.a, NMFS Report: NMFS Update on 2004 Pacific Halibut Management.

Agenda Order:

- a. Status of Council Management Measure Recommendations for 2004
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. Council Discussion
- Yvonne de Reynier

PFMC
02/24/04