

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CATCH SHARING PLAN
AND ANNUAL REGULATIONS

Under its standard process, the Council solicits proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan at its September meeting and adopts any changes in November after reviewing public and agency comments. Generally, changes are limited to adjustments in the annual regulations and minor modifications to the Catch Sharing Plan. Attachment 1 is a copy of the 2004 Catch Sharing Plan.

For the 2005 season, the Council is considering changes to the management of the recreational fisheries in Washington and Oregon. The proposed changes resulted from recommendations provided by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, after holding public meetings, and from Council discussion and public testimony received at the September 2004 Council meeting. The Council solicited public input on the changes on its website and in the Council Newsletter article released October 2004 (Attachment 2).

Based on the input received since the September Council meeting, the states will present their final proposals for regulatory changes in the halibut fishery at this meeting.

Council Action:

Within the scope of the September proposals (Attachment 2) and public input; adopt Council recommendations for implementation of proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for 2005.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1: *2004 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.*
2. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2: *Council Newsletter Article on Proposed Changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan.*
3. Agenda Item C.1.e, Public comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. State Proposals
- c. Tribal Comments
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed Regulatory Changes for Implementation in 2005

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10/19/04