

Subject: [Fwd: 2005 Inseason Adjustmant for groundfish]
From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>
Date: Tue, 22 Mar 2005 07:52:08 -0800
To: John DeVore <John.DeVore@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----

Subject:2005 Inseason Adjustmant for groundfish
Date:Mon, 21 Mar 2005 17:44:53 EST
From:Captjohn71@aol.com
To:pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Hello,

My name is John Fuqua, My wife and own and operate the sportfishing vessel "SEA JAY" located in Port Hueneme harbor in Southern California.

We are writing to ask you to use the CRFS data that has become available in recent months. This data should allow us (sportfishing community) more time on the water and relax some of the harsh restrictions.

I believe the that council should have no choice but to use this data, for years we have ben told that the MRFS data hased to be used because it was the best available science. Even though your own experts state that it is horribly flawed.

Now you have new data, even if it is not perfect, it is still science to add to the equation and must be used for inseason adjustments. I would find it to be a terriable miscarriage of justice if it is not used.

Thank you

John Fuqua
Sea Jay Sportfishing

Mirage Sportfishing

105 E Port Hueneme rd dock 1
Port Hueneme CA 93031
805 377 9316

March 22, 2005

Don Hanson, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Members of the council,

I am a charter boat owner/operator that operates out of Port Hueneme CA. I am writing to convey the urgency for more groundfish opportunity when you are considering inseason adjustments under agenda item B6.

I ask the members of the council to consider the fact that I have been driven to near bankruptcy by the extremely cautious approach you have taken in regards to this so called groundfish crisis.

Me and many others that rely on groundfish to survive have been mentally and financially torched by the MRFS data. Every step of the way this council has driven into us that fact that we all know the data is flawed but it was all we have to go on. And now that we have the CRFS data which is still not indicative of the real recreational catch. Due to extrapolation our catch is blown way out of proportion. But it is a much better system and it would be very hypocritical for the council not use the data and give us the opportunity we deserve and desperately need.

Sincerely,

Joe Villareal

Subject: Fwd: Don Hanson
From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>
Date: Sun, 27 Mar 2005 18:56:54 -0800
To: John.DeVore@noaa.gov

Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384
Phone: 503-820-2280
Fax: 503-820-2299
On the web at: <http://www.pcouncil.org>

Subject: Don Hanson
From: "Bobby.V" <biscuitfish@adelphia.net>
Date: Fri, 25 Mar 2005 19:19:12 -0800
To: <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Don Hanson, Chairmen
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Chairman Hanson,

I am writing to you in regards to MRFS verses CRFS data. My name is Robert Valney, I own and operate the Seabiscuit (CPFV) out of Channel Islands harbor in the Southern California Bight.

We have been regulated and pushed into shorter bag limits, depth restrictions, tackle cut backs, and an extremely short rockfish season in 2005. The toll of these regs have pushed many of us to borderline bankruptcy.

Many of us depend on groundfish to survive, We have been crippled by the extremely conservative approach created by the MRFS assessment. And everybody knows this data is flawed!!!

I am requesting for you and the council to take action upon the new CRFS data that the Dept. Of Fish & Game voted unanimously to review, The Dept Of Fish & Game worked hard to make the CRFS data available and to not act immediately would be proof that the coin under agenda item B6 is one sided!!!

Once again PLEASE consider this request as many of our livelihoods may lie in the balance of the councils decision...

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Valney

[PFMC Comments <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>](mailto:pfmc.comments@noaa.gov)
Pacific Fishery Management Council

Don Hanson.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822
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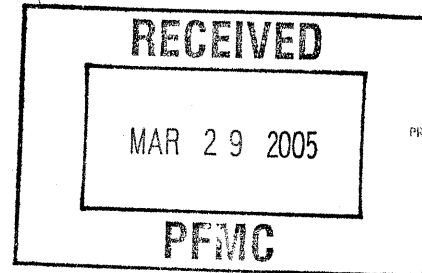
SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

1084 BANGOR STREET
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92106
(619) 226-6455 FAX (619) 226-0175

ROBERT C. FLETCHER
PRESIDENT

April 6, 2005

Don Hansen, Chairman
PFMC
7700 Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220
FAX: (503) 820-2299



W. A. NOTT
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Subject: CRFS Data and Possible In-Season Adjustments.

Dear Chairman Hansen & Council Members:

The Sportfishing Association of California (SAC) has represented the interests of the commercial passenger fishing vessel (CPFV) fleet in southern California since 1972. As its President, I have been involved with efforts to collect better recreational catch data for most of the last decade. As an advisor to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, I have been to Washington, DC annually over that decade, lobbying Congress to fund a better system of collecting that data so critical to intelligent management. For the last 5 or 6 years, I, along with Roger Thomas, Randy Fisher, Dave Hanson, you Mr. Chairman and others have been encouraging NOAA Fisheries and Dr. Bill Hogarth to scrap the infamous "MRFSS", and replace it with a data system better suited for in-season management. And now, finally, we have a data system that we are confident reflects accurately what we are, in fact, catching! We need the 'green light'!

For years, the government has been demanding we use the 'best available science', and the 'best available data' for making management decisions, especially if that data showed declines and resulted in more restrictions. Now we have data showing that recreational anglers caught less than quotas, and we are suddenly talking about being cautious with using 'new, untested data'? We have the best available, let's use it!

In southern California, the new rockfish conservation lines, allowing us to fish for rockfish in waters from 30-60 fathoms in March, April, May and June, have created some real problems. Under the enforcement policy, if you fish for RF early before the wind comes up, you can't fish for bass, barracuda, bonita, white seabass or yellowtail later in waters less than 30 fathoms with rockfish on board. SAC would recommend that the fathom lines be changed to 0-60 fathoms as soon as possible. If this is cannot be accomplished, we urge the Dept. to allow the boats to seal the bags of RF with a zip tie, and then let them fish shallow for the other species. Since we are already legally required to check licenses, and are legally responsible for the 'boat limit', we should be allowed to be legally responsible for limiting passengers to taking RF in 30-60 fathoms also.

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If the fathom change is not allowed soon the issue becomes moot, and our second recommendation would be to open October thru December to fishing for RF, and allow us to target CA scorpionfish (sculpin) also in September. Clearly the CRFS numbers have shown that recreational anglers are having much less of an impact on stocks than previously thought, and with all the restrictions we have suffered through lately, it would only be fair and equitable to allow anglers in southern California some more of that all-important 'time on the water'!

One final point that SAC has raised earlier is that of the take of California white fish and sheephead in waters closed to RF take. California white fish and sheephead are found in abundance in waters of 10-30 fathoms, and can be targeted without any appreciable incidental take of rockfish. Often the sportfishing boats can anchor up in these shallow waters and catch a combination of bass, barracuda, bonita, white fish and sheephead. White fish and sheephead stocks are healthy and abundant in many shallow rocky areas. It would be of tremendous value if these anglers were able to retain white fish and sheephead in waters less than 30 fathoms, and the added impact on rockfish would be negligible, with the few RF taken incidentally having an excellent chance of survival after release.

In closing I would only ask that the Council and the Department seriously consider allowing recreational anglers the opportunity to take the fish that are available, based on **the best available data on recreational catch-CRFS!**

Sincerely,



Bob Fletcher, President

Mirage Sportfishing

**105 E Port Huneme rd dock 1
Port Hueneme CA 93031
805 377 9316**

March 22, 2005

Don Hanson, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RECEIVED

MAR 28 2005

PFMC

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Sincerely,



Joe Villareal



MARINA del REY SPORTFISHING, INC.

24 March 2005

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MAR 28 2005

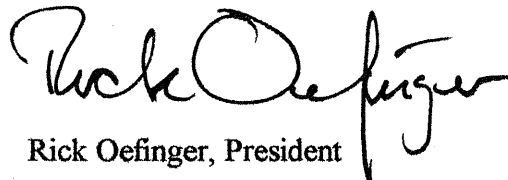
PFMC

Don Hanson, Chairman
Pacific Fisheries Management Council
700 NE Ambassador Pl., # 200
Portland, OR. 97220

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I would ask The Council to consider and use the CRFS data when adjusting the regulations for 2005.

Sincerely,



Rick Oefinger, President

Don Hanson, Chairmen
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RECEIVED

MAR 28 2005

PFMC

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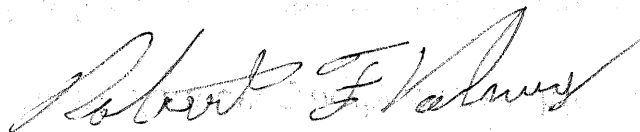
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Sincerely,



Robert Valney

