

**JOINT OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE and
WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON
PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PACIFIC HALIBUT CATCH SHARING
PLAN IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER SUBAREA FOR THE 2006 FISHERY**

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submit the following revised proposed change to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for the Columbia River sport subarea for the 2006 fishery. ODFW and WDFW recommend the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) approve the following proposed change to the CSP for the 2006 fishery.

(iv.) Columbia River Subarea

This sport fishery is allocated 2.0 percent of the first 130,845 lbs (59.4 mt) allocated to the Washington sport fishery, and 4.0 percent of the Washington sport allocation between 130,845 lbs (59.4 mt) and 224,110 lbs (101.7 mt) (except as provided in section (e)(3) of this Plan). This subarea is also allocated 5.0 percent of the Oregon/California sport allocation or an amount equal to the contribution from the Washington sport allocation, whichever is greater. This subarea is defined as waters south of Leadbetter point, Washington, (46°38.17' N. lat.) and north of Cape Falcon, Oregon (45°46.00' N. lat.). The fishery will open on May 1, and continue 7 days per week until 70 percent of the subarea allocation is taken or until the third Sunday in July, whichever occurs first. The fishery will reopen on the first Friday in August and continue 3 days per week, Friday-Sunday until the remainder of the subarea quota has been taken. Subsequent to this closure, if there is insufficient quota remaining in the Columbia River subarea for another fishing day, then any remaining quota may be transferred inseason to another Washington and/or Oregon subarea by NMFS via an update to the recreational halibut hotline. Any remaining quota would be transferred to each state in proportion to its contribution. The daily bag limit is one halibut per person, with no size limit. No groundfish may be taken or possessed, except sablefish and Pacific cod when allowed by groundfish regulations, if halibut are on board the vessel.