

PROPOSED CHANGES TO CATCH SHARING PLAN AND 2009 ANNUAL REGULATIONS

Each September meeting, the Council considers proposed changes to the halibut regulations. The purpose of this consideration is for adjustments in the annual regulations (primarily in the recreational fishery) or the Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for Area 2A (Agenda Item E.3.a, Attachment 1), and can include changes in catch allocation among areas or gear groups.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) held a public meeting on August 19, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) held meetings on August 27 and 28 to solicit proposed changes to the CSP and to present staff proposals for public comment. Recommendations resulting from these meetings will be presented for review at the September Council meeting (Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental WDFW Report; Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental ODFW Report). An inseason update on 2008 halibut catch in Area 2A will be available as a Supplemental Informational Report.

The Council will take final action on proposed changes for 2009 at the November 2008 meeting.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt, for public review, any proposed changes to season structure and the Catch Sharing Plan for 2009.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.3.a, Attachment 1: 2008 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental WDFW Report.
3. Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental ODFW Report.
4. Agenda Item E.3.d, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Agency and Tribal Recommendations and Comments
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed Changes for Public Review

Chuck Tracy

PFMC
08/21/08