

FINAL CHANGES TO CATCH SHARING PLAN AND
ANNUAL REGULATIONS FOR 2009

Under its standard process, the Council solicits proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP; Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1) 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 CSP.

For the 2009 season, the Council is considering changes to the management of recreational fisheries in Washington and Oregon. The proposed changes resulted from recommendations provided by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) after holding public meetings, and from Council discussion and public testimony received at the September 2008 Council meeting.

The Council solicited public input on the changes on its website and in the Council Newsletter article from October 2008 (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2). Additional public hearings were held by ODFW and WDFW to solicit input on the September proposals. Following those hearings, WDFW and ODFW prepared their recommendations for regulatory changes in 2009 (Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental WDFW Report and Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental ODFW Report).

Based on the input received since the September 2008 Council meeting, the states, National Marine Fisheries Service, and tribes will present their final proposals for regulatory changes in the halibut fishery at this meeting.

Council Action:

Within the scope of the September 2008 proposals (Attachment 2) and public input, adopt Council recommendations for implementing proposed changes to the Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and annual regulations for 2009.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1: 2008 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan For Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2: Fall 2008 Newsletter Excerpt.
3. Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental WDFW Report.
4. Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental ODFW Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Agencies and Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Proposed Changes for 2009

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PFMC 10/17/07