

2010 PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY 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 H.1.a, Attachment 1), and can include changes in catch allocation among areas or gear groups.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has prepared an inseason update on 2009 halibut catch in Area 2A with the assistance of state and tribal managers to provide perspective on the performance of the current CSP (Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Report). The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) held a public meeting on August 20, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) held meetings on August 17 and 19 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 H.1.b, Supplemental WDFW Report; Agenda Item H.1.b, ODFW Report).

The Council will take final action on proposed changes for 2010 at the November 2009 Council meeting.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt, for public review, any proposed changes to season structure and the Catch Sharing Plan for 2010.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1: 2009 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item H.1.b, WDFW Report: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Proposed Changes to Catch Sharing Plan and 2010 Annual Regulations.
3. Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental ODFW Report: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2010 Fishery.
4. Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Adopt For Public Review Proposed Changes to the 2010 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Fishery Regulations
- Chuck Tracy