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From: **Bill James** <HalibutBill@live.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 3, 2015 at 9:10 AM

Subject: Public Comment PFMC Meeting September 2015 Agenda Item H.5. Initial Actions for Setting 2017-2018 Specifications

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Cc: Halibutbill@live.com

Dorothy Lowman Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland Or 97227

Sept 2, 2015

Dear Chairman Lowman: My name is Bill James. I am the fishery Consultant for Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association. Our Port consists of mainly small and medium sized vessels. The commercial fleet mainly fishes groundfish and crab. Nearshore finfish permitted fishermen and their commercial vessels along with Morro Bay to the north catch the majority of the premium priced Nearshore species in California. Canary rockfish has been the choke species preventing our vessels from access to healthy stocks in the shelf depth range and has limited our Nearshore finfish trip limits to be limited. Now that Canary Rockfish has been declared rebuilt Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association request that the following items be included for analysis for the Spec. process for 2017-2018.

- 1) South of 40:10 Increase the Shallow Nearshore Bi-monthly trip limits to 1000lbs./2 months for all periods open (1,3,4,5,6).
- 2) South of 40:10/ Increase the Deeper Nearshore Bi-monthly trip limits to 1000lbs./2 months for all periods open (1,3,4,5,6)
- 3) South of 40:10 Increase lingcod monthly trip limits to 600 lbs. per month when Commercial Nearshore is open (periods 1,3,4,5,6).
- 4) South of 40:10 Increase Shelf species (Vermillion rockfish) to 1500lbs/2 months for periods 1,3,4,5,6. For Open Access
- 5) South of 40:10 Chili Pepper rockfish 1500/lbs/2 months
- 6) For Items # 4 and # 5 analyze depths 0-40 fathoms; 60 fathoms; 80 fathoms; 100 fathoms.
- 7) For items # 4 and # 5. Analyze A). No longline gear B). No Gill Nets from 30 fathoms to 100 fathoms
- 8) South of 40:10 Yellowtail Rockfish 2000lbs/2 months. With gear vertical hook and line with a buffer between bottom hook and weight of 20 feet. In waters from 30 fathoms to 100 fathoms.

Please add these for the open access fleet south of 40:10. Especially Port San Luis. Also add management lines at Lopez point (36 degrees) and Ano Nuevo.

Thank you, Bill James
