

**From:** Bill James [mailto:HalibutBill@Live.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 9:11 AM

**To:** [pfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:pfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

**Cc:** [Halibutbill@live.com](mailto:Halibutbill@live.com)

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

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 *25 foot Buffer Hook to Sinker*
- 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. *pt ARENA*

Thank you, Bill James

**From:** Bill James [mailto:HalibutBill@Live.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:10 PM

**To:** pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

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

Dorothy Lowman Chair

Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101

Portland, Or 97227

Sept 8, 2015

Dear Chairman Loman: My name is Bill James a Nearshore Commercial Fisherman and a fishery consultant for Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association.

The requests for analysis on the previous page and this page are for expanding opportunities for fishing on healthy fish stocks and adding conservation measures to keep within the ACL's of Rockfish Species on a rebuilding plans for the small and medium sized vessels in the Nearshore Fishery, Limited Entry Fixed fishery, Open Access Directed Groundfish fishery In the area of Avila – Morro Bay area fishing for the Nearshore Species, Shelf rockfish species and Lingcod.

- 1) Allow 100 lbs./ 2 months in periods 1,3,4,5,6 for Canary Rockfish.
- 2) Lower the discard mortality percentage on all species mentioned above (Nearshore species, Shelf Rockfish species) for Nearshore permitted fishermen and others with "Live Fish experience. *YELLOW EYE & DOLOCCIO*
- 3) If Fish Descending Devices produce a lower discard mortality percentage for Rockfish Species make it mandatory on Commercial Vessels catching Nearshore and Shelf Rockfish species.
- 4) Same as # 3 but for CPFV's.
- 5) No Gill Nets or Longlines from 30-100 fathoms.
- 6) For California vessels fishing Nearshore, Shelf Rockfish, and Lingcod make available to Issue a "John Doe" crew member license.
- 7) Consider closing Open Access Directed Groundfish and issue a "Inshore Directed Shelf and Lingcod Permit."

Thank you, Bill James