Supplemental Open Comment 7 September 2016 Essential Fish Habitat & Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area Alternatives



Report to the Pacific Fishery Management Council

Agenda Item B.1.b

Ben Enticknap September 15, 2016

OCEANAProtecting the World's Oceans

Combined EFH/ RCA Alternatives



Baseline = Status quo areas closed year round to bottom trawling (EFHCAs, RCAs, state water MPAs)

Collaborative (modified) = Baseline – trawl RCA S. of Pt. Chehalis ± proposed EFHCA openings/ closures **Oceana** (Oceana/ NRDC/ OC modified) = Baseline – trawl RCA S. of Pt. Chehalis ± proposed EFHCA openings/ closures

Biogeographic Regions and Depth Zones



Percent of Total Area Closed to Bottom Trawling

"slope" = upper slope depth zone (~200 m to 1,280 m)



Figure 2.1. Map showing the spatial stratification, including four biogeographic sub-regions and three depth zones.

As defined by NMFS in the April 2013 EFH Synthesis Report to the PFMC

Priority Substrates



DCEANA

Percent Mixed Substrate Closed to Bottom Trawling





Biogenic Habitats





Percent Sponge Records Closed to Bottom Trawling





Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area

Features within coastwide trawl RCA that would remain closed if trawl RCA lifted S. of Point Chehalis, WA



Restored Fishing Effort

Net Overall Restored Bottom Trawl Effort - Before (2000-2005)





Summary

- The Oceana EFH alternative + opening the core trawl RCA south of Pt. Chehalis, WA would result in a net increase in habitat conservation (area and priority habitats) across all regions **and** would <u>restore</u> previously displaced trawl effort compared to status quo.
- The Oceana EFH alternative combined with removal of the RCA south of Pt. Chehalis would maintain <u>95% of the hard substrate</u> within the trawl RCA closed to bottom trawling.
- The Collaborative EFH alternative + removal of the RCA south of Pt. Chehalis would result in a loss of total area closed to trawling in all biogeographic regions and coastwide. It would result in a loss of some priority habitat features protected in some regions and an increase in others compared with status quo.





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Friday, September 16 6:00pm- 7:00pm

Delamar Room (second floor)

Open to the Public

Enjoy complimentary appetizers and beverages while viewing spectacular footage from an August 2016 research expedition off Southern California