

RULEMAKINGS AND OTHER MAJOR ACTIVITIES FOR GROUND FISH IN 2017

NMFS provides a list of rulemakings and other major activities that are currently in progress.

Rulemaking Status:

	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Timing (Tentative)</i>	<i>Sectors Affected</i>
1	Midwater Recreational Fishery off Oregon	Proposed rule – March 2017 Final rule – May 2017	Oregon Recreational
2	Sablefish Rule Includes: Registering a LE trawl and fixed gear permit to a vessel at same time (joint registration), sablefish-endorsed LE fixed gear ownership issues, electronic fish tickets	Effective November 2016, except requirements for use of electronic fish tickets, which became effective on January 1, 2017	Limited Entry (LE) Trawl (e.g Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ)), LE fixed gear, Open Access (OA)
3	Trawl Gear Modifications	Contingent on Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation Rulemaking Schedule To be Determined	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
4	Electronic monitoring	Final rule – April 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ)
5	Widow reallocation	Final rule – April 2017	LE Trawl
6	Pacific Halibut Rulemaking for 2017	Proposed Rule – March 2017 Final Rule – April 2017	Non-Treaty directed commercial, incidental catch in salmon troll fishery & sablefish fishery, Treaty Indian commercial & ceremonial/subsistence, WA, OR, & CA recreational
7	Pacific Whiting Rulemaking for 2017	Proposed Rule – March 2017 Final Rule – Late April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal
8	Vessel Movement Monitoring	Proposed rule – April 2017 Final rule – July 2017	LE and OA
9	Amendment 21 At-Sea Sector Set-Asides for darkblotched rockfish and Pacific Ocean perch	Proposed rule – summer 2017 Final rule – Fall 2017	LE Trawl At-Sea Sectors (MS, C/P)
10	2017-2018 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures and Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment 27	Final rule – Published and effective February 7, 2017	All Sectors

Major Activities:

	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timing (Tentative)</i>	<i>Sectors Affected</i>
1	Trawl Gear EFP	February 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ)
2	Electronic Monitoring Non-whiting Midwater & Bottom Trawl EFP	Update for Council in April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ)
3	Trawl Cost Recovery	Update for Council in April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
4	Salmon ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP	Update for Council in March 2017 Final Council recommendations in April 2017 Biological Opinion Completed by XX	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal, Open Access
5	Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP	Biological Assessment to USF&WS in December 2016 Biological Opinion from USF&WS April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal, Open Access, Recreational
6	ESA Section 7 Consultation on Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan	Completed by NMFS in March 2017	Non-Treaty directed commercial, incidental catch in salmon troll fishery & sablefish fishery, Treaty Indian commercial & ceremonial/subsistence, WA, OR, & CA recreational
7	Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan	Biological Assessment to USF&WS in Spring 2017 Biological Opinion from USF&WS Autumn 2017	
8	Inseason Actions	Potential for March, April, June, September, and November Council Meetings	To be determined
9	Magnuson-Act Scientific Research Permitting	Winter and Spring	Unlikely any
10	EFH/RCA Process	Report to Council in June 2017	
11	5 Year Catch Share Program Review	Report to Council in June 2017	
12	2019-2020 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures	June, September, November 2017 Council meetings	
13	Cost Recovery Litigation	Settled in January 2017	LE Trawl, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
14	Challenge to Divestiture (Pacific Choice)	Ongoing	LE Trawl, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)