

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	<b>Midwater Recreational Fishery off Oregon</b>	Proposed rule – April 2017 Final rule – May/June 2017	Oregon Recreational
2	<b>Sablefish Rule</b> 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	<b>Trawl Gear Modifications</b>	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	<b>Electronic monitoring</b>	Final rule – April 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ)
5	<b>Widow reallocation</b>	Final rule – April 2017	LE Trawl
6	<b>Pacific Halibut Rulemaking for 2017</b>	Proposed Rule – March 2017 Comment period closed March 15. 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	<b>Pacific Whiting Rulemaking for 2017</b>	Proposed Rule – March 2017 Final Rule – Late April 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal
8	<b>Vessel Movement Monitoring</b>	Proposed rule – April 2017 Final rule – July 2017	LE and OA
9	<b>Amendment 21 At-Sea Sector Set-Asides for darkblotched rockfish and Pacific Ocean perch</b>	Proposed rule – summer 2017 Final rule – Fall 2017	LE Trawl At-Sea Sectors (MS, C/P)
10	<b>2017-2018 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures and Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment 27</b>	Final rule – Published and effective February 7, 2017	All Sectors

## Major Activities:

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