

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. Text added since the advance briefing book is underlined.

**Rulemaking Status:**

	<i>Rule</i>	<i>Timing (Tentative)</i>	<i>Sectors Affected</i>
1	<b>Midwater Recreational Fishery off Oregon</b>	Proposed rule – June 2017 with comment period ending early July Final rule – September 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>	Current EFP ends December 2017; NMFS to provide an update on the rulemaking at the June 2017 Council meeting.	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
4	<b>Electronic monitoring</b>	Final rule – TBD (pending Council action in September 2017)	LE Trawl (IFQ)
5	<b>Widow reallocation</b>	Final rule – August 2017	LE Trawl
6	<b>Pacific Halibut Rulemaking for 2017</b>	Final rule published 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>Pacific Whiting Rulemaking for 2017</b>	Final rule published May 2017.	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal
8	<b>Vessel Movement Monitoring (to be combined with the 125fm RCA changes if the Council takes action in June)</b>	Proposed Rule - Late summer	LE and OA

<b>9</b>	<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)
<b>10</b>	<b><u>Amendment 26 Blackgill Rockfish and Minor Slope Rockfish South Reallocation</u></b>	<u>Proposed rule – Spring 2018</u> <u>Final rule – Summer 2018</u>	<u>Shorebased IFQ Program, LEFG and OA</u>
<b>11</b>	<b><u>Correction to 2017-2018 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – California regulations</u></b>	<u>Correcting Amendment – Summer 2017</u>	<u>California commercial and recreational fisheries</u>

**Major Activities:**

	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timing (Tentative)</i>	<i>Sectors Affected</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>Trawl Gear EFP</b>	February 2017 Modifications in March 2017	LE Trawl (IFQ)
<b>2</b>	<b>Electronic Monitoring Non-whiting Midwater &amp; Bottom Trawl</b>	Currently on the September 2017 Council agenda.	LE Trawl IFQ)
<b>3</b>	<b>Trawl Cost Recovery</b>	ongoing	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
<b>4</b>	<b>Salmon ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP</b>	Final Council recommendations - April 2017; Biological Opinion Completed late 2017	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal, Open Access
<b>5</b>	<b>Seabird ESA Section 7 Consultation for Groundfish FMP</b>	Completed April 2017.	LE Trawl IFQ, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P), Tribal, Open Access, Recreational
<b>6</b>	<b>ESA Section 7 Consultation on Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Catch Sharing Plan</b>	Completed March 2017.	Non-Treaty directed commercial, incidental catch in salmon troll fishery & sablefish fishery, Treaty Indian commercial & ceremonial/subsistence, WA, OR, & CA recreational, <u>IPHC survey</u>
<b>7</b>	<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	<u>same as above</u>
<b>8</b>	<b>Inseason Actions</b>	Council decisions: -March 2017 - published, effective May 11th -April 2017 - published, effective May 12th	To be determined

<b>9</b>	<b>Magnuson-Act Scientific Research Permitting</b>	Ongoing	Unlikely any
<b>10</b>	<b>EFH/RCA Process</b>	Council to take final action in September 2017	
<b>11</b>	<b>5 Year Catch Share Program Review</b>	Review of public draft at June 2017 Council meeting.	
<b>12</b>	<b>2019-2020 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures</b>	June, September, November 2017 Council meetings	
<b>13</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Litigation</b>	Concluded in January 2017	LE Trawl, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)
<b>14</b>	<b>Challenge to Divestiture (Pacific Choice)</b>	Ongoing	LE Trawl, Mothership (MS), Catcher-Processor (C/P)

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