ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON OMNIBUS WORKLOAD PLANNING PROCESS REVIEW AND PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have been informed that there is an interest in permitting the limited commercial use of discarded recreationally caught fish waste. If this is the case it will require Federal action because Federal regulations currently prohibit the sale of recreationally caught fish, including those parts that have been discarded or abandoned. On that basis, the Council should consider whether this item needs to be added to the omnibus list.

Examples of key relevant Federal regulations are provided in the following excerpts

50 CFR § 660.352 Recreational fishing - prohibitions.

These prohibitions are specific to the recreational fisheries…In addition to the general groundfish prohibitions specified in § 600.12, subpart C, of this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Sell, offer to sell, or purchase any groundfish taken in the course of recreational groundfish fishing.

50 CFR §660.405 Prohibitions.

(a) In addition to the general prohibitions specified in §600.725 of this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to do any of the following, except as otherwise authorized under this part:

…

(10) Sell, barter, offer to sell, offer to barter, or purchase any salmon taken in the course of recreational salmon fishing

50 CFR § 600.10 Definitions.

Fish means:

(1) When used as a noun, means any finfish, mollusk, crustacean, or parts thereof, and all other forms of marine animal and plant life other than marine mammals and birds.

It is the EC’s understanding that a request has been made to allow a port to establish a contract with a company that would collect waste at fish cleaning stations and use that waste to produce commercially sold products including fish meal, fertilizer, fish oil, etc. The intent of the request is to reduce the amount of waste discarded at the port. The discarded waste poses a potential risk to the environment and public health and safety.

PFMC
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