

Excerpt from PCGFMP Amendment 4

To date, federal permits for domestic groundfish vessels are required only for experimental fishing as provided in Chapter 7.

Other Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements. Catch, effort, biological and other data necessary for implementation of this FMP will continue to be collected by the states of Washington, Oregon, and California under existing state data collection provisions. Federal reporting requirements will be implemented only when the data collection and reporting systems operated by state agencies fail to provide the Secretary with statistical information for adequate management.

Two major instances where state reporting requirements may be insufficient have been identified. The first is where a vessel harvests fish within the Washington, Oregon, and California management area but lands outside the management area. The second case occurs when a vessel (usually a processor) remains at sea for a long period of time before offloading its catch shore-side. In the first case, reporting of the harvest may never occur, which could affect stock assessments dependent on accurate catch information. In the second case, reporting frequently is delayed several weeks or even months. Delayed reporting could seriously hamper inseason management of quota and harvest guideline species.

To address these inadequacies, Amendment 4 authorizes implementation of federal reporting requirements in addition to those of the various states. (Such requirements will be announced in the Federal Register, but are not imposed by initial implementation of Amendment 4.) The owner or operator of any vessel that retains fish harvested in the area managed by this FMP whose port of landing is outside the management area may be required to report those catches in a timely manner. They also may be required to submit a completed fish landing ticket from either Washington, Oregon, or California, or an equivalent document containing all of the information required by the state on that fish ticket.

In addition, these vessels, or vessels that remain at sea for long periods of time (in particular, those that process their catch or the catch of another vessel at sea) may be required to report within a specified time period.

1. Vessel name
2. Radio call sign
3. Documentation number or federal permit number
4. Company representative and telephone, fax, and/or telex number
5. Vessel location including daily positions
6. Check-in and check-out reports giving the time, date, location of the beginning or ending of any fishing activity
7. Gear type
8. Reporting area and period
9. Duration of operation
10. Estimated catch by species and area, species disposition (including discards, product type, and weights)
11. Product recovery ratios, products sold (in weight and value by species and product type, and if applicable, size or grade)
12. Any other information deemed necessary for management of the fishery

These vessels also may be required to maintain and submit logbooks, accurately recording the following information in addition to the information listed above, and for a specified time period: daily and cumulative catch by species, effort,

processing, and transfer information; crew size; time, position, duration, sea depth, and catch by species of each haul or set; gear information; identification of catcher vessel, if applicable; information on other parties receiving fish or fish products; and any other information deemed necessary.

These vessels may be required to inform a NMFS enforcement or U.S. Coast Guard office prior to landing or offloading any seafood product. Such vessels may also be required to report prior to departing the Washington, Oregon, and California management area with fish or fish products on board.

The Council intends that any special reporting requirements will be imposed only if it could be expected to enhance the NMFS's ability to monitor the catch more accurately. It is also understood that any additional collection of information must be consistent with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA).

6.3.2.5 Vessel Identification [see old FMP Section 1.4.6, page 1-23]

The FMP authorizes vessel identification requirements which may be modified as necessary to facilitate enforcement and vessel recognition. Current requirements appear in Chapter 12.

6.3.3 Domestic - Recreational (see old FMP Section 12.3.1.1, p. 12-11)

6.3.3.1 Permits (General)

All U.S. recreational fishermen are required by state laws to obtain a recreational permit or license in order to fish. In the event that a federal license or permit is required, failure to obtain and possess such federal permit will be in violation of this FMP.

6.3.3.2 Catch Restrictions

This FMP authorizes establishment of catch restrictions on the recreational fishery which are consistent with the goals and objectives of the FMP and the national standards established by the MFCMA. Any such catch restrictions will be established in accordance with the appropriate procedures in Sections 6.2.1, 6.2.2, or 6.2.3. Bag limits for lingcod and rockfish have been designated by Amendment 4 as "routine" management measures in Section 6.2.1. Concurrent with implementation of Amendment 4, bag limits will be announced for rockfish and lingcod by "notice" in the Federal Register in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 6.2.

6.3.3.3 Gear Restrictions

Legal recreational gear are hook-and-line and spear.

6.3.4 Joint Venture--Domestic Vessels

U.S. vessels operating in joint ventures are domestic vessels and traditionally have been treated the same as U.S. vessels delivering shoreside. However, conditions in the fishery could warrant separate treatment in the future.

Although all U.S. vessels have been subject to the same regulations, joint venture catcher operations may be affected indirectly by restrictions (such as