

2021 CATCH SHARING PLAN AND ANNUAL REGULATIONS

Council Operating Procedure (COP) 9 anticipates that at each September meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) considers proposed changes to the Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and annual regulations for Area 2A (Agenda Item I.1, Attachments 1 and 2). The proposed changes are most often related to recreational season structures (e.g., opening dates, days per week, early season/late season ratios, and port/area sharing) as well as minor allocation changes among areas or gear groups.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has provided a report on the progress to date of the 2020 Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2A (Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 1). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has provided a report on the 2020 recreational Pacific halibut fishery. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has also provided a report on proposed changes to the CSP for the 2021 recreational fishery (Agenda Item I.1.a, ODFW Report 1). The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will provide a supplemental report on their proposed changes.

In addition, a CSP template has been submitted with proposed edits and updates for Council review (Attachment 3). These edits include structural and organizational changes intended to provide a clearer and more concise document. Updates to terminology and the geographic tribal fishing area are also included.

Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to adopt for public review proposed changes to the current CSP and the annual fishery regulations for 2021. Final action for establishing the 2021 Pacific halibut fisheries is scheduled for the November 2020 Council meeting.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt for public review proposed changes to the current Pacific halibut CSP for 2021, and the annual fishery regulations for 2021, as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 1: 2020 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 2: Visual Representation of the 2020 Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut.
3. Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 3: Draft template of the updated Area 2A Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan.
4. Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 1: Report on the 2020 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A.
5. Agenda Item I.1.a, CDFW Report 1: Report on the 2020 Recreational Pacific Halibut Fishery.
6. Agenda Item I.1.a, ODFW Report 1: Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2021 Fishery.

Agenda Order:

- I.1 2021 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed 2021 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulation Changes for Public Review

PFMC
08/17/20