

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON THE 2021 CATCH SHARING PLAN AND
ANNUAL REGULATIONS

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) reviewed the Oregon Department Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Report 1, specifically the proposal to allow halibut and longleader gear fishing on the same trip. The SAS finds some inconsistency with the proposal in that rockfish are caught incidental to halibut fishing while using halibut gear and those fish must be released while longleader fish may be retained. Because of the depths at which halibut fishing occurs, survival of those descended and released fish is compromised. The SAS is concerned that this proposal will be difficult to enforce. There are obvious issues with two fishers, using each type of gear, fishing side by side with one being allowed to retain longleader-caught rockfish while the rockfish caught on standard halibut gear would have to be released. The SAS is appreciative of the ODFW proposal to increase fishing opportunity, but inconsistencies such as these described will be confusing to the public and difficult to enforce.

PFMC
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