

PRELIMINARY CATCH SHARING PLAN AND ANNUAL REGULATIONS FOR
IMPLEMENTATION IN 2024 OR LATER

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 (Attachments 1 and 2). The proposed changes are most often related to recreational season structures (e.g., opening dates, days open per week, port/area sharing, etc.) and more recently has included changes to the non-tribal commercial season structure of the directed halibut fishery. Other changes may also be proposed, including allocation changes among areas or sectors.

The Council will also discuss the scoping items identified at the June 2023 Council meeting that warranted further review as part of this agenda item. These items focused on better describing the management objectives for each fishery (Attachment 3), providing more flexibility in the CSP to better access the non-tribal quota allowed in Area 2A (Attachment 4), analyzing options to move quota from Washington and Oregon halibut sport fisheries to the California halibut sport fishery (Attachment 5), and to consider regulatory changes recommended by the Enforcement Consultants (Attachment 6).

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has provided a report on the progress to date of the 2023 Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2A. The Washington and Oregon Departments of Fish and Wildlife have each provided two reports under this agenda item.

The Council is slated to adopt for public review proposed changes to the current CSP and the annual fishery regulations for 2024. Final action for establishing the 2024 Pacific halibut fisheries is scheduled for the November 2023 Council meeting. For items that cannot be resolved or fully addressed by November 2023, work will continue over the winter and spring with the goal of revisiting the remaining topics in June 2024, and implementation in 2025.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt preliminary Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes for Public Review for Implementation in 2024 or Later, as Needed.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 1: 2023 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 2: Visual Representation of the 2023 Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut.
3. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 3: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Management Objectives.
4. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 4: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Inseason Flexibility Provisions.
5. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 5: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Non-tribal Sport Allocations.

6. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 6: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Regulatory Items.
7. Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 1: Report on the 2023 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A.
8. Agenda Item D.1.a, ODFW Report 1: History of Oregon Recreational Pacific Halibut Fisheries and Regulations.
9. Agenda Item D.1.a, ODFW Report 2: Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2024 Fishery.
10. Agenda Item D.1.a, WDFW Report 1: Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan.
11. Agenda Item D.1.a, WDFW Report 2: Proposed Changes to the Catch Sharing Plan and 2024 Annual Regulations.
12. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- D.1 Preliminary Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes Robin Ehlke
for Public Review for Implementation in 2024 or Later
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt preliminary Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes for Public Review for Implementation in 2024 or Later, as Needed

PFMC
08/15/23