

PRELIMINARY CATCH SHARING PLAN AND  
ANNUAL REGULATIONS FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION IN 2024 OR LATER  
SEPTEMBER 2023



Prepared by Pacific Fishery Management Council Staff, with input from National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Departments of Washington, Oregon & California

# Things to consider as we work through this agenda item



Consider scoping topics carried forward from the June meeting



Consider traditional CSP items proposed for change (*sport seasons, directed fishery season, etc.*)



Adopt items for public review

# Scoping Topics Identified in June 2023 for Non-Tribal Fisheries



Attachment 3: Management Objectives



Attachment 4: Flexibility



Attachment 5: Sport Allocation



Attachment 6: Regulatory

# Management Objectives:

*Update and improve, where needed, the management objectives in the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for each sector or sub-area with a specific allocation*

Attachment 3



Proposed changes to five sections of the CSP, essentially administrative to provide consistency and clarification



Commercial fishery sections – proposed changes to improve consistency and better describe purpose of landing restrictions



Sport sections – proposed changes enhance current language or include new language, but no major changes

# Flexibility

*Expand the Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan's flexible inseason management provisions to allow transfer of projected unused quota between all WA, OR, and CA recreational sub-areas and commercial sectors after August 15*

Attachment 4



Proposed changes to 10 sections. Edits provided for clarification, updates, consistency in existing text.



Additional edits address concept of a trigger date (August 15), and access to Area 2A quota



Option 1 - no action, status quo (no Aug. 15 trigger date)  
Option 2 – develop protocol for action after Aug. 15

# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

*Consider proposals to adjust the current halibut allocation structure for Area 2A sport fisheries along the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California*

Attachment 5



2 methods to shift allocation to CA from WA and OR are proposed:  
Method 1: at the non-tribal level, or  
Method 2: at the sport level



4 options analyzed to shift allocation to CA : 1% and 2% or 0.5% and 1% from WA and OR respectively



The change would occur only in years when the total Area 2A FCEY was  
a) 1.5 million pounds or greater, or  
b) 1.3 million pounds or greater

## Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

Current Area 2A non-tribal allocation sharing has been in place since 2015

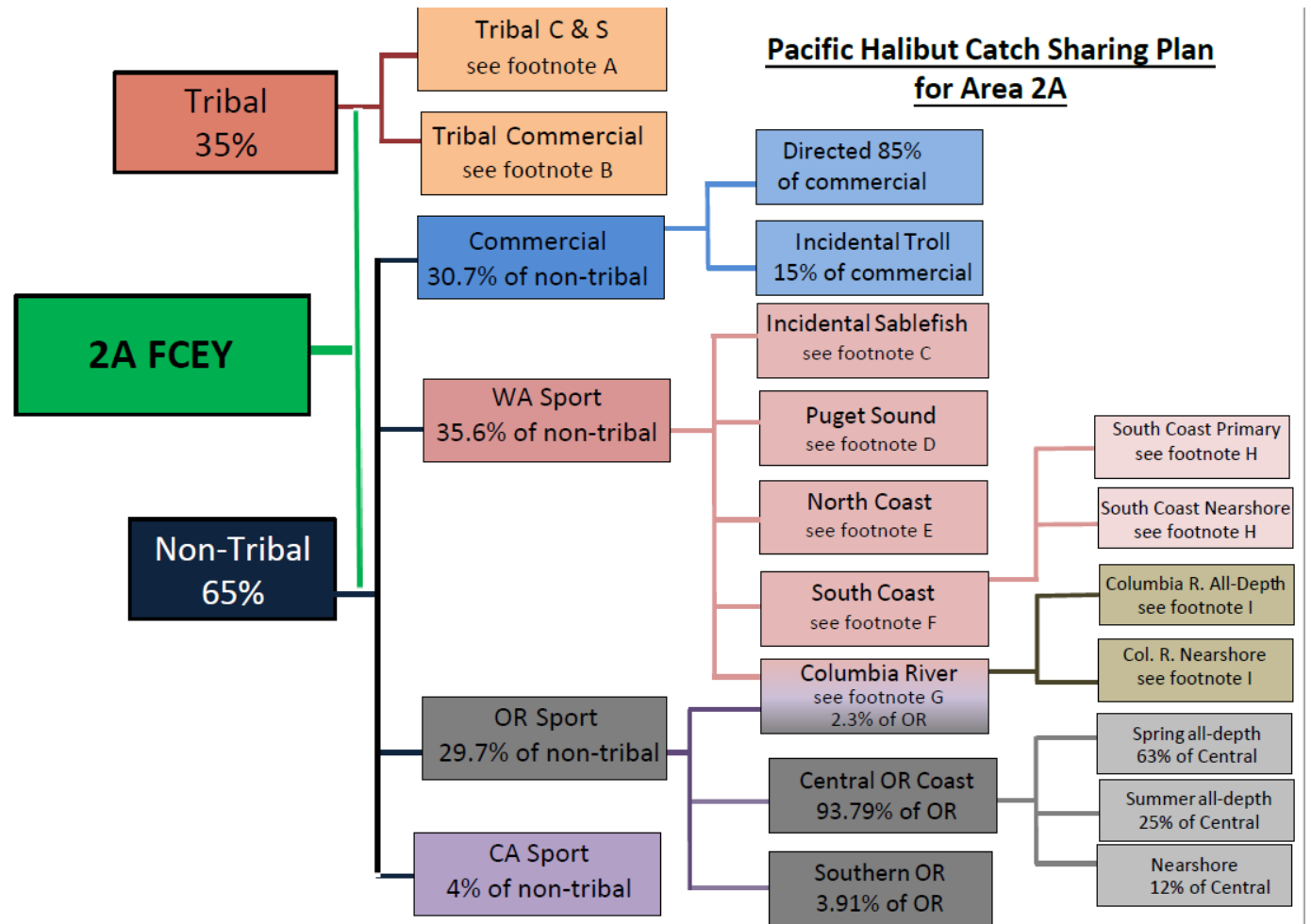
Most non-tribal subsectors include multiple fisheries with their own subquota

Attachment 5 Table 3.1

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Tribal	35.0%
<u>Non-Tribal</u>	<u>65.0%</u>
Commercial	30.7%
WA sport <sup>a/</sup>	35.6%
OR sport	29.7%
<u>CA sport</u>	<u>4.0%</u>

*a/ Initial allocation with any allowance for the sablefish fishery included.*

# Area 2A Allocation Distribution





# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

## Option Components

Attachment 5, Section 4



2 methods to apply change in  
distribution process:

- 1.) Non-tribal level
- 2.) Sport fishery level



2 scenarios for the amount to move  
from WA and OR to CA:

- 1.) 1% WA and 2% OR
- 2.) 0.5% WA and 1% OR



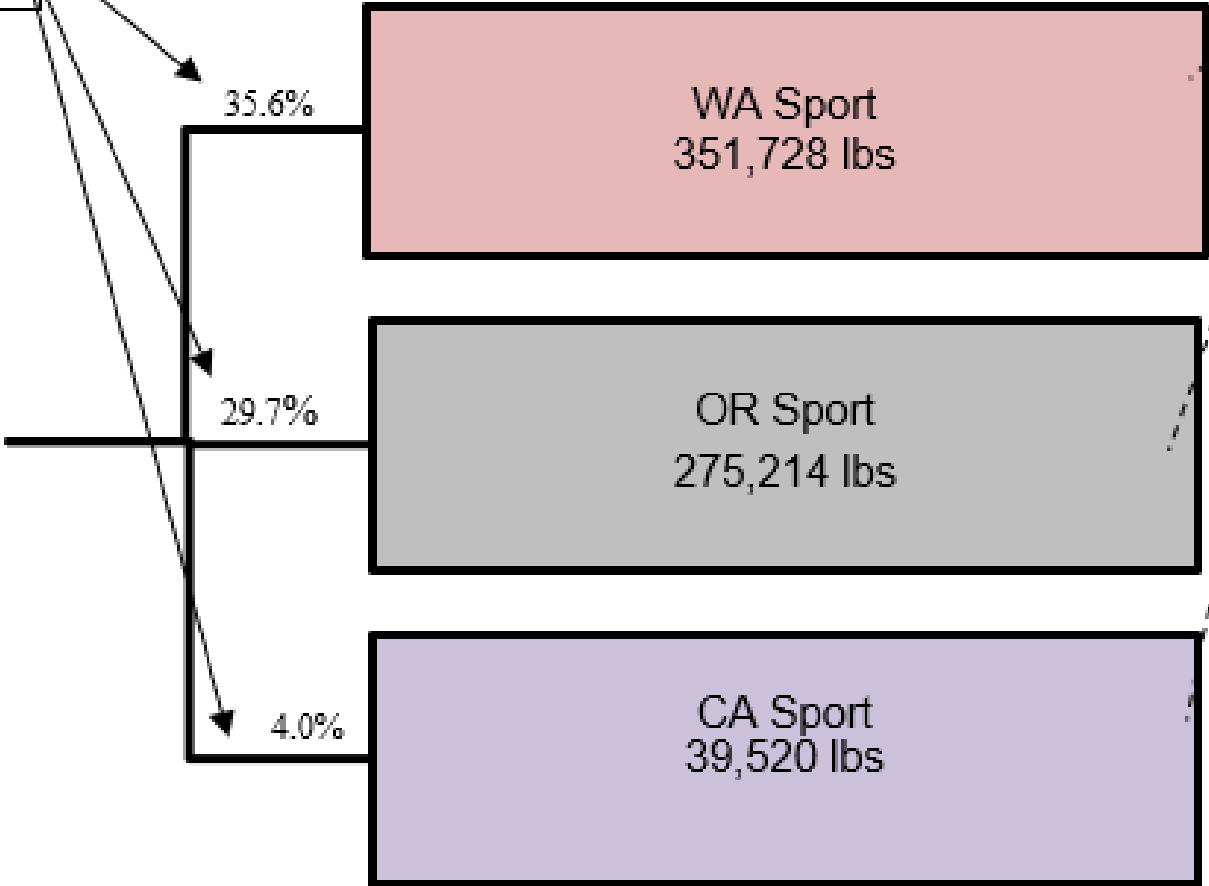
2 conditions for when change  
would apply:

- $\geq 1.5\text{M lbs FCEY}$
- $\geq 1.3\text{M lbs FCEY}$

Method 1: Apply percent change at the non-tribal level (Options 1 and 2)

Method 2: Apply percent change at the state fishery level (Options 3 and 4)

Non Tribal  
65%  
988,000 lbs



# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

2 methods with 2 scenarios provide for 4 options

Attachment 5, Section 6



Move 1% from the non-tribal WA sport share and 2% from the non-tribal OR sport share to non-tribal CA sport



Move 0.5% from the non-tribal WA sport share and 1% from the non-tribal OR sport share to non-tribal CA sport



Move 1% from the WA sport share and 2% from the OR sport share to CA sport



Move 0.5% from the WA sport share and 1% from the OR sport share to CA sport

# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

Apply allocation change only in years when the Area 2A FCEY is:

- a) 1.5 million pounds or greater or
- b) 1.3 million pounds or greater

Attachment 5, p. 3-5, Table 2.1, Figure 2.1



IPHC determines the number of pounds available for harvest in Area 2A. The CSP allocates the quota to tribal and non-tribal fisheries



Over the past 20 years the FCEY has ranged from 810,000 lbs to 1,520,000 lbs and averaged 1,230,000 lbs (2004-2023)



$\geq$  than 1.5M = 4 times (20%)  
 $\geq$  than 1.3M = 10 times (50%)

# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

Options 1 & 2 apply the change at the non-tribal level

Change would only occur in years when the FCEY was at a certain amount

Attachment 5, section 4



Option 1: Move 1 % of the non-tribal WA sport share and 2 % of the non-tribal OR sport share to the non-tribal CA sport share



Option 2: Same as Option 1 except a lower amount is moved: move 0.5% from WA sport and 1 % from OR sport



Apply only in years when the FCEY is:  
a.)  $\geq 1.5$  million pounds  
b.)  $\geq 1.3$  million pounds

# Non-Tribal Sport Allocation

Options 3 & 4 apply the change at the state fishery level

Change would only occur in years when the FCEY was at a certain amount

Attachment 5, section 4



Option 3: Move 1 % of the WA sport share and 2 % of the OR sport share to the CA sport share



Option 4: Same as Option 3 except a lower amount is moved away: move 0.5% from WA sport and 1% from OR sport



Apply only in years when the FCEY is:  
a.)  $\geq 1.5$  million pounds  
b.)  $\geq 1.3$  million pounds

Options using  
2023 data

2023 data	Adjusted Pounds			Difference in Pounds		
	OR	WA <sup>a/</sup>	CA	OR	WA	CA
<b>Current</b>	293,400	351,700	39,500			
<b>Option 1</b>	273,700	341,800	69,200	-19,700	-9,900	29,700
<b>Option 2</b>	283,600	346,800	54,300	-9,800	-4,900	14,800
<b>Option 3</b>	287,600	348,200	48,900	-5,800	-3,500	9,400
<b>Option 4</b>	290,500	350,000	44,200	-2,900	-1,700	4,700

*a/ Initial allocation with any allowance for the sablefish fishery included.*

- Option 3: a 2% and 1% change from OR and WA respectively on the state-fishery level is equivalent to **0.6% and 0.4%** from OR and WA respectively at the non-tribal level
- Option 4: a 1% and 0.5% change from OR and WA respectively on the state-fishery level is equivalent to **0.3% and 0.2%** from OR and WA respectively at the non-tribal level

Suggestion:  
Convert  
Options 3 & 4  
to represent  
non-tribal  
proportions

	Non-Tribal Area 2A Allocation			Difference in Allocation		
	OR	WA <sup>a/</sup>	CA	OR	WA	CA
<b>Current</b>	<b>29.7%</b>	<b>35.6%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>			
<b>Option 1</b>	27.7%	34.6%	7.0%	-2.0%	-1.0%	3.0%
<b>Option 2</b>	28.7%	35.1%	5.5%	-1.0%	-0.5%	1.5%
<b>Option 3</b>	29.1%	35.2%	5.0%	-0.6%	-0.4%	1.0%
<b>Option 4</b>	29.4%	35.4%	4.5%	-0.3%	-0.2%	0.5%

*a/ Initial allocation with any allowance for the sablefish fishery included.*



## Attachment 6: Proposed changes to regulatory items

Three items to address:



1. Vessel Monitoring System



2. Fish receiving tickets



3. Seabird avoidance  
measures

# 1. Vessel Monitoring System

*Require all vessels participating in the non-tribal commercial directed halibut fishery to carry VMS*

Attachment 6, p. 1-2, Table 1



## Details:

- May affect ~16 unique vessels
- Required without groundfish retention



## Additional data and analysis needed:

- Determine ping rate
- Declarations, transit rules, etc.
- Cost/benefit analysis



Option 1a: No action

Option 1b: Require VMS on all vessels in the directed fishery and implement any regulations associated with having VMS

## 2. Fish Receiving Tickets Forms

*Require all non-tribal commercial fish receiving tickets to report the number of pounds AND the number of individual fish for halibut landings*

Attachment 6, p. 2-3



Details:

Require fish receiving tickets to report the number pounds and the number of individual halibut landed



Additional data and analysis needed:

- Reporting requirements not consistent
- Each state determines requirement



Option 2a: no action, status quo

Option 2b: require fish tickets to include number of individual halibut

### 3 Seabird avoidance measures

*Seabird avoidance gear be required when participating in the non-tribal directed-commercial halibut fishery, regardless of whether a vessel retains groundfish or not*

Attachment 6, p. 3-4, Table 2



#### Details:

- The GF fishery has measures in place as part of the GF BiOp
- average of 11 unique vessels may be affected in DC fishery



#### Additional data and analysis needed:

- apply same rules for GF vessels
- ease of enforcement
- cost benefit analysis



Option 3a: no action, status quo  
Option 3b. – Action: Require all vessels in the DC fishery to use seabird avoidance gear

# Recap

## Scoping Items (Attachments 3-6)



Management Flexibility – mainly administrative edits for clarifications and consistency



Inseason Flexibility – more work needed to develop a clear and precise process for an inseason (date-specific) catch inventory and reappropriation of quota



Allocation – four options proposed. More work needed to collect more data, conduct cost/benefit analysis of each option, etc.



Regulatory Changes – 3 topics to consider. More work needed, including data and cost/benefit analysis

# Council Tasks



Adopt for public review any changes to the CSP for sport season structure, etc. for 2024



Adopt for public review non-tribal directed commercial halibut regulations for 2024



Adopt for public review items identified in Attachments 3-6 for implementation in 2024 or later

Any  
questions?

