

2024 CATCH SHARING PLAN AND REGULATIONS - FINAL

Council Operating Procedure (COP) 9 anticipates that at each September meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopts for public review any proposed changes to the Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and annual regulations for Area 2A and takes final action at the November meeting (see Attachments 1 and 2). This year, the Council has expanded the discussion beyond the more traditional items of sport season structures and the non-tribal commercial directed halibut fishery. The expanded topics focus on describing the management objectives and flexibility for each fishery (Attachment 3) and analyzing options to move quota from Washington and Oregon halibut sport fisheries to the California halibut sport fishery (Attachment 4). Providing more inseason flexibility in the CSP to better access the non-tribal quota allowed in Area 2A (*Supplemental Attachment 5*) and considering regulatory changes recommended by the Enforcement Consultants (*Supplemental Attachment 6*), are also topics for discussion, and supplemental information on those two topics is anticipated.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has provided a report on the progress to date of the 2023 Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2A and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has provided a report on the proposed changes for the 2024 halibut fisheries. It is also anticipated that the Washington, Oregon, and California Departments of Fish and Wildlife will provide supplemental reports under this agenda item.

The Council is slated to adopt final changes to the current CSP and the annual fishery regulations for 2024. For items that cannot be resolved or fully addressed by November 2023, it is anticipated that work will continue over the winter and spring with the goal of revisiting the remaining topics in June 2024.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt Final Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes for Implementation in 2024.**
- 2. Identify Process and Schedule for Remaining Items, as Needed.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 1: 2023 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A.
2. Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 2: Visual Representation of the 2023 Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut.
3. Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 3: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Management Objectives and Fishery Flexibility.
4. Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 4: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Non-tribal Sport Allocations.
5. *Agenda Item G.1, Supplemental Attachment 5: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Inseason Flexibility Provisions.*
6. *Agenda Item G.1, Supplemental Attachment 6: Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan: Proposed Changes to Regulatory Items.*
7. Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 1: Report on the 2023 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A.

8. Agenda Item G.1.a, ODFW Report 1: Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2024 Fishery.
9. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.1 2024 Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes – Final Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation Changes for Implementation in 2024; Identify Process and Schedule for Remaining Items, as Needed.

PFMC
10/12/23