

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT
ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2025 CATCH SHARING PLAN

California Coast Recreational Fishery

In September 2024, the California recreational Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) modifications adopted for public review ([Agenda Item F.1.a. Supplemental CDFW Report, September 2024](#)) included minor changes to the CSP that would better align inseason fishery provisions for California with those for Oregon and Washington, and modify language in the South of Point Arena subarea to more accurately reflect the intent of the subarea.

The proposed changes to Sections 6.8.1 and 6.12.1 of the CSP would describe a process and criteria for unused quota from the Northern California Coast subarea to be transferred to and utilized in the South of Point Arena subarea inseason. The addition of language in Sections 6.8.1 and 6.12.1 specific to the California fishery, would be similar to current language in subsections 6.8.1.c and 6.8.1.d which allow transfer of unused quota from a subarea within a state to another subarea within that same state for Washington and Oregon. This modification will increase flexibility within the California Coast subarea and allow for greater utilization of the quota while ensuring catch stays within the California Coast subarea quota.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) affirms its support for the California recreational CSP changes adopted for public review in September 2024 and will work with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Council staff to finalize the wording for inclusion in the 2025 CSP and implementing regulations.

CDFW is mindful of Area 2A's goal to fully utilize the 2A fishery constant exploitable yield (FCEY) and is hopeful that improvements can be made to increase the mechanisms and methods used to allow for inseason sharing of pounds across recreational sectors. CDFW also supports work in 2025 and beyond to improve the CSP and regulatory language to minimize or streamline rulemaking obligations that come with these inseason flexibilities.

Area 2A Commercial Discard Mortality Estimate Calculation

During the September 2024 Council discussion of Agenda Items F.1. 2025 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations, CDFW requested additional information on commercial discard mortality estimate calculations ([Agenda Item F.1.a. Supplemental CDFW Report, September 2024](#)). Specifically, CDFW would like either additional line items in the Detailed sector mortality information table (Figure 1) as part of the IPHC's online [Mortality Projection Tool](#), or a separate table specific to Area 2A breaking out the component parts included in the "commercial discards" and "O26 non-directed discards" estimates in the non-FCEY portion of the table for Area 2A. These additional line items should include both treaty and non-treaty discard estimates, along with their respective data sources. The addition of line items for the component parts of the non-FCEY estimates for Area 2A will aid in transparency and better understanding the steps taken between the TCEY and FCEY for 2025 and beyond. In discussion at the September Council meeting, NMFS

indicated that additional information would be provided on this topic at the November Council meeting. CDFW looks forward to these important accounting details, as the amount of discards included as part of the non-FCEY removals directly impacts the remaining amount of the TCEY available for directed fishery removals per the Area 2A CSP.

INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION									
About Research & Monitoring Fisheries Meetings Data Documents Quick Links									
Biological stock distribution	26.3%	45.0%	22.5%	6.2%					
Distributed mortality	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!					
Harvest rate relative to Region 3	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!					
Detailed sector mortality information									
	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
Commercial discards	0.00	-0.02	NA	NA	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
O26 Non-directed discards	0.08	0.29	0.06	0.25	0.22	0.27	0.14	1.55	2.86
Recreational	NA	0.00	1.07	0.99	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	2.06
Subsistence	NA	0.41	0.25	0.12	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.81
Total non-FCEY	0.07	0.67	1.37	1.36	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Commercial discards	NA	NA	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	NA	NA	NA	NA	#DIV/0!
Recreational	-0.03	-0.10	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	NA	NA	NA	NA	#DIV/0!
Subsistence	0.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Commercial landings	-0.04	-0.57	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Total FCEY	-0.07	-0.67	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
							4C FCEY	#DIV/0!	
							4D FCEY	#DIV/0!	
							4E FCEY	#DIV/0!	
TCEY	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
U26 Non-directed discards	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.18	0.09	0.13	0.01	1.11	1.56
Total	0.00	0.04	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!

Figure 1. Mortality Projection Tool from IPHC website (blank, without specific mortality or IPHC regulatory area apportionments entered). Commercial discards and O26 non-directed discards for Area 2A are highlighted as those are the items where additional component information is requested.