

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT ON STATUS OF ACTION 3:
COMMERCIAL SALE OF RECREATIONAL FISH WASTE

After reviewing the history of this issue, including the Groundfish Management Team's stated concerns in its [March 2025 report](#), and following discussions with representatives from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, it appears that implementation of this action may be more complex than a simple administrative change.

These complexities, coupled with workload constraints, have prevented the parties involved from reaching agreement on the appropriate Federal regulatory text. NMFS remains committed to continuing to investigate the potential for providing limited relief from the prohibition on selling recreationally caught fish and to working with the state representatives to identify an appropriate regulatory approach.

Therefore, to avoid delaying the two other actions under this agenda item, NMFS recommends that the Council delay selection of its final preferred alternative until NMFS can work with the States and other stakeholders to clarify the appropriate scope and purpose of the potential revision to the prohibition, and to return with draft regulatory text for the Council's review.