

Sportfishing Proposals 2013-14 Amendments—Rule Action



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Fish Program

Presentation Outline

- Rule Process and Notebook Materials
- Group "A" Adopt as Proposed
- Group "B" Adopt as Modified
- Group "C" Options provided
- Commission Questions
- Main Motion
- Amendments by Group

Timeline and Public Involvement

- April 25-June 15 Accept Proposals
 - About 300 proposals received
 - 69 proposals recommended for further consideration
- October, & November Regional public meetings (6)
- September-January Public comment on proposals
 - Over 2,300 public comments received
- January 11 Brief Commission
- February 8 Public Hearing
- **March 1-2** **Commission Action**

Notebook Materials

- Summary Sheet with Draft Motion Language
- 2013-2014 Sportfishing Rule Change Proposals
- CR-102 and Recommended adjustments to WAC filing
- WAC language adjustments -- changes are in color
- Supplemental Materials
- Reference table for commission action by Group
- Additional supporting materials

Group "A" Adopt Rules as Proposed

- Table 1. 59 Rules
- Adopt as presented at the January Commission Meeting

Group "B" Adopt Rules As Modified

- 2. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) language, maintenance, and technical changes. Add the following:
 - Additional technical changes are incorporated in the CR-102 WAC language
 - Summarized in recommended adjustments on p. 45 of notebook.

Group "B" Adopt Rules As Modified

- 3. Resident trout streams open on Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend
 - Remove Hamma Hamma River
 - Anadromous water
 - Conservation of wild steelhead

Group "B" Adopt Rules As Modified

- 22. Remove daily limit on brook trout in Tucquala Lake
 - Add Saturday before Memorial Day opener
 - Provides consistency with adjacent Cle Elum River

Group "B" Do Not Adopt

- 58. Quilcene trout retention
 - Retain current regulations
 - Rule intended to provided additional harvest opportunity
 - Nearly all public comment opposed

Group "C" Options Provided

- 6. Statewide sturgeon rules
 - **Option 1:** catch and release Columbia River and tributaries below Bonneville Dam, Coast and Puget Sound January 1, 2014; 5 fish annual limit.
 - **Option 2:** catch and release Columbia River and tributaries below Bonneville Dam, Coast and Puget Sound January 1, 2014; 2 fish annual limit.
 - **Option 3 filed in CR-102 WAC language:** catch and release Columbia River and tributaries below Bonneville Dam, Coast and Puget Sound May 1, 2013; 2 fish annual limit.

Group "C" Options Provided

- 6. Statewide sturgeon rules
 - Columbia River Workgroup recommended a catch and release fishery for sturgeon in 2013
 - Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted a catch and release fishery effective January 1, 2014 and a 1 fish annual limit effective January 1, 2013
 - A 15% Harvest buffer was applied to 2013 fisheries in the Lower Columbia River

Group “C” Options Provided

- 9. Remove or modify size and daily limits for bass, walleye, and channel catfish in the Columbia River, Snake River and their tributaries
 - Modify from OR/WA boarder above McNary Dam upstream; Clarify area on Touchet R.
 - Option 1 filed in CR-102 WAC language : Remove size and daily limits
 - Option 2: Bass no daily limit, only 3 over 15
Walleye no daily limit, only 1 over 24

Group "C" Options Provided

- 9. Remove or modify size and daily limits for bass, walleye, and channel catfish in the Columbia River, Snake River and their tributaries
 - Benefits of regulation will be associated with angler behavior
 - Increased harvest will be needed to see significant changes in fish populations

	Angler Behavior	
	No Change	↑ Fish Kept
Conservation Benefits	None	Positive (limited)
Fishing Quality	None	Minimal Impact

Group "C" Options Provided

- 15. Liberalize bag limits for walleye on Lake Roosevelt and the Spokane Arm of Lake Roosevelt
 - Option 1: 8 fish only 1 over 22 (status quo)
 - Option 2: 16 fish
 - Option 3: 16 with 1 over 22
 - Option 4 filed in CR-102 WAC language: no limit no size

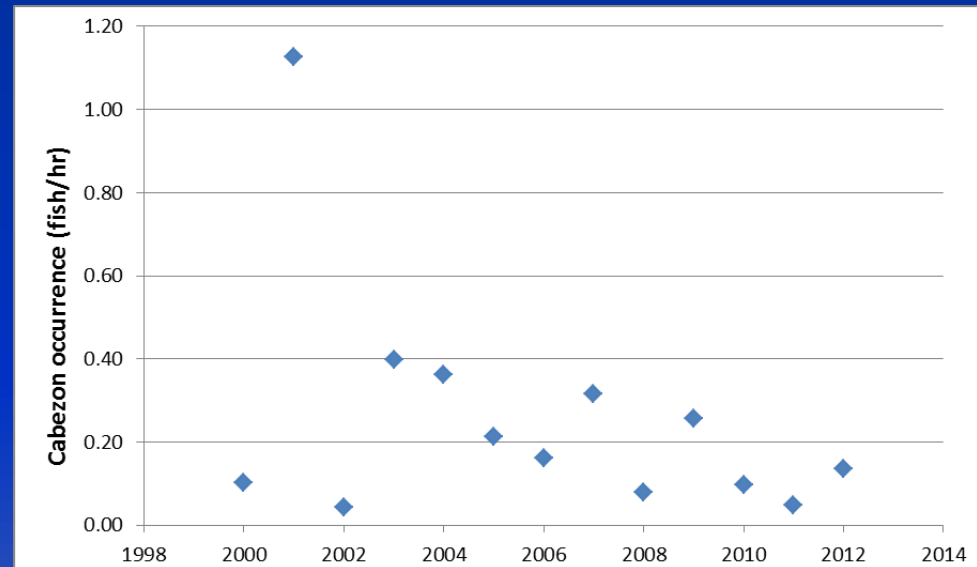
Group "C" Options Provided

- 65. Cabezon minimum size requirement
- **Option 1** filed in **CR-102 WAC language**: Minimum size 18 inches
- **Option 2**: Closed to fishing
- **Option 3**: Daily limit 1
- **Option 4**: Reduced season to May 1- June 15

Group "C" Options Provided

- 65. Cabezon minimum size requirement

- No statistically significant trend in Sound-wide standardized count data
- Counts were estimated by converting coded data and standardized by scuba dive time



(data source: REEF)

Group “C” Options Provided

- 66. Rockfish species retention in Marine Area 4 west of the Bonilla-Tatoosh Line
- Option 1 filed in CR-102 WAC language: adopt as proposed
- Option 2: Retain current regulation

Group "C" Options Provided

- 66. Rockfish species retention in Marine Area 4 west of the Bonilla-Tatoosh Line

- Percent potential reduction in mortality by species with only black, blue and yellowtail rockfish retention
- Assumes survival of released rockfish based on PFMC estimates.

Specname	2010-2011 Avg	Mortality rate	Mortality Reduction	
	Retained catch		No. of fish	Percent
BLACKROCK	34,809			
CHINA	2,663	0.24	2024	76%
QUILLBACK	601	0.35	391	65%
CANARY	98	0.37	62	63%
COPPER	841	0.33	564	67%
YELLOWEYE	32	0.39	20	61%
BLUEROCK	1,158			
YELLOWTAIL	1,256			
TIGER	60	0.35	39	65%
VERMILLION	386	0.34	255	66%
BOCACCIO	72	1	0	0%

(data source: WDFW OSP)

Group "C" Options Provided

- 67. Tuna daily limit
 - **Option 1 filed in CR-102 WAC language:** Two fish daily limit for yellowfin, skipjack and northern bluefin tuna
 - Option 2: daily limit zero for northern bluefin tuna
 - Option 3: no daily limit for these species (status quo)

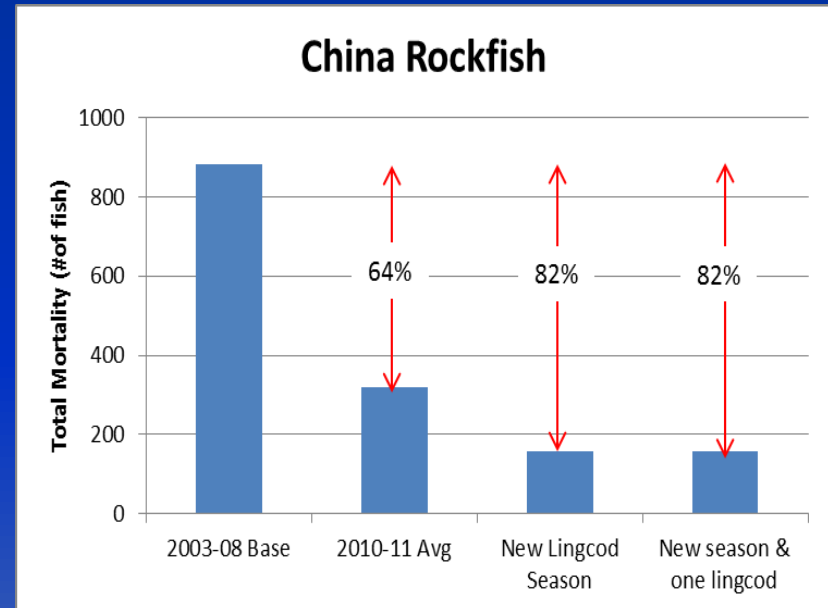
Group "C" Options Provided

- 69. Reduce lingcod season in Marine Area 4B
 - **Option 1** filed in CR-102 WAC language: Reduce season to May 1-June 15
 - **Option 2**: Daily limit 1
 - **Option 3**: Status quo season April 16-October 15

Group "C" Options Provided

- 6g. Reduce lingcod season in Marine Area 4B

- Reduction in total mortality associated with recent changes in fishing regulations and options presented
- Assumes survival of released rockfish based on PFMC estimates.



(data source: WDFW OSP)

Commission Questions?



Main Motion

Move to adopt permanent amendments to:

- WAC 220-55-220 Two pole endorsement.
- WAC 220-56-235 Possession limits – Bottomfish.
- WAC 220-56-240 Daily limits forage fish and other food fish not otherwise provided for.
- WAC 220-56-250 Lingcod – Areas and seasons.
- WAC 220-56-265 Forage fish – Lawful gear.
- WAC 220-56-282 Sturgeon – Areas, seasons, limits and unlawful acts.
- WAC 220-56-310 Shellfish – Daily limits.
- WAC 232-28-619 Washington food fish and game fish – Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules.

as presented by staff.

Amendments

Group "A" Adopt Rules as Proposed

- Table 1. 59 Rules

Amendments

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- 58. Quilcene trout retention (do not adopt)

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