



Public Meetings to Discuss the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for 2020



Photo courtesy of Matt Blume



Meeting Outline

- Catch sharing plan timeline
- Proposals forwarded by the Council
 - All of Oregon
 - Columbia River & Southern Oregon Subareas
 - Central Coast Subarea



Procedure to Make Changes to the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP)

- Process to implement changes for 2020 fishery:
 - Early August: ODFW solicits public input
 - September 12-19, 2019: PFMC preliminarily adopted changes for 2020 for further public comment (Boise, ID) www.pcouncil.org
 - **Early Oct: ODFW solicits public input on specific proposals forwarded by PFMC**
 - November 15-20, 2019 : PFMC adopts final changes for 2020 fishery (Costa Mesa, CA) www.pcouncil.org
 - February 3-7, 2020: IPHC Annual Meeting, catch limits set (Anchorage, AK) www.iphc.int

2020 Oregon Recreational Halibut Fishery Subareas

Leadbetter Point

Columbia River Subarea

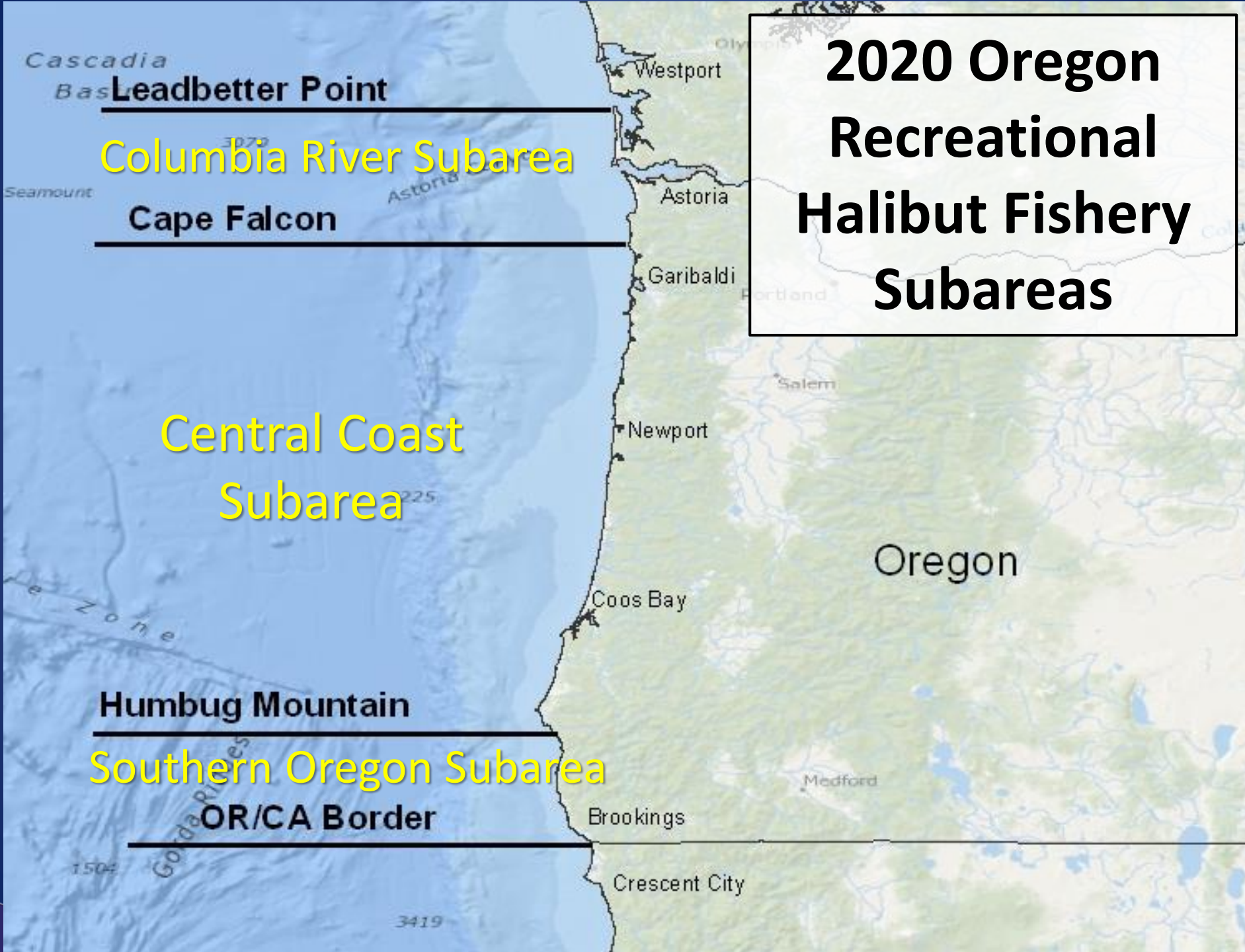
Cape Falcon

**Central Coast
Subarea**

Humbug Mountain

Southern Oregon Subarea

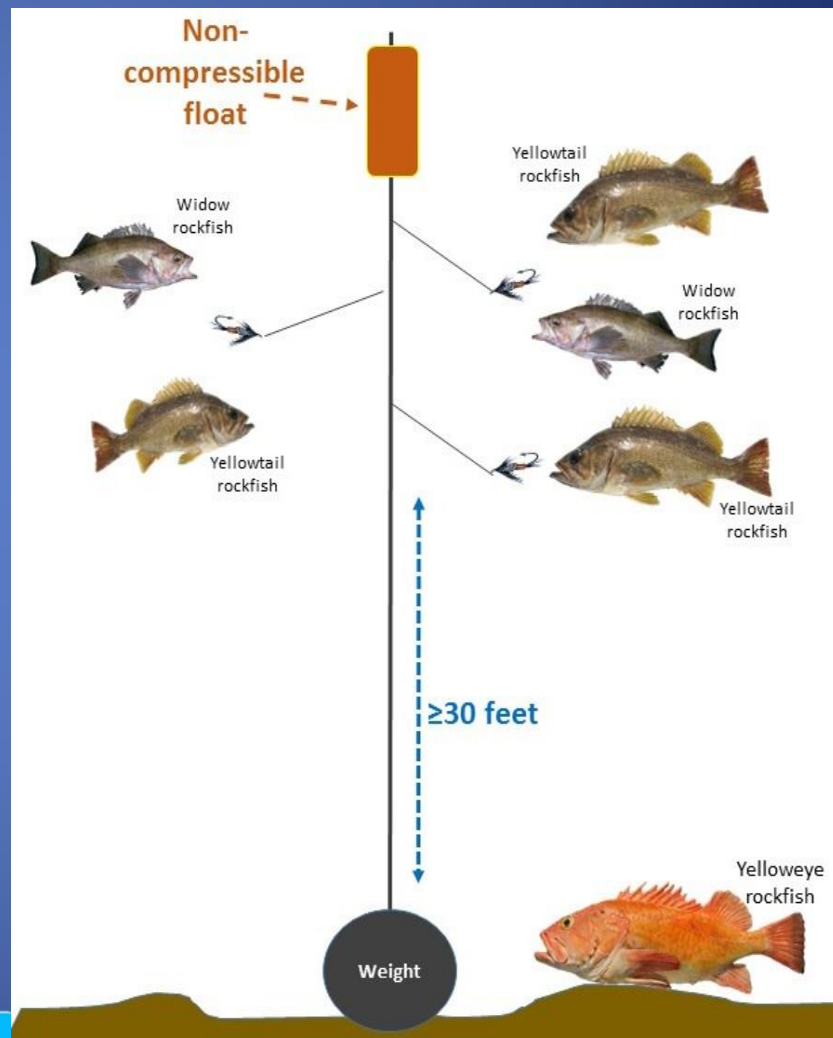
OR/CA Border





Allow longleader gear fishery with all-depth halibut

- The longleader gear fishery requires the use of specialized gear designed to fish off the bottom and avoid areas where yelloweye rockfish live
- Only specified midwater rockfish may be retained when longleader fishing





Allow longleader gear fishery with all-depth halibut

- Rationale
- Retention of most species of groundfish on all-depth halibut days is prohibited to reduce the potential for interactions with yelloweye RF
- The longleader gear is specifically designed to avoid yelloweye RF
 - and has been demonstrated successful
 - allowing it when fishing for all-depth halibut would add little, if any, additional risk to yelloweye RF
- It would allow all-depth halibut anglers additional fishing opportunities while offshore



Allow longleader gear fishery with all-depth halibut

- Discussion



Columbia River Subarea (Leadbetter Point, WA to Cape Falcon, OR) & Southern Oregon Subarea (Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border)





Columbia River & Southern Oregon Subareas

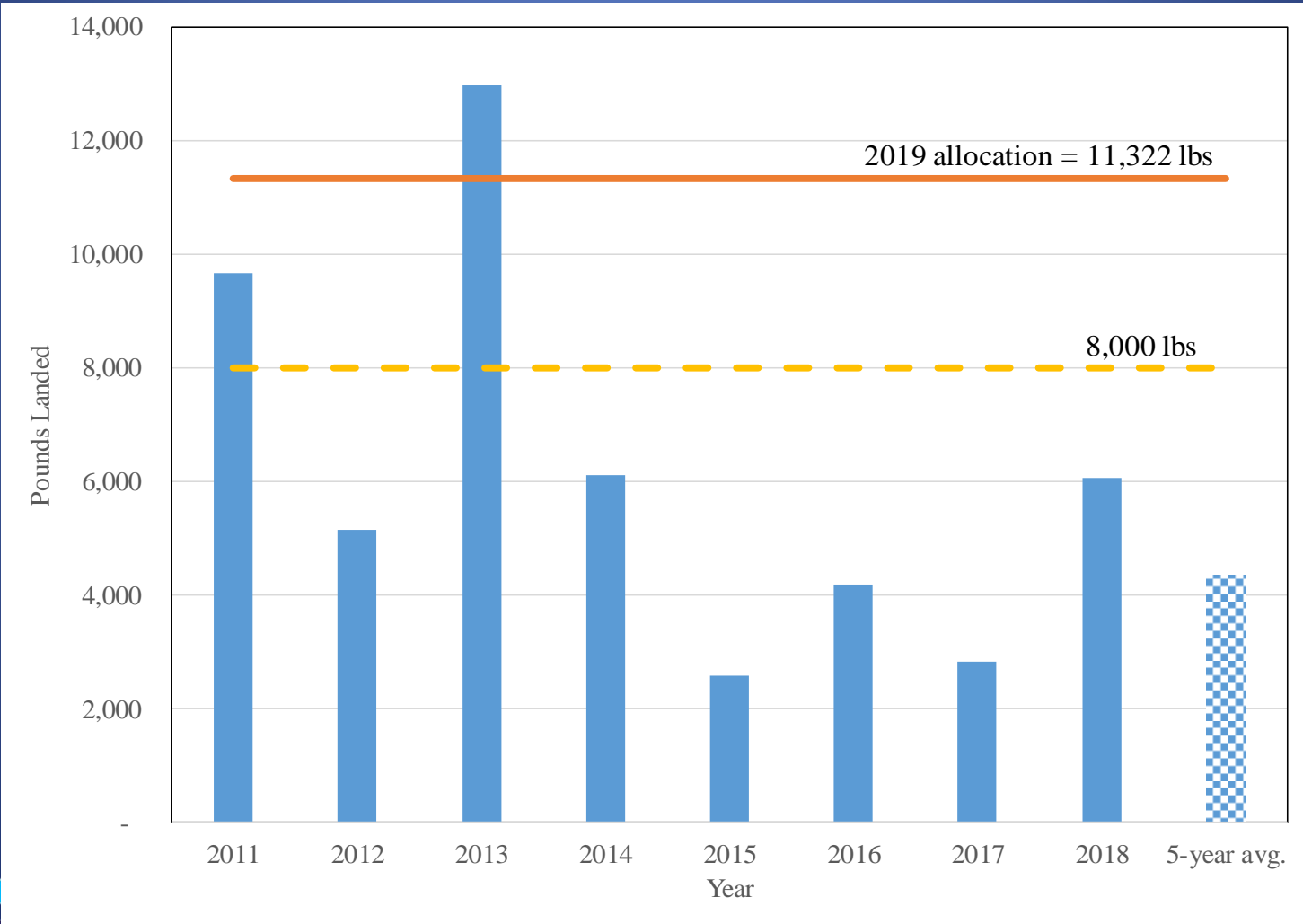
- Keep the Southern OR Subarea allocation at 3.91% of the OR total, but add a trigger to move any amount over 8,000 pounds to the Columbia River Subarea

Year	Total SOS Allocation	Allocation Over 8,000 pounds
2014	3,712	-
2015	7,318	-
2016	8,605	605
2017	10,039	2,039
2018	8,982	982
2019	11,322	3,322
2020*	11,322	3,322
2021*	11,322	3,322
2022*	11,322	3,322

* assumed, based 1.5 million pounds Area 2A total allowable catch



Annual Southern Oregon Subarea Catch 2011-2018, with the 2019 allocation and 8,000 pound threshold





Columbia River Subarea

Rationale:

- With the high Area 2A quotas expected through 2022, the allocation to the Southern Oregon Subarea is greater than recent catches
- Strands fish that could be utilized elsewhere
- Putting in a threshold closer to recent catches, with some buffer, would provide adequate allocation for the Southern Oregon Subarea
- Would also transfer potentially unutilized fish to the Columbia River Subarea which has had short seasons in recent years



Columbia River & Southern Oregon Subareas

- Discussion



Central Oregon Coast Subarea (Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt.)





Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Revise the start date of the nearshore fishery
 - Status Quo: Keep the June 1 start date
 - Alternative 1: Start May 1, if the Nearshore allocation is 25,000 pounds or greater
 - Alternative 2: Start May 1, regardless of allocation
- Presumed 2020 allocation is 32,591 pounds
 - Same as 2019



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Nearshore Start Date - Rationale
 - Start was moved to June 1 after several years of early attainment of the allocation, so that the fishery was open for more of the summer months
 - However, in years when the quota has been high, some allocation has been left unharvested
 - Opening on May 1 when the allocation is high would provide additional opportunity to harvest the entire allocation
 - While still having the fishery open during the summer months



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

Nearshore Start Date - Discussion:



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Revise the Days per Week Open in the Summer All-Depth Fishery
 - Status Quo: Open the first Friday and Saturday in August, then every other Friday and Saturday until Oct. 31, or allocation attainment.
 - Alternative 1: A third day may be added if the summer all-depth allocation plus any amount left from the spring all-depth fishery = 60,000 pounds or more in total
 - Alternative 1a. Thursday will be the additional open day
 - Alternative 1b. Sunday will be the additional open day



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Summer A-D Days - Rationale:
 - Will allow additional opportunity to harvest allocation
 - Had been open 3-days per week prior to 2010
 - If open 3 days, add Thursday or Sunday?
 - Sunday was the 3rd day when open previously,
 - allowed for both weekend days to be open
 - Thursday would have the same open days as the spring all-depth fishery



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Summer A-D Days - Discussion



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Revise the Spring All-Depth Season Back-Up Days
 - Status Quo: back-up dates are available every other weekend
 - Alternative 1: back-up dates can be open every weekend



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Spring A-D Backup Days - Rationale:
 - ODFW staff work with anglers pre-season to set the number of fixed dates in the spring all-depth season to have a good chance of taking the majority of the quota without going over
 - Back-up dates are then available to harvest any remaining quota
 - In unusual years, such as 2019, when there is a combination of high quota & weather issues, there can be a lot of quota left after the fixed days
 - In 2019, there was approximately 110,000 pounds (out of the initial 171,000 pound allocation) remaining after the fixed dates
 - If a similar situation were to happen in the future, having the option inseason to have back-up dates open every week would allow for additional opportunity to harvest the allocation



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Spring A-D Backup Days - Rationale, cont.:
 - **This would not guarantee open back-up dates every week**
 - ODFW would have to project catch and quota remaining two weeks out, since catch estimates from one Thursday-Sunday opening would not be available prior to a potential opening beginning the following Thursday
 - An opening would only be offered if enough quota remained after the last catch estimates were made to cover two sets of back up dates (including one that has already occurred but not yet been estimated)
 - Weather/ocean conditions could be taken into account by halibut managers in this evaluation
 - While the potential for weekly back-up dates could enable higher attainment of the allocation, there could be very short notice on whether weekly back-up dates would be open or not, which could complicate planning for halibut fishing trips



Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Spring A-D Backup Days - Discussion:



End of Background Materials

Thank you for participating.

If you have further comments or questions,
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