



OCEAN
PROTECTION
COUNCIL



DE MINIMIS FISHERY CONCEPT

Red Abalone FMP Project Team Meeting

July 18, 2019

De Minimis Fishery Context

- Focus on Northern California Recreational Red Abalone Fishery
- Maximize Fishing Opportunities
- Ensure Recovery and Long Term Productivity of the Stock
- Engage Stakeholders in Cost Effective and Reliable Data Collection
- Optimize Economic Support to Local Communities
- Strawman Proposals Incorporate Ideas Generated from May Meeting and Received Proposals

Common De Minimis Considerations

- Daily Bag Limit
- Total Individual Allocation
- Season Timing, Length, or Number of Days
- Area
- Size Limit
- Special Conditions: Data Collection, Reporting
- Enforcement

Example One – Biological Fishery

- Could be implemented very early during stock recovery to collect biological data using fishermen
- Limited in number of opportunities and scope
- Would require all animals be sampled by the Department to collect data, but retained by fishermen

Strawman Proposal Example 1: Fort Ross Bio Fishery

Example Two – Area Re-Entry

- Geographical area is identified with good environmental and stock conditions that could allow a limited opportunity
- Opportunity scaled to ensure no significant impact to recovery (De Minimis considerations)
- Could be tailored to serve a specific stakeholder group – for example rock-picker fishery centered around low tides

Strawman Proposal Example 2: Sea Ranch Re-entry Fishery

Example Three – Recovered or Near Recovered

- Once a significant area (county?) has reached recovery standards, could consider open access or a very liberal restricted access opportunity
- This could be a county-wide opportunity with characteristics similar to before the collapse of the fishery

Strawman Proposal Examples 3 and 4: Humboldt/Del Norte limited Access and Multiple Area Limited Access Fisheries

Options To Distribute Opportunities

- Random Draw
 - Everyone has equal chance every year (Wildlife Area Hunts)
- Preference Points
 - Those who have waited the longest get preference (Big Game Draw)
- Pay to Play
 - Those who are willing to pay more get preference (You name it)

Input Needed From Project Team

- What level of risk is acceptable given a specific TAC?
- What is an appropriate spatial management area for each type of de minimis fishery?
- What is an acceptable minimum “experience” (ie. bag/annual limits, season)?
- How should opportunities be allocated?

Next Steps

- Refine De Minimis Opportunities
- Create Management Areas