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FISHERIES**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Proposed Rule to Establish an Interim 2015 Tribal Whiting Allocation and Extend Dates for Reapportionment

Proposed rule & Request for comments

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (80 FR 12611). This rule proposes an interim tribal whiting allocation of 17.5% of the U.S. Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2015 season only. This proposal is consistent with the request of the Makah Tribe, the only tribe that has expressed intent to participate in the 2015 whiting fishery.

This action also proposes to allow reapportionment from the tribal allocation to the non-tribal sectors prior to the current allowed September date, upon written notice from a tribe that they do not intend to use a portion of their tribal allocation.

Public comments on this rule are due April 9, 2015.

View the proposed rule and submit comments at www.regulations.gov by searching for Docket Number 141219999-5174-01 or by following the link below:

http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=NOAA_FRDOC_0001-3354

This proposed rule can also be found on NMFS website at:

http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/frn/groundfish_frns.html