

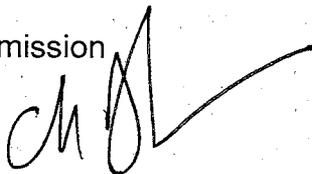
State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

## Memorandum

Date: ~~August 28, 2013~~  
Sept. 24, 2013

To: Sonke Mastrup  
Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham  
Director



**Subject: Agenda Item for October 2, 2013 Fish and Game Commission Meeting – Request for Guidance Re: Ocean Salmon Possession Limits**

At its meeting on December 12, 2012 in San Diego, the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) received a request to increase the current possession limit for salmon taken in ocean waters from one to two daily bag limits. The request came from Mr. George Osborn, representing Coastside Fishing Club. At that time, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) was directed to engage in dialog, evaluate the proposal, and provide options for the Commission's consideration for the next annual salmon fishing regulatory cycle.

An internal work group with representatives from Law Enforcement Division, Marine Region, and the License and Revenue Branch met to consider and evaluate potential options. A summary of the analyses is contained in the attached table. Following the discussion, four options (including the no-change alternative) were identified as viable alternatives for consideration.

The Department requests that the Commission place this item on its October 2 meeting for discussion and guidance as to a preferred alternative. As referenced in the table, some alternatives are feasible for incorporation into the 2014 salmon management cycle, while others could not be implemented until 2015 or beyond. Delaying selection of a preferred alternative past the October meeting would require postponing incorporation of any of the alternatives until the 2015 management cycle or beyond.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Assistant Chief Bob Farrell at (916) 651-7823 or Dr. Craig Shuman, Manager of Marine Region at (805) 568-1246.

Attachment

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Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director  
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Table 1: Options to amend regulations potentially allowing up to two daily bag limits of ocean salmon in possession.

Option	Description	Compliance/LED Ability to Enforce	Timeline for Implementation	Regulatory Complexity	Outreach and Education Costs	ALDS Design/Implementation Costs
1	Status Quo-only one daily bag limit of salmon may be possessed (ocean waters limit: two fish in 2013)	Status Quo – High assurance of compliance with daily bag limit	NA	Low	NA	NA
2	Modify existing regulations to allow two daily bag limits in possession. No reporting mechanism of any kind.	Low assurance of compliance with daily bag limit	Short timeline, easy to implement (effective for 2014 season)	Low	Low	NA
3	Modify existing regulations to allow two daily bag limits in possession by a person only when on land. No more than one daily bag limit may be possessed by any person on a vessel in ocean waters. No reporting mechanism of any kind.	Better assurance of compliance with daily limit than Option 2, since most ocean salmon catch occurs on vessels	Short timeline, easy to implement (effective for 2014 season)	Moderate	Moderate	NA
4	Modify existing regulations (option 2 or 3) and also require that in order to possess up to two limits, anglers purchase and carry an “ocean salmon in possession” report card while in possession of more than a daily limit (same as Oregon).	Best assurance of compliance with daily limit, short of status quo (Option 1)	Longer timeline; regulatory and program development would be necessary (not effective before 2015 season)	Relatively high regulatory complexity (must specify card requirements and fee in regulations)	Relatively high because a new program is being implemented	Relatively high development costs because this would be a new item for sale in the ALDS system