

Richard D. Daybell, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1-29-2015

Ms. Mandy Lewis, Environmental Scientist
Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Region
% Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director
California State Department of Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Proposed Bluefin Tuna Regulations Sent Via E mail to FGC@fgc.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Lewis

I am writing this letter in response to the January 21, 2015 notice regarding proposed changes in the regulations related to Pacific Bluefin Tuna daily bag limit and tuna fillet procedures. As a long time recreational fisherman and boater I am concerned about certain parts of the proposed regulations.

1. Would the bag limit and fillet procedures apply to fish caught in Mexican or international waters? For example fish caught on a multiday fishing trip out of San Diego or Long Beach.
2. For California waters I can agree with the proposed two fish limit for just the 2015 and 2016 fishing seasons. The situation needs to be evaluated regarding catch limits beyond this time period.
3. The proposed fillet regulation places an undue burden for the sportsfishing industry crews who process and fillet fish as well as private boaters. Normally tuna are cut into either 2 or 4 fillets depending on their size. Smaller tuna are cut into 2 fillets. (One on each side of the fish) Larger fish are cut into 4 fillets (2 per each side of the fish). For a really big tuna there might be more pieces of fillet than 4 fillets or even 6 pieces.
4. It is unclear why there are to be 6 pieces of fish placed in a single bag when there might be only 2 or 4 pieces of fillets..
5. Labeling of bags should be limited to just bags containing Bluefin tuna.
6. Does the proposed regulation apply to Albacore Tuna?
7. There has to be a reasonable way to identify the fillet without having to leave all the skin on the fillet. For other fish the department only requires that a piece of the skin rather than the entire skin be left on the fillet.
8. Why is the regulation only being applied to fish caught south of Point Conception. Many tuna including Bluefin have been caught north of Point Conception in recent years.

Richard D. Daybell, [REDACTED]

9. What restrictions, if any, are being placed on the commercial fishing industry regarding the take and processing of Tuna. How are they to be regulated for net fishing and jig boat fishing?

The proposed regulation affects many fisherman and boaters South of Point Conception particularly for boats running out of San Diego. In the interest of fairness at least one of the hearing on this matter should be moved from Sacramento and Santa Rosa to San Diego to allow those who will be impacted by the regulation to testify. Like many people I am unable to travel to Northern California to testify on this matter.

Your early written reply with answers to the items in this letter would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours



Richard D. Daybell
Licensed California Angler and Boat owner