

News Release

2320 W. COMMODORE WAY, SUITE 300, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, 98199-1287

11 May 2018

IPHC NEWS RELEASE 2018-010**2018 PACIFIC HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 1**

IPHC Regulatory Area	Fishery limits (net weight)		Landings (net weight)	
	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)	1,190,000	539.78		
Non-treaty directed commercial (south of Pt. Chehalis)	201,845	91.56	0.00	0.00
Non-treaty incidental catch in salmon troll fishery	35,620	16.16	no data	no data
Non-treaty incidental catch in sablefish fishery (north of Pt. Chehalis)	50,000	22.68	1,874	0.90
Treaty Indian commercial	389,500	176.68	194,093	88.04
Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence (year-round)	27,000	12.25		
Recreational – Washington	225,366	102.22	no data	no data
Recreational – Oregon	229,730	104.20	no data	no data
Recreational – California	30,940	14.03	no data	no data
Area 2B (British Columbia)	6,223,985	2,823.18		
Commercial fishery	5,295,995	2,402.25	1,433,332	650.15
Recreational fishery	927,990	420.93	no data	no data
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska)	4,450,000	2,018.51		
Commercial fishery (IFQ)	3,570,000	1,619.32	1,111,037	503.96
Guided recreational fishery	810,000	367.41	no data	no data
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska)	9,450,000	4,286.49		
Commercial fishery	7,350,000	3,333.91	1,839,421	834.35
Guided recreational fishery	1,790,000	811.94	no data	no data
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)	2,620,000	1,188.41	270,315	122.61
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)	1,370,000	621.42	1	1
Area 4B (central/western Aleutians)	1,050,000	476.24	1	1
Areas 4CDE	1,580,000	716.68	1	1
Area 4C (Pribilof Islands)	733,500	332.71	0.00	0.00
Area 4D (northwestern Bering Sea)	733,500	332.71	1	1
Area 4E (Bering Sea flats)	113,000	51.26	0.00	0.00
Total				

¹Total landings in IPHC Regulatory Area 4 are combined to meet confidentiality requirements, for a total of 195,790 pounds (88.8 tonnes).

continued...

Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update

The 2018 quota share Pacific halibut fisheries opened on 24 March 2018. It is estimated that the following commercial landings, by weight and number of landings, were taken in the Alaskan Individual Fishery Quota (IFQ) fishery through 08 May 2018 and in the British Columbian Individual Vessel Quota (IVQ) fishery through 05 May 2018.

IPHC Regulatory Area	Catch Limit		Landings		Proportion	Number of Landings
	'000s lb	Tonnes	'000s lb	Tonnes		
2C	3,570	1,619	1,111	504	31.12	251
3A	7,350	3,334	1,839	834	25.02	300
3B	2,260	1,025	270	123	11.95	33
4	4,000	1,814	196	89	4.90	21
USA total	17,540	7,956	3,417	1,550	19.48	605
2B (Canada) total	5,296	2,402	1,433	650	27.06	113
Grand Total	22,836	10,358	4,850	2,200	21.23	718

United States of America: The landings from IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3, and 4 (Alaska) represent ~19% of the 2018 quota share commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 4.2 Mlb, 1,905 t, or ~22% of the 2017 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery by this same date in 2017; however, the opening date of the 2017 fishery occurred 13 days earlier in the year than that of the 2018 fishery. For comparison, using a similar fishing period length, during the first 45 days of the 2017 Alaska commercial Pacific halibut fishery, 3.4 Mlb, 1,542 t, or 17% of the catch limit, were landed.

Canada: The landings from IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (British Columbia) waters represent ~27% of the 2018 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 1.3 Mlb, 590 t, or ~21% of the 2017 catch limit, had been landed from IPHC Regulatory Area 2B by this same date in 2017. Also, during the first 42 days of the 2017 IVQ fishery, 1.1 Mlb, 499 t, or 17% of the catch limit, had been landed.

IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Commercial Treaty Indian Fisheries

In 2018, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) allocated 389,500 pounds (177 tonnes) of Pacific halibut for commercial use to the Treaty Indian tribes of IPHC Regulatory Area 2A. After one unrestricted fishery and one restricted fishery, a total of 194,093 pounds (88 tonnes) of Pacific halibut have been reported landed as of 27 April 2018.

IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Incidental Commercial Pacific Halibut Fishery During the Limited Entry, Fixed-Gear Sablefish Fishery

The total allowable incidental commercial catch of Pacific halibut allocated to the limited entry, fixed-gear sablefish fishery, which operates in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A north of Point Chehalis, Washington, is 50,000 pounds (22.7 tonnes). Incidental catch of Pacific halibut in the sablefish fishery was permitted beginning 01 April 2018. Preliminary landing estimates indicate that 1,874 pounds (0.9 tonnes) of Pacific halibut have been landed through 30 April 2018. For further incidental fishery retention information, call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825 press 7 for Pacific halibut information).

Annette Islands Reserve Fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C

The Metlakatla Indian Community has been authorized by the United States Government to conduct a commercial Pacific halibut fishery within the Annette Islands Reserve. The following table lists Pacific halibut catch and numbers of participating vessels by fishing period.

Fishing Period Dates	Pounds	Tonnes	Number of Vessels
23 - 25 March	1,877	0.85	5
06 - 08 April	748	0.34	4

continued...

The total landed weight of Pacific halibut reported to date is 2,625 pounds (1.2 tonnes). The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future Pacific halibut openings.

Completion and Submission of Logbooks for the Commercial Pacific Halibut Fishery in all IPHC Regulatory Areas and for the Alaska Sablefish Fishery

The IPHC has collected commercial logbook information since the 1930s. The weight per unit effort, gear, and location information from the logbook is essential for the annual stock assessment and aids in determining the condition of the Pacific halibut resource. Marine mammal details were added to the logbooks in 2017 in response to requests from the fleet and stock assessors. No changes were made for 2018. We have been successful in managing the resource primarily because of cooperation from participating harvesters. All detailed trip information obtained and retained by the IPHC is kept strictly confidential and cannot be subpoenaed because of IPHC immunities as an international organization.

The IPHC has been contracted by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Auke Bay Laboratory (ABL) to collect sablefish log sheets in Alaska for use in the sablefish stock assessment. This program was developed at the request of the sablefish industry and is voluntary. Any logbook information provided to the NMFS ABL requires a captain's signature acknowledging and agreeing to the following: 'IPHC will forward to Sablefish Assessment, Auke Bay Lab'. Only sablefish data that have this acknowledgement are provided to ABL. Sablefish catch, set data, and landing locations are provided, but each vessel is assigned a unique number code preventing the vessel from being identified. These data cannot be obtained by outside parties under the Freedom of Information Act.

For the 2018 season, IPHC has samplers in the following ports in Alaska: Dutch Harbor, Homer, Juneau, Kodiak, Petersburg, Seward, Sitka, and St. Paul. We also have samplers in Bellingham, Washington and Newport and Charleston, Oregon.

Providing the log to the port sampler is the most efficient way to provide accurate data for inclusion in the stock assessment, to clarify details, and to provide you with a venue to ask questions and provide direct feedback to the IPHC and ABL. New tear-out logbooks can be obtained from any port sampler or from the Seattle office. Hardcover logbooks are no longer available. At the end of the fishing season, if a sampler has not collected logbook information from all trips, please tear out the IPHC/IFQ copy from your logbook, or make a copy of the information, sign to release the sablefish catch information, and send it to the Seattle office at 2320 West Commodore Way Suite 300, Seattle, WA, 98199, USA.

Please refer to the attached log example to complete your IPHC-approved log as accurately, legibly, and completely as possible. Thank you again for your continuing cooperation.

- END -

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.
Executive Director, IPHC
Phone: (206) 634-1838
Fax: (206) 632-2983
Web: www.iphc.int

YEAR: 2018

Example

IPHC PACIFIC HALIBUT LOGBOOK



(S LOG FORM (MAY 2016))

Complete this box for each page → TRIP# 2 of 1 of 1 VESSEL NAME: FLÉTAN STATE VESSEL#: 12345

Complete these boxes once for each trip

Captain's Name: JOHN D'EAU		IPHC Initials/#:	
Crew Names: RUBY RHIMUS		Date:	
Crew Size (including Captain): 2		Sample Number:	
		Gear	%
		SS	%
		SN	%

GEAR ID	GEAR DEFINITION	LENGTH OF SKATE (feet)	HOOK Size	No. Per Skate
A	✓ END HOOK	900	3	100
B	✓ TR	900	4	273
C				
D				

RECORD BY STRING (Beginning and End)

CATCH DATE	TIME SET/HAULED	LOCATION		Beg/End DEPTH (Fath)	NUMBER OF SKATES	TARGET SPECIES	REASON CODE	LEGAL-SIZED PACIFIC HALIBUT	SABLEFISH SOLD (check one)	MAMMALS SIGHTED	NUMBER DAMAGED
		Latitude	Longitude								
4 11		50°30.87'	179°56.14'E	40-50	12.5	HAL		6020	Wt 0	PM-Sperm 0 Other 0	200-P Hal 0 710-Sable 0 Other Fish 5* 110 307-Hooks 0 100
4 11		50°31.48'	179°55.74'E	115-139	0	HAL		10840	Wt 0	PM-Sperm 0 Other 0	200-P Hal 0 710-Sable 0 Other Fish 0 307-Hooks 0
4 12		50°30.37'	179°53.02'W	209-220	30	BC		384	Wt 172	PM-Sperm 0 Other 0	200-P Hal 0 710-Sable 3 Other Fish 0 307-Hooks 0
4 13		no fishing		weather					No 47	PM-Sperm 0 Other 0	200-P Hal 0 710-Sable 0 Other Fish 0 307-Hooks 0
4 14		50°32.81'	179°56.59'E	58-90	12	HAL		7550	Wt 0	PM-Sperm 0 Other 0	200-P Hal 0 710-Sable 0 Other Fish 0 307-Hooks 0

COMMENTS:

Complete at trip end

Date of Sale	Dealer	Unloading Port	Port Code	Weight Sold Pacific Halibut	Weight Sold Sablefish
5 16	Island Cold Storage	Adak		24848	183

IPHC will forward AK Sablefish information to Sablefish Assessment, Auke Bay Lab

PNOL TEC

Capt. signature: *[Signature]*