

COMMISSIONERS:  
ROBERT ALVERSON  
SEATTLE, WA  
NEIL DAVIS  
VANCOUVER, BC  
PETER DEGREEF  
NORTH SAANICH, BC  
JON KURLAND  
JUNEAU, AK  
PAUL RYALL  
VANCOUVER, BC  
RICHARD YAMADA  
JUNEAU, AK

# INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA  
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
DAVID T. WILSON  
2320 W. COMMODORE WY, STE 300  
SEATTLE, WA 98199-1287  
TELEPHONE:  
(206) 634-1838  
FAX:  
(206) 632-2983

EL2024022  
20 March 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

This Permit is issued to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Alaska Fishery Science Center (AFSC) to enable the incidental catch of Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) during the NOAA Aleutian Islands (AI) trawl survey. Permission is extended for fishing activities as follows:

- 1) **Activity:** NOAA standardized bottom trawl survey to assess the living fauna of the AI to monitor ecosystem health and provide assessments of living resources for stock assessment and fisheries management in Alaskan waters;
- 2) **Location:** Aleutian Islands, Alaska, USA
- 3) **Total number of Pacific halibut permitted:** estimated 1,000 encounters (AI project total)
- 4) **Permissible fishing gear:** trawl
- 5) **Permissible time period:** 1 June 2024 – 30 September 2024;
- 6) **Principal investigator:** Gerald R. Hoff (NOAA)
- 7) **Vessel:** Ocean Explorer (docno: 678236)

Pacific halibut obtained under this permit may not be retained for purposes other than scientific research described herein.

- 1) Up to 800 Pacific halibut (total for the Aleutian Islands survey) may be sacrificed for otolith collection, sex determination, weight measurement, and stomach collection.
- 2) Pacific halibut not sacrificed may be measured for length and released overboard as soon as possible after the trawl net is dumped.

Pacific halibut captured but not used in the study specified in this permit must be returned to the sea with a minimum of delay and injury. Numbers and estimated weight of Pacific halibut caught and released shall be reported to the IPHC.

*David T. Wilson*

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

20-03-2024

Date



**INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC  
HALIBUT COMMISSION**

---

**IPHC PERMIT TYPE [ RESEARCH ] PERMIT NUMBER [ IPHC-2024004-RP ]**

In conformity with the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Fishery Regulations (2023)  
the Vessel [ **OCEAN EXPLORER** ] Official Number [ **678236** ] of the USCG Registry  
is hereby permitted to conduct Pacific halibut research in [ **IPHC REG AREA 4** ]  
subject to any laws or regulations of Canada and/or the United States of America.

**Valid [ 1 JUN – 30 SEP 2024 ] Date of Issue [ 20 MAR 2024 ]**