



Fisheries Data Overview (2025): preliminary

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (B. HUTNICZAK, H. TRAN, T. KONG, K. SAWYER
VAN VLECK, K. MAGRANE; 29 OCTOBER 2025)

PURPOSE

To provide a preliminary overview of the 2025 Pacific halibut removals, including the status of mortality reported against mortality and fishery limits adopted by the Commission and outlined in the [IPHC Fishery Regulations \(2025\)](#).

This paper presents current data and a selection of end-of-year projections available as of 27 October 2025. Updated projections for directed commercial landings, directed commercial discard mortality, and non-directed commercial discard mortality will be included in Rev_1 of this paper.

BACKGROUND

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) estimates all Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) removals taken in the IPHC Convention Area and uses this information in its yearly stock assessment (see IPHC-2025-IM101-10) and other analyses. The data are compiled by the IPHC Secretariat and include data from federal and state agencies of each Contracting Party. All 2025 data are in net weight (head-off, dressed, ice and slime deducted) and considered preliminary at this time. The IPHC Regulatory Areas are provided in [Figure 1](#).

The report provides a preliminary summary of removals in Tables [1](#) and [2](#). [Table 2](#) provides estimates of mortality reported against the fishery limits (FCEY) resulting from the IPHC-adopted distributed mortality (TCEY) limits and the existing Contracting Party catch sharing arrangements, as well as non-FCEY mortality projections, by IPHC Regulatory Area. [Figure 2](#) provides cumulative percentage of directed commercial Pacific halibut limit landed by week.

DEFINITIONS

Directed commercial fisheries include commercial landings and discard mortality. Directed commercial discard mortality includes estimates of sub-legal Pacific halibut (under 81.3 cm or 32 inches, also called U32), fish that die on lost or abandoned fishing gear, and fish discarded for regulatory compliance reasons.

Recreational fisheries include recreational landings (including landings from commercial leasing) and discard mortality.

Subsistence fisheries are non-commercial, customary, and traditional use of Pacific halibut for direct personal, family, or community consumption or sharing as food, or customary trade. Subsistence fisheries include:

- i) ceremonial and subsistence (C&S) removals in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A treaty Indian fishery,
- ii) the sanctioned First Nations Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) fishery conducted in British Columbia,
- iii) federal subsistence fishery in Alaska that uses Alaska Subsistence [Pacific] Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC), and
- iv) U32 Pacific halibut retained for personal use by the Community Development Quota (CDQ) fishery in IPHC Regulatory Areas 4D and 4E.

Non-directed commercial discard mortality includes incidentally caught Pacific halibut by fisheries targeting other species and that cannot legally be retained, e.g. by the trawl fleet. This category refers only to those Pacific halibut that subsequently die due to capture.

IPHC FISS and Research includes Pacific halibut landings and removals as a result of the IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) and other IPHC research.

Table 1. 2025 mortality reported against mortality limits (TCEYs) by IPHC Regulatory Area and U26 non-directed discards (as of 27 October 2025).

IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limits (TCEY) (net weight)		Mortality to date (net weight)		Percent attained
	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	(%)
IPHC Regulatory Area 2A	748	1,650,000	630	1,389,310	84.2
IPHC Regulatory Area 2B	2,472	5,450,000	2,038	4,493,333	82.4
IPHC Regulatory Area 2C	2,368	5,220,000	2,418	5,331,581	102.1
IPHC Regulatory Area 3A	4,119	9,080,000	3,665	8,080,569	89.0
IPHC Regulatory Area 3B	1,297	2,860,000	951	2,096,555	73.3
IPHC Regulatory Area 4A	608	1,340,000	290	638,628	47.7
IPHC Regulatory Area 4B	472	1,040,000	4	9,258	0.9
IPHC Regulatory Area 4CDE and Closed Area	1,397	3,080,000	250	551,068	17.9
Subtotal (TCEY)	13,481	29,720,000	10,247	22,590,302	76.0
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	862	1,900,000	*	*	*
Total¹	14,343	31,620,000	*	*	*

Totals exclude sectors for which data are confidential or unavailable.

Table 2. 2025 estimates of mortality reported against fishery limits (FCEY) and mortality projections (non-FCEY components of TCEY) by IPHC Regulatory Area (as of 27 October 2025).

IPHC Regulatory Area	Fishery limit / projection ¹ (net weight)		Mortality to date ¹ (net weight)		Pct (%) attained
	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	(%)
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)	748	1,650,000	630	1,389,310	84.2
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Non-treaty directed commercial fishery	118	259,515	120	264,004	101.7
Non-treaty incidental catch in salmon troll fishery	21	45,797	11	23,995	52.4
Non-treaty incidental catch in sablefish fishery ²	32	70,000	32	70,000	100.0
Treaty Indian commercial fishery	236	520,700	236	520,700	100.0
Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence (year-round)	7	14,800	7	14,800	100.0
Recreational – Washington	129	284,042	129	285,091	100.4
Recreational – Oregon	134	295,367	80	176,193	59.7
Recreational – California	18	39,780	9	19,500	49.0
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	27	60,000	*	*	*
Recreational discard mortality	--	--	2	4,005	--
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	27	60,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	5	11,022	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	5	10,000	*	*	*
Area 2B (British Columbia)	2,472	5,450,000	2,038	4,493,333	82.4
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	1,755	3,870,000	1,566	3,452,294	89.2
Recreational fishery	308	680,000	240	528,280	77.7
Recreational fishery (XRQ - Experimental Quota) ⁵	--	--	0	0	--
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	68	150,000	*	*	*
Recreational discard mortality	14	30,000	10	21,203	70.7
Subsistence	186	410,000	184	405,000	98.8
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	141	310,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	39	86,556	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	18	40,000	*	*	*

IPHC Regulatory Area	Fishery limit / projection ¹ (net weight)		Mortality to date ¹ (net weight)		Pct (%) attained
	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	(%)
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska)	2,368	5,220,000	2,418	5,331,581	102.1
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	1,393	3,070,000	1,141	2,515,854	81.9
Directed commercial discard mortality	54	120,000	52	114,953	95.8
Metlakatla (Annette Island Reserve)	--	--	22	49,316	--
Guided recreational fishery	327	720,000	333	734,336	102.0
Guided recreational fishery (GAF) ⁵	--	--	106	233,000	--
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Unguided recreational fishery	458	1,010,000	618	1,363,223	135.0
Subsistence	113	250,000	115	252,492	101.0
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	23	50,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	31	68,407	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	0	0	*	*	--
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska)	4,119	9,080,000	3,665	8,080,569	89.0
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	2,672	5,890,000	2,316	5,105,742	86.7
Directed commercial discard mortality	204	450,000	202	445,250	98.9
Guided recreational fishery	671	1,480,000	633	1,396,302	94.3
Guided recreational fishery (GAF) ⁵	--	--	22	48,000	--
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Unguided recreational fishery	399	880,000	407	897,075	101.9
Subsistence	54	120,000	55	121,642	101.4
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	118	260,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	30	66,558	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	113	250,000	*	*	*
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)	1,297	2,860,000	951	2,096,555	73.3
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	1,120	2,470,000	923	2,033,898	82.3
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	91	200,000	*	*	*
Recreational fishery	0	0	1	3,022	--
Subsistence	5	10,000	5	10,475	104.8
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	77	170,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	22	49,160	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	50	110,000	*	*	*
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)	608	1,340,000	290	638,628	47.7
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	454	1,000,000	277	610,302	61.0
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	18	40,000	*	*	*
Recreational fishery	5	10,000	4	9,499	95.0
Subsistence	0	0	2	4,164	--
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	132	290,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	7	14,663	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	59	130,000	*	*	*

IPHC Regulatory Area	Fishery limit / projection ¹ (net weight)		Mortality to date ¹ (net weight)		Pct (%) attained
	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	Tonnes (t)	Pounds (lb)	(%)
Area 4B (central and western Aleutians)	472	1,040,000	4	9,258	0.9
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	408	900,000	*	*	*
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	5	10,000	*	*	*
Recreational fishery	0	0	*	*	--
Subsistence	0	0	0	218	--
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	59	130,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	4	9,040	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	5	10,000	*	*	*
Areas 4CDE and Closed Area	1,397	3,080,000	250	551,068	17.9
Domestic mortality limits (FCEY)					
Directed commercial fishery landings	730	1,610,000	244	536,993	33.4
Projections (non-FCEY)³					
Directed commercial discard mortality	18	40,000	*	*	*
Recreational fishery	0	0	*	*	--
Subsistence ⁶	5	10,000	6	14,075	140.8
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	640	1,410,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research⁴	--	--	0	0	--
Non-TCEY mortality					
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	612	1,350,000	*	*	*
Total	13,481	29,720,000	10,247	22,590,302	76.0
Directed commercial fishery landings	9,424	20,776,012	7,141	15,743,301	75.8
Recreational fishery	2,463	5,429,189	2,594	5,718,729	105.3
Subsistence	370	814,800	373	822,866	101.0
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (O26)	1,216	2,680,000	*	*	*
IPHC fishery-independent setline survey and research ⁴	--	--	139	305,406	--
Non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26)	862	1,900,000	*	*	*

Totals exclude sectors for which data are confidential or unavailable. Values shown in italics represent year-end projections.

¹ Totals by IPHC Regulatory area include all TCEY components, i.e. exclude non-directed commercial discard mortality (U26).

² North of Pt. Chehalis; non-treaty incidental to sablefish fishery limit allocated from Washington sport allocation in accordance with the Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A.

³ Fishery projection is value used in setting the TCEY for each IPHC Regulatory Area (i.e., non-FCEY components of TCEY).

⁴ Includes U32 Pacific halibut landed during FISS.

⁵ XRQ and GAF leased from commercial quota.

⁶ Includes U32 CDQ landings retained for personal consumption and not accounted as commercial CDQ landings in IPHC Regulatory Areas 4D and 4E.

* Data not yet available or confidential, in accordance with [Data confidentiality policy and data sharing procedures](#). Subject to update by 6 November 2025.

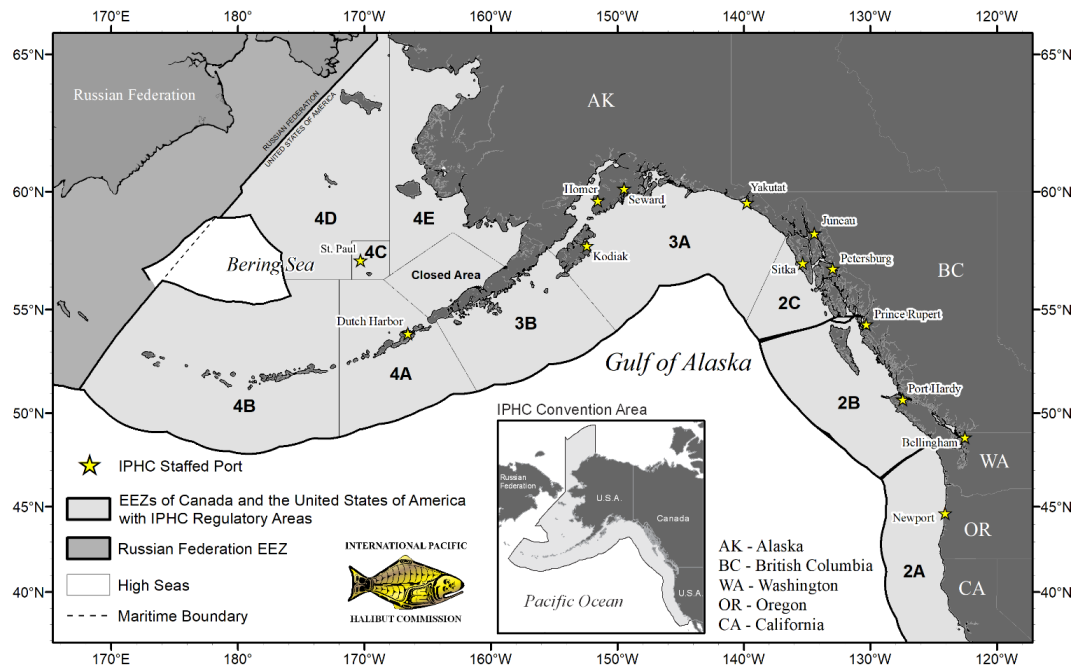


Figure 1. IPHC Convention Area and associated IPHC Regulatory Areas.

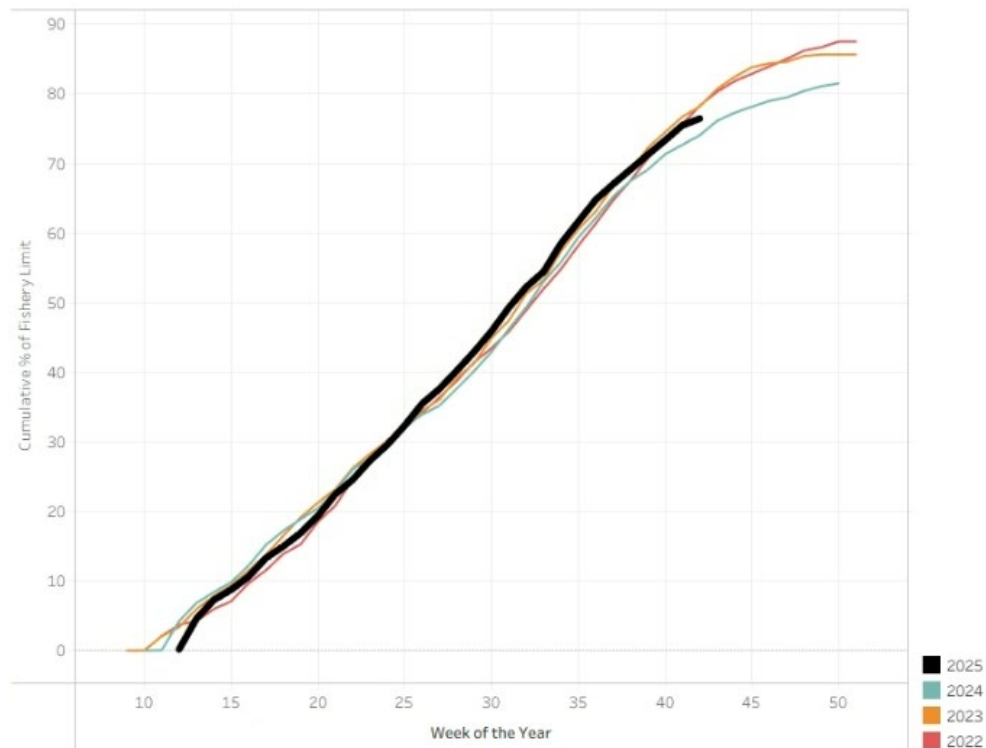


Figure 2. Cumulative percentage of directed commercial Pacific halibut limit landed by week.

REMOVALS OUTSIDE THE IPHC CONVENTION AREA

The latest [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\) statistics](#) for Pacific halibut capture production outside the IPHC Convention Area (2023) indicate catches by Russia amounting to 1,861 tonnes, or 12% of the global total.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2025-IM101-07 that provides the Commission with a preliminary overview of the 2025 Pacific halibut removals, including the status of mortality reported against mortality and fishery limits adopted by the Commission and outlined in [the IPHC Fishery Regulations \(2025\)](#).