



FISHERY REGULATION PROPOSAL 2021
TITLE: DIRECTED COMMERCIAL

SUBMITTED BY:
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NOAA-FISHERIES
AFFILIATION: WEST COAST REGION
USA

All Regulatory Areas All Alaska Regulatory Areas All U.S. Regulatory Areas

2A 2B 2C 3A 3B 4A 4B 4C 4D 4E

At its November 2020 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) adopted a recommendation for the 2021 season structure of the 2A non-tribal directed commercial Pacific halibut fishery. This recommendation for the 2021 season structure includes only a minor modification to what was implemented for the 2020 season. Specifically, it revises the season structure from 58-hour openings Monday through Wednesday, to 58-hour openings Tuesday through Thursday. This recommendation was adopted after the PFMC's extensive public process and following stakeholder input prior to and during the September and November Council meetings (attachments 1-4). This recommendation is therefore also a minor change to the Secretariat's regulatory proposal, however this adjustment to the season by one day is expected to greatly benefit stakeholders. Part of the stated rationale for this recommendation was that a Tuesday opening would allow fishery participants to acquire ice on a weekday, avoiding the challenges and price differentials that come from purchasing ice over the weekend. Additionally, this change is expected to provide a market opportunity for participants to sell directly to the public visiting port communities on Friday. The Council transmitted its recommendation to the International Pacific Halibut Commission on 5 January 2021.

Links to attachments 1-4

Attachment 1: <https://www.pcouncil.org/documents/2020/09/i-3-a-supplemental-wdfw-report-1.pdf/>

Attachment 2: <https://www.pcouncil.org/documents/2020/09/i-3-a-supplemental-gap-report-1.pdf/>

Attachment 3: <https://www.pcouncil.org/documents/2020/11/e-3-a-supplemental-wdfw-report-1-wdfw-report-on-2021-non-indian-commercial-directed-fishery-recommendations.pdf/>

Attachment 4: <https://www.pcouncil.org/documents/2020/11/e-3-a-supplemental-gap-report-1.pdf/>

[Appendix A](#): Suggested IPHC Fishery Regulation language

APPENDIX I
SUGGESTED REGULATORY LANGUAGE

9. Commercial Fishing Periods

- (4) The first fishing period in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A non-tribal directed commercial fishery² shall begin at 0800 on the fourth ~~Monday~~ Tuesday in June and terminate at 1800 local time on the subsequent ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday, unless the Commission specifies otherwise. If the Commission determines that the fishery limit specified for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in Section 5 has not been exceeded, it may announce a second fishing period of up to three fishing days to begin on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday two weeks after the first period, and, if necessary, a third fishing period of up to three fishing days to begin on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday four weeks after the first period.

² The non-tribal directed fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington, (46°53.30' N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register.