



REGULATORY PROPOSAL 2018
Long Term Storage of Halibut Aboard Pleasure Vessels

SUBMITTED BY:
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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

For IPHC Regulatory Area(s): All Regulatory Areas

The current halibut regulations do not allow for long term preservation and storage of halibut for personal use aboard pleasure vessels. The inability to package and preserve fish in serving size portions will result in waste and therefore increase the number of halibut required to supplement a family's diet. The first change suggested below is more in line with the state regulations for other sport caught fish in Alaska. By adding the word ***halibut***, the second suggested change would permit larger vessels to meet the requirements so long as all halibut fishing gear is offloaded onto a smaller fishing vessel even if shrimp and crab pots are stored on the larger vessel. This suggestion seems to meet the spirit of the regulations. Particularly since the IPHC does not regulate shrimp and crab sport fishing.

SUGGESTED REGULATORY LANGUAGE

At Section 28 (1) (d)

(d) No person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure craft used for fishing, halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except that each halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with skin on all pieces. ***Possession does not include Preserved fish.***

Preserved fish means fish prepared in such a manner, and in an existing state of preservation, as to be fit for human consumption after a 15-day period, and does not include unfrozen fish temporarily stored in coolers that contain ice, dry ice, or fish that are lightly salted.



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC
HALIBUT COMMISSION

IPHC Regulations at Section 28(1)(e) for unguided sport fisheries in Alaska should read.

(e) Halibut in excess of the possession limit in paragraph (1)(c) of this section may be possessed

on a vessel that does not contain **halibut** sport fishing gear, fishing rods, hand lines, or gaffs.