



**IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations:
Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)**

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (17 OCTOBER 2018)

PURPOSE

To improve clarity and transparency of fishery limits in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

BACKGROUND

This proposal would revise IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations Section 4, '*Limits*,' to reflect TCEY values adopted by the IPHC and the applicable fishery sector limits resulting from those TCEY values according to existing Contracting Party catch sharing arrangements.

DISCUSSION

IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations Section 4, '*Limits*,' was adopted in 2018 in order to provide clear documentation of the limits for fishery sectors within defined Contracting Party catch sharing arrangements, which are themselves tied to the mortality distribution (TCEY) decisions of the Commission. This proposal adds a table of the TCEY values for clarity. Both it and the fishery sector table will be populated as TCEY decisions are made for each IPHC Regulatory Area by the Commission during the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095).

Benefits/Drawbacks: The benefit is clear identification of fishery limits resulting from Commission decisions on distributed mortality (TCEY) values for each IPHC Regulatory Area. The potential drawback is a misconception that the resulting catch sharing arrangements and associated fishery limits are within the Commission's mandate, when in fact they are the responsibility of the Contracting Parties. The distinction must continue to be emphasized at each step of the Regulatory Proposal process.

Sectors Affected: This proposal affects all sectors of the Pacific halibut fishery.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION / REFERENCES

None

SUGGESTED REGULATORY LANGUAGE**4. Fishery Limits**

(1) The Commission has adopted the following distributed mortality (TCEY) values:

IPHC Regulatory Area	<i>Distributed mortality limits (TCEY) (net weight*)</i>	
	Metric tons (t)	Pounds (lbs)
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)		
Area 2B (British Columbia)		
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska)		
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska)		
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)		
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)		
Area 4B (central/western Aleutians)		
Areas 4CDE (Bering Sea)		

*“net weight” of a Pacific halibut means the weight of Pacific halibut that is without gills and entrails, head-off, washed, and without ice and slime. If a Pacific halibut is weighed with the head on or with ice and slime, the required conversion factors for calculating net weight are a 2 percent deduction for ice and slime and a 10 percent deduction for the head.

(2) The fishery limits resulting from the IPHC-adopted distributed mortality (TCEY) values and the existing Contracting Party catch sharing arrangements are as follows, recognizing that each Contracting Party may implement more restrictive limits:

IPHC Regulatory Area	<i>Fishery limits (net weight*)</i>	
	Metric tons (t)	Pounds (lbs)
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)		
Non-treaty directed commercial (south of Pt. Chehalis)		
Non-treaty incidental catch in salmon troll fishery		
Non-treaty incidental catch in sablefish fishery (north of Pt. Chehalis)		
Treaty Indian commercial		
Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence (year-round)		
Recreational – Washington		
Recreational – Oregon		
Recreational – California		
Area 2B (British Columbia) (combined commercial/recreational)		
Commercial fishery		
Recreational fishery		
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska) (combined commercial/guided recreational)		

Commercial fishery (catch)		
Commercial fishery (incidental mortality)		
Guided recreational fishery (includes catch and incidental mortality)		
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska) (combined commercial/guided recreational)		
Commercial fishery catch		
Commercial fishery (incidental mortality)		
Guided recreational fishery (includes catch and incidental mortality)		
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)		
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)		
Area 4B (central/western Aleutians)		
Areas 4CDE		
Area 4C (Pribilof Islands)		
Area 4D (northwestern Bering Sea)		
Area 4E (Bering Sea flats)		
Total		

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