



IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (23 OCTOBER 2018)

PURPOSE

To improve clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

BACKGROUND

This proposal would make minor amendments to the IPHC Regulations. These revisions to the regulations would include:

- Updating and clarifying existing fishery regulations;
- Reordering regulations for clarity and emphasis.

DISCUSSION

Periodically, regulations should be reviewed to ensure they are clear, consistent, and up to date as a whole. These revisions to the IPHC Fishery Regulations are a result of a holistic review. The primary revisions resulting from this review are described below, and will be provided to the 95th Session of the Commission in detail:

- Updating and clarifying fishery regulations
 - The current Section 4, Limits, would be re-titled Fishery Limits.
 - Section 5, Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, would be amended to make it clear that vessels in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A may hold both a license for directed commercial fishing AND a license for the incidental catch during the sablefish fishery.
 - The table of commercial catch limits would be removed from the current Section 12, Commercial Catch Limits, as this information is available in the current Section 4, Limits and is therefore redundant. Section 8 would be retitled Application of Commercial Fishery Limits.
 - Section 18, Receipt and Possession of Pacific Halibut, would be revised to make it clear that IPHC Regulatory Area 2A is included in Paragraph 6 as intended.
- Reordering fishery regulations for clarity and emphasis
 - The sequence of existing sections would be revised as follows:

Applicable to all fisheries

1. Short Title
30. Previous Regulations Superseded
2. Application
3. Definitions
7. Regulatory Areas
4. Limits
6. In-Season Actions

15. Careful Release of Pacific Halibut – current text appears applicable to all fisheries
22. Retention of Tagged Pacific Halibut

Applicable to commercial fisheries

9. Fishing Periods
11. Closed Area
10. Closed Periods
12. Commercial Catch Limits (retitled Application of Commercial Fishery Limits, without table)
8. Fishing in IPHC Regulatory Areas 4E and 4D
13. Fishing Period Limits
5. Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A
16. Vessel Clearance in IPHC Regulatory Area 4
19. Fishing Multiple Regulatory Areas
20. Fishing Gear
14. Size Limits
17. Logs
18. Receipt and Possession of Pacific Halibut
21. Supervision of Unloading and Weighing

Applicable to Indigenous fisheries

23. Fishing by United States Treaty Indian Tribes
25. Aboriginal Groups Fishing for Food, Social and Ceremonial Purposes in British Columbia
24. Customary and Traditional Fishing in Alaska

Applicable to recreational fisheries

26. Sport Fishing for Pacific Halibut—General
27. Sport Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2A
28. Sport Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2B
29. Sport Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E

Benefits/Drawbacks: The benefit is clearer and more consistent regulations that are easier to use. No known drawback.

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

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION / REFERENCES

None

APPENDICES

None