

## *News Release*



2320 W. COMMODORE WAY, SUITE 300, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, 98199-1287

September 20, 2011

### **2011 IPHC INTERIM MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The International Pacific Halibut Commission's 2011 Interim Meeting will be held in Seattle, Washington, on November 30 and December 1 at the offices of the IPHC (2320 W. Commodore Way, Suite 300, Seattle, WA). For those attending the Interim Meeting, rooms are available at \$139 per night at the Edgewater Hotel ([www.edgewaterhotel.com](http://www.edgewaterhotel.com)). Please identify yourself as attending the 'IPHC Interim Meeting'. For reservations, please contact Tracy Torre by phone at (206) 269-4568 or via email at [ttorre@edgewaterhotel.com](mailto:ttorre@edgewaterhotel.com), or call the general reservations number, (800) 624-0670, during regular business hours and ask for "in-house reservations".

On Wednesday, November 30th at 1:00 P.M. (PST), there will be a webcast briefing on the stock assessment and staff's preliminary recommended catch limits for 2012. **The webcast is open to the public.** However, in-person attendance at the meeting is still limited to invited agency personnel. Commissioners from each government determine attendance at the Administrative Session meeting (*November 30 session and research discussions on December 1 only*) and should be contacted for information and attendance requests.

There will be a public webcast presentation on 2011 research projects and proposed projects for the future on Thursday, December 1, from 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. (PST). From 10:45 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (PST), the Commissioners and Commission staff will meet in private to discuss administrative and financial issues internal to the Commission. This portion of the meeting is for administrative purposes only, and is not open to the general public or agency personnel. Results from the meeting, including staff assessment of the fishery and catch limit recommendations, will be released in a news release after the Interim Meeting. Registration for the two webcasts as well as other Interim Meeting information can be found at:

<http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events.html>

### **2012 IPHC ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Eighty-eighth Annual Meeting of the International Pacific Halibut Commission will be held from **Tuesday, January 24 through Friday, January 27, 2012**. The sessions will be held at the Hilton Anchorage. A block of rooms has been reserved for attendees at the hotel **until December 24, 2011** at a special rate of \$92 USD for a single or double room, plus taxes. After the cut-off date, the rate and/or rooms may not be available. The Hilton Anchorage is located at 500 West Third Avenue, Anchorage, AK, USA. Please identify yourself as attending the *International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting* (Group Code=IPHC) to receive the special rate and ensure room availability. For reservations please call (907) 265-7040 or visit the meeting site available at:

[http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/A/ANCAHHF-IPHC-20120120/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/A/ANCAHHF-IPHC-20120120/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

The Commission will distribute a brief summary of stock assessment information and staff recommendations following the Interim Meeting on December 2nd. This information will also be available on the Commission's web page at <http://www.iphc.int>. **Proposals for 2012 catch limit changes should be submitted to the Commission by December 30, 2011.** Current information regarding the 2012 Annual Meeting, including regulation and catch limit proposal forms, can be located by following the Annual Meeting hyperlink on the Commission's web site or by calling the IPHC office at (206) 634-1838. The Commission's web site will be updated regularly with new information as the meeting date approaches. The link to the Annual Meeting information can be found at:

<http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting.html>

**The Commission invites the public to submit requests for 2012 regulatory changes (season length, clearances in Area 4, logbook reporting measures, etc) or management actions for review at the Annual Meeting. The deadline date for submission is November 10, 2011.** The Commission will not guarantee consideration of proposals received after this date. The submission form can be downloaded from the IPHC web site or can be requested by calling the Commission offices at (206) 634-1838. A summary of all proposals will be distributed to industry and will also be posted on the IPHC web site when available.

The 2012 IPHC Annual Meeting Schedule of Sessions and the corresponding meeting rooms will be released in December, 2011.

### **Area 2A Incidental Commercial Halibut Catch in the Salmon Troll Fishery**

Since the July 29 reopening, 427 pounds of halibut have been landed and 2,171 pounds remain to be caught. The Chinook troll fishery is now closed in Washington State, but the incidental commercial halibut catch during the salmon troll season remains open in Oregon until further notice.

### **Annette Islands Reserve Fishery in Area 2C**

The Metlakatla Indian Community has been authorized by the United States Government to conduct a commercial halibut fishery within the Annette Islands Reserve. The last three 48-hour fishing periods, with opening dates of August 5, August 19, and September 2, had halibut catches by opening of 4,205, 2,633, and 5,578 pounds, respectively. After eleven openings, a grand total of 52,629 pounds of halibut have been landed in 2011. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

## Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update

The 2011 quota share halibut fisheries opened on March 12. It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the Alaskan IFQ and CDQ fisheries and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through September 18, 2011.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	2,330.0	2,040	1,101
3A	14,360.0	12,353	1,580
3B	7,510.0	6,304	613
4	8,310.0	6,386	2,393
Alaska total	32,510.0	27,083	5,687
2B	6,702.2	4,919	533
Grand Total	39,212.2	32,002	6,220

The catch from Alaskan waters represents 83% of the 2011 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 35.7 million pounds (84% of the 2010 catch limit) were landed in the Alaskan fishery by this same date in 2010; however, the opening date of the 2010 fishery occurred six days earlier in the year than that of the 2011 fishery. Thus, during the first 190 days of the 2010 Alaskan commercial halibut fishery, 34.4 million pounds (81% of the catch limit) were landed.

The catch from British Columbian waters represents 73% of the 2011 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 5.6 million pounds (85% of the 2010 catch limit) were landed from Area 2B by this same date in 2010. Also, during the first 190 days of the 2010 IVQ fishery, 5.5 million pounds (83% of the catch limit) were landed.

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