

## *News Release*



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

March 7, 2012

### **HALIBUT WORKSHOP ANNOUNCED FOR APRIL 24-25**

A public workshop to examine several issues related to Pacific halibut bycatch and life history is planned for April 24-25, 2012 in Seattle, Washington. The two-day workshop is jointly sponsored by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC).

The first day will consist of a series of presentations by staffs of IPHC, the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and independent scientists and fishing industry representatives on topics related to bycatch estimation, management, and its effects on halibut harvest strategy, as well as halibut growth and migration. The second day will consist of discussions of the previous day's topics by a science panel, including audience participation. A summary report of the workshop presentations and discussions will be prepared by an independent facilitator, and is expected to be available by May 16, 2012.

An outline of the workshop can be found at the IPHC's Bycatch Workshop web site (<http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events/22-workshops/268-bycatch-workshop-2012.html>).

Other materials will be posted as they become available. The public is encouraged to check the webpage for new information as it becomes available, including a finalized agenda. The workshop presentations are expected to be posted on the website about a week prior to the workshop. The workshop will be webcast to the public. Registration for the webcast can be found at <http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events.html>.

The workshop will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle. A special room rate of \$137 has been reserved for workshop attendees at the hotel. Those interested **MUST CALL** 1-888-233-9527 **by April 2, 2012**, and ask for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council rate.

For further information, contact Gregg Williams (IPHC) at [gregg@iphc.int](mailto:gregg@iphc.int) or (206)634-1838, ext. 7687, or Jane DiCosimo (NPFMC) at [jane.dicosimo@noaa.gov](mailto:jane.dicosimo@noaa.gov) or (907)271-2806.

**-END-**

Bruce M. Leaman, Executive Director  
Phone: (206) 634-1838  
FAX: (206) 632-2983  
Web: [www.iphc.int](http://www.iphc.int)