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INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DAVID T. WILSON
2320 W. COMMODORE WY, STE 300
SEATTLE, WA 98199-1287
TELEPHONE:
(206) 634-1838
FAX:
(206) 632-2983

EL2023062
30 March 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

This Permit is issued to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Alaska Fishery Science Center (AFSC) to enable the incidental catch of Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) during the NOAA eastern and northern Bering Sea trawl surveys. Permission is extended for fishing activities as follows:

- 1) **Activity:** NOAA standardized bottom trawl surveys to assess the living fauna of the EBS to monitor ecosystem health and provide assessments of living resources for stock assessment and fisheries management in Alaskan waters;
- 2) **Location:** Eastern and northern Bering Sea, Alaska, USA
- 3) **Total number of Pacific halibut permitted:** estimated 3,800 encounters (project total)
- 4) **Permissible fishing gear:** trawl
- 5) **Permissible time period:** 15 May 2023 – 24 August 2023;
- 6) **Principal investigator:** Gerald R. Hoff (NOAA)
- 7) **Vessel:** Northwest Explorer (docno: 609384)

Pacific halibut obtained under this permit may not be retained for purposes other than scientific research described herein.

- 1) Up to 1,500 Pacific halibut (total for the Bering Sea survey) may be sacrificed for otolith collection, sex determination, and weight measurement.
- 2) Pacific halibut not sacrificed may be measured for length and released overboard as soon as possible after the trawl net is dumped.

Pacific halibut captured but not used in the study specified in this permit must be returned to the sea with a minimum of delay and injury. Numbers and estimated weight of Pacific halibut caught and released shall be reported to the IPHC.

David T. Wilson

30/03/2023

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Date



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC
HALIBUT COMMISSION

IPHC PERMIT TYPE [RESEARCH] PERMIT NUMBER [IPHC-2023003-RP]

In conformity with the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Fishery Regulations (2023)
the Vessel [**NORTHWEST EXPLORER**] Official Number [**609384**] of the USCG Registry
is hereby permitted to conduct Pacific halibut research in [**IPHC REG AREA 4/CLOSED**]
subject to any laws or regulations of Canada and/or the United States of America.

Valid [15 MAY – 24 AUG 2023] Date of Issue [30 MAR 2023]