



Report of the 7th Special Session of the IPHC (SS07)

Meeting held electronically, 20 May 2020

Commissioners

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HALIBUT COMMISSION

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ACRONYMS

COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (a.k.a. SARS-CoV-2)
ID	Intersessional Decision
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
MSAB	Management Strategy Advisory Board
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPFMC	North Pacific Fishery Management Council

DEFINITIONS

A set of working definitions are provided in the IPHC Glossary of Terms and abbreviations: <https://www.iphc.int/the-commission/glossary-of-terms-and-abbreviations>

HOW TO INTERPRET TERMINOLOGY CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

This report has been written using the following terms and associated definitions so as to remove ambiguity surrounding how particular paragraphs should be interpreted.

- Level 1: RECOMMENDED; RECOMMENDATION; ADOPTED** (formal); **REQUESTED; ENDORSED** (informal): A conclusion for an action to be undertaken, by a Contracting Party, a subsidiary (advisory) body of the Commission and/or the IPHC Secretariat.
- Level 2: AGREED:** Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be an agreed course of action covered by its mandate, which has not already been dealt with under Level 1 above; a general point of agreement among delegations/participants of a meeting which does not need to be elevated in the Commission's reporting structure.
- Level 3: NOTED/NOTING; CONSIDERED; URGED; ACKNOWLEDGED:** General terms to be used for consistency. Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be important enough to record in a meeting report for future reference. Any other term may be used to highlight to the reader of an IPHC report, the importance of the relevant paragraph. Other terms may be used but will be considered for explanatory/informational purposes only and shall have no higher rating within the reporting terminology hierarchy than Level 3.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 7th Special Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) (SS07) was held electronically, on 20 May 2020. The meeting was opened by the Chairperson Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), and Vice-Chairperson Mr Chris Oliver (USA), who outlined the need for a special session.

The following are a subset of the complete intersessional decisions from the SS07, which are provided at [Appendix VI](#).

Alaska Charter Sector Allocation – IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c And 3a

IPHC-2020-ID007 ([para. 8](#)) The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA1, which amends Sect. 29 of the IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E. The amendments (provided at [Appendix III](#)) are to:

- a) Regulatory Area 2C - implement a reverse slot limit with a lower limit of 45 inches (increased from 40 inches) for recreational charter anglers for the remainder of the 2020 season;
- b) Regulatory Area 3A – modify the lower limit from 26 inches to 32 inches; No annual limit and no daily closures, for the remainder of the 2020 season.

Pacific Halibut Bycatch In The Washington Sablefish Fishery

IPHC-2020-ID008 ([para. 13](#)) The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA2, which amended the deadline for when a vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form. The amendments (provided at [Appendix IV](#)) modify the deadline for submission from 15 March to 29 May 2020. The extension was made based solely on the potential negative impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic may have had on the licencees and does not set a precedent for future years.

1 OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 7th Special Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) (SS07) was held electronically, on 20 May 2020. The meeting was opened by the Chairperson Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), and Vice-Chairperson Mr Chris Oliver (USA), who outlined the need for a special session.

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION

2. The Commission **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided at [Appendix I](#). The documents provided to the SS07 are listed in [Appendix II](#).

3 2020 FISHERY UPDATE

3. The Commission **NOTED** the update on the Pacific halibut fishery to-date, including the two data interactives:
 - a) Landing report (15 May 2020): <https://www.iphc.int/data/landings-2020>
 - b) Graphics (15 May 2020): <https://www.iphc.int/data/year-to-date-directed-commercial-landing-patterns-ak-and-bc>

4 ALASKA CHARTER SECTOR ALLOCATION – IPHC REGULATORY AREAS 2C AND 3A

4. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2020-SS07-02 which outlined considerations relating to a proposal placed before the NPFMC at its 15 May 2020 special meeting, for changes to charter management measures for IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A.

5. The Commission **NOTED** that the NPFMC recommended the IPHC consider the following management measures for IPHC Regulatory Area 2C:

“In Area 2C, maintain the one [Pacific] halibut daily bag limit and implement a reverse slot limit with an upper limit of 80 inches and a lower limit of 45 inches (U45O80) for charter anglers for the remainder of the 2020 season.”

6. The Commission **NOTED** that the NPFMC recommended the IPHC consider the following management measures for IPHC Regulatory Area 3A:

“In Area 3A, maintain a daily bag limit of 2 [Pacific] halibut, one of any size and a second fish equal to or less than 32”; No annual limit and no daily closures. Maintain the limit of 1 trip per [Pacific] halibut charter vessel per day and 1 trip per charter halibut permit per day. These management measures would be in place for the remainder of the 2020 season.”

7. The Commission **NOTED** the following request from the NPFMC:

“The Council is very concerned about the impacts of COVID-19 related travel and health restrictions on the Charter fleet, and requests that the International Pacific Halibut Commission expedite the promulgation of this change as expeditiously as possible.”

8. The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA1, which amends Sect. 29 of the IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E. The amendments (provided at [Appendix III](#)) are to:

- a) Regulatory Area 2C - implement a reverse slot limit with a lower limit of 45 inches (increased from 40 inches) for recreational charter anglers for the remainder of the 2020 season;

- b) Regulatory Area 3A – modify the lower limit from 26 inches to 32 inches; No annual limit and no daily closures, for the remainder of the 2020 season.
9. The Commission **AGREED** that the USA will ensure that its overall mortality limits are not exceeded, in accordance with the mortality limits agreed at AM096.

5 PACIFIC HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH FISHING PERIOD – REQUEST TO EXTEND TO A YEAR-ROUND FISHERY

10. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2020-SS07-03 which outlined considerations relating to a proposal placed before the NPFMC at its 15 May 2020 special meeting, to extend the fishing period (fishing season) to a year-round directed commercial fishery and to increase the annual rollover of quota to a much higher annual percentage above the current 10%.
11. The Commission **NOTED** that the NPFMC took no action on the proposal.

6 PACIFIC HALIBUT BYCATCH IN THE WASHINGTON SABLEFISH FISHERY

12. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2020-SS07-04 which outlined considerations relating to a proposal from three vessel owners for the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A license application deadline (15 March 2020) to be waived or extended, as the owners missed the deadline, for different reasons.
13. The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA2, which amended the deadline for when a vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form. The amendments (provided at [Appendix IV](#)) modify the deadline for submission from 15 March to 29 May 2020. The extension was made based solely on the potential negative impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic may have had on the licencees and does not set a precedent for future years.
14. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Fishery Regulations (2020) would be updated and published within 24 hours. NOAA-Fisheries indicated that it would need five weeks to implement the regulation changes domestically and would provide a letter to the IPHC detailing the time required and domestic regulations that would need to be updated.

7 IPHC FISHERY-INDEPENDENT SETLINE SURVEY (FISS) 2020: UPDATE

15. The Commission **RECALLED** that it will need to make an intersessional decision on whether to undertake the reduced FISS for 2020 or cancel no later than 29 May 2020. The reduced FISS 2020 footprint is provided at [Appendix V](#).
16. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat will commence providing information in support of the decision making process during the week commencing 25 May 2020 (Update on simulations of expenses and income; COVID-19 operational plan (FISS deployment, safety measures/protocols)).

8 MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION PROGRESS: UPDATE

17. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 15th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB015) ([IPHC-2020-MSAB015-R](#)).

18. The Commission **NOTED** that an inter-sessional meeting will be held on 17-18 August 2020 to review the results from the prioritized management procedures described in Appendix V of the MSAB015 report.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Intersessional meeting formats

19. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat prepare draft guidelines for intersessional meetings to compliment those already contained with the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2020), given the potential ongoing COVID-19 impacts.

9.2 Audit

20. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat provided a brief update on timings for the completion of the audit process.

10 REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE IPHC (SS07)

21. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2020)* within 24 hours, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the SS07.
22. The Report of the 7th Session of the IPHC (IPHC-2020-SS07-R) was **ADOPTED** via correspondnace on 21 May 2020, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from SS07, provided at [Appendix VI](#).

APPENDIX I
AGENDA FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE IPHC (SS07)

Date: 20 May 2020

Location and Venue: Electronic - Webinar

Time: 10:00-13:00 (PST)

Chairperson: Mr Paul Ryall (Canada)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr Chris Oliver (United States of America)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION**
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**
 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-01: Agenda for the 7th Special Session of the IPHC (SS07)*
3. **2020 FISHERY UPDATE**
 - Landing report (15 May 2020): <https://www.iphc.int/data/landings-2020>
 - Graphics (15 May 2020): <https://www.iphc.int/data/year-to-date-directed-commercial-landing-patterns-ak-and-bc>
4. **ALASKA CHARTER SECTOR ALLOCATION – IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c and 3a**

NPFMC Agenda item B2: “This proposal requests amendment to the established 2020 charter halibut management measures for 2020 in Areas 2C and 3A, and also the establishment of a mechanism to rollover any unfished allocation from the 2020 season into 2021.”

 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-02: Alaska charter sector is requesting some special considerations for bag limits and allocation roll-overs due to the impacts of Coronavirus on Alaska’s sport fishery*
 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA1: Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A*
5. **PACIFIC HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH FISHING PERIOD – Request to extend to a year-round fishery**

NPFMC Agenda item C4: “This proposal requests amendment to allow the fishing period for the commercial Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries be extended to a year-round fishery”

 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-03: Extension to a year-round directed commercial fishery and increase to annual rollover of quota*
6. **PACIFIC HALIBUT BYCATCH IN THE WASHINGTON SABLEFISH FISHERY**
 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-04: Pacific halibut incidental catch in the Washington sablefish fishery: Application deadline*
 - *IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA2: Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Sect. 15)*
7. **IPHC FISHERY-INDEPENDENT SETLINE SURVEY (FISS) 2020: Update**
8. **MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION PROGRESS: Update**
 - *IPHC-2020-MSAB015-R: Report of the 15th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB015)*
9. **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - 9.1 Inter-sessional meeting format
 - 9.2 Audit - Update

APPENDIX II
LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE IPHC (SS07)

Meeting documents	Title	Availability
IPHC-2020-SS07-01	Agenda for the 7 th Special Session of the IPHC (SS07)	✓ 18 May 2020
IPHC-2020-SS07-02	List of Documents for the 7 th Special Session of the IPHC (SS07)	✓ 18 May 2020
IPHC-2020-SS07-03	Change to charter management measures (IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A): FOR DECISION (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 18 May 2020
IPHC-2020-SS07-04	Extension to a year-round directed commercial fishery and increase to annual rollover of quota: FOR NOTING (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 18 May 2020
IPHC-2020-SS07-05	Pacific halibut incidental catch in the Washington sablefish fishery: Application deadline (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 18 May 2020
<i>Regulatory Proposals for 2020</i>		
IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA1	IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29)	✓ 18 May 2020
IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA2	IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Sect. 15)	✓ 18 May 2020
<i>Information Papers</i>		
IPHC-2020-SS07-INF01	Letter from the NPFMC (NPFMC Secretariat)	✓ 18 May 2020

APPENDIX III

SECT. 29. RECREATIONAL (SPORT) FISHING FOR PACIFIC HALIBUT—IPHC REGULATORY AREAS 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E

- (1) In Convention waters in and off Alaska: ^{8,9}
- (a) The recreational (sport) fishing season is from 1 February to 31 December.
 - (b) The daily bag limit is two Pacific halibut of any size per day per person unless a more restrictive bag limit applies in Commission regulations or Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.65.
 - (c) No person may possess more than two daily bag limits.
 - (d) No person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure craft used for fishing, Pacific halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except that each Pacific halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with a patch of skin on each piece, naturally attached.
 - (e) Pacific halibut in excess of the possession limit in paragraph (1)(c) of this section may be possessed on a vessel that does not contain recreational (sport) fishing gear, fishing rods, hand lines, or gaffs.
 - (f) Pacific halibut harvested on a charter vessel fishing trip in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C or 3A must be retained on board the charter vessel on which the Pacific halibut was caught until the end of the charter vessel fishing trip as defined at 50 CFR 300.61.
 - (g) Guided angler fish (GAF), as described at 50 CFR 300.65, may be used to allow a charter vessel angler to harvest additional Pacific halibut up to the limits in place for unguided anglers, and are exempt from the requirements in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section.
- (2) For guided recreational (sport) fishing (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C:
- (a) No person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain more than one Pacific halibut per calendar day.
 - (b) No person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain any Pacific halibut that with head on is greater than ~~40~~45 inches (~~101.61~~114.3 cm) and less than 80 inches (203.2 cm) as measured in a straight line, passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail.
- (3) For guided recreational (sport) fishing (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) in IPHC Regulatory Area 3A:
- (a) No person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain more than two Pacific halibut per calendar day.
 - (b) At least one of the retained Pacific halibut must have a head-on length of no more than ~~26~~32 inches (~~66.08~~81.3 cm) as measured in a straight line, passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail. If a person recreational (sport) fishing on a charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 3A retains only one Pacific halibut in a calendar day, that Pacific halibut may be of any length.
 - (c) A “charter halibut permit” (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.67) may only be used for one charter vessel fishing trip in which Pacific halibut are caught and retained per calendar day. A charter vessel fishing trip is defined at 50 CFR 300.61 as the time period between the first deployment of fishing gear into the water by a charter vessel angler (as defined at 50 CFR 300.61) and the offloading of one or more charter vessel anglers or any Pacific halibut from that vessel. For purposes of this trip limit, a charter vessel fishing trip ends at 2359 (Alaska local time) on the same calendar day that the fishing trip began, or when any anglers or Pacific halibut are offloaded, whichever comes first.
 - (d) A charter vessel on which one or more anglers catch and retain Pacific halibut may only make one charter vessel fishing trip per calendar day. A charter vessel fishing trip is defined at 50 CFR 300.61 as the time period between the first deployment of fishing gear into the water by a charter vessel angler (as defined at 50 CFR 300.61) and the offloading of one or more charter vessel anglers or any Pacific halibut from that vessel. For purposes of this trip limit, a charter vessel fishing trip ends at 2359 (Alaska local time) on the same calendar day that the fishing trip began, or when any anglers or Pacific halibut are offloaded, whichever comes first.
 - ~~(e) No person on board a charter vessel may catch and retain Pacific halibut on any Tuesday or Wednesday.~~
 - ~~(f) Charter vessel anglers may catch and retain no more than four (4) Pacific halibut per calendar year on board charter vessels in IPHC Regulatory Area 3A. Pacific halibut that are retained as GAF, retained while on a charter vessel fishing trip in other Commission regulatory areas, or retained while fishing without the services of a guide do not accrue toward the 4 fish annual limit. For purposes of enforcing the annual limit, each angler must:~~
 - ~~(1) maintain a nontransferable harvest record in the angler’s possession if retaining a Pacific halibut for which an annual limit has been established. Such harvest record must be maintained either on the back of the angler’s State of Alaska recreational (sport) fishing license or on a Sport Fishing Harvest Record Card obtained, without charge, from ADF&G offices, the ADF&G website, or fishing license vendors; and~~

-
- ~~(2) immediately upon retaining a Pacific halibut for which an annual limit has been established, record the date, location (IPHC Regulatory Area 3A), and species of the catch (Pacific halibut), in ink, on the harvest record; and~~
- ~~(3) record the information required by paragraph 3(g)(2) on any duplicate or additional recreational (sport) fishing license issued to the angler or any duplicate or additional Sport Fishing Harvest Record Card obtained by the angler for all Pacific halibut previously retained during that year that were subject to the harvest record reporting requirements of this section; and~~
- ~~(4) carry the harvest record on his or her person while fishing for Pacific halibut.~~

⁸ NOAA Fisheries could implement more restrictive regulations for the recreational (sport) fishery or components of it, therefore, anglers are advised to check the current Federal or State regulations prior to fishing.

⁹ Charter vessels are prohibited from harvesting Pacific halibut in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A during one charter vessel fishing trip under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries at 50 CFR 300.66.

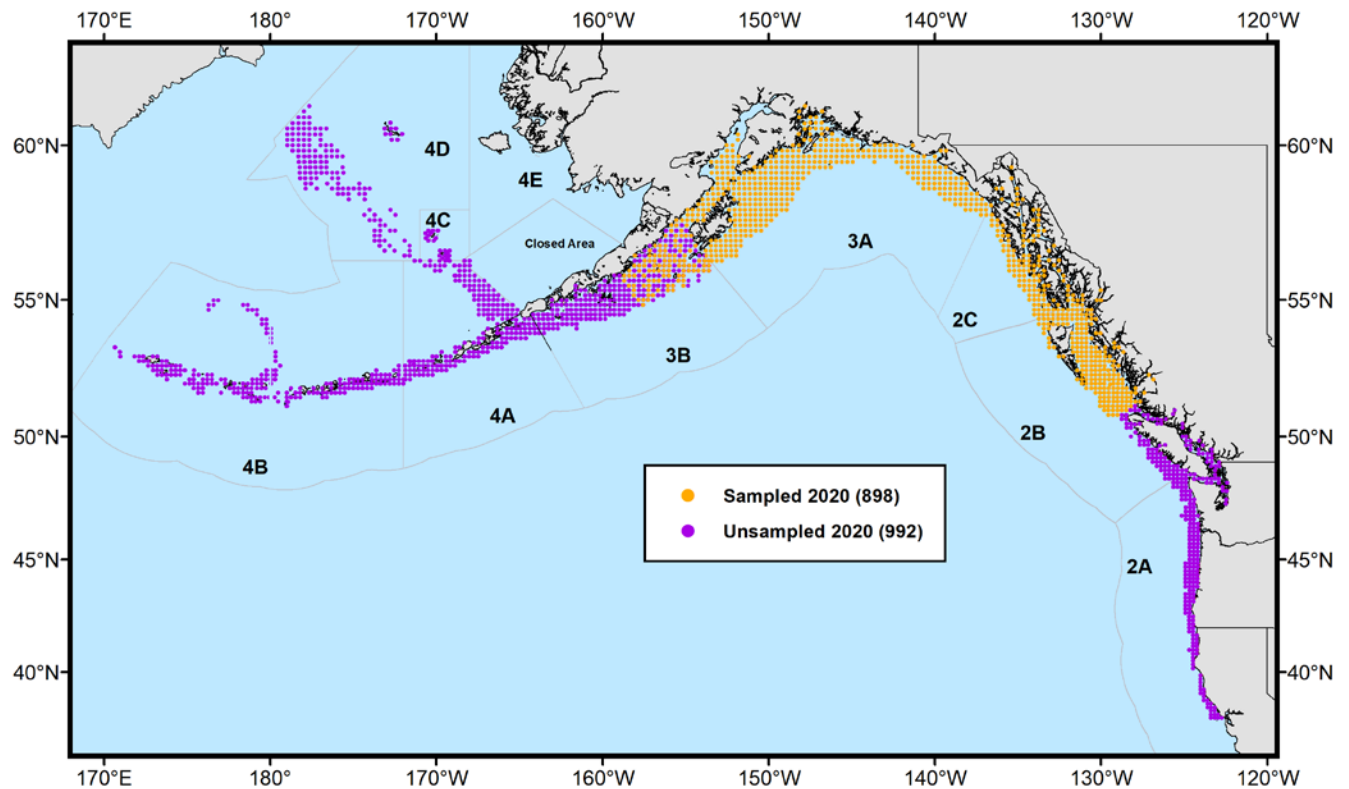
APPENDIX IV**SECT. 15. LICENSING VESSELS FOR IPHC REGULATORY AREA 2A**

- (1) No person shall fish for Pacific halibut from a vessel, nor possess Pacific halibut on board a vessel, used either for commercial fishing or as a charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, unless the Commission has issued a license valid for fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in respect of that vessel.
- (2) A license issued for a vessel operating in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A shall be valid only for operating either as a charter vessel or a commercial vessel, but not both.
- (3) A vessel with a valid IPHC Regulatory Area 2A commercial license cannot be used to recreationally (sport) fish for Pacific halibut in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A.
- (4) A license issued for a vessel operating in the commercial fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A shall be valid for one of the following:
 - (a) the directed commercial fishery during the fishing periods specified in paragraph (4) of section 9;
 - (b) the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery specified in paragraph (5) of section 9; or
 - (c) the incidental catch fishery during the salmon troll fishery specified in paragraph (6) of section 9.
- (5) A vessel with a valid license for the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery described in paragraph (4)(b) may also apply for or be issued a license for the directed commercial fishery described in paragraph (4)(a).
- (6) A license issued in respect to a vessel referred to in paragraph (1) of this section must be carried on board that vessel at all times and the vessel operator shall permit its inspection by any authorized officer.
- (7) The Commission shall issue a license in respect to a vessel from its office in Seattle, Washington, upon receipt of a completed “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form.
- (8) A vessel operating in the directed commercial fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form no later than 2359 local time on 30 April, or the first weekday in May if 30 April is a Saturday or Sunday.
- (9) A vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form no later than 2359 local time on ~~15 March~~**29 May**, or the next weekday in ~~March~~**May** if ~~15 March~~**29 May** is a Saturday or Sunday.
- (10) A vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the salmon troll fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form no later than 2359 local time on 15 March, or the next weekday in March if 15 March is a Saturday or Sunday.
- (11) Applications are submitted on the IPHC Secretariat webpage.
- (12) Information on the “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form must be accurate.
- (13) The “Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery” form shall be completed by the vessel owner.
- (14) Licenses issued under this section shall be valid only during the year in which they are issued.
- (15) A new license is required for a vessel that is sold, transferred, renamed, or for which the documentation is changed.
- (16) The license required under this section is in addition to any license, however designated, that is required under the laws of the United States of America or any of its States.
- (17) The United States of America may suspend, revoke, or modify any license issued under this section under policies and procedures in U.S. Code Title 15, CFR Part 904.

APPENDIX V

IPHC FISHERY-INDEPENDENT SETLINE SURVEY (FISS) 2020

Map of the 2020 FISS design. Each orange circle represents a FISS station targeted for sampling, while purple circles are stations that will be unsampled in 2020, based on a compromise of meeting Primary, Secondary and Tertiary objectives.



APPENDIX VI
CONSOLIDATED SET OF INTERSESSIONAL DECISIONS FROM THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF
THE IPHC (SS07) (20 MAY 2020)

Alaska Charter Sector Allocation – IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c And 3a

IPHC-2020-ID007 ([para. 8](#)) The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-SS07-PropA1, which amends Sect. 29 of the IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E. The amendments (provided at [Appendix III](#)) are to:

- c) Regulatory Area 2C - implement a reverse slot limit with a lower limit of 45 inches (increased from 40 inches) for recreational charter anglers for the remainder of the 2020 season;
- d) Regulatory Area 3A – modify the lower limit from 26 inches to 32 inches; No annual limit and no daily closures, for the remainder of the 2020 season.

Pacific Halibut Bycatch In The Washington Sablefish Fishery

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Intersessional meeting formats

IPHC-2020-ID09 ([para. 19](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat prepare draft guidelines for intersessional meetings to compliment those already contained with the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2020), given the potential ongoing COVID-19 impacts.

Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 7th Special Session of the IPHC (SS07)

IPHC-2020-ID010 ([para. 21](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2020)* within 24 hours, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the SS07.