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# INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

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# **Technical Report No. 27**

# Regulations of the Pacific Halibut Fishery, 1977 - 1992

by

Stephen H. Hoag, Gordon J. Peltonen, and Lauri L. Sadorus

**Technical Report No. 28** 

The 1987 Bristol Bay Survey and the Bristol Bay Halibut Fishery, 1990 - 1992

by

Heather L. Gilroy and Stephen H. Hoag

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INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION P.O. BOX 95009 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98145-2009, U.S.A.

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### ABSTRACT

The halibut fishery underwent vast changes during the fifteen years from 1977 to 1992, and a variety of new regulations were required to manage the fishery. The regulations published each year by the IPHC went from six pages in 1977 to 13 pages in 1992. Important new regulations during this period included: (1) regulatory area changes designed to distribute the catch more evenly over the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea, accommodate the separation of the Canadian and United States fishing fleets, and implement allocation decisions by the U.S. fishery management councils; (2) fishing period limits to keep the catch below the catch limit during short fishing seasons that resulted from more efficient gear and a growing fleet; (3) a ban on automated hook strippers (crucifiers) to lower mortality of halibut below the minimum size limit; and (4) numerous regulations on the sport fishery, U.S. treaty Indian fishery, some fisheries in the Bering Sea, and implementing allocation decisions by the U.S. fishery management councils. Canada went to a limited entry system in 1979 and to an individual quota system in 1991, and a number of IPHC regulations that once pertained to both countries, now pertain only to the U.S. This report reviews changes in regulations, their rationale, and updates Skud (1977).

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### INTRODUCTION

The halibut resource and fishery have been managed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) since 1923. The regulatory authority for managing the fishery is provided in the Halibut Convention, a treaty between Canada and the United States, and in the enabling legislation enacted by both countries. The 1923 Convention has been revised several times to extend the Commission's authority and meet new conditions in the fishery (Bell 1969). The most recent revision occurred in 1979 and involved an amendment, termed a Protocol, to the 1953 Convention. In line with the Commission's authority, regulations for the halibut fishery are developed or modified at the Commission's annual meetings which are held in late January. After receiving proposals from its scientific staff, the Halibut Conference Board (an advisory body of fishermen), and others, the Commission then recommends regulations which are forwarded to the Canadian and U.S. governments for their approval prior to the fishing season.

Regulations for the halibut fishery are published annually, but do not include any background or rationale for each regulation. Some explanation for regulatory changes can be found in the Commission's Annual Reports, and Skud (1977) reviewed the regulatory authority of the Commission and summarized regulations from 1924 through 1976. Substantial changes have occurred in regulations since Skud's 1977 report, and this report reviews changes in regulations and their rationale from 1977 through 1992.

# **CHANGES IN AUTHORITY: THE 1979 PROTOCOL**

The 1979 Protocol was precipitated by Canada and the United States extending their jurisdiction of fisheries resources to 200 miles, and is an amendment to the 1953 Convention which provided authority to: (1) establish regulatory areas; (2) open and close seasons; (3) limit the size of fish and the quantity of the catch; (4) regulate the departure of vessels from any port; (5) regulate fishing gear; (6) license vessels; and (7) close nursery grounds to fishing. Skud (1976) reviewed the 1953 Convention, including its limitations regarding management of the fishery.

McCaughran and Hoag (1992) discussed the effects of the 1979 Protocol and related regulations on halibut management. The most significant effect was the rescinding of reciprocal fishing privileges between the two countries: U.S. fishermen have been prohibited from fishing in Canadian waters since 1979 and Canadian fishermen were phased out of U.S. waters between 1979 and 1981. The Protocol also affected the catch limits that were set within IPHC Area 2 (south of Cape Spencer, Alaska) by requiring that 60% of the total allowable catch be taken in Canadian waters. The 60/40 division of the Area 2 catch had as its basis the average long term distribution of the catch in the two areas (Hoag et al. 1983). Although the Protocol only required this division during 1979 and 1980, the Commission did not depart from this division until 1985. The Protocol also allowed each country to establish additional regulations which are more restrictive than those adopted by the Commission.

Only a few U.S. vessels were fishing in Canadian waters during the 1970s so the loss of Canadian fishing privileges had little effect on U.S. halibut vessels. Canadian vessels, on the

other hand, depended to a large degree on fishing in Alaska. With fishing opportunity restricted to its own territorial waters, Canada introduced a limited entry system in 1979 which reduced the number of licensed halibut vessels to 435. The displacement of Canadian vessels provided opportunity for additional vessels to enter the U.S. fishery, but did nothing to extend fishing seasons. The number of fishing days required to take the annual catch limit in the U.S. declined steadily as a result of more vessels and improved efficiency. The U.S. did not limit the number of vessels participating in the fishery, and by 1990 over 6,900 licenses were issued and 4,270 vessels made landings. Fishing seasons in most areas were reduced to only a few days.

The Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 was the U.S. enabling legislation that gave effect to the Protocol and provided authority to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, with concurrence of the regional fishery management council, to develop regulations which are not in conflict with Commission regulations. Using their new authority, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) developed an individual quota system which was approved by the Secretary of Commerce in January, 1993 and is expected to be implemented in 1995. The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) is also considering limited entry schemes, including an individual quota system, but as yet none have been approved.

The Act also granted authority to the Secretary of Commerce through the Councils to allocate fishing privileges among U.S. fishermen and specifically provided fishing opportunity for coastal villages in the Bering Sea north of 56 degrees N. latitude. The Councils, however, did not become involved in setting allocative regulations until a policy decision was made by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in April 1987. The policy decision stated that the Commission should no longer consider regulations that relate to domestic allocation, but was nonspecific as to how responsibilities were to be shared between the Commission and the Councils and the division in authority remained ambiguous (McCaughran and Hoag, 1992). Presently, all regulations that involve primarily conservation issues or management responsibilities stated in the 1953 treaty and the 1979 Protocol, are made by the Commission, and regulations that primarily allocate catch or fishing opportunity to different user groups are made by the Councils.

## **REGULATIONS: 1977-1992**

The Commission has published a document, entitled <u>Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations</u> annually, since 1932. Regulations in these documents included those approved by the Commission under its authority and, since 1987, those allocative regulations developed by the Councils and adopted by the Commission as part of the total regulations for the halibut fishery. Allocative regulations approved by the Councils include the division of harvest in Washington, Oregon, and California (Area 2A) among commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian tribes, and special seasons and restrictions in the Bering Sea (Area 4) to allow more fishing opportunity by local residents.

An unusual situation occurred in 1990 when the Commission was unable to approve the proposed 1990 fishing periods and catch limits (IPHC 1991). Canada and the U.S. had reached an impasse in their attempt to develop a jointly acceptable approach to reduction of juvenile halibut bycatch in non-target fisheries. Canadian Commissioners withheld support for adoption of any catch limit regulations in U.S. waters, until such an approach was developed. In the interest of managing the halibut fishery as a whole in 1990 and in light of Canada's position, the U.S. Commissioners did not approve any proposals with respect to the 1990 halibut catch limits or fishing periods in Canadian waters.

The only regulatory recommendation approved by the Commission in 1990 was an expansion of Area 4E to include the eastern part of Bristol Bay. Other regulations were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The NPFMC and the PFMC will be collectively referred to as "Councils" for the remainder of this report.

moved and seconded by the Commission but not approved. Later, these regulations were adopted and unilaterally approved by the Canadian and U.S. governments so the regulations normally adopted by the Commission were put into effect during 1990. Officials of both the U.S. and Canada continued to meet during 1990 and resolved the questions of halibut bycatch management in time to approve regulations for 1991.

Regulations for the 1992 fishery are reproduced in Appendix I. Compared with the 1975 regulations, included in Skud's (1977) review, new sections have been added dealing with interpretation (definitions), in-season actions, application, fishing period limits, closed areas, vessel clearances, logs, fishing by U.S. treaty Indian tribes, and a significantly expanded section pertaining to sport fishing for halibut. The size of the document increased from five pages in 1975 to 13 pages in 1992. The increase reflects the greater complexity of management that occurred in the 1980s as well as the need to define regulations more explicitly, to assist enforcement efforts.

The following sections review the background and rationale for the more important regulations from 1977 to 1992, and follow generally the order in which they appear in the Commission's annual document. A summary of noteworthy regulations in chronological order of implementation since 1977 is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Noteworthy regulations, in chronological order of implementation, for the Pacific halibut fishery from 1977 through 1992.

	Fachic namout fishery from 1977 through 1992.
YEAR	REGULATIONS
1977	Commission adopts a series of fishing periods instead of one continuous fishing season.
1979	1979 Protocol takes effect which, among other things, changes the area of jurisdiction from the territorial waters and the high seas off the western coast of Canada and the U.S., to waters off the western coast of the two countries in which exclusive fisheries jurisdiction is exercised. As a result, the fleet is split and U.S. fishermen are no longer allowed in Canadian waters. Also, Canadian fishermen are phased out of U.S. waters over a two year period.
1777	The Area 2 catch limit is divided between the Canadian and U.S. portions of Area 2.
	Commission increases the Area 2 catch limit mid-season and allows an additional eight fishing days in Canadian waters.
	Filleting, mutilation, or disfigurement of halibut in a manner that prevents the determination of the size limit is prohibited.
1980	Halibut fishermen are prohibited from fishing for other species within 72 hours immediately before a halibut fishing period.
	Three separate regulatory areas are defined for Area 2, each with its own catch limit and season.
1981	The Commission increases the Area 3 catch limit mid-season from 13 to 15 million pounds and schedules an additional 3-day season in Area 3B.
	The designated clearance port for Area 4, Sand Point, Alaska, is replaced by Dutch Harbor, Alaska.
	Starting and closing times for fishing periods are changed to 1200 hours Pacific Standard Time.
1983	Longline or skate marker buoys carried aboard or used by a vessel have to be marked so as to be identifiable as the vessel of origin.

Table 1.	(continued)
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	All U.S. fishing vessels (regardless of size or gear) must be licensed. This includes sport charter operations.
1984	Interpretation (definitions) section is added to the regulations.
1704	A regulation is added which requires hold inspections as part of Area 4 clearances.
	Area 4E is established in the Bering Sea to provide a separate catch limit and season in an area that previously experienced little fishing.
	Fish buyers are required to record IPHC license number on fish tickets.
1985	Regulations are adopted pertaining to retrieval of fishing gear from closed areas.
1905	Although not incorporated into the regulations until 1988, the U.S. government takes action allocating special fishing privileges to the Makah Indian tribe in Area 2A.
	Akutan, Alaska is added as a designated clearance port for Area 4.
1986	Although not incorporated into the regulations until 1988, the U.S. government includes more tribes in the Area 2A special allocation, and authorizes a ceremonial and subsistence fishery.
	Allocative regulations are developed by the Councils and are adopted by the Commission. They include (1) the division of harvest in Washington, Oregon, and California among commercial, recreational, and Treaty indian fisheries; and (2) special seasons and restrictions in the Bering Sea to allow more local resident fishing opportunities.
	U.S. government retains the authority to suspend an IPHC permit for certain violations.
1987	The Area 4E catch limit is divided into two components; 70% to a Northwest portion and 30% to a Southeast portion.
	Local time is adopted for the opening and closing of seasons.
	The Commission allows fishing periods that are less than 24-hours and establishes fishing period limits which restrict individual vessels. Limits for all size vessels are the same within a regulatory area.
	Area 4C vessels are limited to a 10,000 pound trip limit within each 24-hour fishing period until 25% of the area catch limit has been taken.
	Automated hook strippers "crucifiers" are banned from the fishery
	There is a section added to the IPHC regulations specifying the type of in-season action which might take place. This section is not limiting to those items listed.
	Where trip limits are needed, a graduated trip limit plan is introduced based on vessel size, effecting all areas except Area 4C and 4E or when the overall catch limit is too small to graduate.
1988	Area 4C vessels are limited to 10,000 pound trip limits within each 24-hour fishing period until 50% of the limit is taken. After that, a 20,000 pound limit is in place until the remainder of the catch limit is taken.
	Area 4E vessels are limited to 6,000 pounds per fishing period.
	A vessel that fishes during a fishing period in which fishing period limits are in effect, must offload its catch before fishing in any subsequent fishing period.

...continued

## Table 1. (concluded)

1988	The sport fishery limit in Alaska is increased to two daily bag limits (4 fish) per day.
1989	Area 4 hold inspections are abolished.
1707	The graduated trip limit plan by vessel size is included in the regulations.
•	Area 4E is expanded to include the eastern part of Bristol Bay.
1990	Area 4C vessels are limited to a trip limit of 10,000 pounds for all openings.
1550	Though not approved by the Commission, a Metlakatla Indian halibut fishery is implemented by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.
	Canadian individual vessel quota system goes into effect.
1991	Applications for IPHC halibut permits must be accurate and signed by the vessel owner.
	All halibut landed in Area 2A must be landed "head-on".
	Canadian vessels are no longer required to have an IPHC fishing permit.
1992	Nazan Bay, Alaska becomes the clearance port for vessels fishing in Area 4B.
	Vessels can only clear for one Area 4 fishing area at a time.

## Licensing and Logs

IPHC licensing of halibut vessels was introduced in 1932 primarily to obtain statistical records of the catch (Skud 1977). There has never been a license fee and before 1984 licenses were only required for vessels five net tons or larger using setline gear. Since 1984, all U.S. vessels regardless of size and gear, including those that are chartered for sport fishing with a hired operator, must have an annual halibut license that must be renewed annually. The purpose of the license is to maintain statistics on the number and size of vessels participating in the fishery and to assist in matching catch statistics obtained from fish tickets with each vessel. Since 1985, fish buyers have been required to record the IPHC license number on the fish ticket. Licensing of Canadian commercial halibut vessels was rescinded in 1992. The need for IPHC licensing Canadian vessels became obsolete with the implementation of an individual vessel quota system in 1991, which includes extensive catch monitoring by Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Several additional provisions have been added to the regulations to clarify license requirements and assist in enforcing those requirements. Specifically a provision requiring a new license if the vessel is sold, transferred, renamed, or redocumented was added in 1984. Since 1987, the regulations have specified that the U.S. may suspend licenses for certain violations. Requirements that the "application for a halibut license" must be accurate and signed by the vessel owner were introduced in 1991.

IPHC has required all setline vessels five net tons or greater to maintain a log book showing the daily catch, amount of gear used, and fishing location since 1932. This information is vital to the Commission in assessing and managing halibut stocks. Logs are not required for vessels under five net tons because these vessels represent only a small part of the total halibut harvest and often use atypical fishing methods, thereby diminishing their value in assessing the resource. Also, it is often inconvenient for small vessels to maintain a fishing log. Several additional provisions regarding how and when the log is maintained have been added to the regulations in recent years, but are not critical to the management of the fishery. In Canada, DFO requires that a log book be maintained for all vessels participating in their IVQ program.

### **In-season Actions**

Faced with an increasing need to adjust regulations during the season in order to avoid exceeding the catch limit, the Commission added a new section to the regulations in 1988 that specified both the intent and the type of in-season actions that might be taken. This section states that the fishery will be managed so as not to exceed the catch limit for each regulatory area and provides a list of in-season actions that may be taken, although the list does not limit the Commission from taking additional actions. The current specified inseason actions include modification of the following: fishing periods, fishing period limits (trip limits), recreational bag limits, closed areas, size limits, gear restrictions, and vessel clearances. This section states that in-season changes will be effective at the time and date specified by the Commission and that notice will be provided to processors, government, Indian tribal officials, and the media.

# **Regulatory Areas and Closed Areas**

Convention waters have been subdivided into regulatory areas since 1932, and Skud (1977) described changes from 1932 through 1976. There has been a general trend toward increasing the number of regulatory areas as the fishery developed and fishing seasons became shorter. The number of IPHC regulatory areas was four in 1932 compared to 10 in 1992, although there have been several years when areas were consolidated to simplify the regulations. Further, in some years the regulations specified different seasons or catch limits within subdivisions of regulatory areas without defining new regulatory areas.

Figure 1 depicts regulatory areas defined in Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations between 1977 and 1992. Changes in regulatory areas have been in response to both IPHC management objectives as well as allocative objectives of the U.S. government. Divisions of Areas 3 and 4 from 1977 through 1985 were intended to spread fishing effort more uniformly over the resource by providing special seasons in less popular areas. For example, Area 3C was established in 1977 with a season starting on April 1 to encourage vessels to fish in the relatively underutilized western part of Area 3, before the May 10 opening date in the heavily fished central Gulf of Alaska.

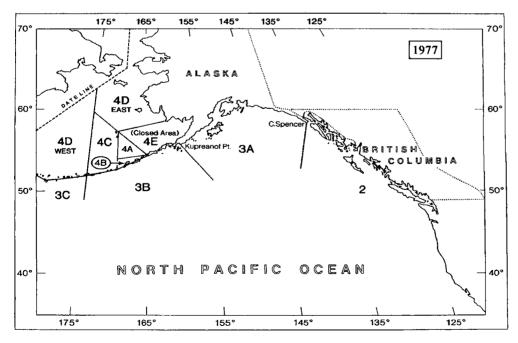
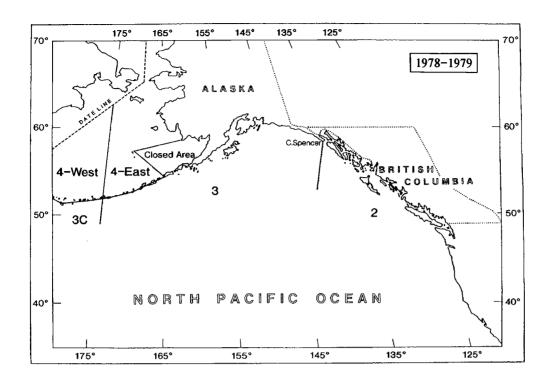


Figure 1. IPHC regulatory areas for the years 1977 through 1992.



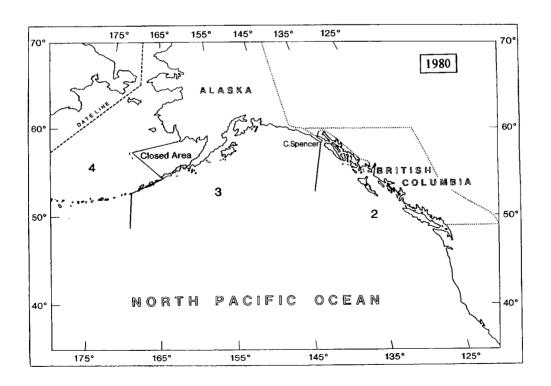
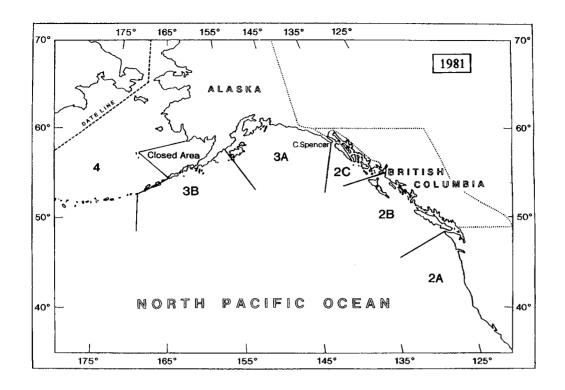


Figure 1. (continued)



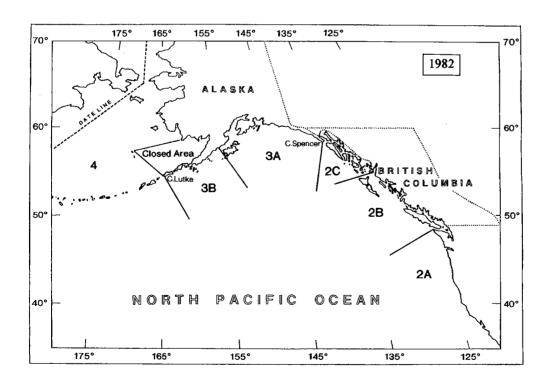
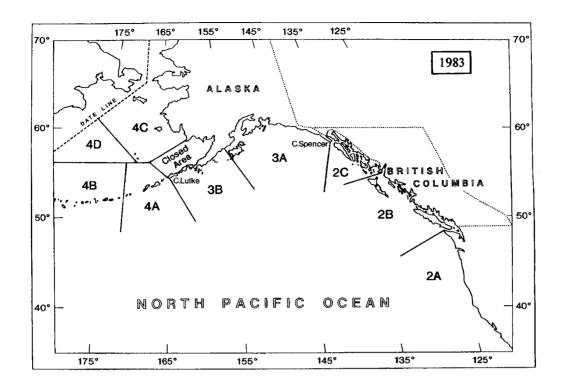


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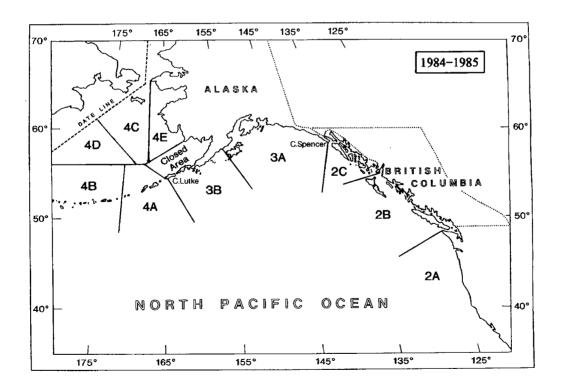
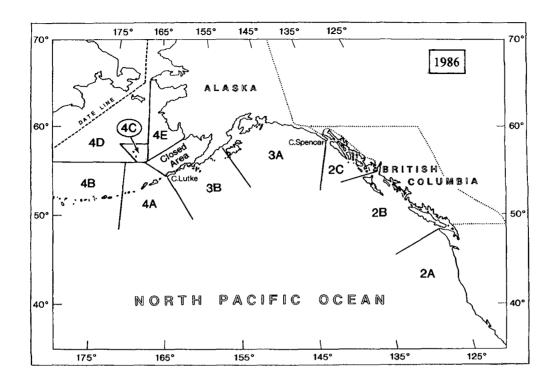


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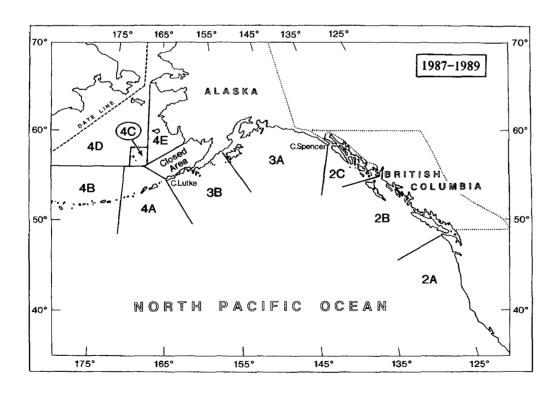


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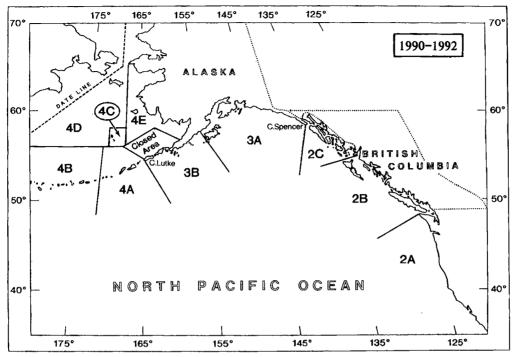


Figure 1. (concluded)

In 1979 and 1980, the Area 2 catch limit was divided between the Canadian and U.S. portions of Area 2 as required by the 1979 Protocol. Under this scheme, Washington, Oregon and California were managed under the same catch limit as Southeast Alaska, and were closed after a few days of fishing and very little harvest. To increase harvest in this southern area, three separate regulatory areas were defined in 1981, each with its own catch limit and season.

Only minor changes in regulatory areas have occurred since 1984 when Area 4E was introduced in the Bering Sea to provide a separate catch limit and season in an area that previously experienced little fishing. In 1990, Area 4E was expanded to include part of Bristol Bay that previously had been closed to halibut fishing because of concern for juvenile halibut. A 1987 IPHC survey with longline gear (Gilroy and Hoag 1993) suggested that while the abundance of large halibut was low, relatively few juveniles would be vulnerable to capture with longlines. The U.S. government divided the Area 4E catch limit into two components; providing 70% to a northwest portion (the original Area 4E) and 30% to a southeastern portion (the Bristol Bay addition). This division was implemented to assure that fishing in Bristol Bay would not prevent local communities in the northwest portion from participating in the fishery.

The Commission's area of jurisdiction changed as of March 29, 1979 when the 1979 Protocol took effect, from the territorial waters and the high seas off the western coast of Canada and the U.S., to waters off the western coast of the two countries in which exclusive fisheries jurisdiction is exercised. Until recently this change has not had any significant effect on the management of the halibut fishery. However, in 1991, U.S. fishermen began fishing in joint venture operations off the Russian coast and landing their catch in U.S. ports. Because these fish were caught outside of the Commission's area of jurisdiction, IPHC regulations did not apply. Fish below the IPHC legal size and fish caught with trawls, which are illegal under IPHC regulations, were being landed. This created considerable concern among the halibut industry and government enforcement agencies, and will require new regulations in Canada and the U.S. to solve the problem.

# **Catch Limits and Fishing Periods**

Catch limits have been used by the Commission to control fishing mortality since 1932. The basis for determining appropriate catch limits has changed considerably over the years. Catch limits were initially set at the level of catch during the early 1930s and were adjusted up or down from the 1930s through the 1970s, as the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) in the fishery either increased or decreased. The management system at the time assumed that CPUE reflected abundance and that abundance was primarily influenced by removals (Southward 1968). Further, several studies were conducted during the 1950s and 1960s to estimate maximum sustainable yield (Chapman et al. 1962). The management system changed during the 1980s, when the Commission began estimating biomass from the analysis of catch and age data in the commercial fishery (Quinn II et al. 1985). Catch limits during the early 1980s were based on keeping removals below the surplus production of stock, (i.e. the excess of what is required to replenish the population biomass each year due to removals from fishing and other causes). This strategy was designed to rebuild stocks and as a result, biomass increased sharply during the early 1980s. By 1985, stocks were considered healthy and the management strategy shifted to setting catch limits as a fixed proportion of the estimated biomass, referred to as constant exploitation yield. Table 2 shows the catch limits by area for years 1977 through 1992.

Fishing periods or seasons have been used to control the time of harvest. The first closed season was set in 1923, and ran from November 16 to February 15. It was designed to eliminate fishing during the winter spawning period. Once catch limits were introduced, the closing date was dependent on the attainment of the catch limit. One exception to this was in 1979, when the Commission increased the Area 2 catch limit in mid season and added eight fishing days in Canadian waters, to allow Canadian fishermen a better opportunity to take their share of the Area 2 catch limit. Another exception occurred in 1981 when Areas 3A and 3B were given separate catch limits to try and encourage fishing in the lesser exploited Area 3B. However, during the first opening, the Area 3A catch exceeded the combined Area 3A and 3B catch limit, but only 100,000 pounds out of a 2.0 million pound catch limit was taken in 3B. The entire area should have closed but because of the lack of statistical data gathered from Area 3B, the Commission increased the Area 3 catch limit from 13 million to 15 million pounds and scheduled a 3-day season in Area 3B in late August. This resulted in an additional 360,000 pounds being landed.

With the exception of winter closures to protect spawning halibut, decisions on fishing periods have been based primarily on economic or social considerations, and the Commission has relied heavily on the advice of the Halibut Conference Board in making these decisions. For example, seasons in less accessible areas such as the Bering Sea were often set either before or after those in Areas 2 and 3 to provide economic incentive to fish these areas. Area 2 and 3 seasons were at least 30 days and often exceeded 200 days, between 1932 and 1976 (Skud 1977). From the mid 1940s through the mid 1970s, Area 2 and 3 seasons would usually begin in early May and close when the catch limit was taken, usually sometime between August and October.

The number of fishing days began to decline in the late 1970s, in part because of the discontinuation of the voluntary lay-up program at the end of the 1976 season (Skud 1977). The voluntary lay-up program was a self-governing system developed by fishermen to try and spread fishing time throughout the season. The discontinuation of the program resulted from an influx of new and part-time fishermen who did not follow the rules of the program. In an effort to maintain fishing over a longer period of the year, the Commission adopted a series of fishing periods instead of one continuous fishing season, starting in 1977. This fishing period approach has been continued to the present.

The number of halibut fishermen in the U.S. continued to increase during the 1980s and their efficiency increased sharply with improved gear such as circle hooks, and better

Table 2. Catch limits (000s of pounds) by IPHC regulatory area for the years 1977 through 1992. (Please note: Areas are defined in this table as catch limits were assigned, not necessarily when the area was defined. See Figure 1 for area definitions.)

_	Catch Limit										
Year		Area 2		Ar	Area 3 Area 4			Total			
				3A, 3B	3C						
1977		11,000		11,000	no limit		no limit				22,000
1978		9,000		11,000	no limit			no li	mit		20,000
	Can. Wa	nters 1	J <b>.S. Waters</b>								
1979	6,000	)	3,600	11,000	no limit			no l	imit		20,600
1980	6,100	)	3,200	10,0	000			1,0	00		20,300
	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B						
1981	200	5,400	3,400	13,000	2,000		1,000				25,000
1982	200	5,400	3,400	14,000	3,000		1,500				27,500
						4A	4B	4C	4D	4E	
1983	200	5,400	3,400	14,000	5,000	1,200	800	400	200	closed	30,600
1984	300	9,000	5,700	18,000	7,000	1,200	1,000	400	400	50	43,050
1985	500	10,000	9,000	23,000	9,000	1,700	1,300	600	600	50	55,750
1986	550	11,200	11,200	28,100	10,300	2,000	1,700	600	700	50	66,400
1987	550	11,500	11,500	31,000	9,500	1,750	1,750	600	600	75	68,825
1988	480	12,500	11,500	36,000	8,000	1,900	2,000	700	700	100	73,880
1989	426	10,000	9,500	31,000	8,500	1,800	1,900	600	600	100	64,426
<u>1990</u>	315	7,800	8,000	31,000	7,200	1,500	1,500	500	500	100	58,415
1991	271	7,400	7,400	26,600	8,800	1,700	1,700	600	600	100	55,171
1992	396	8,000	10,000	26,600	8,800	2,300	2,300	800	800	130	60,126

navigational capabilities. This resulted in a continual reduction in the length of the season even though catch limits were generally increasing over the same period. By the late 1980s the catch limits were being taken in only a few days in most areas. The long-term trends in both the landings and the number of fishing days in Area 3A were indicative of the trends seen in the fishery coastwide (Figure 2). The specific dates of these short periods were usually chosen to coincide with favorable tides, and to avoid conflicts with other fisheries. Appendix II provides a summary of the landings, catch limits, and fishing periods by regulatory area from 1977 through 1992.

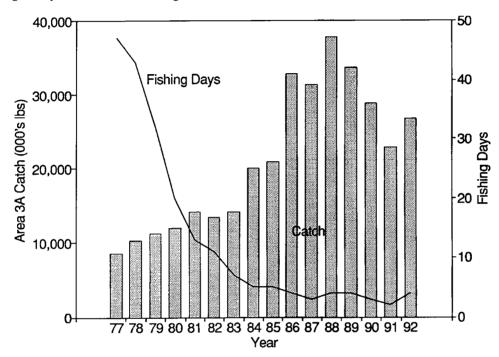


Figure 2. Area 3A halibut landings (000s of pounds) and corresponding number of fishing days for the years 1977 through 1992.

Although the number of Canadian vessels did not increase after 1979, due to the implementation of a limited entry program by the Canadian government, efficiency did increase. In 1991, Canada implemented an individual vessel quota (IVQ) system. The annual catch was divided into 435 separate quotas based on a vessel's size and past landings in the halibut fishery. The Canadian season started on May 1 and was scheduled to end on November 30 or when all IVQs were taken. However, near the middle of September it was thought that the Canadian overall catch limit would likely be exceeded due to overages, if allowed to continue, even though some vessels had not yet fished. Since it is against Commission policy to intentionally allow a catch limit to be exceeded, the area was to have been closed early. However, on September 20 a telephone conference call was held among the Commissioners and it was decided to allow the season to continue until the original closing date of November 30, or until all IVQs had been taken, whichever occurred first. The IVQ system continued in 1992 and went from March 8 through October 31. In both 1991 and 1992, the total Area 2B catch was below the catch limit.

Regulations governing fishing periods also specify the time of day when fishing could begin and would end. Opening and closing times have varied historically, based on fishermen preferences for particular hours and concern for enforcement activities which are conducted through aerial surveillance. Fishing periods in most regulatory areas started and closed at 1500 and 0600 hours respectively from 1977 until 1983, when they were changed to 1200 hours. Pacific Standard Time was the reference until 1987 after which local time in each area was used. Other opening and closing times have been used in recent years when severely restricted fishing periods were adopted.

# **Fishing Period Limits**

During the late 1980s, the number of days required to take the catch limit declined to only a few days and the high daily catch rates made it increasingly difficult to schedule fishing periods without the risk of exceeding the catch limit. In 1987, 3.8 and 4.7 million pounds remained of the catch limit in Areas 3A and 3B, respectively, after two 24-hour fishing periods. The daily catch rates were too high, however, to allow additional fishing periods without exceeding the catch limit. This left the Commission with the choice of either closing the season and leaving that part of the catch limit unharvested, or placing additional restrictions which would allow for another opening without jeopardizing the catch limit. The Commission chose to amend the regulations in-season to allow for fishing periods of less than 24 hours, and to establish fishing period limits which restricted the catch of individual vessels fishing. The amended wording (underlined) of the regulations is provided below:

# **Fishing Periods**

5. (6) Notwithstanding subsection (3), the 9/02-03 fishing period for Area 3B specified in subsection (1) shall begin at 1800 hours Alaska Daylight Time on September 2 and terminate at 0600 hours Alaska Daylight Time on September 3.

### **Catch Limits**

- 8. (4) If the Commission determines that the catch limit specified in subsection (1) would be exceeded in a 24-hour fishing period in any regulatory area, the catch limit for that area shall be considered to have been taken except as provided in subsection (9).
  - (9) If the Commission determines that the catch limit specified in subsection (1) would be exceeded in a 12-hour fishing period in regulatory Area 3B, the catch limit for that area shall be considered to have been taken.

## **Trip Limits**

- 9. (1) Vessels fishing in Area 4C shall be limited to a maximum catch of 10,000 pounds (4.5 metric tons) of halibut per fishing period until 25 percent (150,000 pounds) of the catch limit specified in subsection 8(1) has been taken.
  - (2) Vessels fishing in regulatory Area 3B during a fishing period of less than 24-hours duration shall be limited to a maximum catch of 25,000 pounds (11.34 metric tons) of halibut.
  - (3) Vessels fishing in regulatory Area 3A or regulatory Area 3B during the fishing period commencing September 30 shall be limited to a maximum catch of 20,000 pounds (9.07 metric tons) of halibut.

The 1987 fishing period limits were considered unfair by fishermen on large vessels because small vessels were, in effect, not restricted because the limits were higher than their capacity. U.S. government advisers also warned the Commission that establishing limits which favored one class of vessel over another might be considered "allocative" and, according to U.S policy, was beyond the Commission's authority. At the 1988 Annual Meeting, the Commission asked the Halibut Conference Board to help develop a plan that was fair to all vessel classes and could be used when fishing period limits were needed to prevent overruns in the catch limit. The Conference Board responded with a plan that called for separate limits for eight vessel size classes, based on average catches for each class during previous unrestricted fishing periods. All catches of less than 200 pounds were excluded in the calculations. The plan was adopted by the Commission and used during the 1988 through 1992 fisheries (Tables 3 and 4). An exception was made during the 1990 fishery in Area 2A when a single limit of 250 pounds was established for all size classes because it was not considered practical to differentiate between vessel classes for such a small amount of fish.

Fishing period limits have also been used to provide more fishing opportunity for local fishermen. In 1987, the Commission, at the request of the U.S. government, limited landings for each vessel in Area 4C to 10,000 pounds regardless of vessel size, during each 24-hour fishing period, until 25 percent of the catch limit had been taken. The intent of this limit was to allow residents of the Pribilof Islands more fishing time before non-resident vessels, with greater harvesting efficiency, caught the catch limit. U.S. policy changed the following year and required that regulations which allocated halibut to particular groups of fishermen must first be approved by the Councils. Since 1988, Commission regulations that involved fishing period limits for allocative reasons reflect prior regulations by the Councils. In 1988 and 1989, 10,000 pound limits were in effect in Area 4C for the first 50 percent of the catch limit, after which the limit was raised to 20,000 pounds. Since 1990, the fishing period limits have been 10,000 pounds for all periods. A fishing period limit (6,000 pounds regardless of vessel size) has also been in place in Area 4E since 1988, to provide more fishing time for local residents.

In 1988, regulations were adopted which required a vessel that fished during a fishing period in which fishing period limits were in effect, to offload its catch before fishing in any subsequent fishing period. Also, any vessel that fished during a fishing period limit opening was not allowed to serve as a tender until its own catch had been landed and sold.

## **Vessel Clearances**

Fishing seasons in the Bering Sea have usually been scheduled when Areas 2 and 3 were closed. Vessel clearance regulations that require a vessel to check-in and check-out have been required since the 1960s to discourage illegal fishing. Sand Point, Alaska was the designated clearance port until 1981 when it was replaced by Dutch Harbor, Alaska. Akutan, Alaska was added as a clearance port in 1986, and Nazan Bay on Atka Island was established as the only clearance port for Area 4B in 1992. At various times, processors operating floating tenders have been given in-season authorization to issue vessel clearances in regulatory Areas 4A and 4B. This provided a service to vessels fishing in locations remote from clearance ports, and avoided giving shore-based processors a preconceived competitive edge in purchasing fish.

Clearance procedures have varied over the years depending on the availability of enforcement agents. Regulations allowed for clearance by telephone or wire from 1977 to 1978, by telephone only from 1979 to 1980, and have required physical presence since 1981. Hold inspections were required from 1984 to 1988. In 1986, and from 1989 to date, clearances have been issued by designated processors or representatives of the Commission rather than custom or fishery officers.

Clearance regulations have not been required of fishermen that land all of their catch in

Table 3. Regulatory area, fishing period, and fishing period limits (pounds, net weight) by vessel class for the years 1988 through 1991.

			YEAR							
		1988		1989	1990	19	991			
REGULATORY AREA		2C	3A-3B 4A-4B	2C	3A	2A	2C			
FISHING PERIOD		9/7-8 10/3-4	10/3-4	9/7-8	8/30-31	7/22	9/3-4			
VESS	EL CLASS									
Ltr	Len (ft)		PERI	OD TRIP LIMIT (	(lbs, net weight)					
A	0-25	800	1,600	900	400	600	1,100			
В	26-30	1,100	2,900	1,200	600	700	1,800			
C	31-35	2,000	5,500	2,100	1,900	1,200	2,900			
D	36-40	2,700	8,400	2,900	2,500	2,500	4,600			
E	41-45	4,000	11,100	4,800	3,500	4,800	7,200			
F	46-50	5,800	23,600	6,100	5,400	5,500	10,200			
G	51-55	6,000	26,900	6,100	8,000	7,600	10,200			
Н	56+	6,600	40,000	7,000	13,000	12,000	15,100			

Table 4. Regulatory area, fishing period, and fishing period limit (pounds, net weight) by vessel class for 1992.

			REGULATORY AREA										
		2.4	<b>A</b>	2C	3A	3B	2C/3A/3B	4/	1		4B	,	4D
FISHI	NG PERIOD	7/29	8/12	9/7-9	9/7-8	9/7-8	10/5-7	8/6 8/21	9/22-23	8/6-8	8/21-24	9/22-24	8/6-8
VESSE	EL CLASS										·		
Ltr	Len (ft)					PERIOD	TRIP LIM	IT (lbs, ne	t weight)				
A	0-25	500	250	700	1,400	1,000	700	1,300	1,800	2,100	3,150	2,400	1,900
В	26-30	600	300	1,200	1,700	1,200	1,200	1,400	2,000	2,200	3,300	2,500	1,900
C	31-35	900	450	1,900	6,100	4,400	1,900	6,600	9,200	10,600	15,900	11,900	9,300
D	36-40	2,400	1,200	3,000	6,300	4,500	3,000	7,700	10,800	12,300	18,450	13,800	10,800
Е	41-45	2,500	1,250	4,800	9,500	6,800	4,800	9,400	13,200	15,100	22,650	17,000	13,200
F	46-50	3,000	1,500	6,800	12,600	9,000	6,800	11,400	16,000	18,200	27,300	20,500	16,000
G	51-55	3,400	1,700	6,800	19,200	13,700	6,800	16,900	23,700	27,100	40,650	30,500	23,700
H	56+	5,000	2,500	10,000	35,000	25,000	10,000	25,000	35,000	40,000	60,000	45,000	35,000

ports located within Area 4. This exemption became more restrictive in 1992 when only fishermen who fished in either regulatory Areas 4B, 4C, or 4E, and landed their total annual catch at a port within the area of fishing, could forgo the vessel clearance. The exemption was intended to eliminate the burden on local fishermen, who tend to have small vessels that are incapable of traveling to a clearance port such as Dutch Harbor, and do not represent a significant enforcement problem.

Clearances have allocative implications in Areas 4C and 4E where there are a series of short fishing periods. Forcing vessels who do not land all of their catch in these areas (non-resident vessels) to clear in Dutch Harbor or Akutan before and after each period reduces their efficiency and provides a longer season for local vessels. (Clearances for Areas 4C and 4E are part of allocative regulations approved by the NPFMC before being adopted by the Commission.)

# **Fishing Gear**

The Commission has prohibited fishing halibut using net gear, trawls in particular, since 1944, and using pot gear since 1972 (Skud 1977). Further, the possession of halibut is prohibited when any commercial fishing gear other than hook and line gear is on board. These restrictions are based on evidence that halibut caught with non-hook and line gear tend to be below the optimal harvesting size, although minimizing competition among gear types may also have been considered. The wording was changed in 1991 to prohibit the possession of halibut "on board a vessel carrying any trawl nets or fishing pots capable of taking halibut." This change allowed vessels to carry gear such as crab or shrimp pots for personal use.

Changes in gear restrictions for the halibut fleet since 1977 have included a restriction on fishing for other species for 72 hours immediately before a halibut fishing period. This restriction went into effect in 1980 and only affects fishermen or vessels using setline gear that land halibut during the fishing period. The purpose of the regulation was to reduce prospecting for halibut immediately before the season, and to aid enforcement in preventing fishing for halibut before the season. Even though the halibut were released, some mortality would occur while prospecting and aerial surveillance could not distinguish between vessels that were illegally retaining halibut before the season from those that were releasing halibut while prospecting. Commencing in 1983, all longline or skate marker buoys carried aboard or used by a vessel had to be identifiable as to the vessel of origin. This aided in enforcement of the 72-hour fishing restriction, and in the apprehension of vessels fishing before or after scheduled fishing periods.

Another gear restriction was implemented in 1987 when automated hook strippers, "crucifiers", were banned from the fishery. This device resulted in the hook being torn from the mouth of the fish, as opposed to being manually removed. The use of hook strippers allowed vessels to haul gear faster and started to become popular during the 1980s as seasons became shorter and fishermen looked for ways to increase their efficiency. IPHC tagging studies indicated that the device resulted in considerable damage to the fish and that mortality in halibut below the legal size limit was three times as high as in those released manually (Kaimmer, Unpub)<sup>2</sup>. The Halibut Conference Board advocated the ban in part because vessels using hook strippers were considered to have an unfair competitive advantage during the short fishing periods.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Kaimmer, S. M. Unpub. Mortalities Associated with Hook Strippers. Report of Commission Activities 1990: 115-116.

### Size Limit

A minimum legal size limit has been part of the Commission's regulations since 1940 when a limit of five pounds (head-off, eviscerated) was established (Skud 1977). In 1973, the size limit was increased to 32 inches (head-on) or 24 inches (head-off), and this limit remains in the regulations. The purpose of size limit regulations is to reduce the harvest of halibut below the optimum harvesting size in terms of growth and mortality (Myhre 1974). Recent IPHC studies suggest that the growth rate of halibut has declined during the 1980s, but that a change in the coastwide minimum size limit would not be beneficial to the stocks at the present time (Clark and Parma, Unpub.)<sup>3</sup>.

A regulation prohibiting the filleting, mutilation, or disfigurement of halibut in a manner that prevents the determination of the size limit was added to the regulations in 1979. Another regulation prohibiting the landing of halibut with its head removed was introduced in 1991 to assist the Commission in collecting data (length and otoliths) for assessment purposes. The regulation was only applied to Area 2A where fishermen tended to remove the heads at sea, and where assessment data needs were not being met.

# **U.S. Treaty Indian Tribes**

From 1979 to 1984 the Makah Indian Tribe repeatedly requested that the Commission provide additional fishing opportunity for their fishermen off the northwest Washington coast in Area 2A (Trumble et al. 1991). The Commission regarded the requests as allocative and referred them to the U.S. government. In 1985, NMFS requested Makah tribal members be allowed to fish with handlines on historical fishing grounds during periods closed to non-Indian fishermen. The Commission, with support of the Halibut Conference Board, established regulations for a fishery within Area 2A for fishermen with special U.S. permits. By taking this action, the Commission was cooperating with the U.S. government to establish a fishery for Indians with Treaty rights. The Commission set the area, seasons, and fishing gear requirements, and the U.S. government issued the special permits.

Fishing was restricted to U.S. waters, designated subarea 2A-1 which encompassed coastal waters south of the Canadian border, north of latitude 48°02'15"N.; east of longitude 125°44'00"W.; and west of longitude 123°42'30"W. in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Fishing was allowed from April 20 until the Area 2A catch limit was taken, but fishing gear was restricted to handlines or nonpowered rod and reel, with no more than two hooks attached during Area 2A closed periods. All tribal fishermen had to have valid treaty Indian identification cards to fish when Area 2A was closed.

In 1986 and 1987, a poundage allocation and fishing seasons for several treaty tribes were approved and implemented by the U.S. government after consultation with the Commission and after the Commission adjusted the catch limits for the commercial fishery to account for the additional removals. In addition to the Makah Indians, the 1986 fishery included the Hoh, Quileute, and Quinault Indian tribes from the Washington coast. The southern boundary of subarea 2A-1 was also extended to latitude 46°58'18"N. Seven more Puget Sound Indian tribes (Jamestown Klallam, Lower Elwah Klallam, Lummi, Port Gamble Klallam, Skokomish, Swinomish, and Tulalip) were included in the 1987 fishery. Subarea 2A-1 was further expanded to include the treaty waters of these tribes, which, although not precisely defined, included essentially all inland marine waters of the state of Washington.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Clark, W. G. and A. M. Parma. Unpub. Re-evaluation of the Minumum Size Limit. Int. Pac. Halibut Comm. Report of Assessment and Research Activities 1992: 133-140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The reserve would allow the treaty tribes to continue fishing until October 31, if the tribal suballocation of 100,000 pounds was projected to be taken prior to that date.

The tribes were granted suballocations of the Area 2A catch limit of 50,000 pounds in 1986, and 100,000 pounds (plus up to a 50,000 pound reserve) in 1987, regardless of where in Area 2A the fish were caught. IPHC commercial fishing regulations, such as minimum size limit, legal fishing gear, and vessel licensing, were required for all tribal fishermen.

Ceremonial and subsistence fishing was also authorized for tribal members, commencing in 1986. In this fishery, tribal members could take and retain, but not sell, up to two halibut per day caught on hook and line gear. Seasons were between April 30 and December 31, 1986, and between April 1 and December 31, 1987.

Tribal regulations were not included in the Commission's regulations for 1986 or 1987. Beginning in 1988, tribal regulations were approved by the PFMC and then adopted by the Commission so they could be incorporated into the Commission's regulations. A summary of regulations for the 12 treaty Indian tribes in Area 2A, (the Suquamish tribe was added in 1988), are provided in Table 5.

An Indian halibut fishery was initiated in Area 2C (southeast Alaska) in 1990. The U.S. Secretary of the Interior authorized a halibut fishery for the Metlakatla Indian Community within the treaty waters designated as a part of the Annette Islands Reserve. The reserve was created by the U.S. Congress in 1891 and includes waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island. Vessels participating in this fishery were restricted to a maximum of 96 hours of fishing time per month during fishing periods established and announced by the Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. They were further limited to a maximum of eight skates of setline gear per vessel. Regulations for this fishery were not approved by the Commission, although any landings from this fishery are subtracted from the catch limit in Area 2C. Landings increased from 33,000 pounds in 1990 to 61,000 pounds in 1991, and declined to 23,000 pounds in 1992.

# **Sport Fishing**

Until 1973, the IPHC made no distinction between sport and commercial regulations. Specific sport regulations were first adopted in 1973 and included: a season from March through October, a daily bag limit of 3 fish, and gear restrictions specifying a hand-held rod and reel (Skud 1977). In 1975, a possession limit of two fish was established, the daily catch limit was reduced to two fish, and spear fishing was included as a legal fishing method. Beginning in 1984, sport charter vessels were required to obtain an IPHC license. The length of the season was expanded to include March through December in 1985, and to include February through December in 1986. Regulations in Alaska and British Columbia have been fairly stable since 1986. The only significant change to Alaskan regulations was an increase in the possession limit to two daily bag limits (4 fish) in 1988. The Commission recommended a size limit of 32 inches and a possession limit of three fish in 1992, but this recommendation was not approved by the Canadian government.

The sport regulations in Area 2A (Washington-Oregon-California), by contrast, became increasingly complicated. In 1987 a 30-inch minimum size limit along with a shorter season (February-September) was established. The more restrictive regulations were part of a management strategy designed to limit the sport harvest to 200,000 pounds and limit the combined sport, tribal, and commercial harvest to 700,000 pounds. Sport regulations since 1988 have been developed as part of an Area 2A catch sharing plan by the PFMC and adopted by the Commission. Regulations have continued to become more complex and Area 2A is now subdivided into five subareas with different seasons, bag limits, and size limits, in order to accomplish the allocative objectives of the PFMC.

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Table 5. Summary of regulations for treaty Indian tribes in Regulatory Area 2A-l, 1988 through 1992, including commercial and ceremonial and subsistence (C&S).

	FISHING SE	EASONS	CATCH LIMITS		
YEAR	Commercial	C&S	Commercial	C&S	NOTES
1988	3/1-10/31	2/1-12/31	-note-	n/a	Commercial catch limit not specified, but projected to be 100,000 pounds (plus up to a 50,000 pound reserve).  Setlines prohibited east of Bonilla Point - Tatoosh Island - Cape Flattery line for commercial and C&S fishing between March 1 and March 31.
1989	3/1-10/131	2/1-12/31	-152,0	00-	Tribal restriction: No longline gear after 12:00 noon April 27.
1990	3/1-3/27	1/1-12/31	120,000	-note-	C&S catch limit not specified, but combined commercial/C&S limited to 130,000 pounds.
1991	3/1-3/12 <sup>2</sup> 4/11-4/14 <sup>1</sup>	1/1-4/14 <sup>1</sup> -note-	102,500	-note-	C&S catch limit not specified, but combined commercial/C&S limited to 112,500 pounds.  C&S fishery reopened September 20 to December 31 by IPHC in-season action.
1992	3/1-5/31	1/1-12/31	152,500	10,000	<ul> <li>Tribal restrictions:</li> <li>1) all gear fishery 3/1-3 (72 hrs); 3/6-7 (24 hrs)</li> <li>2) limited gear fishery (gear limits and catch limits); 5/4-5 (24 hrs-300 lbs); 5/7-8 (24 hrs-500 lbs); 5/11-13 (48 hrs-500 lbs per maximum of 2 landings); 5/18-19 (24 hrs-150 lbs); 5/21-22 (24 hrs-150 lbs).</li> <li>3) Incidental troll retention 3/1 to 5/31.</li> </ul>

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Season closed on attainment of catch limit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Season closed by United States District Court..

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We thank Dr. Bruce Leaman of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada and Dr. Loh-Lee Low of the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. for their reviews and comments on the manuscript. We also thank IPHC staff Morris Wade for his suggestions, Ian McGregor for editorial assistance, and Ken Exelby for figures.

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# **APPENDICES**

Appendix I. IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations as printed for

the 1992 season.

Appendix II. Summary of the commercial fishery from 1977 through 1992,

Tables 1 through 16, respectively.

## Appendix I. IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations as printed for the 1992 season. (inside cover & page 1).

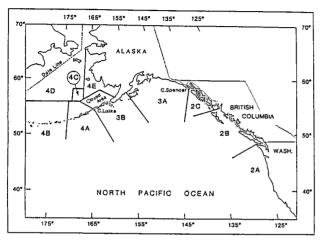
This pamphlet is intended for informational purposes only.

Official regulations of the respective countries can be found in:

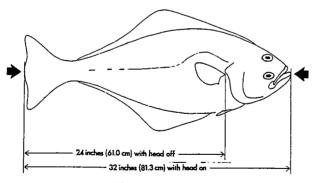
For the U.S.: Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 301,

Pacific Halibut Fisheries

For Canada: The Canada Gazette



Regulatory areas for the Pacific halibut fishery.



Minimum commercial size.

# REGULATIONS RESPECTING THE CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE HALIBUT FISHERY OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC OCEAN AND BERING SEA

### 1. Short Title

These regulations may be cited as the Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations.

### 2. Interpretation

- (1) In these Regulations,
  - (a) "automated hook stripper" (commonly known as a crucifier) means a device through which the groundline can be passed during gear retrieval which allows the groundline and hooks to pass freely, but does not allow fish to pass, thereby removing fish from the hooks;
  - (b) "charter vessel" means a vessel used for hire in sport fishing for halibut, but not including a vessel without a hired operator;
  - "commercial fishing" means fishing the resulting catch of which either is or is intended to be sold or bartered;
  - (d) "Commission" means the International Pacific Halibut Commission;
  - (e) "daily bag limit" means the maximum number of halibut a person may take in any calendar day from Convention waters;
  - (f) "fishery officer" means any State, Federal, or Provincial officer authorized to enforce these regulations including, but not limited to, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife Protection (ADFWP), and the United States Coast Guard (USCG);
  - (g) "fishing" means the taking, harvesting, or catching of fish, or any activity that can reasonably be expected to result in the taking, harvesting, or catching of fish, including specifically the deployment of any amount or component part of setline gear anywhere in the maritime area;
  - (h) "fishing period limit" means the maximum amount of halibut that may be retained and landed by a vessel during one fishing period;
  - (i) "land", with respect to halibut, means to bring to shore and to offload;
  - "license" means a halibut fishing license issued by the Commission pursuant to section 3:
  - (k) "maritime area", in respect of the fisheries jurisdiction of a Contracting Party, includes without distinction areas within and seaward of the territorial sea or internal waters of that Party;
  - "operator", with respect to any vessel, means the master or other individual on board and in charge of that vessel;
  - (m) "overall length" of a vessel means the horizontal distance, rounded to the nearest foot, between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stern (excluding bowsprits, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fittings or attachments);
  - (n) "person" includes an individual, corporation, firm, or association;
  - (o) "regulatory area" means an area referred to in section 6;

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# Appendix I. IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations as printed for the 1992 season. (pages 2 & 3).

### PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY REGULATIONS 1992

- (p) "setline gear" means one or more stationary, buoyed, and anchored lines with hooks attached:
- (q) "sport fishing" means all fishing other than commercial fishing and treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence fishing;
- (r) "tender" means any vessel that buys or obtains fish directly from a catching vessel and transports it to a port of landing or fish processor.
- (2) In these Regulations, all bearings are true and all positions are determined by the most recent charts issued by the National Ocean Service or the Canadian Hydrographic Service.
- (3) In these Regulations, all weights shall be computed on the basis that the heads of the fish are off and their entrails removed.

### 3. Licensing Vessels

- (1) No person shall operate or fish for halibut from a United States vessel, nor possess halibut on board a United States vessel, used either for commercial fishing or as a charter vessel, unless the Commission has issued a license in respect of that vessel.
- (2) No person shall operate or fish for halibut from a Canadian vessel, nor possess halibut on board a Canadian vessel, used as a charter vessel, unless the Commission has issued a license in respect of that vessel.
- (3) A license issued in respect of a vessel referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) must be carried on board that vessel at all times and the vessel operator shall permit its inspection by fishery officers of the Contracting Parties.
- (4) The Commission shall issue a license in respect of a vessel, without fee from its office in Seattle, Washington, upon receipt of a completed, written, and signed "Application for Vessel License for the Halibut Fishery" form.
- (5) Application forms may be obtained from fishery officers of either Contracting Party, or from the Commission.
- (6) Information on an "Application for Vessel License for the Halibut Fishery" form must be accurate.
- (7) The "Application for Vessel License for the Halibut Fishery" form shall be completed and signed by the vessel owner.
- (8) Licenses issued under this section shall be valid only during the year in which they are issued.
- (9) A new license is required for a vessel that is sold, transferred, renamed, or redocumented.
- (10) The license required under this section is in addition to any license, however designated, that is required under the laws of Canada or any of its Provinces or the United States or any of its States.
- (11) The United States may suspend, revoke, or modify any license issued under this section under policies and procedures in 15 CFR Part 904.

### 4. In-Season Actions

- The Commission is authorized to establish or modify regulations during the seasons after determining that such action
  - (a) will not result in exceeding the catch limit established preseason for each regulatory area;
  - (b) is consistent with the Convention between the United States of America and Canada for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, and applicable domestic law of either Canada or the United States; and

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- (c) is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with any domestic catch sharing plans developed by the United States or Canadian governments.
- (2) In-season actions may include, but are not limited to, establishment or modification of the following:
  - (a) closed areas;
  - (b) fishing period;
  - (c) fishing period limits;
  - (d) gear restrictions;
  - (e) recreational bag limits;
  - (f) size limits; or
  - (g) vessel clearances
- (3) In-season changes will be effective at the time and date specified by the Commission.
- (4) The Commission will announce in-season actions under this section by providing notice to major halibut processors; Federal, State, United States treaty Indian, and Provincial fishery officials; and the media.

### 5. Application

- (1) These Regulations apply to persons and vessels fishing for halibut in, or possessing halibut taken from, waters off the west coast of Canada and the United States, including the southern as well as the western coasts of Alaska, within the respective maritime areas in which each of those countries exercises exclusive fisheries jurisdiction as of March 29, 1979.
- (2) Sections 6 to 18 apply to commercial fishing for halibut.
- (3) Section 19 applies to fishing for halibut by United States treaty Indian tribes in the State of Washington.
- (4) Section 20 applies to sport fishing for halibut.
- (5) These Regulations do not apply to fishing operations authorized or conducted by the Commission for research purposes.

### 6. Regulatory Areas

The following areas shall be regulatory areas for the purposes of the Convention:

- (1) Area 2A includes all waters off the states of California, Oregon, and Washington;
- (2) Area 2B includes all waters off British Columbia;
- (3) Area 2C includes all waters off Alaska that are east of a line running 340° true from Cape Spencer Light (latitude 58°11'57" N., longitude 136°38'18" W.) and south and east of a line running 205° true from said light;
- (4) Area 3A includes all waters between Area 2C and a line extending from the most northerly point on Cape Aklek (latitude 57°41'15" N., longitude 155°35'00" W.) to Cape Ikolik (latitude 57°17'17" N., longitude 154°47'18" W.), then along the Kodiak Island coastline to Cape Trinity (latitude 56°44'50" N., longitude 154°08'44" W.), then 140° true:
- (5) Area 3B includes all waters between Area 3A and a line extending 150° true from Cape Lutke (latitude 54°29'00" N., longitude 164°20'00" W.) and south of latitude 54°49'00" N. in Isanotski Strait;

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- (6) Area 4A includes all waters in the Gulf of Alaska west of Area 3B and in the Bering Sea west of the closed area defined in section 9 that are east of longitude 172\*00'00" W. and south of latitude 56\*2000" N:
- (7) Area 4B includes all waters in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska west of Area 4A and south of latitude 56°20'00" N.;
- (8) Area 4C includes all waters in the Bering Sea north of Area 4A and north of the closed area defined in section 9 which are east of longitude 171°00'00" W., south of latitude 58°00'00" N., and west of longitude 168°00'00" W.;
- (9) Area 4D includes all waters in the Bering Sea north of Areas 4A and 4B, north and west of Area 4C, and west of longitude 168°00'00" W.;
- (10) Area 4E includes all waters in the Bering Sea north and east of the closed area defined in section 9, east of longitude 168°00'00" W., and south of latitude 65°34'00" N.

### 7. Fishing Periods

The fishing periods for each regulatory area are set out in the following table and apply
where the catch limits specified in section 10 have not been taken.

2A	46	3		4C		4	E
7/29	6/08-6/09	7/12	6/06-6/07	7/26-7/27	9/14-9/15	5/31-6/02	7/30-8/0
8/12	6/10	7/14	6/08-6/09	7/28-7/29	9/16-9/17	6/03-6/05	8/02-8/0
8/26	6/12	7/16	6/10-6/11	7/30-7/31	9/18-9/19	6/06-6/08	8/05-8/07
9/09-=	6/14	7/18	6/12-6/13	8/01-8/02	9/20-9/21	6/09-6/11	8/08-8/10
	6/16	7/20	6/14-6/15	8/03-8/04	9/22-9/23	6/12-6/14	8/11-8/13
2B	6/18	7/22	6/16-6/17	8/05-8/06	9/24-9/25	6/15-6/17	8/14-8/16
2.0	6/20	7/24	6/18-6/19	8/07-8/08	9/26-9/27	6/18-6/20	8/17-8/19
3/08 - 10/31	6/22	7/26	6/20-6/21	8/09-8/10	9/28-9/29	6/21-6/23	8/20-8/27
3/08 - 10/31	6/24	7/28	6/22-6/23	8/11-8/12	9/30-10/01	6/24-6/26	8/23-8/25
	6/26	7/30	6/24-6/25	8/13-8/14	10/02-10/03	6/27-6/29	8/26-8/2
2C-3A-3B	6/28	8/01	6/26-6/27	8/15-8/16	10/04-10/05	6/30-7/02	8/29-8/3
Į.	6/30	8/03	6/28-6/29	8/17-8/18	10/06-10/07	7/03-7/05	9/01-9/0
6/08-6/09	7/02		6/30-7/01	8/19-8/20	10/08-10/09	7/06-7/08	9/04-9/06
9/07-9/08	7/04	8/06-	7/02-7/03	8/21-8/22	10/10-10/11	7/09-7/11	9/07-9/09
10/05-*	7/06		7/04-7/05	8/23-8/24	10/12-10/13	7/12-7/14	9/10-9/12
	7/08	9/22-=	7/06-7/07	8/25-8/26	10/14-10/15	7/15-7/17	9/13-9/1:
4A	7/10		7/08-7/09	8/27-8/28	10/16-10/17	7/18-7/20	9/16-9/18
cro cro			7/10-7/11	8/29-8/30	10/18-10/19	7/21-7/23	
6/08-6/09			7/12-7/13	8/31-9/01	10/20-10/21	7/24-7/26	9/19-10/3
8/06-			7/14-7/15	9/02-9/03	10/22-10/23	7/27-7/29	
9/22-*			7/16-7/17	9/04-9/05	10/24-10/25		
			7/18-7/19	9/06-9/07	10/26-10/27		
4D			7/20-7/21	9/08-9/09	10/28-10/29		
8/06-			7/22-7/23	9/10-9/11	10/30-10/31		
9/22-*			7/24-7/25	9/12-9/13			

<sup>\*</sup>Date to be announced by the Commission.

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- (2) Each fishing period in Area 2A shall begin at 0800 hours and terminate at 1800 hours Pacific Standard or Pacific Daylight Time, as applicable, on the date set out in the table to this section, unless the Commission specifies otherwise.
- (3) The fishing period in Area 2B shall begin and terminate at 1200 hours Pacific Standard Time, on the dates set out in the table to this section, unless the Commission specifies at heaviles.
- (4) Except as provided in paragraph (5), each fishing period in Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E shall begin and terminate at 1200 hours Alaska Standard or Alaska Daylight Time, as applicable, on the date set out in the table to this section, unless the Commission specifies otherwise.
- (5) The 6/10 through 8/03 fishing periods inclusive in Area 4B shall begin at 0800 hours and terminate at 2000 hours Alaska Standard or Alaska Daylight Time, as applicable, unless the Commission specifies otherwise.
- (6) All commercial fishing for halibut in Areas 2A and 2B shall cease at 1200 hours Pacific Standard Time on October 31.
- (7) All commercial fishing for halibut in Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E shall cease at 1200 hours Alaska Standard Time on October 31.

#### 8. Closed Periods

- (1) No person shall engage in fishing for halibut in any regulatory area other than during the fishing periods set out in section 7 in respect of that area.
- (2) No person shall land or otherwise retain halibut caught outside a fishing period applicable to the regulatory area where the halibut was taken.
- (3) Subject to paragraphs (7) and (8) of section 16, these Regulations do not prohibit fishing for any species of fish other than halibut during the closed periods.
- (4) Notwithstanding paragraph (3), no person shall have halibut in his possession while fishing for any other species of fish during the closed periods.
- (5) No vessel shall retrieve any halibut fishing gear during a closed period if the vessel has any halibut on board.
- (6) A vessel that has no halibut on board may retrieve any halibut fishing gear during the closed period after the operator notifies a fishery officer or representative of the Commission prior to that retrieval.
- (7) After retrieval of halibut gear in accordance with paragraph (6), the vessel shall submit to a hold inspection at the discretion of the fishery officer or representative of
- (8) No person shall retain any halibut caught on gear retrieved under paragraph (6).
- (9) No person shall possess halibut aboard a vessel in a regulatory area during a closed period unless that vessel is in continuous transit to or within a port in which that halibut may be lawfully sold.

### 9. Closed Areas

All waters in the Bering Sea north of latitude  $54^\circ49^\circ00^\circ$  N. in Isanotski Strait that are enclosed by a line from Cape Sarichef Light (latitude  $54^\circ43^\circ600^\circ$  N., longitude  $164^\circ55^\circ42^\circ$  W.) to a point at latitude  $56^\circ20^\circ00^\circ$  N., longitude  $163^\circ00^\circ00^\circ$  W.; thence to a point at latitude  $58^\circ21^\circ25^\circ$  N., longitude  $163^\circ00^\circ00^\circ$  W.; thence to Strogonof Point (latitude  $56^\circ53^\circ18^\circ$  N., longitude  $158^\circ50^\circ37^\circ$  W.); and then along the northern coasts of the Alaska Peninsula and Unimak Island to the point of origin at Cape Sarichef Light are closed to halibut fishing and no person shall fish for halibut therein or have halibut in his possession while in those waters except in the course of a continuous transit across those waters.

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### 10. Catch Limits

(1) The total allowable catch of halibut to be taken during the halibut fishing periods specified in section 7 shall be limited to the weight expressed in pounds or metric tons shown in the following table:

Regulatory	Catch Limits						
Area	Pounds	Metric Tons					
2A	243,750	111					
2B	8,000,000	3,629					
2C	10,000,000	4,536					
3A	26,600,000	12,066					
3 <b>B</b>	8,800,000	3,991					
4A	2,300,000	1,043					
4B	2,300,000	1.043					
4C	800,000	363					
4D	800,000	363					
4E	130,000	59					

- (2) The Commission shall determine and announce to the public the date on which the catch limit for each regulatory area will be taken and the specific dates during which fishing will be allowed in each regulatory area.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), Area 2B will only close when all Individual Vessel Quotas assigned by Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans are taken, or October 31, whichever is earlier.
- (4) If the Commission determines that the catch limit specified in any regulatory area in paragraph (1) would be exceeded in an unrestricted 24-hour, 10-hour, or 12-hour fishing period as specified in paragraphs (2), (3), (4), or (5) of section 7, the catch limit for that area shall be considered to have been taken unless fishing period limits are implemented.
- (5) Notwithstanding paragraph (1). Areas 3A and 3B shall both be closed if the catch limit of 35,400,000 pounds (16,057 metric tons) for the combined areas is taken.
- (6) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), Areas 4A and 4B shall both be closed if the catch limit of 4,600,000 pounds (2,086 metric tons) for the combined areas is taken.
- (7) When under paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6) the Commission has announced a date on which the catch limit for a regulatory area will be taken, no person shall fish for halibut in that area after that date for the rest of the year, unless the Commission has announced the reopening of that area for halibut fishing.

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### 11. Fishing Period Limits

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any vessel to retain or land more halibut than authorized by that vessel's license in any fishing period for which the Commission has announced a fishing period limit.
- (2) When fishing period limits are in effect, a vessel's maximum allowable catch will be determined by the Commission based on
  - (a) the vessel's overall length in feet and associated length class;
  - (b) the average performance of all vessels within that class; and
  - (c) the remaining catch limit.
- (3) Length classes are shown in the following table:

Overall Length	Vessel Clas
1-25	A
26-30	В
31-35	С
36-40	D
41-45	E
46-50	F
51-55	G
56+	H

- (4) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), all vessels fishing in Area 4C shall be limited to a maximum catch of 10,000 pounds (4.5 metric tons) of halibut per fishing period.
- (5) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), all vessels fishing in Area 4E shall be limited to a maximum catch of 6,000 pounds (2.7 metric tons) of halibut per fishing period.
- (6) Notwithstanding paragraph (5) a vessel will be permitted to make multiple fishing trips in Area 4E during the fishing period between September 19 and October 31, but each trip shall be limited to a maximum catch of 6,000 pounds (2.7 metric tons) of halibut and each trip shall be subject to the vessel clearance requirements in section 13.
- (7) A vessel that fishes during a fishing period when fishing period limits are in effect must offload its catch before fishing in any subsequent fishing period.
- (8) A vessel that fishes during a fishing period when fishing period limits are in effect will not be allowed to serve as a tender until its catch has been landed and sold.
- (9) No vessel which fishes for halibut in a regulatory area for which a fishing period limit is in effect shall fish in any other regulatory area during that fishing period.

### 12. Size Limits

- (1) No person shall take or possess any halibut that
  - (a) with the head on, is less than 32 inches (81.3 cm) as measured in a straight line, passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with the mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail, as illustrated in the schedule; or
  - (b) with the head removed, is less than 24 inches (61.0 cm) as measured from the base of the pectoral fin at its most anterior point to the extreme end of the middle of the tail, as illustrated in the schedule.

(2) No person shall fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a halibut in any manner that

(3) No person on board a vessel fishing for, or tendering, halibut caught in Area 2A shall

possess any halibut that has had its head removed.

prevents the determination of the minimum size of the halibut for the purpose of

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- (1) The operator of any vessel that is five (5) net tons or greater shall keep an accurate log of all halibut fishing operations including the date, locality, amount of gear used, and total weight of halibut taken daily in each locality.
- (2) The log referred to in paragraph (1) shall be
  - (a) separate from other records maintained on board the vessel:
  - (b) updated not later than 24 hours after midnight local time for each day fished and prior to the offloading or sale of halibut taken during that fishing period;
  - (c) retained for a period of two years by the owner or operator of the vessel;
  - (d) open to inspection by a fishery officer or any authorized representative of the Commission upon demand; and
  - (e) kept on board the vessel when engaged in halibut fishing, during transits to port of landing, and for five (5) days following off-loading halibut.
- (3) No person shall make a false entry in a log referred to in paragraph (1).

# 15. Receipt and Possession of Halibut

- No person shall receive halibut from a United States vessel that does not have the license required by section 3 on board.
- (2) A person who purchases or otherwise receives halibut from the owner or operator of the vessel from which that halibut was caught, either directly from that vessel or through another carrier, shall record each such purchase or receipt on State fish tickets or Federal catch reports, showing the date, locality, name of vessel, Halibut Commission license number (United States), and the name of the person from whom the halibut was purchased or received and the amount in pounds according to trade categories of the halibut.
- (3) No person shall make a false entry on a State fish ticket or Federal catch report referred to in paragraph (2).
- (4) A copy of the fish tickets or catch reports referred to in paragraph (2) shall be
  - (a) retained by the person making them for a period of two years from the date the fish tickets or catch reports are made; and
  - (b) open to inspection by a fishery officer or any authorized representative of the Commission
- (5) No person shall possess any halibut that he knows to have been taken in contravention of these Regulations.
- (6) When halibut are delivered to other than a commercial fish processor or primary fish buyer, the records required by paragraph (2) shall be maintained by the operator of the vessel from which that halibut was caught, in compliance with paragraph (4).
- (7) It shall be unlawful to enter a Halibut Commission license number on a State fish ticket for any vessel other than the vessel actually used in catching the halibut reported thereon.

### 13. Vessel Clearance in Area 4

- (1) The operator of any vessel that fishes for halibut in Areas 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, or 4E must obtain a vessel clearance before such fishing in each such area and fishing period that applies, and before the unloading of any halibut caught in said areas and fishing periods, unless specifically exempted in paragraphs (8), (9), or (10).
- (2) The vessel clearances required under paragraph (1) for Areas 4A, 4C, 4D, or 4E may be obtained only at Dutch Harbor or Akutan, Alaska, from a fishery officer of the United States. a representative of the Commission, or a designated fish processor.
- (3) The vessel clearances required under paragraph (1) for Area 4B may only be obtained at Nazan Bay on Atka Island, Alaska, from a fishery officer of the United States, a representative of the Commission, or a designated fish processor.
- (4) The vessel operator shall specify the specific fishing period and regulatory area in which fishing will take place.
- (5) Vessel clearances required under paragraph (1) prior to fishing in Area 4 shall be obtained within the 120-hour period before each of the openings in that Area, between 0800 and 1800 hours, local time.
- (6) No halibut shall be on board at the time of the clearance required by paragraph (5).
- (7) Vessel clearances required under paragraph (1) after fishing in Area 4 shall be obtained within the 120-hour period after each of the closings in that Area, between 0800 and 1800 hours, local time.
- (8) Any person that fishes for halibut only in Area 4B and lands their total annual halibut catch at a port within Area 4B is exempt from the clearance requirements of paragraph (1).
- (9) Any person that fishes for halibut only in Area 4C and lands their total annual halibut catch at a port within Area 4C is exempt from the clearance requirements of paragraph (1).
- (10) Any person that fishes for halibut only in Area 4E and lands their total annual halibut catch at a port within Area 4E, or the closed area defined in Section 9 is exempt from the clearance requirements of paragraph (1).

### 16. Fishing Gear

- (1) No person shall fish for halibut using any gear other than hook and line gear.
- (2) No person shall possess halibut taken with any gear other than hook and line gear.
- (3) No person shall possess halibut while on board a vessel carrying any trawl nets or fishing pots capable of taking halibut.
- (4) All setline or state marker buoys carried on board or used by any United States vessel used for halibut fishing shall be marked with one of the following:
  - (a) the vessel's name
  - (b) the vessel's state license number, or
  - (c) the vessel's registration number.
- (5) the markings specified in paragraph (4) shall be in characters at least four inches in height and one-half inch in width in a contrasting color visible above the water and shall be maintained in legible condition.
- (6) All setline or state marker buoys carried on board or used by a Canadian vessel used for halibut fishing shall be
  - (a) floating and visible on the surface of the water, and
  - (b) legibly marked with the identification plate number of the vessel engaged in commercial fishing from which that setline is being operated.
- (7) No person on board a vessel from which setline gear was used to fish for any species of fish anywhere in waters described in section 5 (1) during the 72-hour period immediately before the opening of a halibut fishing period shall catch or possess halibut anywhere in those waters during that halibut fishing period.
- (8) No vessel from which setline gear was used to fish for any species of fish anywhere in waters described in section 5 (1) during the 72-hour period immediately before the opening of a halibut fishing period may be used to catch or possess halibut anywhere in those waters during that halibut fishing period.
- (9) Notwithstanding paragraphs (7) and (8), the 72-hour fishing restriction preceding a halibut fishing period shall not apply to persons and vessels fishing for halibut during fishing periods in Areas 2B, 4B, 4C, and 4E as described in paragraphs (2), (7), (8), and (10) of section 6.
- (10) No person shall fish for halibut from a vessel that is equipped with, or that possesses on board, an automated hook stripper.
- (11) No person shall possess halibut on a vessel that is equipped with, or that possesses on board, an automated hook stripper.

### 17. Retention of Tagged Halibut

Nothing contained in these Regulations prohibits any vessel at any time from retaining and landing a halibut that bears a Commission tag at the time of capture, if the halibut with the tag still attached is reported at the time of landing and made available for examination by a representative of the Commission or by a fishery officer.

### 18. Supervision of Unloading and Weighing

The unloading and weighing of halibut may be subject to the supervision of fishery officers to assure the fulfillment of the provisions of these Regulations.

### 19. Fishing by United States Treaty Indian Tribes

- Except as provided in this section, all regulations of the Commission apply to halibut fishing in subarea 2A-1 by members of United States treaty Indian tribes located in the State of Washington.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, United States treaty Indian tribes means the Hoh, Jamestown Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallum, Lummi, Makah, Port Gamble Klallam, Quileute, Quinault, Skokomish, Suquamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip tribes.
- (3) Subarea 2A-1 includes all waters off the coast of Washington that are north of latitude 46°53'18" N. and east of longitude 125°44'00" W., and all inland marine waters of Washington.
- (4) Commercial fishing for halibut in subarea 2A-1 is permitted with hook and line gear from March 1 through October 31, or until 152,500 pounds (69.2 metric tons) is taken, whichever occurs first.
- (5) Ceremonial and subsistence fishing for halibut in subarea 2A-1 is permitted with hook and line gear from January 1 through December 31, and is estimated to take 10,000 pounds (4.5 metric tons).
- (6) No size or bag limits shall apply to the ceremonial and subsistence fishery except that when commercial halibut fishing is prohibited pursuant to paragraph (4), treaty Indians may take and retain not more than two halibut per day per person.
- (7) Halibut taken for ceremonial and subsistence purposes shall not be offered for sale or sold.
- (8) All halibut sold by treaty Indians during the commercial fishing season specified in paragraph (4) shall comply with the provisions of section 12, Size Limits.
- (9) Any member of a United States treaty Indian tribe as defined in paragraph (2), who is engaged in commercial, or ceremonial and subsistence fishing under this section must have on his or her person a valid treaty Indian identification card issued pursuant to 25 CFR Part 249, Subpart A and must comply with the treaty Indian vessel and gear identification requirements of Final Decision No. 1 and subsequent orders in United States v. Washington, 384 F. Supp. 312 (W.D. Wash. 1974).

### 20. Sport Fishing for Halibut

- No person shall engage in sport fishing for halibut using gear other than a single line with no more than two hooks attached; or a spear.
- (2) In all waters off Alaska
  - (a) the sport fishing season is from February 1 to December 31;
  - (b) the daily bag limit is two halibut of any size per day per person.
- (3) In all waters off British Columbia
  - (a) the sport fishing season is from February 1 to December 31:
  - (b) the daily bag limit is two halibut with a minimum overall size limit of 32 inches (81.3 centimeters).

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- (4) In Puget Sound and United States waters in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, east of a line from Bonilla Point (latitude 48°35'44" N., longitude 124°43'00" W.) to Tatoosh Island (latitude 48°23'30" N., longitude 124°44'00" W.) to Cape Flattery (latitude 48°22'55" N., longitude 124'43'42" W.)
  - (a) the sport fishing season is May 9 through July 15, seven days a week;
  - (b) the daily bag limit is two halibut of any size per day per person.
- (5) Off the North Washington Coast, west of the line described in paragraph (4) and north of the Queets River (latitude 47°31'42" N.)
  - (a) the sport fishing seasons are
    - (i) May 1 through June 30, seven days a week, or until 78,764 pounds (35.7 metric tons) are estimated to have been taken and a closing date has been announced by the Commission:
    - (ii) July 3 through July 31, two days a week (Friday and Saturday) and commencing August 1, seven days a week until a closing date has been announced by the Commission, or until September 30, whichever is earlier:
  - (b) the daily bag limit is two halibut per day per person, one with no minimum size limit, and the second with a minimum overall size limit of 40 inches (101.6 centimeters);
  - (c) the total catch for the two fishing periods specified in paragraph (5)(a) shall be limited to 92,664 pounds (42.0 metric tons).
- (6) Off the Washington and Oregon Coast, between the Queets River and Cape Falcon (latitude 45°46'00" N.)
  - (a) the sportfishing season is from May 1 through September 30, seven days a week:
  - (b) the daily bag limit is one halibut of any size per day per person.
- (7) Off the Oregon Coast, between Cape Falcon and the California border (latitude 42°00'00" N.)
  - (a) the sport fishing seasons are
    - (i) May 1 through July 10. seven days a week, between Cape Falcon and Nestucca Bay (latitude 45°09′45 "N.), or until 2,911 pounds (1.3 metric tons) are estimated to have been taken and a closing date has been announced by the Commission:
    - (ii) May 1 through July 10. four days a week (Wednesday through Saturday) between Nestucca Bay and the California border, or until 60.131 pounds (27.3 metric tons) are estimated to have been taken, and a closing date has been announced by the Commission;
    - (iii) July 11 through August 4. seven days a week in the area inside the 30-fathom curve nearest to the coastline as plotted on National Ocean Service charts numbered 18520, 18580, and 18600, or until 8,333 pounds (3.8 metric tons) are estimated to have been taken, and a closing date has been announced by the Commission:
    - (iv) August 5, five days a week (Wednesday through Sunday) until a closing date has been announced by the Commission, or until September 30, whichever is earlier:

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- (b) the daily bag limit is two halibut, one with a minimum overall size limit of 32 inches (81.3 centimeters) and the second with a minimum overall size limit of 50 inches (127 0 centimeters):
- (c) the total catch for the four fishing periods specified in paragraph (7)(a) shall be limited to 92.590 pounds (42.0 metric tons).
- (8) Off the California Coast
  - (a) the sport fishing season is from May 1 through September 30, seven days a week:
  - (b) the daily bag limit is one halibut with a minimum overall size limit of 32 inches (81.3 centimeters)
- (9) Notwithstanding paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) the total allowable catch of halibut shall be limited to 148,687 pounds (67.4 metric tons).
- (10) Notwithstanding paragraphs (7) and (8) the total allowable catch of halibut shall be limited to 95,063 pounds (43.1 metric tons).
- (11) The minimum overall size limit specified in paragraphs (3)(b), (5)(b), (7)(b), and (8)(b) is measured in a straight line passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with the mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail.
- (12) No person shall fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a halibut in any manner that prevents the determination of minimum size or the number of fish caught, possessed, or landed.
- (13) The possession limit for halibut in the waters off the coast of Alaska is two daily bag
- (14) The possession limit for halibut in the waters off the coast of British Columbia is one and one-half times the daily bag limit (3 halibut).
- (15) The possession limit for halibut in the waters off Washington. Oregon, and California is the same as the daily bag limit.
- (16) Any halibut brought aboard a vessel and not immediately returned to the sea with a minimum of injury will be included in the daily bag limit of the person catching the halibut.
- (17) No person shall be in possession of halibut on a vessel while fishing in a closed area.
- (18) No halibut caught by sport fishing shall be offered for sale, sold, traded, or bartered.
- (19) No halibut caught in sport fishing shall be possessed on board a vessel when other fish or shellfish aboard the said vessel are destined for commercial use, sale, trade, or barter.
- (20) The operator of a charter vessel shall be liable for any violations of these regulations committed by a passenger aboard said vessel.

#### 21. Previous Regulations Superseded

These regulations shall supersede all previous regulations of the Commission, and these regulations shall be effective each succeeding year until superseded.

RICHARD J. BEAMISH, Chairman STEVEN PENNOYER, Vice Chairman LINDA J. ALEXANDER RICHARD ELIASON ALLAN T. SHEPPARD GEORGE A. WADE

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Table 1. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1977 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing Periods	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2	5/10-5/29	19	11,000	3,024
	6/16-7/04	18		2,411
	7/20-8/07	18		1,823
	8/23-9/10	18		1,562
				8,820
3A, 3B	5/10-5/29	19	11,000	4,759
	5/16-7/04	18		4,775
	7/20-7/30	10		<u>1,623</u>
				11,157
3B	9/15-10/03	18	no limit	821
3C	4/1-11/15	227	no limit	389
4A	4/01-4/21	19	no limit	20
	8/09-8/29	19		0
				20
4B	4/01-4/21	19	no limit	109
	8/09-8/29	19		<u> 161</u>
				270
4C	4/01-4/21	19	no limit	35
	8/09-8/29	19		94
				129
4D-East	4/01-4/21	19	no limit	0
	8/09-8/29	19		5
				5
4D-West	4/01-11/15	227	no limit	257
Total			22,000	21,868

Table 2. Fishing periods, number of Fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1978 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2	5/15-5/31 6/19-7/06 7/25-8/10 8/26-9/08	16 17 16 13	9,000	2,078 2,399 2,452 2,091 9,020
3	5/15-5/31 6/19-7/06 7/25-8/04	16 17 10	11,000	4,467 4,604 <u>2,565</u> 11,636
3C	4/08-11/15	220	no limit	674
4-east	4/08-4/28 8/16-9/03	19 17	no limit	131 210 341
4-west	4/08-11/15	220	no limit	317
Total			20,000	21,988

Table 3. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1979 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2-U.S. waters	5/25-6/10 6/26-7/03	16 7	3,600	2,791 1,785 4,576
2-Canadian waters	5/25-6/10 7/26-7/12 7/28-8/05	16 16 8	6,0001	2,068 2,255 <u>534</u> 4,857
3A,3B	5/25-6/10 6/26-7/12	16 16	11,000	5,976 <u>5,749</u> 11,725
3C	4/10-11/15	218	no limit	417
4-east	4/10-4/30 7/24-8/11	19 17	no limit	44 <u>318</u> 362
4-west	4/10-11/15	218	no limit	590
Total			20,600	22,527

The Area 2 catch limit of 9.0 million pounds was raised mid-season to 9.6 million pounds to allow additional fishing in Canadian waters.

Table 4. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1980 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2-U.S.waters	5/20-5/30	10	3,200	3,260
2-Canadian waters	5/20-6/03 7/15-7/29 8/12-8/26 9/09-9/23 10/27-11/05	14 14 14 14 9	6,100	1,514 1,893 1,380 795 <u>68</u> 5,650
3	5/19-6/04 7/15-7/19	16 4	10,000	9,391 2,852 12,243
4	4/10-4/30 7/29-8/23	19 25	1,000	158 555 713
Total			20,300	21,866

Table 5. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1981 commercial Pacific halibut Fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	6/07-6/21 7/07-7/21 8/06-8/20 9/05-9/19	14 14 14 14	200	50 85 41 <u>26</u> 202
2В	5/07-5/22 6/07-6/22 7/07-7/22 8/06-8/19	15 15 15 13	5,400	2,030 1,775 1,307 <u>542</u> 5,654
2C	6/07-6/14	7	3,400	4,010
3A	6/07-6/20	13	13,0001	14,225
3B	6/07-6/20 8/25-8/28	13 3	2,000'	96 <u>360</u> 456
4	6/07-6/22 7/10-8/06	15 27	1,000	25 1,160 1,185
Total			25,000	25,732

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm I}$  The Area 3 catch limit of 13.0 million pounds (11.0 - 3A; 2.0 - 3B) was raised mid-season to 15.0 million pounds to allow an August fishery in Area 3B.

Table 6. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1982 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	5/12-5/24	12	200	45
	6/09-6/21	12		76
	7/07-7/19	12		46
	8/09-8/22	13		44
				211
2B	5/12-5/24	12	5,400	1475
	6/09-6/21	12		1689
	7/07-7/19	12		922
	8/09-8/22	13		804
	9/04-9/16	12		<u>648</u>
				5,538
2C	5/12-5/17	5	3,400	3,500
3A	5/11-5/19	8	14,000	10,134
	6/09-6/12	3		3,396
				13,530
3B	5/11-5/19	8	3,000	413
	6/09-6/12	3	,	175
	8/20-8/27	7		_4,212
				4,800
4	5/11-5/19	8	1,500	13
	6/09-6/28	19	•	_1,416
				1,429
Total			27,500	29,008

Table 7. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1983 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	6/15-6/28 7/14-7/27	13 13	200	111 
2B	5/03-5/15 6/14-6/26	12 12	5,400	2,750 2,686 5,436
2C	6/17-6/22	5	3,400	6,398
3A	6/16-6/23	7	14,000	14,112
3B	6/16-6/23 8/27-8/30	7 3	5.000	1,377 <u>6,374</u> 7.751
4A	6/16-6/23 7/15-7/23	7 8	1,200	19 2,490 2,509
4B	6/16-6/23 7/15-7/29 9/13-9/21	7 14 8	800	1 201 1,133 1,335
4C	6/16-7/20 8/25-8/29	28¹ 4	400	412 18 430
4D	6/16-6/23 7/15-7/29	7 14	200	0 148 148
Total			30,600	38,384

Seven 4-day openings

 $Fishing \ periods, \ number \ of \ fishing \ days, \ catch \ limit, \ and \ catch \ (000s \ of \ pounds)$  by regulatory area for the 1984 commercial Pacific halibut fishery. Table 8.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catchl imit	Catch
2A	5/21-6/02 6/21-7/03 7/22-8/02	12 12 11	300	61 158 212 431
2B	4/24-5/06 5/23-6/02	12 10	9,000	5,331 <u>3,723</u> 9,054
2C	5/22-5/25	3	5,700	5,847
3A	5/21-5/25 8/20-8/21	4 1	18,000	15,822 <u>4,149</u> 19,971
3B	5/21-5/25 8/20-8/21 9/18-9/19	4 1 1	7,000	2,893 301 3,309 6,503
4A	5/21-5/25 6/18-6/21	4 3	1,200	104 949 1,053
4B	5/21-5/23 6/18-6/21 8/02-8/09	4 3 7	1,100	<1 12 1,092 1,104
4C	5/21-7/25	331	400	580
4D	5/21-5/25 6/18-6/28	4 10	400	0 <u>392</u> 392
4E	5/21-7/31 8/02-8/10 8/11-10/30	48 <sup>2</sup> 8 54 <sup>2</sup>	50	33 0 2 35
Total			43,050	44,970

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Alternating one day open and one day closed. <sup>2</sup>Alternating two days open and one day closed.

 $Fishing\ periods,\ number\ of\ fishing\ days,\ catch\ limit,\ and\ catch\ (000s\ of\ pounds)$  by regulatory area for the 1985 commercial Pacific halibut fishery. Table 9.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	5/09-5/21	12	500	145
	6/08-6/20	12		229
	7/24-7/31	7		<u>119</u>
			·	493
2B	4/20-4/29	9	10,000	3,756
	6/07-6/16	9		5,598
	8/14-8/18	4		<u>1,035</u>
				10,389
2C	4/27-4/29	2	9,000	4,037
	5/27-5/29	2		5,170
				9,207
3A	4/27-4/29	2	23,000	7,587
	5/27-5/29	2		10,505
	9/10-9/11	1		_2,760
				20,852
3B	4/27-4/29	2	9,000	500
	5/27-5/29	2	,	937
	6/24-6/25	1		3,199
	9/09-9/11	2		6,252
				10,888
4A	4/27-4/29	2		1,7000
	5/27-5/29	2		48
	6/24-6/26	2		211
	7/09-7/12	3		1,452
				1,711
4B	4/27-4/29	2	1,300	2
	5/27-5/29	2		3
	6/24-6/26	2		9
	7/09-7/13	4		64
	8/07-8/13	6		<u>1,158</u>
		·		1,236
4C	6/01-7/18	241	600	620
4D	4/27-4/29	2	600	0
	5/27-5/29	2		0
	6/24-6/26	2		0
	7/09-7/19	10		295
	8/07-8/14	7		<u>386</u>
				681
4E	5/21-10/29	108²	50	36
Total			55,750	56,113

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Alternating one day open and one day closed. <sup>2</sup>Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Appendix II. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1986 commercial Pacific halibut fishery. Table 10.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	4/30-10/31	184	50¹	17
	6/16-6/28	12	500	336
	7/15-7/22	7		228
				564
2B	5/03-5/11	8	11,200	6,368
	6/08-6/15	7		_4,857
				11,225
2C	4/30-5/02	2	11,200	6,346
	5/29-5/31	1.5		4,265
				10,611
3A	4/30-5/02	2	28,100	15,273
	5/29-5/31	2		<u> 17,517</u>
				32,790
3B	4/30-5/02	2	10,300	910
	5/29-5/31	2		1,802
	8/25-8/26	1		6,119
				8,831
4A	4/30-5/02	2	2,000	27
	5/29-5/31	2		44
	6/30-7/03	3		_3,310
				3,381
4B	5/29-6/01	3	1,700	C
	6/30-7/03	3		261
				261
4C	6/01-7/06	18 <sup>2</sup>	600	686
4D	6/30-7/03	3	700	136
	7/29-8/03	5		1,087
				1,223
4E	6/01-8/11	483	50	43
Total			66,400	69,632

<sup>50,000</sup> pounds of the 550,000 pound Area 2A catch limit was suballocated to four Northwest Indian treaty tribes by the U.S. government.

<sup>2</sup> Alternating one day open and one day closed.

<sup>3</sup> Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1987 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	4/01-10/31	214	1001	44
	7/10-7/22	12	450	548
2B	5/02-5/10 6/16-6/21 8/22-8/25	8 5 3	11,500	5,945 3,763 <u>2,538</u> 12,246
2C	5/04-5/05 6/01-6/03	1 2	11,500	3,366 7,319 
3A	5/04-5/05 6/01-6/02 9/30-10/01	1 1 1	31,000	12,526 14,683 <u>4,107</u> <sup>2</sup> 31,316
3B	5/04-5/05 6/01-6/02 9/02-9/03 9/30-10/01	1 1 0.5 1	9,500	1,658 3,186 2,666 <sup>2</sup> 248 <sup>2</sup> 7,758
4A	5/04-5/05 6/01-6/02 8/15-8/17	1 1 2	1,750	57 70 <u>3,586</u> 3,713
4B	5/04-5/05 6/01-6/02 8/15-8/19	1 1 4	1,750	1 2 <u>1,498</u> 1,501
4C	6/21-7/02	63	600	8784
4D	8/13-8/20	7	60	703
4E	6/01-7/15	30 <sup>5</sup>	75	90
Total			68,825	69,482

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 100,000 pounds (plus 50,000 pounds reserve) of the 550,000 pound Area 2A catch limit was suballocated to 11 Northwest Indian treaty tribes by the U.S. government.
<sup>2</sup> Single fishing period limit for all vessels.

<sup>Alternating one day open and one day closed.
Single fishing period limit for all vessels for first 25% of landings.
Alternating two days open and one day closed.</sup> 

Table 12. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1988 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch limit	Catch
2A	3/01-10/31	2451	150	94
	7/25-7/30	5	330	392
2B	5/06-5/14	8	12,500	6,930
	8/19-8/25	6		<u>5,928</u>
				12,858
2C	5/23-5/24	1	11,500	4,582
	6/20-6/21	1		5,191
	9/07-9/08	1		964²
	10/03-10/04	1		632°
_				11,369
3A	5/23-5/24	1	36,000	13,660
	6/20-6/21	1		9,306
	9/07-9/08	1		9,633
	10/03-10/04	1		$\frac{5,263}{25,062}$
				37,862
3B	5/23-5/24	1	8,000	1,710
	6/20-6/21	1		2,041
	9/07-9/08	1		2,302
	10/03-10/04	1		1,029 <sup>2</sup>
				7,082
4A	5/23-5/24	1	1,900	11
	6/20-6/21	1		59
	8/05-8/06	1		986
	9/07-9/08	1		124
	9/16-9/17	1		724
	10/03-10/04	1		$\frac{26^2}{1000}$
				1,930
4B	5/23-5/24	1	2,000	<1
	6/20-6/21	1		10
	8/04-8/07	3		460
	9/07-9/0	1		4
	9/16-9/25	9		1,119
	10/03-10/04	1		$\frac{0^2}{1.502}$
	<u> </u>			1,593
4C	6/20-7/23	17³	700	7074
4D	8/02-8/09	7	700	402
	9/16-9/21	5		<u>51</u> 453
4E	6/01-10/31	1025	100	9⁴
Total			73,880	74,349

Treaty Indian fishery projected catch.
 Fishing period limits graduated by vessel class.
 Alternating one day open and one day closed.
 Single fishing period limit for all vessels.
 Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Fishing periods, number of lashing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1989 commercial Pacific halibut fishery... Table 13.

by regulatory area for the 1989 commercial Pacific halibut fishery				
Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch Limit	Catch
2A	3/01-10/13	226	152'	142
	6/27-6/29	2	274	330
2B	4/25-5/03	8	10,000	7,187
	9/09-9/12	3		<u>3,244</u>
				10,431
2C	5/15-5/16	1	9,500	3,457
	6/12-6/13	1		4,570
	9/07-9/08	1		<u>1,505</u> 9,532
			21.000	
3A	5/15-5/16	1	31,000	6,491
	6/12-6/13 9/07-9/08	1		10,127 19,392
	10/10-10/11	1		
	10/10-10/11	1		33,734
3B	5/15-5/16	1	8,500	1,009
32	6/12-6/13	î	0,500	2,749
	9/07-9/08	ĩ		2,387
	10/10-10/11	1.25		<u>1,698</u>
		<del></del>		7,843
4A	5/15-5/16	1	1,800	13
	6/12-6/13	1		83
	8/11-8/12	1		852
	9/07-9/08	1		$\frac{-77}{1,025}$
4B	5/15-5/17	2	1,900	1
	5/27-5/28	1	1,200	2
	6/03-6/04	î		5
	6/12-6/14	2		8
	6/17-6/18	1		2
	6/24-6/25	1		4
	7/22-7/23	1		313
	7/29-7/30	1		369
	8/09-8/13	4		$\frac{1,947}{2,651}$
4C	6/12-7/07	13 <sup>2</sup>	600	571 <sup>3</sup>
4D	8/08-8/14	6	600	674
4E	5/26-8/11	524	100	53
415	8/12-10/31	80	100	8 <sup>3</sup>
				13
Total	<del>_</del>		64,416	66,946

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Treaty Indian fishery.

<sup>2</sup>Alternating one day open and one day closed.

<sup>3</sup>Single fishing period limit for all vessels.

<sup>4</sup>Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Table 14. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1990 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch Limit	Catch
2A	3/01-3/27	26	120 <sup>1</sup>	122
	7/10-7/10	.5	195	174
	7/30-7/30	.5		7°
	8/27-8/27	.5 .5 .5		14 <sup>2</sup>
	9/11-9/11	.5		8 <sup>2</sup>
				203
2B	4/16-4/203	4	7,800	2,552
	6/14-6/18 <sup>3</sup>	4		3,049
	9/13-9/15	2		<u>2,973</u> 8,574
20	5/01 5/00	1	0.000	
2C	5/01-5/02	1	8,000	4,059
	6/05-6/06	1		5,675 9,734 <sup>4</sup>
3A	5/01-5/02	1	31,000	10,421
3A	5/05-5/06	1	31,000	10,421
	8/30-8/31	1		4,298 <sup>5</sup>
	0/30 0/31	1		28,848
3B	5/01-5/02	1	7,200	3,050
	5/05-5/06	1	. ,—	5,644
				8,694
4A	5/01-5/02	1	1,500	50
	6/05-6/06	1		384
	8/14-8/15	1		_2,069
				2,503
4B	5/19-5/21	2 2 2 1	1,500	518
	5/26-5/28	2		363
	6/05-6/07	2		0
	6/11-6/12 6/16-6/17	1 1		92 129
	6/.23-6/24	1		129
	6/30-7/01	î		62
	7/07-7/07	1 .5		59
	7/14-7/14	.5		<u>98</u>
				1,333
4C	6/25-7/04	5 <sup>6</sup>	500	530 <sup>2</sup>
4D	8/13-8/16	3	500	1,005
4E(NW) <sup>2</sup>	6/01-6/03	2	70	<1
	6/07-8/11	447		19
	8/12-10/31	80		<u>16</u>
-				35
4E(SE) <sup>2</sup>	6/01-6/03	2	30	20
	6/07-6/08	1		5 0
	7/31-8/01 8/07-8/08	1 1		0
	8/21-8/22	1		0
	8/28-8/29	1		0
	0,20 0,27	1		25
Total		<del></del>	58,415	61,606

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Treaty Indian fishery.

<sup>2</sup> Single fishing period limit for all vessels.

<sup>3</sup> A vessel could fish in either the April or June fishing period, but not both.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 33,000 pounds taken by Metlakatla Indians during additional fishing within reservation waters.

<sup>5</sup> Fishing period limits by vessel class.

<sup>6</sup> Alternating the days open and one day closed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) Table 15. by regulatory area for the 1991 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch Limit	Catch
2A	3/01-3/12	11	102.51	79
	4/11-4/14	3		<u>43</u> 122
	7/22	10 hrs	168.5	$\frac{122}{233^2}$
2B	5/01-11/30	213	7,400	7,191
2C	5/07-5/08	1	7,400	4,806
	9/03-9/04	1		$\frac{3.881^2}{8.687^3}$
3A	5/07-5/08	1	26,600	10,793
	9/03-9/04	1		12,133 22,926
3B	5/07-5/08	1	8,800	3,992
	9/03-9/04	1		7,942 11,934
4A	5/07-5/08	1_	1,700	96
	8/20	.5		2,159 2,255
4B	6/08	.5	1,700	120
	6/17	.5		76
	6/22 6/29	.5 .5		34 140
	7/06	.5 .5		259
	7/13	.5 .5		260
	8/19-8/20	1		_624
				1,513
4C <sup>4</sup>	6/17-6/30	<b>7</b> <sup>5</sup>	600	515
	7/13-7/14	1		<u>163</u> 678
4D	8/19-8/21	2	600	1,437
4E(NW)⁴	6/01-8/15	506	70	78
4E(SE) <sup>4</sup>	6/01-6/09	66	30	25
	8/01-8/15	104		$\frac{1}{26}$
Total	<u> </u>		55,171	57,080

Treaty Indian fishery.

Fishing period limits by vessel class.

Includes 61,000 pounds taken by Metlakatla Indians during additional fishing within reservation waters.

Single fishing period limit for all vessels.

Alternating one day open and one day closed.

Alternating two days open and one day closed.

Table 16. Fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limit, and catch (000s of pounds) by regulatory area for the 1992 commercial Pacific halibut fishery.

Area	Fishing period	No. of days	Catch Limit	Catch
2A	3/01-5/311	62	243.75	155
	7/29 8/12	10 hrs 10 hrs	152.5	173 <sup>2</sup> 109 <sup>2</sup> 282
2B	3/08-10/31	238	8,000	7,626
2C	6/08-6/09 9/07-9/09 10/05-10/07	1 2 2	10,000	5,719 2,039 <sup>2</sup> 2,061 <sup>2</sup> 9,819 <sup>3</sup>
3A	6/08-6/09 9/07-9/08 10/05-10/07	1 1 2	26,600	$   \begin{array}{r}     14,580 \\     10,422^{2} \\     \underline{1,780}^{2} \\     26,782   \end{array} $
3B	6/08-6/09 9/07-9/08 10/5-10/7	1 1 2	8,800	7,220  1,0892  3112  8,620
4A	6/08-6/09 8/06 8/21 9/22-9/23	1 .5 .5 1	2,300	260 652 <sup>2</sup> 488 <sup>2</sup> 1,299 <sup>2</sup> 2,699
4B	6/08-6/09 6/10-7/12 8/06-8/08 8/21-8/24 9/22-9/24	1 8.5 <sup>4</sup> 2 3 2	2,300	$ \begin{array}{r} 3\\216\\516^2\\1,239^2\\\underline{343}^2\\2,317 \end{array} $
4C⁵	6/07-7/07 7/18-7/19	16 <sup>6</sup> 1	800	584 209 793
4D <sup>2</sup>	8/06-8/08	2	800	727
4E <sup>5</sup>	5/31-9/18 9/19-10/31	37 <sup>7</sup> 42	130	$\begin{array}{c} 72 \\ \underline{0} \\ 72 \end{array}$
Total			60,126.25	59,892

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Treaty Indian fishery.

Fishing period limits by vessel class.
 Includes 23,000 pounds taken by Metlakatla Indians during additional fishing within reservation waters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Alternating 12 hours open and 36 hours closed. <sup>5</sup> Single fishing period limit for all vessels.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Alternating one day open and one day closed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Alternating two days open and one day closed.