

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
PACIFIC HALIBUT BYCATCH ESTIMATE FOR
INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION (IPHC)

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviewed a report by John Wallace and Jim Hastie on Pacific Halibut Bycatch in IPHC Area 2A in the 2006 groundfish trawl fishery (September 2007). The methodology employed to estimate Pacific halibut bycatch was unchanged from that used in the past two years. Halibut bycatch varies by season, depth, latitude, and the proportion of arrowtooth flounder in the catch. The SSC appreciates that confidence intervals (requested by the SSC last year) were included in this year's document.

The SSC notes that until estimation methods change from the current technique, which appears to have become routine, the SSC does not see the need for further review.

PFMC
09/12/07