

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
INCIDENTAL CATCH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SALMON TROLL
AND FIXED GEAR SABLEFISH FISHERIES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) met via webinar on March 3, 2015, to consider recommendations to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) on incidental catch recommendations for the salmon and fixed gear sablefish fisheries.

The GAP chose not to make a recommendation regarding the salmon troll fishery for 2015. We believe this is best handled by the Salmon Advisory Subpanel since the troll allocation of halibut, per the catch-sharing plan, is already set numerically.

Per the catch sharing plan, the 2015 incidental halibut allocation is 10,348 pounds for the Area 2A fixed gear sablefish fishery North of Point Chehalis, Washington. That amount is a 13.7 percent reduction from last year's catch of 12,000 lb. Therefore, for 2015, we recommend the Council adopt restrictions of 2 halibut + 60 lbs. per 1,000 lb. of sablefish for the Area 2A fishery. This is a 20 percent reduction from last year's recommended restriction of 2 halibut + 75 lbs. per 1,000 lb. of sablefish.

PFMC
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