

STATUS OF BYCATCH ESTIMATE

Situation: Ms. Cyreis Schmitt, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), will brief the Council on the status of bycatch estimates for Pacific halibut in the Council-area groundfish trawl fishery.

The halibut bycatch estimates for the 2000 groundfish trawl fishery in International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Area 2A waters should be completed just prior to the September Council meeting. A report will be provided to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) for review with the intent of providing estimates to the IPHC to use in establishing the 2002 halibut fisheries.

Council Task:

- 1. Utilizing input from the SSC, provide any needed Council guidance to the completion of the bycatch assessment and its transmittal to the IPHC.**

Reference Materials: None.

PFMC
08/23/01