

Mr. Chairman,

I would just like to reiterate that the tribes have expressed concern for the bycatch discard mortality of halibut for many years now.

I continue to support this proposed action to allocate incidental halibut to the non-treaty sablefish fishery because it is a step in the right direction of eliminating discard mortality.

I also support the allowance of halibut caught incidentally in the salmon troll fishery to be landed and counted in the non-Indian commercial halibut allocation as it was in 2004.

Thank you.