

FINAL ACTION ON INCIDENTAL LANDING RESTRICTIONS FOR THE  
2015-2016 SALMON TROLL FISHERY

The 2015 Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for Area 2A allocates 15 percent of the non-Indian commercial halibut allocation to the salmon troll fishery as incidental catch. The primary management objective outlined in the CSP is to harvest the incidental quota during the April through June salmon troll fishery, with a secondary objective to harvest any remaining quota from July through the remainder of the salmon troll fishery.

The Council has successfully used landing ratios and a total trip limit to ensure a manageable progression of the fishery in past years. A summary of management information for the incidental halibut fishery since the initial season in 1995 is provided in Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1. The April 1-30, 2015 landing restrictions are no more than one halibut per each four Chinook, except one halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement and no more than 12 halibut may be landed per trip. For the rest of the season, the Council adopted the following options for public review. Final action to implement the limits is scheduled under this agenda item.

**Status Quo (Pre-May 1 limit):** May 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 and April 1-30, 2016, license holders may land or possess no more than one Pacific halibut per each four Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 12 halibut landed per trip.

**Option 2:** May 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 and April 1-30, 2016, license holders may land or possess no more than one Pacific halibut per each five Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 10 halibut landed per trip.

**Option 3:** May 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 and April 1-30, 2016, license holders may land or possess no more than one Pacific halibut per each five Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 8 halibut landed per trip.

The landing restrictions adopted for the start of the season in 2015 would be in effect from April 1-30, 2016 (pre-May 1 fisheries) unless modified by the Council through a recommendation for inseason action at the March 2016 meeting. The Council is also scheduled to adopt landing restrictions for the period May 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and April 1-30, 2017 for public review at the March 2016 meeting, with final action scheduled for April 2016.

**Council Action:**

**Adopt final landing restrictions for Pacific halibut caught incidentally in the non-Indian salmon troll fishery May 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 and April 1-30, 2016.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1: Summary of Pacific Halibut Incidental Catch Management.

Agenda Order:

- H.1. Final Action on 2015 Salmon Management Measures Kelly Ames
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Incidental Pacific Halibut Catch Recommendations for 2015 and April 2016 Non-Indian Salmon Troll Fisheries

PFMC  
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