



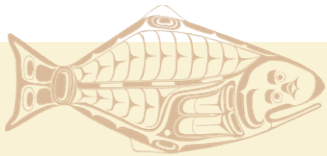
# Summary of the IPHC 2017 Annual Meeting

PFMC Meeting  
Agenda Item H.1.a  
10 March 2017

D. Griffay

## 2017 IPHC Annual Meeting (AM093)

- 23-27 January 2017 in Victoria, B.C., Canada.
- Most sessions were open to public and webcast.
- A total of 334 public participants registered for the Session as well as 161 via the webcast.
- Meeting documents and Report of the AM093:  
<http://iphc.int/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting/documents.html>



# 2017 IPHC Annual Meeting (AM093)

- Decisions relevant to the PFMC:
  - Adopted catch limits for 2017
  - Adopted fishing periods for 2017
  - Catch sharing plan (IPHC Regulatory Area 2A)
  - Endorsed new and continuing research projects
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the IPHC
- Other
  - Adopted three (3) other regulatory amendments



# Catch limits for 2017

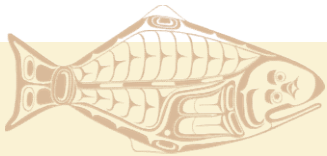
Pacific halibut catch  
limits approved by IPHC  
for 2017 (Mlb. net weight)

	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
<u>O26 Non-FCEY</u>									
Comm. wastage	0.05	0.23	NA	NA	0.23	0.05	0.06	0.08	<b>0.69</b>
Bycatch	0.10	0.24	0.03	1.17	0.58	0.34	0.14	1.98	<b>4.57</b>
Sport (+ wastage)	NA	NA	1.33	1.56	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	<b>2.91</b>
Pers./Subs.	NA	0.41	0.42	0.22	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.08	<b>1.17</b>
Total Non-FCEY	0.14						0.20	2.14	<b>9.34</b>
<u>O26 FCEY</u>									
Comm. wastage	NA	<b>Reg. Area 2A</b> 2014 = 0.96 Mlbs 2015 = 0.97 Mlbs 2016 = 1.14 Mlbs 2017 = 1.33 Mlbs					NA	NA	<b>0.49</b>
CSP Sport (+wastage)	0.53						NA	NA	<b>4.49</b>
Pers./Subs.	0.03						NA	NA	<b>0.03</b>
Comm. Landings	0.77						1.14	1.70	<b>26.39</b>
<b>Total FCEY</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>7.45</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>3.14</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>31.40</b>
TCEY	1.47	8.32	7.04	12.96	3.98	1.80	1.34	3.84	<b>40.74</b>
<u>U26</u>									
Comm. wastage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	<b>0.07</b>
Bycatch	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.62	0.29	0.23	0.01	1.27	<b>2.44</b>
Total U26	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.63	0.33	0.24	0.01	1.27	<b>2.51</b>
<b>Total Mortality</b>	<b>1.48</b>	<b>8.35</b>	<b>7.04</b>	<b>13.60</b>	<b>4.30</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>43.25</b>



# Decision table

2017 Alternative	Total removals (M lb)	Fishery CEY (M lb)	Fishing intensity	Stock Trend				Stock Status			
				Spawning biomass				Spawning biomass			
				in 2018		in 2020		in 2018		in 2020	
				is less than 2017	is 5% less than 2017	is less than 2017	is 5% less than 2017	is less than 30%	is less than 20%	is less than 30%	is less than 20%
No removals	0.0	0.0	F <sub>100%</sub>	<1	<1	<1		3	<1		<1
FCEY = 0	11.2	0.0	F <sub>77%</sub> 61%-84%	1	<1	3		3	<1		<1
	20.0	8.6	F <sub>66%</sub> 49%-75%	5	<1	20		4	<1		<1
	30.0	18.4	F <sub>55%</sub> 39%-67%	32	<1	53		5	<1		<1
	37.9	26.1	F <sub>48%</sub> 33%-62%	56	3	77		6	<1		<1
status quo SPR	41.6	29.7	F <sub>46%</sub> 32%-60%	68	6	87		6	<1		<1
Adopted	43.3	31.4	F <sub>45%</sub> 30%-59%	71	10	89	67	6	<1	17	<1
	50.0	37.9	F <sub>40%</sub> 27%-55%	92	29	98	88	7	<1	25	1
	60.0	47.7	F <sub>35%</sub> 23%-51%	>99	52	>99	99	9	<1	37	3
				a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h

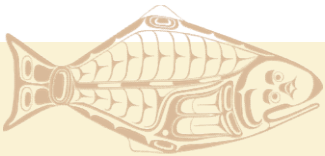


# Fishing Periods for 2017

## IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations, Section 8.

### Regulatory Area 2A:

- (2) Each fishing period in the Area 2A **directed commercial fishery** shall begin at 0800 hours and terminate at 1800 hours local time on **28 June, 12 July, 26 July, 9 August, 23 August, 6 September, and 20 September**, unless the Commission specifies otherwise.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (7) of section 11, an **incidental catch fishery** is authorized during the sablefish seasons in Area 2A in accordance with regulations promulgated by NMFS. This fishery will occur between 1200 hours local time on **11 March and 1200 hours local time on 7 November**.
- (4) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), and paragraph (7) of section 11, an **incidental catch fishery** is authorized during salmon troll seasons in Area 2A in accordance with regulations promulgated by NMFS. This fishery will occur between 1200 hours local time on **11 March and 1200 hours local time on 7 November**.
- (6) **All commercial fishing** for halibut in Areas 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E shall **cease at 1200 hours local time on 7 November**.



# Area 2A Directed Commercial Fishery

- **Safety concern**

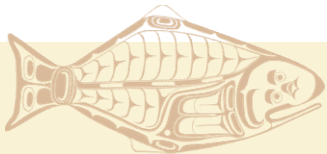
- Continued safety concern reported by USCG at IPHC Annual Meetings ([IPHC-2017-AM093-AR03](#), p.7)

- **Conservation concern**

- Managed as a derby fishery with vessel limits creating regulatory discards (called “wastage” by IPHC)

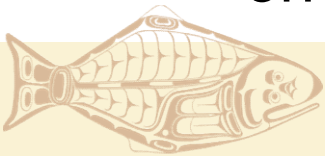
- Council previously passed motion to address ([motion 11 in Sep 2010](#), p.18) and remains on omnibus list ([Sep 2016, #68](#))

- IPHC would like to work with the Council to move away from a derby fishery.



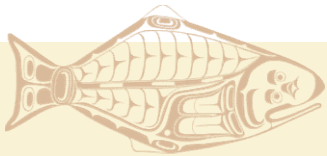
# Catch Sharing Plan for Regulatory Area 2A

- IPHC Endorsement of the PFMC Catch Sharing Plan:
  - IPHC-2017-AM093-AR01: PFMC letter indicating the CSP changes for 2017, for approval.
  - (AM093, para. 75) The Commission ENDORSED the 2017 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for Area 2A.
  - IPHC receiving increased interest and questions on stakeholder engagement in Catch Sharing Plan and on process.

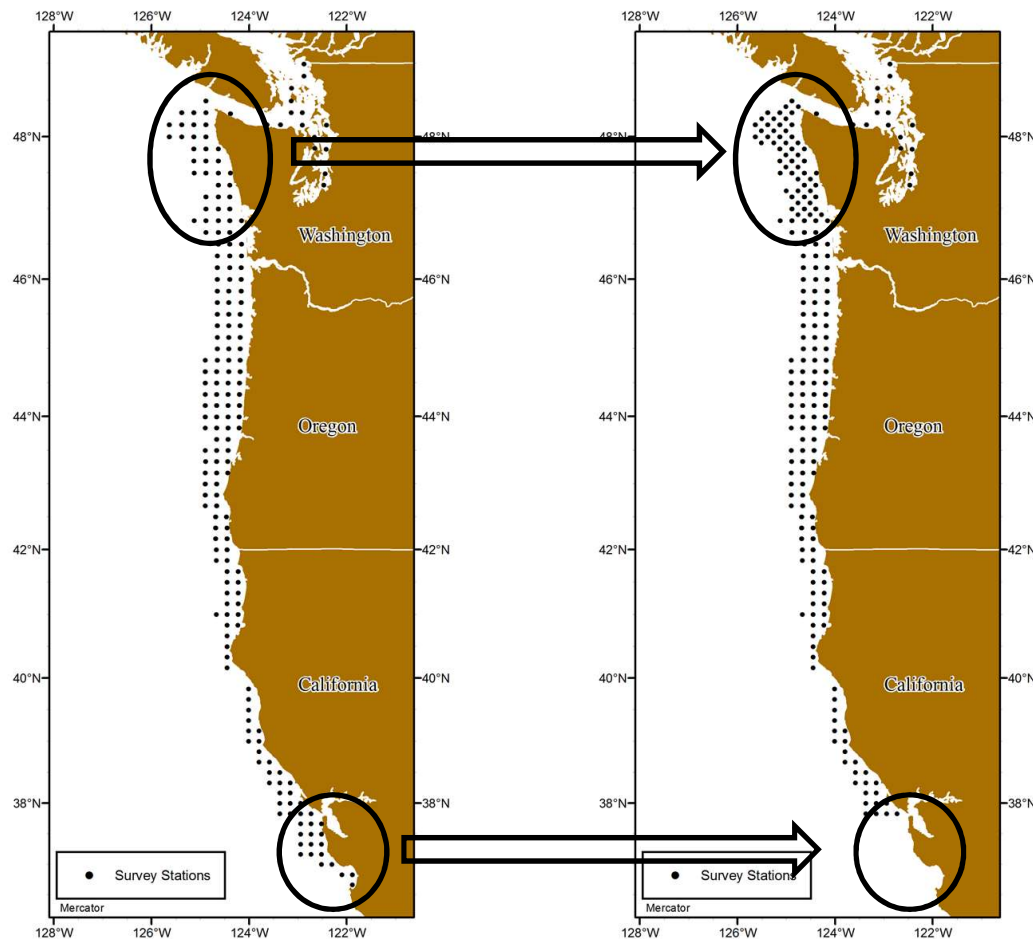


# New and continuing research proposals

- IPHC Fishery-independent setline survey expansion
  - Regulatory Area 2A and 4B in 2017
  - Regulatory Area 2A ad-hoc expansion (densification)
    - IPHC-2017-AM093-06 ADD\_1
    - IPHC-2017-AM093-06 ADD\_2
  - Regulatory Area 2B and 2C in 2018
  - Regulatory Area 3A and 3B in 2019



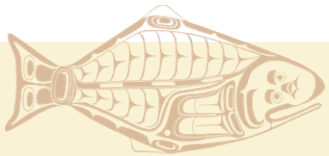
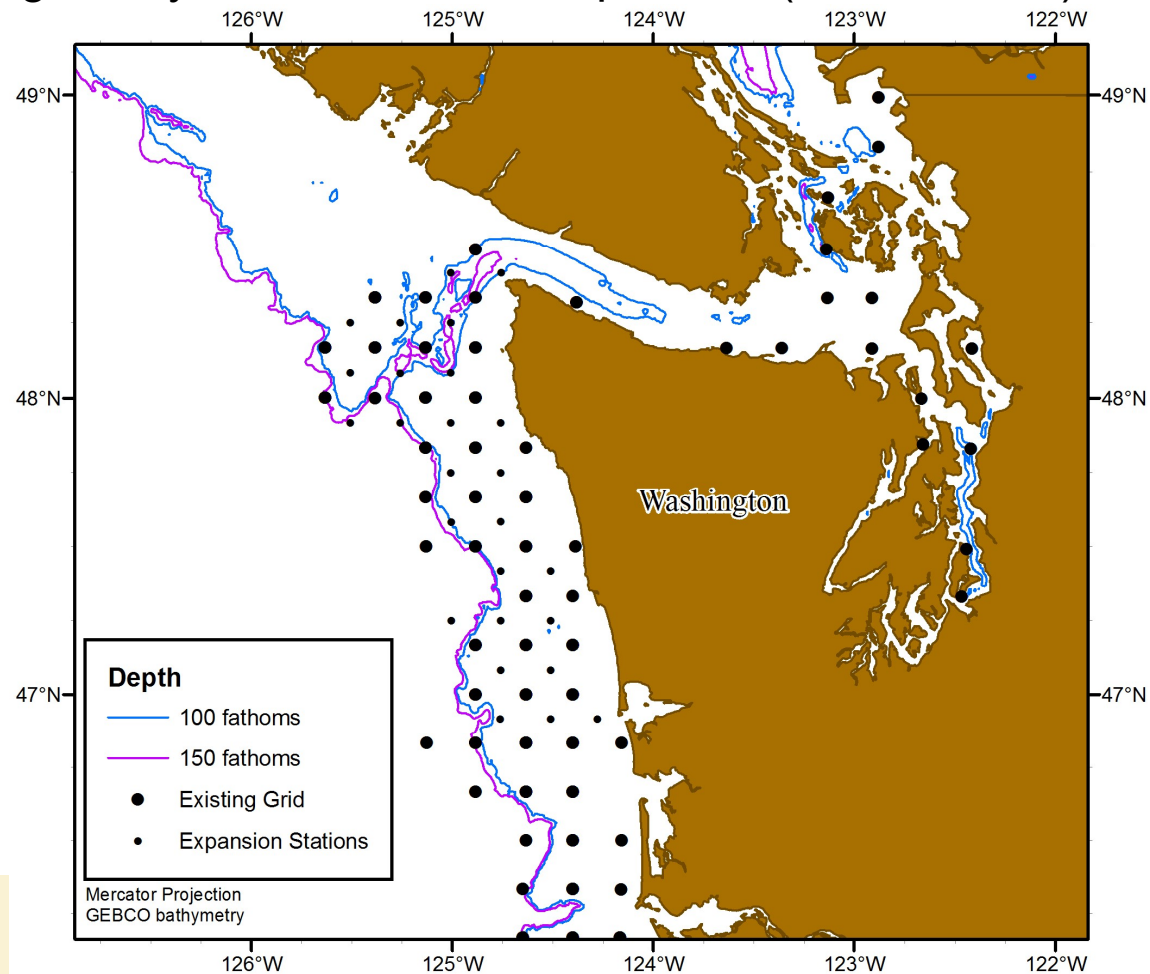
IPHC Regulatory  
Area 2A survey  
off the north  
Washington  
coast in 2017  
(AM093  
endorsed)



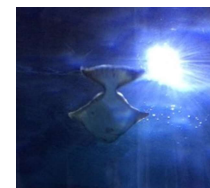
IPHC Regulatory  
Area 2A ad-hoc  
expansion  
(densification)  
and reduced  
stations in  
southern  
California for  
2017 (endorsed  
post-AM093)



## 2017 IPHC Regulatory Area 2A ad-hoc expansion (densification) off Washington



# New and continuing research proposals



## 1. Reproduction

- SEX RATIO OF CATCH
- IMPROVED MATURATION ESTIMATES OF SPAWNING BIOMASS

## 2. Growth

- CHANGES IN SIZE AT AGE/BIOMASS
- TOOLS TO ASSESS FISH CONDITION

## 3. DMRs and post-release survival assessment

- BYCATCH SURVIVAL ESTIMATES

## 4. Migration

- LARVAL DISPERSAL
- ADULT FEEDING AND REPRODUCTIVE MIGRATION

## 5. Genetics and genomics

- GENETIC STRUCTURE OF THE POPULATION
- GENOMIC TOOLS (e.g. GENOME)



# Reproduction: sex marking project

- Identification of genetic sex markers: Validation of the coast-wide sex-marking project

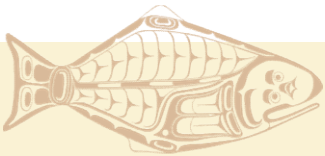
## Deliverables:

- Identification of the genetic basis for sex



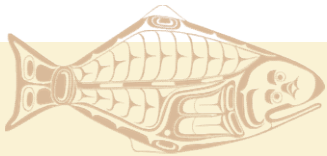
Dorsal Cut (Female)

Gill Plate Cut (Male)



# Management strategy evaluation (MSE)

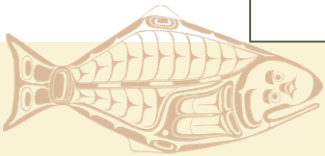
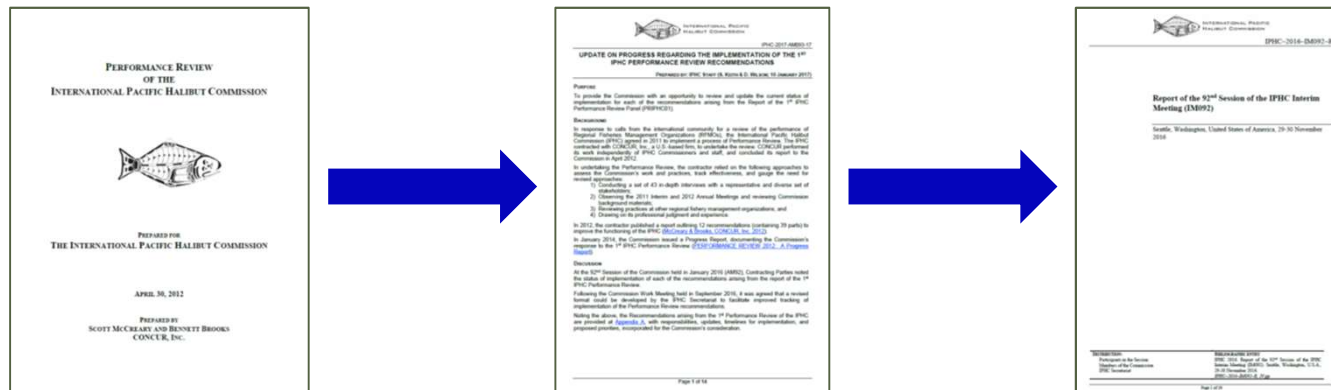
- Developing an IPHC harvest strategy policy
  - The 'Blue line' is no longer a part of the IPHC policy
  - SPR-based (coastwide fishing intensity)
  - *Status quo* SPR will be used for harvest advice in the interim ( $F_{46\%}$  = av. level for 2014-16)
  - MSE will evaluate fishing intensity options against long-term objectives
- MSAB will soon begin to address catch distribution



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the IPHC

## International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC)

Noting that the [1<sup>st</sup> Performance Review](#) of the IPHC occurred in 2011-12 (see paper [IPHC-2017-AM093-17](#), and that the generally agreed best practice among RFMOs requires a Performance Review to be undertaken every 3-5 years, the IPHC has agreed to undertake a 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the IPHC in 2017.



# CRITERIA

## **Criteria for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (PRIPHC02)**

**Criteria 1:** Legal analysis of the Convention

**Criteria 2:** Conservation and management

**Criteria 3:** Compliance and enforcement

**Criteria 4:** Decision-making and dispute settlement

**Criteria 5:** International cooperation

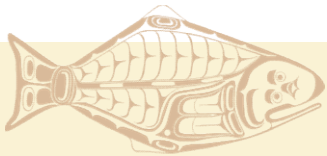
**Criteria 6:** Efficiency and transparency of financial and administrative management



# IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations 2017: Other amendments

## 3 proposals

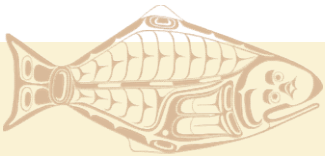
- 1) IPHC-2017-AM093-PropA: *Head-on landed weight requirement for the commercial fishery, including removal of the 24" head-off minimum size limit (Area 2A already requires head-on landed weight)*
- 2) IPHC-2017-AM093-PropC: *NMFS - Fishing in Multiple Regulatory Areas in Alaska.*
- 3) Ad-Hoc in-Session proposal to implement electronic logbooks for Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2B in 2017.



## Further details

Meeting documents and Report of the AM093:

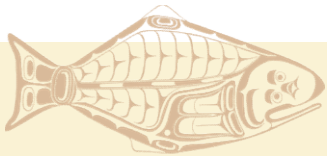
<http://iphc.int/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting/documents.html>





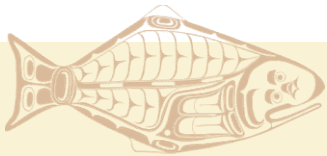
# **Other Matters**

## **Outside Annual Meeting**



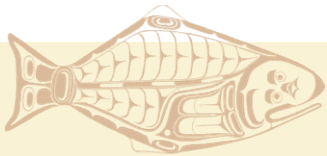
# Update on PFMC Data Request

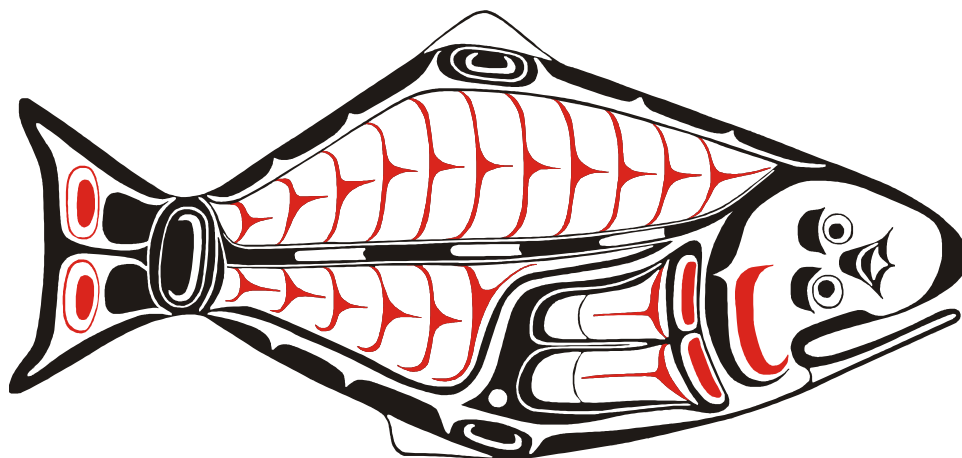
- IPHC working on response to PFMC data request for Jun 2017 meeting to inform Catch Sharing Plan discussions.
- As stated in Sep 2016 ([Agenda Item I.1.a](#)), response will include:
  1. Survey data organized by state boundaries (as well as the Columbia River area)
  2. New spatial-temporal modeling



# Request for Observer Coverage

- IPHC has requested NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Observer Program to consider coverage of the directed commercial fishery in Area 2A.
- Currently no direct monitoring of Pacific halibut discards.
- Also no direct data on discard of non-halibut species, including any protected species (*currently estimated based on IPHC survey*).
- To provide more accurate estimates of both Pacific halibut mortality and associated catch rates, IPHC is interested in working with NMFS to implement observer coverage for this fishery to fill these important data gaps.





# IPHC Regulations

## Head-on landed weight requirement

- Commercial fishery
- Coastwide  
(*IPHC Regulatory Area 2A already requires head-on*)
- **Purpose: Improve estimate of total removals**
- Variance in where heads cut among regions and ports  
(2013 study showed range of 9-18%)
- Head-off Pacific halibut – may cause 2-3% underestimate of total removals
- While landings records show ~70% of Pacific halibut reported in head-off condition, most fish are actually delivered to the processor with the head attached (head-on)
- Conversions applied within the landing record system would remain 10% for heads and 2% for ice and slime (unwashed).
- Included removing 24" head-off minimum size limit
- Exemption: Fish frozen at sea, retain 24" min req.

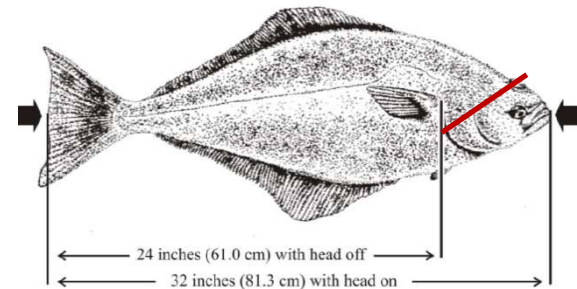
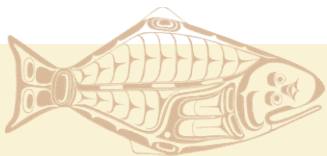


Figure 2. Minimum commercial size.



# Fishery-independent survey (Area 2)

