

**SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON COUNCIL DIRECTION ON SCOPING OF
PACIFIC HALIBUT CATCH SHARING PLAN ALLOCATION CHANGES**

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) met via webinar on June 2, 2017 and discussed potential future allocation changes under the Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) (Agenda Item G.1). Ms. Kelly Ames summarized the issue. Members of the International Pacific Halibut Commission attended the webinar and provided a report on survey data from Area 2A separated by state boundaries, along with biomass estimates by area and the uncertainty that surrounds those estimates (Agenda Item G.1.a, IPHC Letter, June 2017).

The SAS is opposed to considering revisions to the allocations in the current CSP at this time. The most recent reallocation to the California recreational fishery came at a cost to other sectors and many on the SAS feel that the current allocations should maintain status quo. The SAS also discussed briefly the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife issue of potential adjustments to the halibut allocation to the commercial sablefish fishery. Although information is limited, the SAS view on this subject is to also maintain status quo.

The SAS will provide further comment on any allocation proposals at the September Council meeting as needed.

PFMC
06/08/17