

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON INCIDENTAL CATCH  
RECOMMENDATIONS: OPTIONS FOR THE SALMON TROLL AND FINAL  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FIXED GEAR SABLEFISH FISHERIES

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received an overview from Mr. Steve Keith, Deputy Director of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), and GAP members Mr. Bob Alverson and Mr. Steve Joner on the annual IPHC meeting held in February 2019.

The GAP recommends the incidental catch of halibut in the tiered fishery north of Point Chehalis be set at 200 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of dressed sablefish plus two halibut for 2019. This rate is increased from the 2018 level because the bycatch allowance has been increased to 70,000 pounds from 50,000 pounds. The Council would be able to review this at the June and September meetings and make adjustments then, if necessary.

The GAP defers to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) regarding recommendations for halibut retention in the salmon troll fishery for 2019.

PFMC  
03/08/19\*