

EXCERPTS FROM THE 2019 JUNE COUNCIL DECISION DOCUMENT

Pacific Halibut Management
Commercial Directed Fishery Transition Process and Workshop Planning

The Council committed to working closely with the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and stakeholders on transitioning the management of the non-Indian commercial directed halibut fishery from the IPHC to the Council and outlined intentions for the management and structure of the fishery in the near future. The Council plans to:

1. Request that IPHC continue to issue licenses for the 2A halibut fisheries, including the directed commercial halibut fishery for 2020 and 2021, at a minimum, to provide sufficient time for the development and promulgation of new permitting regulations,
2. Request the IPHC enter into a data sharing arrangement for the IPHC 2A halibut licensing system and the commercial directed halibut fishery logbook data.
3. Signal to commercial directed halibut fishery participants the Council's intent to not consider any major changes to the fishery management structure for the next few years.
4. Utilize the Council's September/November Catch Sharing Plan process rather than a separate workshop to solicit stakeholder input and consider annual directed commercial halibut fishery regulations within the existing season structure for 2020 regulations.

PFMC
08/15/19