



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Phil Anderson, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

December 13, 2019

Dr. David Wilson
Executive Director
International Pacific Halibut Commission
2320 West Commodore Way, Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98199-1278

Re: Council Recommendations for the 2020 non-Indian Commercial Directed Halibut Fishery

Dear Dr. Wilson:

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted recommended changes for 2020 to the current Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for Area 2A and annual fishery regulations at their November 2019 meeting in Costa Mesa, California. The Council's recommendations have been transmitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requesting adoption of regulations consistent with the Council's recommendation. The Council recommendations for the 2020 CSP and regulations were transmitted to International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) in a letter dated December 12, 2019.

At their November 2019 meeting, the Council also adopted a recommendation for the 2020 season structure of the non-Indian commercial directed halibut fishery. This letter transmits the Council's recommendation for IPHC consideration at the annual IPHC meeting in February 2020 in Anchorage, Alaska. The following recommendation is one of the first steps in the transition of management authority of this fishery.

Area 2A non-Indian commercial directed halibut fishery 2020 season structure:

A 3-day fishing period (0800 Day 1 to 1800 Day 3) beginning the fourth Monday in June.

Status quo season structure (open periods occurring every other week), inseason management, and vessel trip limits necessary to ensure that the quota is not exceeded will be determined by the IPHC and implemented in IPHC regulations in 2020.

Please have your staff call upon Ms. Robin Ehlke of the Council staff if you need any further clarification or assistance in implementing the Council's proposed revisions.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Philip Anderson
Chairman

RDE:ael

Cc: Mr. Marc Gorelnik
Mr. Chuck Tracy
Mr. Barry Thom
Mr. Ryan Wulff
Mr. Frank Lockhart
Ms. Kathryn Blair
Ms. Robin Ehlke