

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON INCIDENTAL CATCH
RECOMMENDATIONS IN SALMON TROLL AND SABLEFISH FISHERIES FOR 2020

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed the reports under this agenda item.

The GAP agrees with the Groundfish Management Team and 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 2020** (2 + 200 lb per 1,000 lb). This is the same recommendation as in our [2019 GAP report](#).

As noted in the footnote of [Attachment 1](#) under this agenda item, the incidental halibut-per-sablefish was increased through inseason action from 200 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of dressed sablefish plus two halibut to 250 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of dressed sablefish plus two halibut (2 + 250 lb. per 1,000 lb.) effective July 2, 2019. The 2020 sablefish season would open with this amount absent any Council recommendation. Therefore, the GAP recommends returning to 2019 restrictions (2 + 200 lb per 1,000 lb) so the industry remains within its recommended allocations.

The GAP defers to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel regarding recommendations for halibut retention in the salmon troll fishery for 2020.

PFMC
03/05/20