COMMERCIAL-DIRECTED FISHERY REGULATIONS FOR 2022

The Area 2A Non-Indian Commercial-Directed Pacific Halibut Fishery (directed fishery) structure has been a topic of discussion between the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in recent years. At the June 2019 Council meeting, the Council decided to move forward with the transition of management authority from IPHC to the Council for this fishery. At the November 2021 Council meeting, the Council took action to transfer the management from IPHC to the Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Work is ongoing to fully transfer the management; however, the Council did decide to utilize the September/November Catch Sharing Plan revision process to solicit stakeholder input and consider regulations for the directed fishery within the existing management framework for the upcoming year.

Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to adopt for public review a proposed season structure for 2022. At the November 2021 Council meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt a final recommended season structure for 2022, which will be forwarded to IPHC for consideration during their annual meeting in January.

Once the management authority transfer is complete, the recommendations will be forwarded to NMFS for consideration. An update from NMFS on the status of the management authority transfer is anticipated under this agenda item.

Council Action:

Adopt Proposed 2022 Regulations Changes for Public Review.

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

G.2 Commercial-Directed Fishery Regulations for 2022  Robin Ehlke
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment

PFMC
08/13/21