

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
COMMERCIAL DIRECTED FISHERY REGULATION FOR 2022

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received an overview of the 2021 Pacific halibut catch sharing plan (CSP) from Ms. Robin Ehlke, Pacific Fishery Management Council staff; Ms. Kathryn Blair, National Marine Fisheries Service; Ms. Erica Crust, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; and Ms. Lynn Mattes, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and offers the following comments.

The GAP received an update on how the non-tribal directed commercial halibut season progressed in 2021. Fishermen said the 8 a.m. Tuesday to 6 p.m. Thursday openers worked well, providing fishermen the availability to get ice on Monday, rather than on Sunday, in preparation for the opener. The Thursday ending allowed fishermen the flexibility to sell their product direct to the public over the weekend.

We have no proposed changes at this time for the non-tribal directed commercial Area 2A fishery. If there are no changes, the GAP anticipates the season will remain the same as in 2021. That is, three-day openings, beginning at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday in June and ending at 6 p.m. on the Thursday of that week. Additional three-day openings would occur every other week, Tuesday-Thursday, until the halibut harvest limit is obtained.

PFMC
09/10/21