COMMERCIAL-DIRECTED FISHERY REGULATIONS FOR 2022 - FINAL ACTION

The Area 2A Non-Tribal 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). At the June 2019 Council meeting, the Council decided to transfer management authority of this fishery from IPHC to the Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The Council also agreed to utilize the September/November Catch Sharing Plan revision process to solicit stakeholder input and consider regulations for the directed fishery for the upcoming year.

At the September 2021 meeting, the Council adopted for public review a status quo season structure for 2022 described as:

A series of 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 through Thursday, until the directed fishery allocation is obtained.

Once adopted, the Council-recommended season structure for 2022 will be forwarded to IPHC for consideration during their annual meeting in January 2022.

Council Action:

Adopt Final Recommendations to the International Pacific Halibut Commission for 2022 Directed Fishery Season Structure.

Reference Materials:

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

Agenda Order:

G.1 Non-Tribal Commercial-Directed Fishery Regulations for 2022

Robin Ehlke

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action**: Adopt Final Recommendations for the 2022 Season Structure of the Area 2A Non-Tribal Commercial Directed Pacific Halibut Fishery for IPHC Consideration

PFMC 10/22/21