

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT
 ON THE ANNUAL IPHC REPORT**

Following the conclusion of the January 2023 International Pacific Halibut Commission’s (IPHC) Annual Meeting, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) conducted an online public survey to solicit input on recreational fishery season dates from stakeholders, per the requirements in the Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan (CSP).

The online survey was announced in a press release, available for 10 days, and 207 responses were received. The results of the survey indicated a preference for a California recreational season structure that runs continuously from May 1 through November 15 or until the quota is reached, whichever is earlier. CDFW will transmit this recommendation to the National Marine Fisheries Service in response to the Proposed Rule for the 2023 CSP.

In addition to providing 2023 recreational fishery season date preferences, survey respondents had the opportunity to comment on the recreational fishery in California, the Area 2A CSP, and provide any other Pacific halibut concerns they may have. Ninety-five comments were received. CDFW categorized the comments by topic (Table 1) to help inform Pacific Fishery Management Council and Advisory Body discussions throughout 2023. Nearly half of the comments received related to promoting quota equity between the states, and/or supporting an increase to the California quota.

Table 1. Number of comments by topic related to California's Pacific halibut fishery. Comments are from an online public survey which was available February 3-12, 2023.

Topic	Number of Comments
Promoting Quota Equity Between States	25
Increase California Quota	19
Implement an Individual Yearly Limit	11
Adjustments to CDFW Inseason Monitoring and Management	10
Alternative Season Dates Than Proposed	8
Area Division Within California Sport Quota	5
General Environmental Advocacy	5
Other	13
Total Comments	95