

INCIDENTAL CATCH LIMITS FOR 2023 SALMON TROLL FISHERY - FINAL ACTION

The Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for Area 2A allocates 15 percent of the non-tribal commercial halibut allocation to the salmon troll fishery as incidental catch. The primary management objective outlined in the CSP is to harvest the incidental quota during the April through June salmon troll fishery, with a secondary objective to harvest any remaining quota from July through the remainder of the salmon troll fishery.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has successfully used landing ratios and a total trip limit to ensure a manageable progression of the fishery in past years. A summary of management information for the incidental halibut fishery is provided in Attachment 1.

The current (April 1-May 15) landing restrictions are no more than one halibut per each two Chinook, except one halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement and no more than 35 halibut may be landed per trip. At the March meeting, the Council adopted for public review the following three options for incidental halibut retention in the 2023 salmon troll fishery beginning May 16:

Option 1: (status quo): License holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per two Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 35 halibut landed per trip.

Option 2: Same as Option 1, except no more than 30 halibut may be landed per trip.

Option 3: Same as Option 1, except no more than 25 halibut may be landed per trip.

The landing restrictions adopted for the start of the salmon season beginning May 16, 2023, will also be in effect from April 1-May 15, 2024, unless modified through inseason action or until superseded by the 2024 management measures.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt final landing restrictions for Pacific halibut caught incidentally in the non-tribal salmon troll fishery May 16, 2023 through the end of the 2023 salmon troll season, and prior to the effective date of 2024 management measures unless modified through inseason action.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 1: Summary of Pacific Halibut Incidental Catch Management.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- D.1 Incidental Catch Limits for 2023 Salmon Troll Fishery – Final Action Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Incidental Pacific Halibut Catch Recommendations for 2023 and Early 2024 Non-Indian Salmon Troll Fisheries

PFMC
03/14/23