

COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURE

Management and Activity Cycles

Approved by Council: 07/10/85

Revised: 09/16/87, 04/06/95, 11/03/99, 03/11/05, 11/06/13, 04/10/14, 09/17/14, 6/28/16, 11/21/16, 9/18/17, 09/17/20, 09/18/20, **9/###/23**

SCHEDULE 4. Annual management cycle and activities related to Pacific halibut management.

Year	Month	Entity and Management Activity
Year 1	September	<p>Council receives a report on the status of the current Pacific halibut fishery. With regard to next year’s season (Year 2), the Council hears management recommendations from the states and public; and, if necessary, adopts for public review proposed changes to <u>non-tribal commercial and</u> recreational season structuring, Federal regulations, and minor changes to the Pacific halibut (<u>halibut</u>) catch sharing plan for fisheries in Year 2 (e.g., opening dates, days per week, early season/late season ratios, and port/area sharing).</p> <p>SSC reviews proposed halibut bycatch estimates or other halibut estimation methodologies as necessary prior to NMFS submission to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC).</p>
	September or October	<p>States conduct public workshops on the proposed changes to the catch sharing plan or sport fishery<u>management</u> measures, as appropriate.</p>
	October or November	<p>Council receives a report on the status of the current Pacific halibut fishery. Within the scope of the proposed changes formulated at the September meeting and with further public input, the Council adopts recommendations for management changes <u>to the catch sharing plan, NMFS then implements annual management measures consistent with the catch sharing plan through annual rules published in the Federal Register for to be implemented by NMFS in the catch sharing plan and Federal regulations governing Pacific</u> halibut fisheries in the coming season (Year 2).</p>

Year 1 (cont.)	November through January	<p>IPHC staff distributes draft documents that impact Area 2A to the Council office and NMFS.</p> <p>Council will host a meeting (webinar or in-person) of the Area 2-A governmental management entities, Council members, and appropriate advisory panel members after the IPHC’s interim meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to assist the management entities in coordinating their input to the IPHC annual meeting and to prepare the Council representative for the annual meeting. The meeting will be open to the public and the meeting agenda will provide for a public comment period.</p>
Year 2	January	<p>IPHC meets to establish-distribute halibut mortality limits quotas for to each management area <u>IPHC Regulatory Area.</u></p>
	February/ <u>March</u>	<p>NMFS publishes proposed rule to implement catch sharing plan and prepares appropriate NEPA documents, <u>as needed.</u></p>
	March	<p>Council adopts, for public review, a range of landing restrictions for incidental halibut harvest in the non-Indian-tribal salmon troll salmon fishery for the May 16-May 15 period.</p> <p>If necessary, the Council recommends inseason action to modify previously set <u>landing restrictions for the April 1-May 15 period</u> landing restrictions.</p> <p>If necessary, the Council adopts final incidental landing restrictions <u>for incidental halibut harvest for in the non-tribal-the commercial longline-sablefish primary</u> fishery north of Point Chehalis, Washington.</p> <p>Council holds public hearings to receive input on salmon <u>fishing season alternatives and landing restrictions options for</u> incidental halibut landing limit options harvest in the non- Indian-tribal salmon troll fishery for the <u>May 16-May 15</u> May 1 to April 30 period.</p>
	April	<p>Council adopts final recommendations for incidental harvest in the non-Indian-tribal salmon troll salmon fishery for the May 16 to May 15 period.</p>
	<u>April/ May</u>	<p>NMFS publishes <u>the</u> final rule to implement <u>management measures consistent with the catch sharing plan, and non-tribal commercial regulations for the directed halibut fishery, for</u> incidental retention of Pacific halibut in the commercial non-Indiantribal salmon troll fishery, <u>and</u> the <u>longline-non-tribal</u> sablefish <u>primary</u> fishery north of Point Chehalis, <u>and sport seasons and regulations, as appropriate.</u></p>

May
through
~~September~~
~~November~~

NMFS regional director makes inseason adjustments to subquotas, sport seasons, non-tribal directed halibut fishery season and vessel limits, incidental halibut landing limits in the ~~non-Indian-tribal commercial-salmon~~ troll ~~salmon~~ fishery, and the ~~directed fixed gear~~ sablefish primary fishery north of Point Chehalis, as necessary. ~~The *IPHC* closes the non-Indian directed commercial halibut fisheries when quotas are projected to be met.~~
