

SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON INCIDENTAL HALIBUT CATCH LIMITS
FOR 2024-2025 SALMON TROLL FISHERY – FINAL ACTION

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) recommends the following catch limits for final adoption:

(Option 1) Open May 16, 2024, through the end of the 2024 salmon troll fishery, and beginning April 1, 2025, until modified through inseason action or superseded by the 2025 management measures.

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 (1+1 per each 2, 35).

The SAS discussed the topic of incidental halibut retention in the salmon troll fishery. The SAS is confident that this ratio and trip limit will result in a successful fishery and is the best match to meet the objectives and priorities of the Catch Sharing Plan. Landing ratios and trip limits have been a successful management tool and, combined with in-season protocols, are used to assure that the allocation is not exceeded and allow for adjustments as needed.

The SAS also continues to recommend that the Pacific Fishery Management Council work with National Marine Fisheries Service to re-examine the permit application deadlines for the directed halibut, incidental sablefish, and incidental salmon fisheries. Current deadlines require permit applications be submitted before seasons are established and therefore do not allow licensees to apply for the ideal fishery license for that year.

PFMC
04/06/24