

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON PACIFIC HALIBUT 2025
CATCH SHARING PLAN AND ANNUAL REGULATIONS – FINAL

Sport Fisheries

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) supports the recommended changes to the Pacific halibut sport regulations presented in supplemental reports from [Washington](#), [Oregon](#), and [California](#).

Non-Tribal Directed Commercial (DC) Fishery

The GAP continues to recommend the Pacific Fishery Management Council consider reviewing how the non-tribal DC fishery is structured. As noted in September ([Agenda F.1.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, September 2024](#)), GAP members recommend analysis and consideration of longer fishing periods that would more align with a groundfish trip limit structure (e.g., a monthly or bimonthly limit for a single period), moving to an incidental limit for the tier fishery (or all sablefish fisheries) south of Pt. Chehalis or other fishery management structures that would change the current derby structure. It would be helpful for marketing. It would also be safer for fishermen because they could choose their fishing time(s) based on better weather and increase fishermen's flexibility in making business decisions.

Non-tribal DC fishery participants have said they appreciate the openers taking place every two weeks, as it was when the fishery was managed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission. We recommend this option for future seasons, as soon as possible.

PFMC
11/14/24