## SALMON ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON 2025 CATCH SHARING PLAN AND ANNUAL REGULATIONS - FINAL

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) appreciates the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) directing the National Marine Fisheries Service to explore the recommendations the SAS made in their September 2024 statement (<u>Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1</u>) and the recommendations made by the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) (<u>Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1</u>).

## 2025 Non-Treaty Directed Commercial (DC) halibut fishery structure:

The SAS maintains their recommendation made in September that the DC halibut season structure should be status quo (3-day openers no more than 2 weeks apart). The SAS also recommends that the preliminary fishing period dates are announced prior to the start of the DC halibut fishery. These options would make the fishery easier to plan for and safer to participate in.

## **Application deadlines for permits:**

The SAS reiterates that moving the application permit deadline would allow participants to make better informed economic decisions when deciding whether to apply for a DC halibut permit or an incidental salmon troll permit. The SAS has been making this recommendation for a number of meetings and hopes changes to the permit deadline can be made for the 2025 season, recognizing that the federal rulemaking process may not make this possible.

The SAS maintains their recommendation from September that the application deadline should be changed to March 15 for the incidental salmon troll permit and April 30 for the DC fishery permit but further recommends a deadline for the incidental salmon troll permit as late as possible.

PFMC 11/14/24