

COMMERCIAL DIRECTED FISHERY REGULATIONS FOR 2020

The Area 2A Non-Indian Commercial Directed Pacific Halibut Fishery (directed fishery) structure has been a topic of discussion between the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) over the past few years. At the June 2019 Council meeting, the Council decided to move forward with the transition of management authority from IPCH to the Council for this particular fishery. Recognizing that the transition process would take some time and require collaboration, the Council committed to work closely with IPHC and stakeholders. The Council also outlined intentions for the management and structure of the fishery in the near future, which are provided as an excerpt from the June 2019 Council Decision Summary Document in Attachment 1.

As part of the transition plan, the Council agreed to utilize the Council's September/November Catch Sharing Plan revision process to solicit stakeholder input and consider 2020 regulations for the directed fishery within the existing season structure. The Council issued a news release (Attachment 2) announcing this new preseason process and encouraged participants and stakeholders to provide comment at public meetings hosted by the states, through the Council's public e-portal, or at the September and November Council meetings. IPHC forwarded the Council's news release to recent license holders in the directed fishery.

It is anticipated that after the November 2019 Council meeting, the Council-recommended season structure for 2020 will be forwarded to IPHC for consideration during their interim and annual meetings in November and January, respectively. It is anticipated also that IPHC will continue to issue licenses for this fishery into the near future.

Council Action:

Adopt Proposed 2020 Regulations Changes For Public Review.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1: Excerpt from June 2019 Council Decision Summary Document.
2. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 2: PFMC News Release.
3. Agenda Item G.2.a, ODFW Report 1: ODFW Report on the Non-Indian Directed Fishery.
4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.2 Commercial Directed Fishery Regulations for 2020 Robin Ehlke
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed 2020 Regulations Changes For Public Review