



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

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# Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Halibut Fishery Update

International Pacific Halibut Commission

Interim Meeting

29-30 November 2016



## 2016 Catch Limits

- FCEY: 7,300,000 pounds, net weight
- Priority access for Food, Social and Ceremonial (FSC) harvest
- Allocation policy define catch limits for recreational and commercial fisheries
- Recreational allocation: 1,100,950 pounds, net weight
  - Excludes additional access acquired via the Experimental Recreational Halibut program
- Commercial allocation + carryover: 6,087,226 pounds, net weight



# Commercial Fishery Management Regime

- Commercial Groundfish Integration
  - All commercial groundfish fisheries
  - Individual Transferable Quotas
    - Retained and released catch
  - 100% at-sea and dockside observer coverage
  - Mortality cap and ITQs for Groundfish trawl fishery
- Reported mortality includes all retained catch and discard mortality from all non-trawl commercial groundfish fisheries
  - Manage harvest of all non-trawl commercial groundfish fisheries within FCEY + carryover



## 2016 Commercial Fishery

- Landed catch + discard mortality:\*
  - Directed Halibut fishery: 5,580,128 pounds, net weight
  - Non-trawl commercial groundfish fisheries: 5,911,346 pounds, net weight
- Groundfish trawl discard mortality:
  - 223,102 pounds, net weight



# 2016 Recreational Fishery

- Landed catch: 1,006,830 pounds, net weight
  - Experimental Recreational Halibut program
- Catch estimates are primarily produced from creel surveys, and then supplemented with logbooks and the iREC survey
- Internet recreational fishing effort and catch (iREC) survey:
  - tool for generating synoptic fisher-dependent estimates of catch and effort
  - To address potential iREC survey bias, iREC catch estimates are calibrated creel catch estimates



## 2016 Management Updates

- Commercial allocation of ITQs for Big and Longnose skates
  - TACs were implemented and reduced between 2014 – 2016
  - Commercial mortality of Longnose and Big skates has been reduced by 70% and 58% respectively
- Catch limit reductions of Yelloweye Rockfish
  - Targeting reduction of mortality by 65% over three years
- June 2016 Government of Canada's announced a commitment to put in place a plan to reach its domestic and international marine conservation targets to protect 5 % of marine and coastal areas by 2017 and 10 % by 2020.