

News Release



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23 June 2017

IPHC NEWS RELEASE 2017-15 **SPORT FISHERIES: WASHINGTON AND COLUMBIA RIVER CLOSURE AND OREGON** **CENTRAL COAST SEASON EXTENSION**

Closed: Washington sport Pacific halibut fisheries - The preliminary catch estimate for all Washington (WDFW Marine Areas 1-10) sport Pacific halibut fishery openings through 17 June 2017 is 235,073 pounds, leaving an estimated 8,594 pounds from the harvest allocation. This amount is not sufficient to sustain further openings this season. Thus, all Washington sport fisheries for Pacific halibut are now closed for the remainder of 2017.

Closed: Columbia River (WDFW Marine Area 1, ODFW Columbia River Sub-area) all-depth and nearshore Pacific halibut sport fisheries - The combined Washington and Oregon preliminary catch estimates from the Columbia River total 14,014 pounds, resulting in an area overage of 681 pounds. As a result, the Columbia River all-depth and nearshore Pacific halibut sport fisheries will close at the end of the day Friday, 23 June 2017. These fisheries will then be closed for the remainder of 2017.

Season extension: Oregon's Central Coast subarea all depth sport Pacific halibut fishery - The preliminary catch estimate for Oregon's Central Coast subarea all depth sport Pacific halibut fishery through 17 June is 116,049 pounds, leaving an estimated 35,663 pounds to be harvested. Fishery managers anticipate this will sustain three (3) more days of fishing, thus the Oregon Central Coast subarea will reopen for 29 June through 1 July 2017. State fishery managers will then review the catch and announce if sufficient quota remains for future openings.

For more information on these updates please refer to:

Washington: Department of Fish and Wildlife website:
<https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/erule.jsp?id=2000>

Oregon: Department of Fish and Wildlife website:
<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/finfish/halibut/index.asp>

In all marine areas open to Pacific halibut fishing in Washington, Oregon, and California, there is a one-fish daily catch limit and no minimum size restriction.

Due to the short notice nature of this notification, it is posted to our website only, and no paper copy has been mailed out.

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