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### HALIBUT IFQs FOR ALASKA

The following information is from the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding the halibut individual fishing quota (IFQ) program for Alaska which was approved on January 29, 1993. The IFQ program probably will go into effect in 1995. This bulletin is for informational purposes only. For more information call Jay Ginter, NMFS, (907) 586-7229 or the IPHC (206) 634-1838.

#### Qualifying Criteria and Basis for IFQ Share:

- a) To qualify for halibut IFQ, you (as a vessel owner or bare-boat lease holder) must have made at least one legal landing of halibut in 1988, 1989, or 1990.
- b) If (a) is true, the halibut IFQ will be based on catch history from the years 1984 to 1990 (best 5 out of 7 years). Quota shares will be specific to IPHC regulatory area.
- c) If you are a skipper or a crew member who worked 5 or more cumulative months in any U.S. commercial fishery, but you do not qualify for an IFQ allocation, you will be eligible to buy quota shares once they are allocated.
- d) The agency from which the catch history information will come, has not yet been verified. *At this time, the IPHC, NMFS, and the NPFMC are not releasing any information regarding past landings.*

#### Vessel Moratorium:

- a) The North Pacific Fishery Management Council has recommended a *vessel* moratorium that has not yet been approved, but will likely go into effect in 1994. All vessels 26 feet or smaller in the GOA and 32 feet or smaller in the BSAI, will be exempt.

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- b) To qualify to fish halibut under the moratorium, that *vessel* must have at least one record of landing halibut or groundfish (in the GOA or BSAI), or crab (in the BSAI only), during the qualifying period beginning Jan. 1, 1980 and ending Feb. 9, 1992. Any new or rebuilt vessel qualifies if it is brought into the fishery to directly replace a qualifying vessel (within the moratorium size restrictions).
- c) If you qualify for a halibut IFQ, but you have a new vessel with no catch history during the qualifying period, you may not be able to fish in any of the moratorium fisheries in 1994. However, when the IFQ program goes into effect, an otherwise non-qualified vessel owned by a halibut IFQ holder will be exempt from the moratorium for the halibut and sablefish fisheries only.
- d) There will be some provisions made for replacement of vessels and those under reconstruction during the qualifying period.

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