

# Industry



Photo by D. Rafla

## Stakeholder Support



Photo by I. Loyola

Halibut is unloaded from a vessel.



A plant worker processes a halibut head.

Industry organizations depend on the International Pacific Halibut Commission for competent management of this valuable resource. The *Halibut Association of North America*, representing most halibut processors on the Pacific coast, lauds the IPHC's "...long and illustrious history of successfully managing the halibut resource". Alaska's *Seafood Producers Cooperative* extends this in saying that the halibut marketed by the company, "...come from one of the most stable and best managed fisheries in the world. The International Pacific Halibut Commission manages this fishery as a joint U.S./Canadian program. The IPHC has been able to maintain a stable fishery and prevent stock and environmental problems that have caused problems in other parts of the world. Fisheries scientists around the world look at the IPHC as a model of good fishery management."

The *Deep Sea Fishermen's Union of the Pacific*, representing crewmembers aboard halibut vessels, cites the Commission for being, "...successful both scientifically and as a management body since 1923." Halibut is the lifeblood of many coastal communities who depend on it for both income and food. The *Petersburg (AK) Vessel Owners Association* stresses that, "The health of the Pacific halibut resource is of utmost importance to the fleet and community of Petersburg. As Alaska's oldest halibut fleet, we have worked cooperatively with the IPHC for over 80 years to help manage this resource. This collaborative effort has been tremendously rewarding and successful."

# International Pacific Halibut Commission



(above) The Processors Advisory Group (PAG), comprised of processors from both the United States and Canada, meet during the IPHC's Annual Meeting. PAG, and their counterpart, the Conference Board, which is composed mainly of fishers, provides the commissioners with invaluable, insightful information regarding the halibut industry.

(left) Plant personnel size-grading halibut.

The IPHC does not exist in a vacuum; it is part of the landscape of fisheries research and management in the northeast Pacific Ocean. Cooperative endeavors with management agencies of the U.S. and Canada are fundamental to the Commission's success. The *Pacific Halibut Management Association of British Columbia* notes that, "... the success of the halibut fishery can be attributed to the IPHC. Through proper science and sound stock assessments, the IPHC has ensured that the B.C. halibut stock has remained healthy and strong, and is harvested in a sustainable manner."

"Halibut is the lifeblood of many coastal communities who depend on it for both income and food."

Hauling in a big halibut.



Photo by D. Bryan