

## 2.1 2016 commercial fishery and regulation changes

Jamie Goen, Lara M. Erikson, and Thomas M. Kong

### Abstract

This document summarizes the regulations and the results of the 2016 commercial Pacific halibut fishery. The total commercial landings of 24,344,000 pounds (11,042 t) were 3% under the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) set catch limit; in addition, 682,000 pounds (309 t) were landed from the IPHC fishery-independent setline surveys. The commercial Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2A consisted of the incidental Pacific halibut catch during the salmon troll and limited-entry sablefish fisheries, the directed commercial fishery with fishing period limits, and the treaty Indian fisheries. Farther north, the commercial fisheries consisted of the Individual Vessel Quota fishery in Area 2B, the Individual Fishing Quota system in Alaska, the Community Development Quota fisheries in Areas 4B and 4CDE, and the Metlakatla fishery in Southeast Alaska. All 2016 catch and landing data presented in this document are preliminary.

### Regulatory Areas for 2016

Boundary lines for the International Pacific Halibut Commission (“Commission” or IPHC) Regulatory Areas ([Fig. 1](#)) have remained the same since 1990. The southeastern flats in the Bering Sea, excluding the upper reaches of Bristol Bay, remained closed in 2016 to all commercial Pacific halibut fishing. A brief description of the regulatory areas and the Bering Sea closed area for the 2016 Pacific halibut fishery follows:

#### Area 2A<sup>1</sup>

- all waters off the coast of the States of California, Oregon, and Washington.

#### Area 2B<sup>1</sup>

- all waters off the coast of British Columbia.

#### Area 2C<sup>1</sup>

- all waters off the coast of Alaska, south and east of Cape Spencer.

#### Area 3A

- all waters between Cape Spencer and Cape Trinity, Kodiak Island.

#### Area 3B

- all waters between Cape Trinity and a line extending southeast from Cape Lutke, Unimak Island.

#### Area 4A

- all waters west of Area 3B and the Bering Sea closed area that are south of 56°20' N and east of 172°00' W.

#### Area 4B

- all waters in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea west of Area 4A and south of 56°20' N.

---

<sup>1</sup>The Commission uses an equidistant line for the division between Areas 2A/2B and 2B/2C, attributing catch by each nation in the boundary area to that nation’s allocation, in the absence of a boundary agreement between the two countries.

Area 4C<sup>2</sup>

- all waters in the Bering Sea north of Area 4A and the closed area that are east of longitude 171°00' W, south of 58°00' N, and west of 168°00' W.

Area 4D<sup>2</sup>

- all waters in the Bering Sea north of Areas 4A and 4B, north and west of Area 4C, and west of 168°00' W.

Area 4E<sup>2</sup>

- all waters in the Bering Sea north and east of the closed area, east of Areas 4C and 4D, and south of 65°34' N.

Closed Area<sup>2</sup>

- All waters in the Bering Sea north of 55°00'00'' N latitude in Isanotski Strait that are enclosed by a line from Cape Sarichef Light (54°36'00'' N latitude, 164°55'42'' W longitude) to a point at 56°20'00'' N latitude, 168°30'00'' W longitude; thence to a point at 58°21'25'' N latitude, 163°00'00'' W longitude; thence to Strogonof Point (56°53'18'' N latitude, 158°50'37'' W longitude); and then along the northern coasts of the Alaska Peninsula and Unimak Island to the point of origin at Cape Sarichef Light are closed to Pacific halibut fishing and no person shall fish for Pacific halibut therein or have Pacific halibut in his/her possession while in those waters except in the course of a continuous transit across those waters. All waters in Isanotski Strait between 55°00'00'' N latitude and 54°49'00'' N latitude are closed to Pacific halibut fishing.

## Changes to the regulations for 2016

The regulations for the 2016 fishery were adopted at the Commission's 2016 Annual Meeting in Juneau, Alaska, and were later approved by the Canadian and the United States governments, with one exception: since 1999, the Canadian government has allowed the landing of live Pacific halibut caught in British Columbian waters by choosing not to approve the regulation that required commercially-caught Pacific halibut to have their gills and entrails removed before being offloaded from a vessel. The Commission and the Canadian government have agreed on domestic regulations to ensure proper accounting of these fish.

### Seasons

At the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Commission continued its discussions on season length and received recommendations to open the fishery on a Saturday to facilitate marketing. The Canadian Individual Vessel Quota (IVQ) fishery in Area 2B and the United States Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) fisheries in Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E commenced at 12 noon local time on 19 March and closed at 12 noon local time on 7 November. The Area 2A commercial fisheries, including the treaty Indian commercial fisheries, were required to occur during the same calendar period (19 March to 7 November).

For Area 2A, seven potential 10-hour fishing periods for the non-treaty directed commercial fishery were adopted: 22 June, 6 July, 20 July, 3 August, 17 August, 31 August, and 14 September

---

<sup>2</sup>The Commission manages 4CDE and the Closed Area as a single area, and has defined Areas 4C, 4D, and 4E specifically, at the request of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for its Catch Sharing Plan (catch allocation framework).

2016. All fishing periods were to begin at 8:00 AM and end at 6:00 PM local time, were further restricted by fishing period limits, and would apply only until the commercial allocation was estimated to have been reached.

### Catch limits and licensing

The Commission adopts catch limits for all individual regulatory areas and for Areas 4CDE combined (Tables 1 - 4). Catch Sharing Plans (CSP) allocate catch limits by user groups in Areas 2A, 2B, 2C, and 3A and within areas for Area 4CDE; the following paragraphs provide information by area. For information on the sport fisheries and regulations, see Dykstra (2017).

The Commission determines the total allowable combined catch for all user groups in Area 2A, and the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (PFMC) CSP allocates Pacific halibut catch limits among user groups. The PFMC CSP stated that if the total Area 2A catch limit is greater than 900,000 pounds (408 t), a primary limited-entry longline sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) fishery north of Point Chehalis, Washington (46°53'18"N) is allocated poundage from the Washington sport allocation that is above 224,110 pounds (102 t). The incidental Pacific halibut fishery catch limit can range between 10,000 and 70,000 pounds (4.5 and 31.8 t); any calculated amount less than 10,000 pounds (4.5 t) or in excess of 70,000 pounds (31.8) would revert to the Washington sport allocation. These parameters were met and an incidental Pacific halibut fishery during the limited-entry sablefish fishery occurred in 2016. The 2016 Area 2A fisheries included: two treaty Indian fisheries (a ceremonial and subsistence use fishery with a catch limit of 33,900 pounds (15 t), and a commercial fishery with a catch limit of 365,100 pounds (166 t)); three non-treaty commercial fisheries, with 193,364 pounds (88 t) allocated to the directed fishery, 34,123 pounds (15 t) to the incidental Pacific halibut fishery during the salmon troll season, and 49,686 pounds (23 t) to the incidental Pacific halibut fishery during the limited-entry sablefish fishery; and three sport fishery catch limits (Washington, Oregon, and California). The total 2016 Area 2A catch (not including IPHC research) of 1,151,400 pounds (522 t) was within 1% of the catch limit (Table 1).

The Area 2A licensing regulations for non-treaty fisheries remained the same as in 2015: all vessels required an IPHC licence, fishers were required to choose one licence type, a unique licence was issued for each fishery, and the commercial fisheries licence applications had a deadline date. The licence application deadline date for the incidental Pacific halibut in the salmon troll and the sablefish fisheries was 15 March 2016, to accommodate earlier opening dates. The application deadline date for the directed commercial fishery was 30 April 2016.

The IPHC adopted an Area 2B combined sport and commercial catch limit of 7,300,000 pounds (3,311 t) that was allocated by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) by a ratio of 85% commercial to 15% sport. The 7,300,000 pound (3,311 t) combined catch limit was arrived at after 235,000 pounds (107 t) of commercial wastage for Pacific halibut over 26 inches had been deducted from the Area 2B total constant exploitation yield, and the allocation included a discard mortality from the sport fishery (38,000 pounds (17 t)). DFO apportioned the catch limit to the two sectors, made additional adjustments to the quotas, which included pounds available from the underage/overage plan, quota leased from the commercial fishery to the sport fishery, and quota held for First Nations and for the Use of Fish allocation. In the adjustments made by DFO, it was recognized that the sport fishery discard mortality had been added to the sport fishery twice and changes will be made for 2017. The total 2016 Area 2B combined catch of 7,135,000 pounds (3,236 t) was under the catch limit (7,300,000 pounds (3,311 t)) by 2% (Table 2).

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) again recommended the CSP for Areas 2C and 3A that included the commercial and sport charter fisheries. Consequently, the Commission's adopted catch limits for Areas 2C and 3A included the commercial and charter fishery catch limit, plus mortality estimates from discards and lost gear. To maintain the sport charter landings within the catch limit, different daily bag limits, fish length, fishing day, and trip restrictions were recommended for each area by the NPFMC and adopted by IPHC as IPHC regulations (Dykstra 2017). The total removals accounted for in the CSP were 5% and 4% under the catch limits, respectively in Area 2C and Area 3A (Table 3).

The individual catch limits adopted for Regulatory Areas 4C, 4D, and 4E are determined by a NPFMC CSP. The NPFMC CSP and IPHC regulations allowed Area 4D CDQ to be harvested in Areas 4D or 4E, and Area 4C IFQ and CDQ to be harvested in Areas 4C or 4D. These commercial fisheries are discussed in the section below.

### Commercial landings and fishery landing patterns

Commercial landings (including IPHC research landings) and catch limits by regulatory area for the 2016 fishing season are shown in Table 4. Commercial catch limit, as referred to here, is the IPHC commercial catch limit set by the Commissioners at the Annual Meeting. The adjusted commercial catch limit represents the IPHC catch limit with adjustments from the underage and overage programs from the previous year's quota share programs, and in Area 2B, it also includes relinquishment of quota and quota leasing programs among sectors and the Use of Fish allocation. Historical landings and catch limits from 2007 through 2016 are shown in Table 5. The following sections review commercial landings, seasons, and trends for each area. The data sources were the IPHC; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); DFO; Metlakatla Indian Community; Washington treaty Indian fisheries management departments including the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Makah, Lummi, Jamestown S'Klallam, Swinomish, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Quileute, and Quinault Indian tribes; and state agencies including Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

#### Area 2A

In 2016, IPHC issued 607 Area 2A vessel licences: 120 licences for sport charter vessels, 310 licences for retaining incidental Pacific halibut during the salmon troll fishery, 159 licences for the directed commercial fishery, and 8 licences for incidental Pacific halibut during the sablefish fishery. There were 10 vessels that received two licences: one for the directed commercial and one for incidental Pacific halibut during the sablefish fishery. The number of licences issued in each category decreased compared to 2015, apart from the directed commercial fishery licences which increased by 15. The largest decrease in number of licences issued compared to 2015 was for the incidental Pacific halibut during the salmon troll fishery, which decreased by 54 licences. The sport charter fishery decreased by five, incidental Pacific halibut during the sablefish fishery by 14, and the vessels applying for both the directed commercial and incidental during the sablefish fishery decreased by five.

The Area 2A directed commercial fishery closed after three 10-hour openings with fishing period limits (Table 6). The fishing period limits were assigned by vessel class; the H-class vessel limit was 9,000 pounds (4 t) for the 22 June and 6 July openings and 2,500 pounds (1 t) for the 20

July opening ([Table 6](#)). The total directed commercial landings of 198,000 (90 t) pounds were 2% over the catch limit of 193,364 pounds (88 t) ([Table 1](#)).

At the start of the season on 1 April, the allowable incidental landing ratio of Pacific halibut during the salmon troll fishery was one Pacific halibut per four Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), plus an “extra” Pacific halibut per landing, and a vessel trip limit of 12 fish. The landing restrictions were changed to one Pacific halibut per three Chinook, plus an “extra” Pacific halibut per landing, and a vessel trip limit of 20 fish, effective 1 May 2016. The incidental Pacific halibut retention closed on 7 November at noon, with total landings of 26,000 pounds (12 t) which was 24% under the catch limit (34,123 pounds (15 t)).

Incidental Pacific halibut retention during the limited-entry sablefish fishery remained open from 1 April to noon on 7 November. The allowable landing ratio was 110 pounds (0.05 t) (net weight) of Pacific halibut to 1,000 pounds (0.5 t) (net weight) of sablefish, and up to two additional Pacific halibut in excess of the ratio limit. The 2016 landing restrictions remained the same as the landing restrictions for 2015. The total landings of 30,000 pounds (14 t) were 40% under the catch limit (49,686 pounds (23 t)).

In Area 2A-1 (north of Point Chehalis) the treaty Indian tribes manage the commercial landings by allocating 75% to an open access fishery and 25% to a restricted fishery with daily and vessel limits. There were three unrestricted, open access fisheries from 19-23 March and one restricted fishery, including a vessel per day limit of 500 pounds (0.23 t) for the 1-2 April opening. The 2016 tribal commercial season closed to all parties on 7 November, following the late fisheries, with total landings of 361,000 pounds (164 t), 1% under the catch limit (365,100 pounds (166 t)).

### **Area 2C Metlakatla fishery**

The Metlakatla Indian Community was authorized by the United States government to conduct a commercial Pacific halibut fishery within the Annette Islands Reserve. There were 13 two-day openings between 15 April and 2 October for total landings of 79,358 pounds (36 t) ([Table 7](#)). This was 12,000 pounds (5 t) higher than the 2015 landings, and within the historical landing range that has varied over time from a low of 12,000 pounds (5 t) in 1998 to a high of 126,000 pounds (57 t) in 1996.

### **The Quota Share fisheries**

The Quota Share (QS) fisheries of British Columbia (Area 2B) and Alaska (Areas 2C, 3, and 4) were open from 19 March to 7 November. The following section discusses the fisheries by area.

#### ***Area 2B***

For its IVQ fishery, each vessel was allocated a fixed poundage of Pacific halibut, as calculated by DFO. In 1991, when the Pacific halibut IVQ program was implemented, 435 vessels received IVQs. Numerous changes have been made since then, such as allowing permanent transfers of quota in 1999, and implementation of a Groundfish Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) in 2006. The IFMP was implemented to meet conservation needs, including addressing rockfish conservation concerns and improving catch monitoring. The IFMP includes quota shares for all hook and line groundfish fisheries, transferability with limits among licence holders, 100% at-sea and dockside monitoring, and vessel accountability for all catch, both landed and discarded. There is 100% monitoring through logbook records, video camera coverage, and dockside monitoring.

The number of active Pacific halibut licences (L licences), and First Nations communal commercial licences (FL licences), has decreased from a high of 257 (in 1999) to a low of 146 in 2014. The number of active L and FL licences increased to 156 in 2016. In addition, Pacific halibut can be landed as incidental catch in other licensed groundfish fisheries. Therefore, Pacific halibut was landed from a total of 230 active licences in 2016, with 74 of these licences from other fisheries. This is a decrease from 240 active licences in 2015. The 2016 commercial landings of 6,049,000 pounds (2,744 t) were 2% under the catch limit (6,199,000 pounds (2,812 t); [Table 2](#)).

### *Alaska*

The IFQ Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries have been in effect in Alaska since 1995. NMFS Restricted Access Management (RAM) allocated Pacific halibut QS to recipients by IPHC Regulatory Area. Quota share transfers were permitted with restrictions on the amount of QS a person could hold and the amount that could be fished per vessel. As of 29 November 2016, RAM reported that 2,407 persons held quota shares, down from the initial 4,831 persons at the start of the program.

The total 2016 landings from the IFQ/CDQ Pacific halibut fishery for the waters off Alaska were 17,677,000 pounds (8,018 t), less than 3% under the catch limit ([Table 4](#)). For comparison, the 2015 commercial landings were also less than 3% under the catch limit. By regulatory area the landings were under the catch limit by 1% for Areas 2C and 3A, 3% for Areas 3B and 4A, and 4% for Area 4B. The total combined Area 4CDE commercial landings of 1,461,000 pounds (663 t) were 12% under the combined Area 4CDE catch limit (1,660,000 pounds (753 t)). As mentioned previously, the NPFMC CSP allowed Area 4D CDQ to be harvested in Areas 4D or 4E and Area 4C IFQ and CDQ to be fished in Areas 4C or 4D. These two regulations were the reason the landings in Area 4D exceeded the catch limit.

### **Landing patterns and highlights**

Commercial trips from Area 2B were delivered into 14 different ports in 2016. The ports of Port Hardy (including Coal Harbour and Port McNeill) and Prince Rupert/Port Edward were the major landing locations, receiving 90% of the Area 2B commercial landings. Port Hardy received 46% while Prince Rupert received 44% (2,718,000 and 2,646,000 pounds (1,233 and 1,200 t), respectively) of the Area 2B commercial landings. Ucluelet and Vancouver received the third largest landing volumes (7% combined) of the Area 2B commercial landings. All of the IVQ landings were landed in Area 2B.

Kodiak and Homer received approximately 15% (2,666,000 pounds and 2,572,000 pounds (1,209 and 1,167 t), respectively) of the commercial landings of Alaskan catch. Kodiak was the port that received the greatest number of pounds in 2016 and in 2015. Seward received the third largest landing volume (1,915,000 pounds (869 t)) at 11% of the Alaskan commercial landings. In Southeast Alaska, the three largest landing volumes were received in Petersburg (1,368,000 pounds (621 t)), Sitka (1,259,000 pounds (571 t)), and Juneau (1,003,000 pounds (455 t)), in that order, and their combined landings represented 21% of the commercial Alaskan landings. The Alaskan QS catch that was landed outside of Alaska was 3%; the same percentage as in 2015.

The 2016 QS fishery landings were spread over nine months of the year ([Table 8](#)). On a month-to-month comparison, October took the lead as the busiest month for total poundage (15%) landed from Area 2B. April was the month with the most weight of commercial landings in 2016. On a

month-to-month comparison, May was the busiest month for total poundage (22%) from Alaska, as it was in 2015. August was the second busiest month for total poundage from Alaska.

The 2016 landing of live Pacific halibut from Area 2B was legally allowed by DFO and resulted in a total landed weight far less than in 2015 (exact pounds not reported due to confidentiality) and the lowest ever landed since 1999. Live landings of Pacific halibut have ranged from a high of 103,000 pounds (47 t) in 1999 to a low in 2016.

### **References**

Dykstra, C. L. 2017. 2016 Pacific halibut sport fishery review. Int. Pac. Halibut Comm. Report of Assessment and Research Activities 2016. IPHC-2016-RARA-26-R: 50-62.



**Table 1. The Area 2A 2016 catch limits allocated by the Pacific Fishery Management Council Catch Sharing Plan and preliminary catch estimates (pounds, net weight).**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Catch Limit</b>	<b>Catch</b>
Non-treaty directed commercial	193,364	198,000
Non-treaty incidental commercial with salmon troll fishery	34,123	26,000
Non-treaty incidental commercial with sablefish fishery	49,686	30,000
Treaty Indian commercial	365,100	361,000
Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence	33,900	33,900 <sup>1</sup>
Sport fisheries (including discard mortality)	463,827	505,400 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total allocation and catch</b>	<b>1,140,000</b>	<b>1,154,300</b>
IPHC research catch		17,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,140,000</b>	<b>1,171,300</b>

<sup>1</sup>Ceremonial and subsistence allocation amount.

<sup>2</sup>Includes the sport fishery harvest and discard mortality.

**Table 2. The 2016 Area 2B catch limits as allocated by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans and estimated landings (thousands of pounds, net weight).**

<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Catch</b>
Commercial fishery	6,199 <sup>1</sup>	6,049 <sup>1</sup>
Sport fishery (including discard mortality)	1,064	1,086 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total allocation and catch</b>	<b>7,300<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>7,135</b>
IPHC research catch		90
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,300<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>7,225</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes 60,000 pounds allocated to Commercial Use of Fish.

<sup>2</sup>Includes the sport harvest of 1,018,000 and discard mortality of 68,000 pounds.



**Table 3. The 2016 Areas 2C and 3A catch limits, including discard mortality<sup>1</sup>, as allocated by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Catch Sharing Plan and estimated landings, discard mortality, and total catch (thousands of pounds, net weight).**

<b>Area 2C</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Landings + discard mortality: total</b>
Commercial fishery	4,044 <sup>2</sup>	3,891 + 117 = 4,008
Guided sport fishery	906 <sup>3</sup>	(792 + 39 (GAF)) + 53 = 884
<b>Total allocation and catch</b>	<b>4,950</b>	<b>4,892</b>
IPHC research		119
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,950</b>	<b>5,011</b>
<b>Area 3A</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Catch</b>
Commercial fishery	7,786 <sup>2</sup>	7,256 + 361 = 7,617
Guided sport fishery	1,814 <sup>4</sup>	(1,964 + 9 (GAF)) + 28 = 2,001
<b>Total allocation and catch</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>9,618</b>
IPHC research		266
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>9,884</b>

<sup>1</sup>The combined total includes estimated mortality from regulatory discards of sublegal Pacific halibut and lost gear in the commercial fishery (wastage) and discard mortality in the guided sport fishery.

<sup>2</sup>This does not include adjustments, made to the commercial fishery catch limit as a result of the carryover from the previous year's underage/overage plan or the Guided Angler Fish (GAF) program allowing sport guided operators to lease quota from commercial operators.

<sup>3</sup>In Area 2C, an additional 47,000 pounds were available to harvest under the Guided Angler Fish (GAF) program and 39,000 pounds were harvested.

<sup>4</sup>In Area 3A, an additional 10,000 pounds were available to harvest under the Guided Angler Fish (GAF) program and 9,000 pounds were harvested.

**Table 4. Commercial fishing periods, number of fishing days, catch limits, commercial, research, and total landings (thousands of pounds, net weight) by regulatory area for the 2016 Pacific halibut commercial fishery (preliminary, as of November 8, 2016).**

Area 2A	Fishing Period	Catch Limit	Length of Opening	Commercial Landings	Research Landings	Total Landings
Treaty Indian	Unrestricted: 3/19 – 3/21		39 hours	240		
	3/20 – 3/21					
	3/21 – 3/23					
	Restricted: 4/1-4/2					
	Late Fishery 1-2, 11-12 May 18 May – 15 Aug 25 July – 2 Aug 12 Sep – 7 Nov		24 hours 1200 lb 3000 lb 437 lb	<u>69</u>		
Total		365.1		361		361
Incidental in Salmon Fishery	4/1 – 11/7	34.1	143 days	26		26
Incidental in Sablefish Fishery	4/1 – 11/7	49.7	152 days	30		30
Directed <sup>1</sup>	6/22		10 hours	90		
	7/6		10 hours	88		
	7/20		10 hours	<u>20</u>		
Directed Total		193.4		198		198
<b>2A Total</b>		<b>642.3</b>		<b>615</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>632</b>
Area	Fishing Period	Catch Limit	Adjusted Catch Limit <sup>2</sup>	Commercial Catch <sup>3</sup>	Research Catch	Total Catch <sup>4</sup>
2B	19 Mar – 7 Nov	6,199	6,087	6,049 <sup>4</sup>	90	6,139
2C	3/19 – 11/7	3,924	3,968	3,891 <sup>5</sup>	119	4,010
3A	3/19 – 11/7	7,336	7,407	7,256	266	7,522
3B	3/19 – 11/7	2,710	2,717	2,637	109	2,746
4A	3/19 – 11/7	1,390	1,405	1,343	32	1,375
4B	3/19 – 11/7	1,140	1,162	1,089	28	1,117
4C	3/19 – 11/7	733.6	740	402	7	409
4D	3/19 – 11/7	733.6	741	939 <sup>6,7</sup>	14	953
4E	3/19 – 11/7	192.8	193	120 <sup>7</sup>		120
Alaska Total		18,160	18,333	17,677	575	18,252
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>25,001.3<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>25,062<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>24,344<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>682<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>25,026<sup>8</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup>Fishing period limits by vessel class.

<sup>2</sup>Includes adjustments from the underage/overage programs, and in 2B, quota held by DFO for First Nations through relinquishment processes, and the Use of Fish allocation.

<sup>3</sup>Includes pounds from November 9, 2016 Prior Notice of Landings in Alaska and hail-ins from Fishery Operations System in Canada.

<sup>4</sup>Includes the pounds that were landed by Native communal commercial licences (FL licences).

<sup>5</sup>Includes the pounds taken in the Metlakatla fishery within the Annette Islands Reserve.

<sup>6</sup>Area 4C IFQ and CDQ could be fished in Area 4D by NMFS and IPHC regulations.

<sup>7</sup>Area 4D CDQ could be fished in Area 4E by NMFS and IPHC regulations.

<sup>8</sup>Includes Area 2A catch limit and catch.

**Table 5. Commercial landings (including IPHC research landings) and catch limits of Pacific halibut (in thousands of pounds, net weight) by IPHC regulatory area, 2007 - 2016.**

Regulatory Area	Commercial Catch <sup>1</sup>									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 <sup>2</sup>	2016 <sup>3</sup>
2A <sup>4</sup>	789	682	490	418	541	573	542	531	572	632
2B	9,772	7,756	6,637	6,729	6,692	5,983	6,043	5,882	5,990	6,139
2C	8,473	6,206	4,955	4,486	2,454	2,694	3,033	3,422	3,771	4,010
3A	26,493	24,521	21,755	20,502	14,669	12,032	11,077	7,661	7,967	7,522
3B	9,249	19,748	10,781	10,114	7,321	5,045	4,091	2,916	2,697	2,746
4A	2,828	3,015	2,528	2,325	2,351	1,583	1,233	906	1,372	1,375
4B	1,416	1,763	1,593	1,829	2,054	1,738	1,253	1,119	1,111	1,117
4C <sup>5</sup>	551	724	645	789	790	563	512	397	413	409
4D <sup>5,6</sup>	2,720	2,552	2,210	2,116	2,182	1,431	979	709	685	953
4E <sup>6,7</sup>	579	600	455	410	457	347	280	152	96	120
Total	62,870	58,567	52,049	49,718	39,511	31,989	29,043	23,695	24,673	25,026
Regulatory Area	Commercial Catch Limits <sup>8</sup>									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2A <sup>4</sup>	799.2	718.4	511.2	420.0	480.7	546.6	539.7	519.6	511.5	642.3
2B	10,089.4	7,918	6,711.6	6,598.6	6,702.2	5,953.4	5,958	5,793	5,974	6,199
2C	8,510.0	6,210.0	5,020.0	4,400.0	2,330.0	2,624.0	2,970	3,319	3,679	3,924
3A	26,200.0	24,220.0	21,700.0	19,990.0	14,360.0	11,918.0	11,030	7,318	7,790	7,336
3B	9,220.0	10,900.0	10,900.0	9,900.0	7,510.0	5,070.0	4,290	2,840	2,650	2,710
4A	2,890.0	3,100.0	2,550.0	2,330.0	2,410.0	1,567.0	1,330	850	1,390	1,390
4B	1,440.0	1,860.0	1,870.0	2,160.0	2,180.0	1,869.0	1,450	1,140	1,140	1,140
4C	1,866.5	1,769.0	1,569.0	1,625.0	1,690.0	1,107.0	859	596	596.6	733.6
4D	1,866.5	1,769.0	1,569.0	1,625.0	1,690.0	1,107.0	859	596	596.6	733.6
4E	367.0	352.0	322.0	330.0	340.0	250.0	212	92	91.8	192.8
Total	63,248.6	58,816.4	52,722.8	49,378.6	39,692.9	32,012.0	29,497.7	23,063.6	24,419.5	25,001.3

<sup>1</sup> Commercial catch includes IPHC research catch and, in Area 2C, the Metlakatla fishery landed catch.

<sup>2</sup> Poundage figures have been updated from previous publications.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary (as of November 8, 2016).

<sup>4</sup> Does not include treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence fish.

<sup>5</sup> Area 4C IFQ and CDQ may be fished in Area 4D.

<sup>6</sup> Area 4D CDQ may be fished in Area 4E.

<sup>7</sup> Area 4D includes research catch in the IPHC Closed Area.

<sup>8</sup> Additional carryover from the underage/overage plans is not included.

**Table 6. The fishing periods and limits (pounds, net weight) by vessel class used in the 2016 directed commercial fishery in Area 2A.**

Vessel Class		Fishing Period & Limits		
Letter	Feet	22 June	6 July	20 July
A	≤25	755	755	210
B	26-30	945	945	265
C	31-35	1,510	1,510	420
D	36-40	4,165	4,165	1,160
E	41-45	4,480	4,480	1,245
F	46-50	5,365	5,365	1,490
G	51-55	5,985	5,985	1,665
H	56+	9,000	9,000	2,500

**Table 7. Metlakatla community fishing periods, number of vessels, and preliminary Pacific halibut landings (net weight), 2016.**

Fishing Period Dates	Number of Vessels	Catch (Pounds)
15 – 17 April	12	3,310
29 April – 1 May	12	3,752
13 – 15 May	20	6,403
27 – 29 May	14	4,454
10 – 12 June	13	5,380
24 – 26 June	9	5,885
8 – 10 July	17	10,726
22 – 24 July	13	6,438
5 – 7 August	14	8,906
19 – 21 August	15	13,351
2 – 4 September	15	6,614
16 – 18 September	8	3,066
30 September – 2 October	5	1,073
13 Fishing Periods		79,358

**Table 8. The total pounds (thousands, net weight, preliminary) of 2016 commercial landings (not including research landings) of Pacific halibut for Alaska and British Columbia by regulatory area and month.**

Regulatory Area	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
2B <sup>1</sup>	560	857	573	723	782	690	710	926	228	6,049
2 <sup>C2</sup> 3	572	931	846	309	249	434	362	171	18	3,891
3A <sup>2</sup>	414	1,397	1,790	898	630	870	762	473	23	7,256
3B <sup>2</sup>	44	373	466	356	243	563	383	157	54	2,637
4A <sup>2</sup>			228	201 <sup>4</sup>	180	298	304	133 <sup>5</sup>		1,343
4B <sup>2</sup>		103 <sup>4</sup>	38	186	177	321	174	91		1,089
4CDE <sup>2</sup>			146	186	340	378	259	158 <sup>5</sup>		1,467
Alaska Total	1,030	2,804	3,514	2,135	1,817	2,863	2,244	1,161	115	17,677
Total	1,590	3,661	4,087	2,858	2,599	3,553	2,954	2,087	323	23,726

<sup>1</sup> Based on landings from DFO Fishery Operations System (FOS).

<sup>2</sup> Based on landings from NMFS Restricted Access Management (RAM) Division.

<sup>3</sup> Weights include landings from the Metlakatla Indian Community.

<sup>4</sup> Weight combined with the previous months for confidentiality purposes.

<sup>5</sup> Weight combined with the following month for confidentiality purposes.

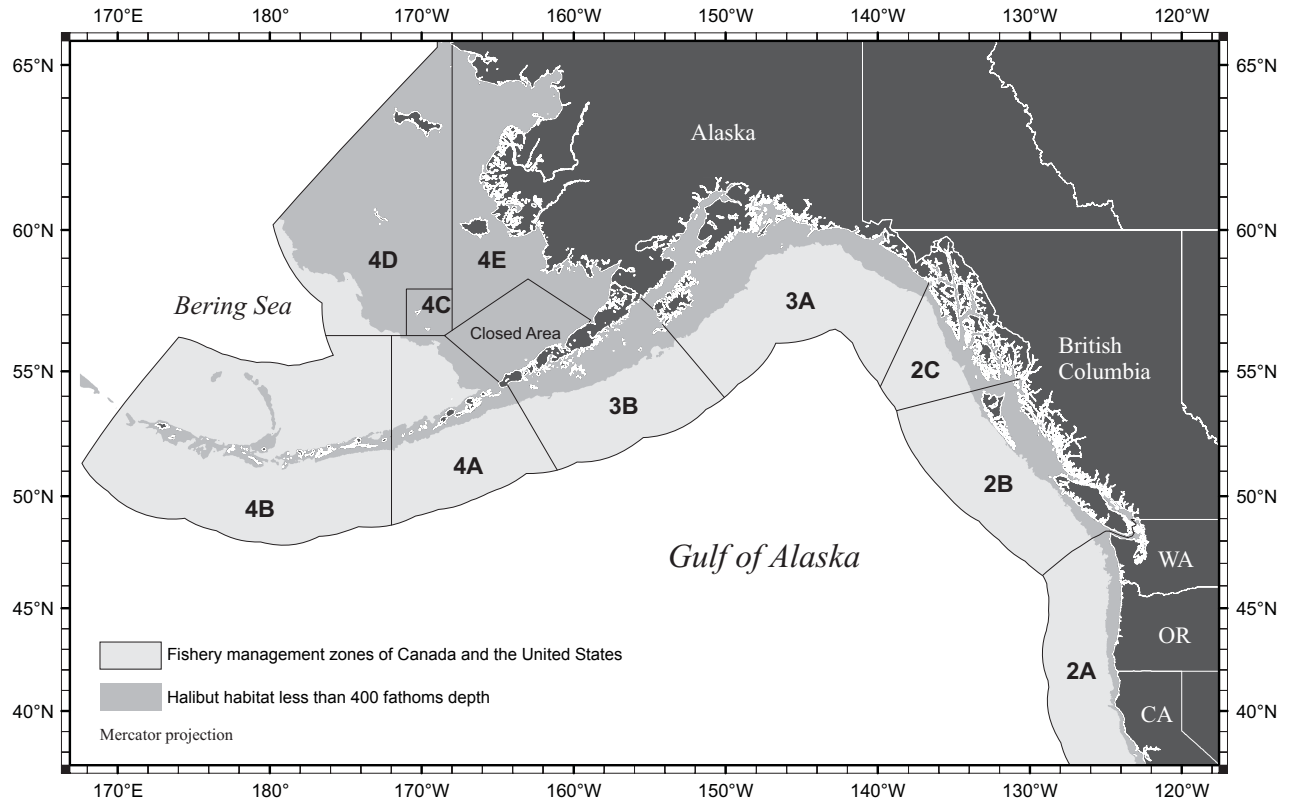


Figure 1. IPHC Regulatory Areas for the 2016 Pacific halibut fishery.