



National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
www.nwr.noaa.gov



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Information Contact:
Yvonne deReynier (206) 526-6140

NMFS-SEA-05-10
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 20, 2005

PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Closure of halibut retention in the primary sablefish fishery

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), along with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), announces a **prohibition on the retention of halibut in the primary sablefish fishery north of Point Chehalis, WA (46°53.30' N. lat.), beginning at 11:59 pm (local time) on Sunday, October 23**. This fishery was allocated 70,000 lb of halibut for the 2005 fishing season. Incidental halibut landings in the primary sablefish fishery through October 17, 2005 were 67,861 lb. Because this fishery is projected to exceed its 70,000 lb quota before the end of the season on October 31, retention of halibut will be prohibited beginning at 11:59 p.m. on October 23.