

Subsistence Halibut Council Motion October 2004

Action 1. Revise the subsistence halibut regulations for gear and harvest to address local area issues.

Alternative 1. No action.

(a) - (c): 30 hooks (d): 30 hooks per vessel
three times the individual gear limit

Alternative 2. Change gear and annual limits in local areas.

(a) in Kodiak road zone and Chiniak Bay:

Issue 1. Gear limit, annual limit, and community harvest permit program:

Option 1. 5 hooks and 20 fish annual limit

Option 2. 10 hooks and 20 fish annual limit

Issue 2. Limit stacking on a single unit of gear per trip provided the subsistence user(s) are on board the vessel to:

Option 1. one hook limit (no stacking)

Option 2. two times the hook limit

(b) in Prince William Sound:

Issue 1. Gear limit and community harvest permit program:

Option 1. 5 hooks

Option 2. 10 hooks

Issue 2. Limit stacking on a single unit of gear per trip provided the subsistence user(s) are on board the vessel to:

Option 1. one hook limit (no stacking)

Option 2. two times the hook limit

(c) in Cook Inlet:

Issue 1. Gear limit and community harvest permit program:

Option 1. 5 hooks

Option 2. 10 hooks

Issue 2. Limit stacking on a single unit of gear per trip provided the subsistence user(s) are on board the vessel to:

Option 1. one hook limit (no stacking)

Option 2. two times the hook limit

(d) in Sitka Sound LAMP:

Seasonal gear and vessel limits:

June 1 to August 31

15 hooks per vessel

no power hauling

5 halibut per day/vessel

September 1 to May 31

(30 hooks per vessel)

(power hauling allowed)

10 halibut per day/vessel

Option: apply to all of Area 2C, with community harvest permits

Option for areas (a) - (d): Require mandatory retention of rockfish. A fisherman would be required to stop subsistence halibut fishing for that day if the legal limit of rockfish allowed under State regulations were caught. This applies to the current state limits for rockfish only. Subsistence users would not be restricted below current bag limits.

Action 2. Revise the list of eligible subsistence halibut communities.

Alternative 1. No action.

Alternative 2. Add to list of eligible communities:

Option 1. Naukati

Option 2. Port Tongass Village

Action 3. Create a subsistence halibut possession limit for Area 2C and/or Area 3A and/or 3B.

Alternative 1. No action.

Alternative 2. Possession limit equal to two daily bag limits or two daily vessel limits.

Alternative 3. Possession limit equal to one daily bag limits or one daily vessel limits.

Action 4. Revise the definition of charter vessels.

Alternative 1. No action.

Alternative 2. Allow the use of charterboats for subsistence halibut fishing

Alternative 3. Adopt the State of Alaska definition of charter vessels to redefine a charterboat vessel as State registered. Restrict the use of the charter vessel to the owner on record and the owner's immediate family (the owner must be a qualified user). Prohibit the use of a charter vessel for subsistence fishing while clients are on board. Prohibit the transfer of subsistence halibut to clients.

Action 5. Revise the \$400 customary trade limit for subsistence halibut by IPHC regulatory area.

Alternative 1. No action.

Alternative 2. Revise the customary trade limit to \$100.

Alternative 3. Eliminate the customary trade limit (\$0).

Alternative 4. Eliminate the \$400 customary trade limit but allow: 1) rural residents eligible for subsistence use of halibut to share the expenses directly related to subsistence harvest of halibut with other members of their community; and 2) allow customary trade and barter between a member of an Alaska tribe eligible to harvest halibut for subsistence use and any other member of an Alaska tribe provided the monetary exchange shall be limited to sharing expenses directly related to the subsistence harvest of halibut.

Action 6. Allow subsistence halibut fishing in non-subsistence areas under special permits.

Alternative 1. No action.

Alternative 2. Allow the use of community harvest permits, educational permits, and ceremonial permits in non-subsistence use areas by tribes whose traditional fishing grounds are located within these areas, with a 20-fish per day bag limit.