



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

reduce halibut bycatch

2 messages

Chuck Cohen <kodzoff@alaskan.com>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 1:57 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Halibut by-catch is out of control. It is damaging to both the resource and traditional longline fisheries. Enough is enough. IT IS TIME TO ACT.

CHUCK & KATHRYN COHEN
F/V LADY BARBARA
P.O. BOX 020670
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 1:57 PM

To: kodzoff@alaskan.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Halibut bycatch in BSAI

2 messages

Mike Friccero <mike.clarion@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 4:52 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Dear sirs

Regarding the upcoming Halibut Management meetings:
more needs to be done to protect the halibut resource, fisheries, and communities. Remember that in June, Council members stated their action on Bering Sea bycatch was "just the first step."

The current estimated halibut biomass represents the lowest biomass level since 1996 when Congress passed the Sustainable Fisheries Act.

- b. The current female spawning biomass is about half as large as it was during the 1980's and early 1990's.
- c. Over the past decade, bycatch mortality in the BSAI has increased to 60% of total removals while directed fishery landings have decreased to about 30% of removals. Bycatch in 4CDE accounts for 87% of total mortality.
- d. At present, the IPHC can only reduce harvest in the directed fisheries to offset bycatch impacts—as a result **bycatch receives priority over the directed fisheries**. T
- e. The Bering Sea is the nursery ground for halibut that eventually migrate to all other areas. Bering Sea bycatch hurts the halibut resource and all who depend on that resource.

As a long time participant and IFQ Halibut shareholder, I ask you to:
make the halibut resource and directed halibut fisheries the **PRIORITY and REDUCE BYCATCH**.

Sincerely

Michael Friccero
Rainy Dawn Services
F/V Miss Gina
Kodiak, Alaska
[907 539 1320](tel:9075391320) cell

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 4:52 PM

To: mike.clarion@gmail.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.

To: NPFMC

From: Norm Pillen

F/V Sherrie Marie

2517 Addy Gifford Rd

Addy WA 99101

alaskanorm@centurylink.net

509-675-0304

Dear Sirs;

As a longtime commercial fisherman, who supports his family, crew, and many different suppliers, repair shops, grocery stores, fish companies, etc...by participation in the halibut and sablefish fisheries, I would like to take this opportunity to ask the council to consider and address the concerns I have regarding bycatch issues in the commercial halibut fishery.

I am very concerned with the sustainability of the halibut resource and as the current biomass is at it's lowest point since 1996 it is imperative to the future of the resource that Halibut be properly managed. The directed fishery, as managed by the IPHC has taken huge cuts in the directed fishery to protect the resource and it is high time that the council takes the same direct action to address the Halibut bycatch issues in the trawl fisheries in a fashion that actually results in a reduction of the number of halibut taken. Over the past decade, bycatch mortality in the BSAI has increased to 60% of total removals while directed fishery landings have decreased to about 30% of removals. Bycatch in 4CDE accounts for 87% of total mortality. Bering Sea bycatch hurts the halibut resource and all who depend on that resource and continuing to manage in this manner spells disaster for the future of halibut fisherman and the halibut stocks. I implore you, as the NMPFMC, who's JOB it is to manage fisheries in a responsible and sustainable fashion, to make the halibut resource and directed halibut fisheries the PRIORITY and REDUCE BYCATCH.

Thank You for your consideration in this matter.

Norm Pillen

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Halibut bycatch

2 messages

Mark Hofmann <oceanoasis52@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 2:40 PM

To: "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Cc: Halibut Coalition <halibutcoalition@gmail.com>

It is imparitave that the bycatch of halibut in the trawl fishery be further reduced at once to protect the stocks and quit putting the burden of conservation on the directed fleet and allowing trawlers to continue raping each and every one of us trying to conserve the stocks.

I've done my part and it's cost me and my family 10s of 1000s of dollars a year and they just keep getting killing and dumping! It's a load of crap and I'm tired of it!!!

Do the moral thing not the political one. Clean it up or SHUT THEM DOWN!!! NPFMC ITS YOUR JOB!

Mark Hofmann

F/VOcean Oasis

Sent from my iPhone

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 2:41 PM

To: oceanoasis52@gmail.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.

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Halibut bycatch

2 messages

Vince Jacobson <vincemellslikefish@yahoo.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 9:01 AM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

This is not a productive, fact filled email....just an honest one.
Your organization should be embarrassed. Fisheries are moving backwards under your guidance. With your helping hand, directed fisheries should be on the increase and non-directed (bi-catch) should be decreasing dramatically. The opposite has been happening. Without appropriate action, people will cease to believe in your effectiveness. Other steps will be put into place to address this now-political issue, and your organization will no longer be considered a viable entity. Action would be in your self interest.

-Vince Jacobson

Sent from my iPhone

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 9:02 AM

To: vincemellslikefish@yahoo.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Bycatch

1 message

terry_joanna@yahoo.com <terry_joanna@yahoo.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 3:43 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Cc: linda <alfafish@acsalaska.net>

I would like to address the issue of Halibut Bycatch in the Bering sea, Aleution islands area. In these times of alarmingly low abundance, it is imperative that more needs to be done to protect stocks. The longline fleet directed fisheries have made great strides to reduce Bycatch mortality. It is in our interest to "bank" juvenile halibut to allow them to contribute to the spawning biomass and be sustainably harvested in the future . The trawl industry currently has nothing to lose under current management guidelines to waste juvenile halibut Bycatch .;

The fishing industry as a whole has a tarnished image when one sector wastes fish. We may all get tainted by this broad brush.

I am asking the council to tighten Bycatch guidelines for the trawl sector in the BSAI area.

Thank you, Terry Perensovich

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>**

halibut bycatch

1 message

George Kirk <fvphantom2@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 6:48 AM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

The halibut biomass is at the lowest level 1996, the female spawning biomass is at about half what it was in the 80's and 90's, in the last 10 years the bsai bycatch has increased to 60% and the directed fishery has gone down by 30%, bycatch alone takes about 87% out of the areas 4cde, me and all other halibut fisherman have taken huge cuts in our quota to keep the halibut biomass somewhat stable, bycatch gets more priority than the directed halibut fishery.

I Come on man look at the numbers its past time to make the halibut resource and directed fishery a priority please REDUCE THE BYCATCH.
thank you George kirk (a 33 year halibut fisherman)



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

(no subject)

2 messages

9075181209@txt.att.net <9075181209@txt.att.net>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 5:56 AM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Protect the halibut nursery by reducing the bycatch. The resource obviously is in jepardy. Hold the megaships accountable, do the

=====
This mobile text message is brought to you by AT&T

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 5:56 AM

To: 9075181209@txt.att.net

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.

**NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Halibut by catch

2 messages

Carolyn Nichols <carenichols@hotmail.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 6:03 AM

To: "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

I would like to see halibut by catch in the Bering sea trawl fisheries reduced!!!

The council stated in June that their actions then were the first step. Okay let's go for the next one. Let's really reduce bycatch.

Halibut bycatch is totally out of control. At the present the IPHC can only reduce catch in the directed fishery to compensate for bycatch. This puts the bycatch ahead of the directed fishery which is totally and completely wrong and backwards.

The bycatch in the BSAI is very small halibut. It is also measured in pounds. This means total bycatch removals from this area represent a huge portion of the spawning biomass as the number of fish is huge. This is a huge negative impact on the biomass. A biomass that is at a historical low.

Meaningful action needs to happen now. The trawl by catch of juvenile halibut is a disaster for the whole halibut biomass as well as for the entire directed fishery.

Thank you

Carolyn Nichols
111 Knutson Dr
Sitka, Ak 99835

Sent from my iPad

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 6:03 AM

To: carenichols@hotmail.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Bering Sea halibut bycatch

1 message

Tamara Shrader <tamara.shrader@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 4:25 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Resource conservation and maintaining sustainable fisheries can no longer be just a place on an agenda fought by well-funded political groups. It needs to be actually done. The NPFMC has delayed action on halibut bycatch for far too long. I fished area 4A for many years on a small boat, and anytime the waste is twice the commercial catch, there should be a red flag. Well, these red flags are waving loudly and the Council needs to act speedily. It may already be too late. Halibut stocks have been declining steadily for several years now and we cannot afford to continue to waste this precious resource. All halibut users need to bear the burden of conservation, not just the commercial halibut sector. If you use it, you also protect it, period. Sustainability is key.

The luxury of bycatch waste is no longer affordable. Please stop this now and quickly, our time is running out.

Thank you.
Tammie Shrader



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Halibut bycatch

2 messages

Scott & Teresa Visscher <visscher4@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 9:29 AM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Please do more to reduce Halibut bycatch. Thankyou.

Scott Visscher
Haines and Elfin Cove AK.

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Tue, Dec 1, 2015 at 9:29 AM

To: visscher4@gmail.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

bycatch

2 messages

Christopher White <chriswht50@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 3:53 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

I have depended on halibut fishing for 12 years. The TAC has generally plummeted since then. The bycatch in the Bering Sea is totally skewed against the directed fishery. It is simply wrong. Please address this and do something meaningful.

Thank you for your consideration.
Chris White
f/v Vulcan

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 3:53 PM

To: chriswht50@gmail.com

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.



NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

The Council to make the halibut resource and directed halibut fisheries the PRIORITY and REDUCE BYCATCH.

2 messages

fvceanranger . <fv.oceanranger@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 5:35 PM

To: npfmc.comments@noaa.gov, Halibut Coalition <halibutcoalition@gmail.com>

Im writing regarding a few issues I have that the council in the past years have been ignoring and impenenting on the commercial fisherman especially the longline fleet.

I have been a commercial fisherman since I was 7 yrs old being 36 yrs old now and understanding more of the fishing since all the IFQ and RFQ programs were implemented. I dont agree on a few issues that are not being addressed.

1. Trawler bycatch: We have a great impact on the halibut and not only halibut a lot of by-catch caught by the Trawl fleet, the trawl fleet have never been implemented a by catch reduction or biomass decrees as hard of an impact as the longline commercial fisherman (some Commercial fisherman even losing there vessels, permits, and there homes to this). We all know that the commercial trawl fleet do catch majority of the fish in the ocean and having not enough reduction in bycatch and then not only does the council not reduce there seafood catch, the council extends there biomass. Now how is that ethical and a fare act towards the other percentage of commercial fisherman like the longliners, pot, jiggers, etc. If the Council does not reduce the by catch from the Trawl fleet and again take the biomass from the longliners as the council has been doing in the past years to this day, then there will be no fish of any kind in our Alaska Seafood Industry. The council needs to implement a huge reduction by-catch from the trawlers and stop taking away from the longliners. The council needs to realize that if that does not happen then there will be no fishing for any commercial fisherman in the future not even the trawl fleet will continue fishing as there will be no fish to catch.

Unless its the councils intention to let the trawlers ruin the ocean floor and catch out the seafood in the ocean that includes all the vegetation that grows in the ocean that the trawlers destroy. Do not make the same mistake like the European Trawl Industry. look and research what happened once the ocean floor was ruined and vegetation was destroyed, and the seafood was depleted as there was no more fish to catch in the ocean for any fisherman. Only then the trawl fleet was banned. as it was to late. why do we have to wait in Alaska to let that happen.

2. The other problem we have in the commercial industry is the Sport Fisherman: The council taking away from the longline fleet and increasing the sport fishermans halibut RFQ. We all know that most fish caught by the sport fisherman is caught and taken to other states and resold to consumers and having no tax implemented on the fish they catch or even fines and or penalties implemented vesus the commercial fisherman. As a commercial fisherman we suffer greatly in paying taxes: Fish Tax, Borough Tax, State Tax, City Tax, NMFS Tax etc. pouring millions of dollars in taxes to the agencies. versus the sport fisherman having no taxes whatsoever and then not only doesnt the sport fisherman not pay any fish taxes, they take Alaskan Seafood anywhere in the world and sell it making a big profit without recourse whatsoever..Especially in the Bering Sea the longline commercial fisherman is demanded to lose there share of the fish and the trawl fleet and sport fisherman get increases, as the lonlinging fisherman suffers the consequences and then losing all the investment made through out the years. As the trawl fleet and the sport fisherman are getting wealthier by every year that passes by. As the Commercial Longliners lose there businesses.

NOTE: Make the right decisions and save the fishing years to come and keeping the funds in the State of Alaska for the commercial fisherman not giving it away for free. if the sport fisherman can take it for free! then give it to the commercial fisherman in the same manner.

Wild Legacy Seafoods
F/V Ocean Ranger
Kiril Z. Basargin

Po Box 2395
Homer, Ak 99603
[\(907\) 226-2286](tel:(907)226-2286)
[\(907\) 399-5275](tel:(907)399-5275)

December 2015

NPFMC comments - NOAA Service Account <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>
To: fv.oceanranger@gmail.com

Mon, Nov 30, 2015 at 5:35 PM

Thank you for your comment. You may submit your comments for our 2015 December meeting until Tuesday December 1st.

Chairman Dan Hull and North Pacific Fisheries Management Council Members:

The ongoing halibut wastage as bycatch in the Bering Sea fisheries is a national disgrace.

The current estimated halibut biomass is the lowest in two decades, yet the Council has yet to seriously address and implement meaningful measures to address excessive bycatch. Continued delay in Council action to reduce bycatch that has been killing hundreds of thousands of juvenile halibut annually is irresponsible, and no longer acceptable, if it ever was.

For starters, halibut nursery grounds need to be closed to trawling and factory longlining. Deck sorting of halibut, as is done in Canadian trawl fisheries, should become a standard practice in Alaska as well. 100% trawl and factory longline observer coverage should be mandatory, if not already. Current bycatch caps need to be drastically reduced, by at least a minimum of 50%, and closures of targeted species should be implemented immediately if bycatch caps are reached.

The Council clearly stated during its June 2015 meeting in Sitka that its action on Bering Sea bycatch was “just the first step”. There is no excuse for further delay.

Respectfully,

Charles E. “Ed” Wood
F/V Talon
P.O. Box 383
Petersburg, AK 99833-0383
907-772-3480 (home)
907-518-0480 (cell)