

# C7 CHARTER HALIBUT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

DECEMBER 2023



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# ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Charter Halibut Management Committee met virtually **Oct 20, 2023**

- ✓ Received final estimates of charter halibut removals for 2022 and preliminary estimates for 2023
- ✓ Recommended management measures for analysis
- ✓ Reviewed and approved a draft Terms of Reference (for Council final approval)
- ✓ Discussed the charter halibut management timeline and possible solutions
- ✓ Discussed the topic of unguided rental boats



# ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Charter Halibut Management Committee met **Dec 6, 2023**

- ✓ Reviewed the ADF&G analysis on requested management measures
- ✓ Provided recommendations on a preferred range of management measures for 2024
- ✓ Received presentation on eLogbooks
- ✓ Guided Angler Fish report posted
- ✓ Discussed possible future charter actions and other business



# COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – AREA 2C

The Charter Halibut Management Committee recommends the following harvest measures for the Area 2C guided recreational halibut fishery in 2024:

A daily bag limit of 1 halibut, with a reverse slot size limit, where the upper limit is fixed at O80 (halibut equal to 80 inches or more may be retained). If the guided sport allocation is:

- a) 0.94 Mlb or above: U40O80 increasing the lower limit as available to reach allocation. (**Table 2C.4**)
- b) Between 0.93 and 0.88 Mlb: U40O80 closing consecutive Fridays as needed from the end of the season to remain within allocation but extending no earlier than July 12<sup>th</sup>. (**Table 2C.4** in combination with **Table 2C.5f**)
- c) Between 0.87 and 0.80 Mlb: U40O80 transitioning to U36O80 on July 15, closing consecutive Fridays as needed from the end of the season to remain within allocation, but extending no earlier than July 12<sup>th</sup>. (**Table 2C.6** in combination with **Table 2C.5f**)
- d) 0.79 to 0.74 Mlb: U37O80 closing consecutive Fridays as needed from the end of the season to remain within allocation but extending no earlier than July 12<sup>th</sup>. If the allocation is not met, reduce the lower limit to U36 and close consecutive Fridays as needed from the end of the season to remain within allocation but extending no earlier than July 12<sup>th</sup>. (**Table 2C5.f**)



# COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS - AREA 3A

The Charter Halibut Management Committee recommends the following harvest measures for the Area 3A guided recreational halibut fishery in 2024:

All allocations shown below include, unless otherwise specified: a daily bag limit of 2 halibut; one fish of any size and one fish with a maximum size limit; 1 trip per charter vessel per day with retention of halibut; 1 trip per charter halibut permit per day; and closed Wednesdays.

- 1) If the allocation is greater than or equal to 1.880Mlb: Increase the size of the second fish until the projected charter harvest removals meet the allocation.
- 2) If the allocation is less than 1.880 Mlb, but greater than 1.590 Mlb: In addition to all closed Wednesdays and a second halibut 28 inches or less, close as many Tuesdays as needed to keep the charter harvest removals within the Area 3A allocation, as indicated in **Table 3A.10 (page 32)** of the ADF&G analysis.
- 3) If the allocation is less than 1.590 Mlb, but greater than 1.513 Mlb: In addition to closing all Tuesdays and Wednesdays, lower the size of the second fish to as low as 26 inches, until the projected charter harvest removals meet the allocation as indicated in **Table 3A.11 (page 33)** of the ADF&G analysis.
- 4) If the allocation is less than 1.513 Mlb: Then select a 4-fish annual limit of halibut which then would bring the projected yield to 1.460 Mlb as indicated in **Table 3A.14. (page 36)** of the ADF&G analysis.

