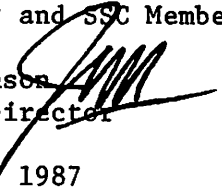


M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, AP and SSC Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson   
Executive Director

DATE: January 14, 1987

SUBJECT: Halibut Management for 1987

ACTION REQUIRED

Consider proposals and forward recommendations to the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

BACKGROUND

(a) Summary of IPHC Staff Proposals for 1987 Fishery

Attachment A is a summary of IPHC staff proposals for regulation of the 1987 Pacific halibut fishery. These proposals were mailed to the Council family on January 5, 1987. The Council may wish to review them and forward recommendations to the Halibut Commission for consideration at their meeting next week.

(b) Proposals for Exclusive Registration Areas, Vessel Clearance and Hold Inspections

At its last meeting, the Council was asked to support halibut fishery proposals advocated by fishermen from Atka, Bristol Bay and Southcentral Alaska. These proposals will be considered by the IPHC at its annual meeting next week. In December the Council decided to review these matters at this meeting.

Fishermen from Atka have asked the Council to support their request that the IPHC create a new regulatory area, Area 4F (see Attachment B), and assign an area quota of 400,000 lbs. The proposal also calls for exclusive area registration and a one day on/one day off fishing scheme. Background information on the Atka halibut fishing operation is included in Attachment B.

Fishermen from Dillingham have petitioned the Halibut Commission to open a portion of the halibut nursery grounds in Bristol Bay for a commercial halibut fishery (see Attachment C). The proposed new area would be Area 4G, with a requested quota of 500,000 lbs. Other aspects of the Bristol Bay proposal are:

1. Two openings - June 1-15 and August 1-31;
2. Exclusive area registration;
3. Vessel size limit of 32 ft;
4. Individual vessel quotas of 10,000 lbs.;
5. Gear limitation of four skates per vessel during the first year of the fishery; and,
6. Vessel clearances and hold inspection at Dutch Harbor before each opening in Area 4G for all vessels not landing their total annual halibut catch in Bristol Bay.

In December, representatives from fishing organizations in Kodiak and Homer asked the Council to support their request that the IPHC implement a system of mandatory hold inspections in Area 3 ports 48 hours before and 48 hours after halibut openings in 1987. The Council has, in the past, advocated similar action by the Commission. Attachment D is a December 11, 1984 letter from the Council to the Commission recommending the implementation of preseason hold inspections for the 1985 halibut fishery. The Commission did not adopt the Council's recommendation because of a lack of funding to implement the inspection system.

COMMISSIONERS:

SIGURD BRYNJOLFSON  
DELTA, B.C.

RICHARD ELIASON  
SITKA, AK

DONALD MCLEOD  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

T. W. MC VEY  
JAU, AK

ROBERT MORLEY  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

GEORGE WADE  
SEATTLE, WA

# INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA  
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ATTACHMENT A

DIRECTOR  
DONALD A. MC CAUGHRAN

P.O. BOX 95009  
SEATTLE, WA 98145-2009

TELEPHONE  
(206) 634-1838

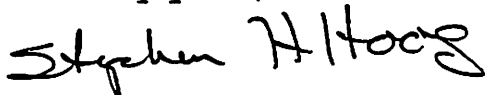
December 15, 1986

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a summary of preliminary staff proposals for regulation of the 1987 Pacific halibut fishery. Some of the proposals are still general; more specific proposals will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

If you have any questions about the proposals, please let me know. There will be full opportunity for discussion on these and other proposals during the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen H. Hoag  
Acting Director

jdf

enc

## International Pacific Halibut Commission

December, 1986

### Preliminary Stock Assessment

A current assessment of halibut stocks indicates that total biomass remains high and in some areas exceeds the biomass that produces the long term maximum sustained yield (MSY). The distribution of the resource continues to indicate that stocks are highest in Alaska and lower off British Columbia, Washington and Oregon. An increase in biomass was noted in Areas 2A (Washington and Oregon) and 3A (Central Gulf of Alaska) whereas a decrease was estimated in Area 3B (Western Gulf of Alaska). Biomass in Areas 2B (British Columbia), 2C (Southeast Alaska), and 4 (Bering Sea-Aleutians) did not change appreciably.

The incidental catch of halibut by other fisheries has continued to decline, but this trend may reverse when foreign fisheries are replaced by domestic fisheries over the next few years. The IPHC staff is also concerned about increased wastage within the halibut fishery. The problem is a direct result of the short, intense fishing periods in recent years and is caused by (1) lost and abandoned fishing gear, (2) prospecting prior to the fishing period and (3) poor treatment of halibut below the legal size limit. The staff does not have a precise estimate of the magnitude of the wastage, but it probably is at least several million pounds.

The staff has received an increasing number of reports that illegal fishing is occurring both before and after a fishing period. Further, some processors are still reporting quality problems although the quality of the landings is better than it was a few years ago.

## Preliminary Staff Recommendations for the 1987 Fishery

### Catch Limits

The staff recommends that the total 1987 catch limit remain similar to last year's catch limit of about 66 million pounds. A summary of the 1986 catch limits and landings is attached. Specific recommendations for catch limits will be made in January and only general recommendations are provided below.

In Area 2A, the 1986 catch limit was 0.55 million pounds. Stocks appear to be increasing in this area, but the staff is reluctant to increase the catch limit because of an increasing sport harvest and because stocks are still below levels that produce MSY.

In Area 2B, the 1986 catch limit was 11.2 million pounds. Stocks have increased only slightly in this area since the late 1970's and are well below MSY levels. The staff suggests that the 1987 catch limit should be reduced slightly to improve the opportunity for rebuilding.

In Area 2C, the 1986 catch limit was 11.2 million pounds. Assessment results suggest that stocks remained stable in 1986, and the 1986 catch limit is near the estimated MSY. The staff recommends that the 1987 catch limit should remain similar to that in 1986.

In Area 3A, the 1986 catch limit was 28.1 million pounds. Stocks continue to increase and are at or above levels that produce MSY. The staff recommends that the catch limit be increased slightly if a solution to the wastage problem associated with the short intense fishing periods can be found.

In Area 3B, the 1986 catch limit was 10.3 million pounds. Stocks appear to have declined slightly in 1986 although the resource remains healthy. The staff proposes reducing the 1987 catch limit slightly because of concern for wastage and because stocks may be declining.

In Area 4, the combined catch limit was 5.05 million pounds in 1986. Stocks remained stable in 1986 and the staff recommends keeping the 1987 catch limit the same as in 1986.

#### Fishing Periods

Fishing periods must be set to assure that two important biological considerations are accommodated. First to avoid exceeding the catch limits, the staff must be able to determine a daily catch rate so appropriate closure dates can be announced in advance in each regulatory area. Second, fishing should be distributed over time so all segments of the stock will be fished as uniformly as possible. Industry groups prefer that fishing periods be set to avoid fishing on large tides; to avoid outfitting and landings on weekends and holidays, and to avoid conflicts with other fisheries such as herring and salmon.

Based on trends in recent years, the staff believes that daily catches are likely to increase in 1987, resulting in even fewer fishing days than in 1986. Further, evidence suggests that the daily catch rate will increase as the number of fishing days declines. For example, the catch during a 1 day period will be more than half of the catch during a 2 day period. The staff expects the proposed catch

limits will be taken as follows depending on the length of the fishing period:

Number of fishing periods - average fishing days/period

<u>Area</u>	<u>Number of Fishing Periods</u>	<u>Number of Fishing Days</u>	<u>Average Days Per Period</u>
2A	2	18	9
	3	15	5
2B	2	16	8
	3	15	5
2C-3A	2	3	1.5
	3	2.5	less than 1
*3B	1	1	1
**4A	1	2	2
**4B	1	4	4
4C	15	15	1
**4D	1	7	7
4E	24	48	2

\* In addition to concurrent 3A openings

\*\* 4A, 4B, 4D openings coincide

There are a number of options for structuring the 1987 season. The attached Table and Figure provide one option that the staff developed to serve as a starting point for discussions within the fishing industry.

Other Proposals

The staff is concerned about wastage and enforcement problems associated with the short fishing periods in Areas 2C, 3A and 3B. One possible solution to these problems is to impose a limit on the catch per vessel, i.e. a trip limit. This limitation could allow for a longer fishing period which would (1) reduce the incentive to set more gear than could be retrieved during an opening, (2) provide more time to carefully release sublegal halibut, (3) avoid problems with bad

weather (4) eliminate the need for prospecting prior to the season, and (5) reduce illegal fishing before and after the season. There are many options for setting trip limits that need to be evaluated. An alternative to trip limits would be to limit the amount of fishing gear per vessel. The staff is working to further develop these options and is planning to make a proposal for limits on trip size or gear at the January meeting.



1987 Fishing Seasons

Area 2A - 3 openings

June 17 - June 22 - 5 days  
July 22 - July 27 5 days  
August 26 - to be determined 5 days expected

Area 2B - 3 openings

May 19 - May 24 5 days  
June 23 - June 28 5 days  
to be determined - Sept. 7 5 days expected

\*\*\*Area 2C - 2 or 3 openings

May 4 - May 5 1 day  
June 2 - June 3 1 day  
August 17 - 18 0.5 day expected  
Sept. 15 - to be determined 0 days expected

\*\*\*Area 3A - 2 or 3 openings

May 4 - May 5 1 day  
June 2 - June 3 1 day  
August 17 - 18 0.5 day expected  
Sept. 15 - to be determined 0 days expected

\*\*\* If there is insufficient catch limit left following the May opening to insure an August opening, then the June opening would be canceled; this could result in a 36 hour August opening.

Area 3B - 1 opening after 3A closes

May 4 - May 5 1 day  
June 2 - June 3 1 day  
August 17 - 18 1 day  
Sept. 15 - to be determined 1 day expected

Area 4A

May 4 - May 5 1 day  
\*June 2 - June 3 1 day  
July 18 - July 20 2 days  
August 30 - to be determined 0 days expected  
\*only if 3A is open

Area 4B

May 4 - May 5 1 day  
\*June 2 - June 3 1 day  
July 18 - July 22 4 days  
August 30 - to be determined 0 days expected  
\*only if 3A is open

Area 4C

June 1 - Oct. 31 1 day open, 1 day closed  
15 days expected

Area 4D

July 16 - July 23 7 days  
August 30 - to be determined 0 days expected

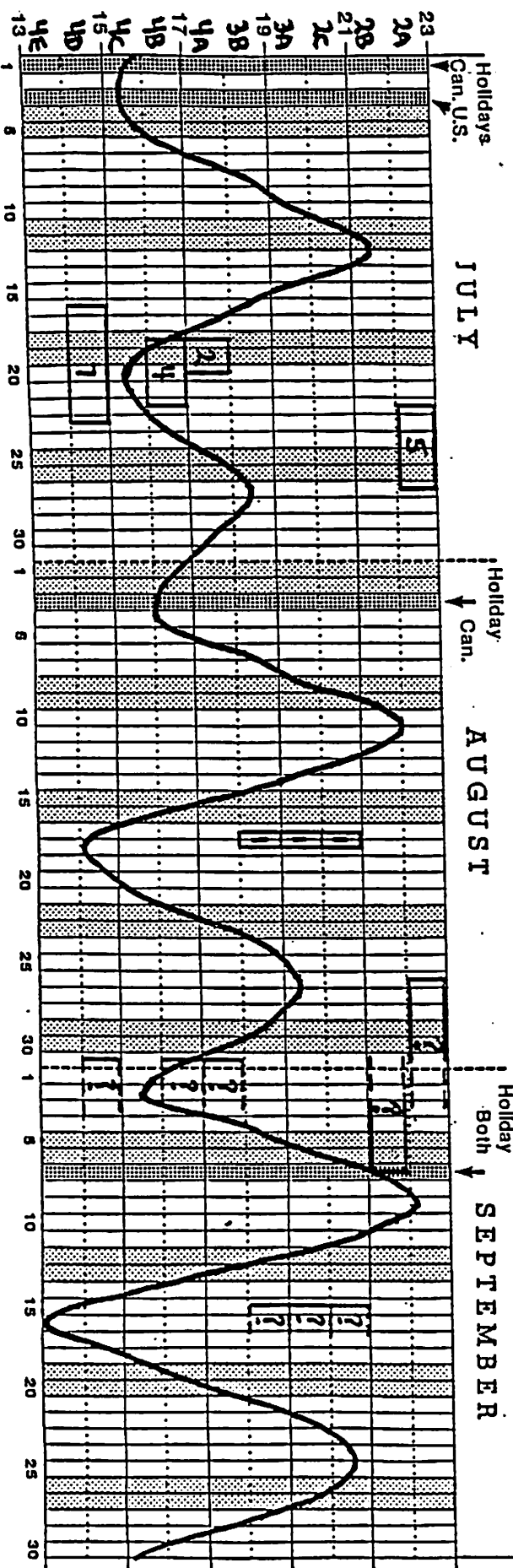
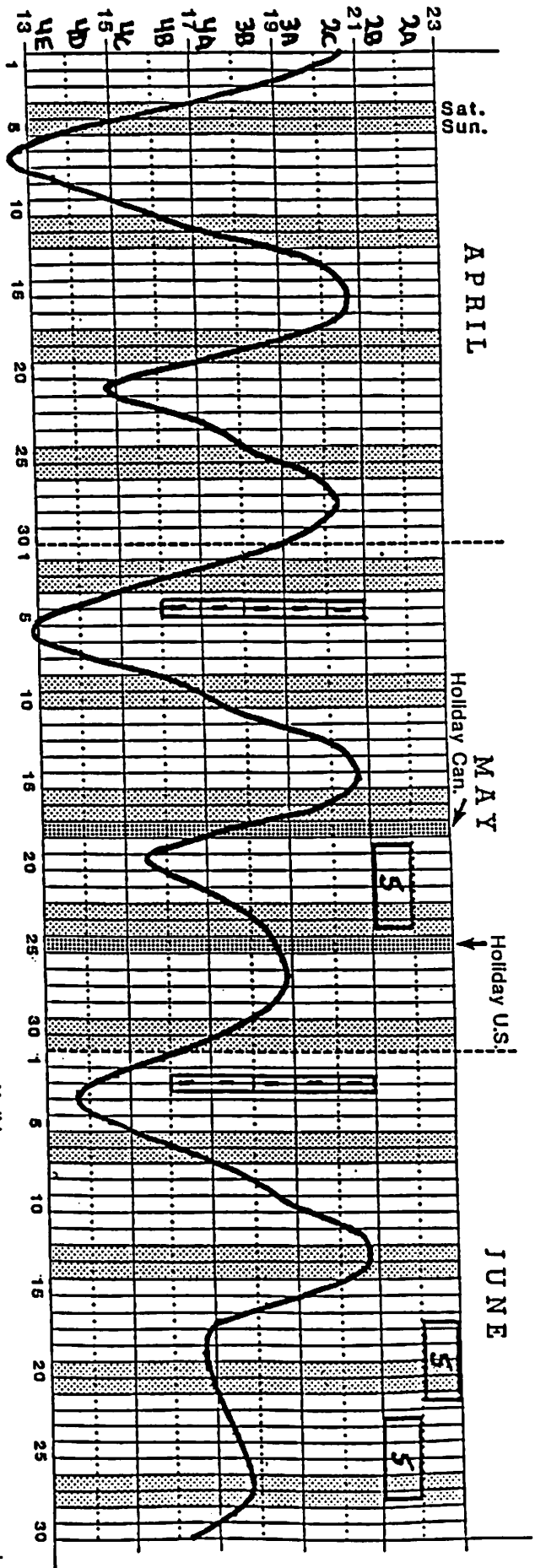
Area 4E

June 1 - Oct. 31 2 days open, 1 day closed

Height of Tide in Feet

Height of Tide in Feet

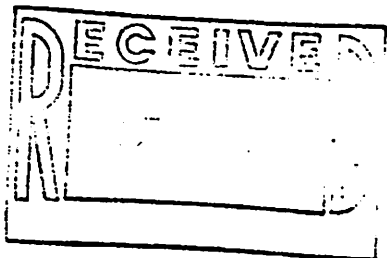
# 1987 Seldovia High Tides



Summary of 1986 Commercial Fishery

Area	Catch Limit (millions)	Opening Date	Closing Date	Fishing Days	Catch (thousands)
2A	.55	6/16	6/28	12	335
		7/15	7/22	7	197
(Treaty Tribes) *		4/30	10/31	(184)	17
				<u>19</u>	<u>549</u>
2B	11.2	5/03	5/11	8	6,443
		6/08	6/15	7	4,806
				<u>15</u>	<u>11,249</u>
2C	11.2	4/30	5/02	2	6,408
		5/29	5/31	1.5	4,253
				<u>3.5</u>	<u>10,661</u>
3A	28.1	4/30	5/02	2	15,240
		5/29	5/31	2	17,498
				<u>4</u>	<u>32,738</u>
3B	10.3	4/30	5/02	2	863
		5/29	5/31	2	1,813
		8/25	8/26	1	6,120
				<u>5</u>	<u>8,796</u>
4A	2.0	4/30	5/02	2	26
		5/29	5/31	2	44
		6/30	7/03	3	3,311
				<u>7</u>	<u>3,381</u>
4B	1.7	5/29	6/01	3	--
		6/30	7/03	3	261
				<u>6</u>	<u>261</u>
4C	.6	6/01	7/06	18	686
4D	.7	6/30	7/03	3	136
		7/29	8/03	5	1,087
				<u>8</u>	<u>1,223</u>
4E	<u>.05</u>	6/01	8/11	48	43
Total	66.4				<u>69,587</u>

\*50,000 pounds of the Area 2A catch limit was suballocated to four Northwest Indian treaty tribes by the United States Government.



Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's Assoc  
 Mike Zacharof, Chairman  
 St. Paul Island, AK 99660

October 20, 1986

ACTION	ROUTE TO	INITIAL
	Exec. Dir.	J
	Deputy Dir.	
	Admin. Off.	
	Exec. Sec.	
	Staff Asst. 1	
	Staff Asst. 2	
	Staff Asst. 3	
	Economist	
	Sec./Blkr.	
	Sec./Typist	

Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's  
 Association  
 Mike Zacharof, Chairman  
 St. Paul Island, Alaska 99660

Mr. James O. Campbell, Chairman  
 North Pacific Fishery Management  
 Council  
 P.O. Box 103136  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Campbell:

With the help of Representative Adelheid Herrmann, a meeting was organized that brought fishermen from the Pribilof Islands and Atka together, along with Senator Fred Zharoff, Ron Miller of your staff, Henry Mitchell, and a number of other interested people. As you will see from the enclosed list of participants, the October 14th meeting was well attended. As a result of this meeting, the Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's Association was formed which we hope will provide a stronger voice for the local Alaskan fishermen in our area. As Chairman of the Association, I would like to communicate some of our initial actions.

Over the years, the fishermen from the Pribilof Islands and Atka have been diligently working toward developing local fisheries to provide an economic base for the local residents. The State of Alaska has shown support and encouraged the development of local fishing fleets in the Pribilof Islands by providing funding for our much needed boat harbors. The local village corporations and individual fishermen have invested significant financial resources and secured bank loans to purchase fishing vessels and processing equipment.

All of these investments are in jeopardy of being lost, unless our small boat fishermen are provided better access to the halibut fishery.

Mr. Campbell  
October 20, 1986  
PAGE TWO

The fishermen from both the Pribilof Islands and Atka have separately approached the International Pacific Halibut Commission in past years for a number of different regulatory changes. The Commission has been responsive to our requests and we are hoping that this will continue when our Association approaches them in January with a number of new regulatory changes.

To begin with, Atka fishermen plan to request the formation of a new regulatory area, Area 4F. Presently, these fishermen are part of Area 4B. As you will recall from last year's opening, the fishermen in Area 4A caught well over their quota and therefore both 4A and 4B were closed, leaving the catch for Area 4B at only 300,000 pounds. This total catch is well below the 1.7 million pounds that was originally intended for Area 4B.

The newly formed Area 4F would include all waters in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska north of latitude 151 degrees 00'00"N., south of latitude 153 degrees 00'00"N., east of longitude 177 degrees 00'00"W., and west of longitude 172 degrees 00'00"W. This would create a fishery for the local small boat fleet of Atka and would not disturb the larger operations fishing further off shore in Area 4B. We are requesting a catch limit of 400,000 pounds for Area 4F, which will be caught during a "day on/day off" period of time beginning June 1st, until the entire quota is caught.

Since the majority of the larger vessels operate further off shore, we would like to request from the Council an exclusive registration area for Area 4F. The halibut fishery is the main source of income for the Atka fishermen and at this point, they are in danger of losing the resources expended in developing the local fleet and processing equipment. The Council does have the authority, through the North Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, to limit access and we hope that all economic factors described above will be taken into consideration when making a decision on this. The area covered by Area 4F is very minimal and would not cause significant amounts of economic loss to the very mobile and efficient larger boats that cover several fishing areas during a season.

*Approx  
50 x 150 miles*

Mr. Campbell  
October 20, 1986  
PAGE THREE

Since the formation of Area 4C for the Pribilof Islands, the situation has improved for the local small boat fleet from St. Paul and St. George. However, more needs to be done. When the Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's Association approaches the International Pacific Halibut Commission in January, we intend to propose a number of new regulatory changes for Area 4C.

To begin with, the capability of a few large vessels to take well over half of the quota within a couple of openings leaves the local vessels with less than enough halibut to break even. We are proposing to the Commission, an increased quota of 1,000,000 pounds for next season. But, what is most needed is an exclusive registration area around the Pribilof Islands within Area 4C.

The Association intends to propose gear restrictions for the entire Area 4C, but if an exclusive registration area were approved, then maybe these restrictions would not be fully necessary. The Pribilof Island residents rely on this fishery for a main source of income and have been working diligently to develop their local fleet and processing facilities. To have their entire season's quota caught within a couple of openings by a few large vessels can be devastating to the local economy of the Islands.

In proposing these two exclusive registration areas, we are not attempting to close out any of the "outside fleet." We are merely trying to develop an economic base for our communities. This economic base is dependent on access to a viable halibut fishery. If necessary, we would be happy to meet with Council members or staff before the meeting in December, for purposes of discussing these proposals.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Mike Zacharof, Chairman  
Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's  
Association

enclosure

cc: Representative Don Young  
Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Frank Murkowski  
John Kirkland  
Dr. Anthony J. Calio, NOAA

HALIBUT MEETING ON ALTERNATIVES FOR SMALL BOAT FISHERMEN FROM  
THE ALEUTIAN/PRIBILOF AREAS

PEOPLE ATTENDING:

Mel Monsen, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Iliodor Philemonof, Tanaq Corp. (St. George)  
Henry Mitchell, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Max Lestenkof Sr., St. Paul fisherman  
Mark Snigaroff, Atka Fishermen's Association  
Adrian Melovidov Sr., St. Paul  
Mike Zacharof, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Flore Lekanof Sr., Tanaq Corp. (St. George)  
Anna Philemonof, Tanaq Corp. (St. George)  
Ron Miller, North Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
Marie Matsuno Nash, Senator Stevens' Office  
Perfenia Pletnikoff Jr., Pribilofs  
Ben Lopez, Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association  
B. J. O'Connor, St. George Island  
Senator Fred Zharoff  
Max Malavansky, St. George Mayor  
John Philemonof, St. George Island  
Jeff Kashevarof, St. George Island  
Andronik Kashevarof Jr., St. George Island  
Rich Wilson, St. George City Manager  
Ronald Snigaroff, Atka Fishermen's Association  
Michael Snigaroff, Atka Fishermen's Association  
Ron Philemonoff, TDX Corporation  
Victor Mercurief, TDX Corporation  
Dimitri Philemonof, Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association  
Lee Goodman, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Sarah S. Mercurief, Tanaq Corporation (St. George)  
Betty L. Mercurief, Tanaq Corporation (St. George)  
Anthony B. Mercurief, Tanaq Corporation  
Mark Mercurief, Tanaq Corporation  
Agafangel Mercurief, Tanaq Corporation  
Lamar Cotten, Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference  
Bret Coburn, Tanaq Corporation  
Gilbert Kashevarof, St. George Island

Organized by:

Representative Adelheid Herrmann  
Melanie Ludvick, Staff





## ATKA HALIBUT FISHERY PROFILE

**HISTORY:** 1984 harvest - 42,000 lbs.  
1985 harvest - 72,000 lbs.  
1986 harvest - 7,000 lbs.

**PARTICIPATION:** 40 fishermen.

**VESSELS:** 20 boats; most are 14'-18' open skiffs.  
In 1986 one 24' boat was introduced to the fishery.

**GEAR:** All boats use groundline and snap-on gear. Most fishermen fish handlines while other gear is "soaking."

**PROCESSING:** Fishermen also process their catch. They are not paid for processing work. Currently, approximately 4,000 lbs can be processed per day and there is storage capacity for 100,000 lbs. By 1988 storage capacity may be expanded to 400,000 lbs.

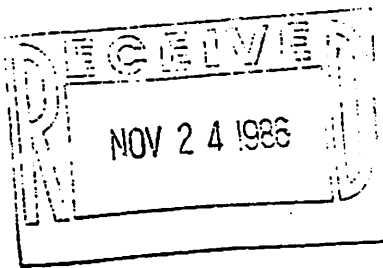
**FISHING ECONOMY:** The price paid to fishermen has varied from .60-\$1.05 per pound. The finished product is shipped via barge for sale in Seattle. Fishermen are not paid until all harvesting, processing and marketing expenses have been deducted from the halibut sales receipts.

1985 was the peak year for halibut earnings, with approximately \$76,000 accruing to the fishermen. Commercial fishing represents the only local cash economy for the 96 residents of Atka.

**INVESTMENT:** Approximately \$117,000 has been invested in boats and gear. Gear purchases were funded by a \$15,000 loan from the Atka village corporation. Current plans are to purchase eight 28' longline vessels with a \$450,000 bank loan guaranteed by the B.I.A.

Approximately \$80,000 has been invested in processing and cold storage facilities. Planned expansion of these facilities is to be funded by a \$150,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration, a \$33,000 grant from the State of Alaska, and a \$144,000 loan from the village corporation.

Andy Golia  
 Box 663  
 Dillingham, AK 99576



ACTION	ROUTE TO	INITIAL
November 17, 1986	Exec. Dir.	AG
	Deputy Dir.	
	Admin. Off.	
	Exec. Sec.	
	Staff Asst. 1	
	Staff Asst. 2	
	Staff Asst. 3	
	Economist	
	Sec. Bkkr.	
	Sec./Typist	

Dr. Donald A. McCaughran, Director  
 International Pacific Halibut Commission  
 P. O. Box 95009  
 Seattle, WA 98145-2009

Dear Dr. McCaughran:

On October 28, 1986, a number of local commercial fishermen met in Dillingham, Alaska to discuss the possible introduction of a small-boat, near-shore, commercial longline halibut fishery in the Bristol Bay area.

The meeting was held by the fishermen because they feel strongly that there is a growing need to diversify and examine the possible development of an alternative commercial fishery in the local area, such as a halibut fishery.

As you may be aware, the Bristol Bay nearshore area now has two commercial fisheries - salmon and herring. Both fisheries play an important role on the economic base of many Bristol Bay communities. The fishermen who attended the meeting were deeply concerned about the future profitability of salmon and herring because the future outlook does not appear very promising.

In recent years, the local salmon fishery has experienced a failure of returning stocks to its largest producing river system - the Kvichak River. Such a collapse in the Kvichak River has resulted in a much more competitive fishery in the other river systems of Bristol Bay, which is having an adverse impact on the livelihood of the fishermen.

Furthermore, local management biologists forecast another weak salmon return for the Kvichak River in the upcoming 1987 season.

Another important reason why the fishermen feel they must diversify is because the future outlook of the local herring fishery looks even worse. In the last several years, the fishery has experienced a severe lack of younger age class herring stocks. If no recruitment shows up in the 1987 and 1988 returns, the management biologists expect a declining biomass.

Although the Togiak herring fishery has grown to become the State's largest herring fishery, the biologists expect a large reduction in its harvest level for 1987, and further reductions or zero harvests commencing in 1988.

The dismal situation in these fisheries has provided the in-

Dr. McCaughran  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
November 17, 1986  
PAGE TWO

centive for the fishermen to meet and examine the possible establishment of a small-boat, near-shore halibut fishery in Bristol Bay. They realize that diversification into other fisheries is the key to their survival.

Therefore, the fishermen concluded at their meeting to recommend the following criteria for a new small-boat, near-shore halibut fishery in Bristol Bay:

ARFA:

The new regulatory area will be considered 4G, and will extend from Cape Newenham, adjacent to the AREA 4F, and shall encompass the area 20 miles offshore along the coast to north of Cape Seniavin (see attached map).

FISHING PERIODS:

The new regulatory area will be allowed two fishing periods per year - one commencing June 1 and ending June 15, and the other commencing August 1 and ending August 31, of each year.

CATCH LIMITS:

The new regulatory area will have a total catch limit of 500,000 pounds of halibut each year, of which 250,000 pounds will be limited for harvest during each fishing period.

Additionally, the fishermen at the meeting unanimously agreed that the new regulatory area can be kept small-scale by imposing the following restrictions:

1. Exclusive registration shall be established for the new regulatory area.
2. Vessel length in the new regulatory area shall be restricted to 32' in length or less. A 32' boat limit has been imposed on the Bristol Bay salmon fishery for years.
3. Each participating vessel in the new regulatory area shall be allowed a maximum annual harvest of 10,000 pounds of halibut. A 5,000 pound per boat limit shall be allowed in the first opening, and a 5,000 pound per boat limit in the second opening. This is a familiar concept in the Bristol Bay salmon fishery where canneries have customarily imposed limits on fishermen during the fishing season.

Dr. McCaughran  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
November 17, 1986  
PAGE THREE

4. During the first year of the fishery, a maximum of four skates per participating vessel shall be imposed in the new regulatory area. This restriction can be adjusted after the first year, considering the production level of each participating vessel.

5. The same type of landing requirement as proposed by the Aleutian Pribilof Fishermen's Association in AREA 4C shall be applied to the second opening of the new regulatory area, requiring vessel clearance and hold inspection at Dutch Harbor before each opening in Bristol Bay for all vessels not landing their total annual catch in Bristol Bay.

The fishermen realize that the Bristol Bay area has been closed to fishing since 1967 because the area has been determined to be nursery waters for halibut. However, the fishermen believe that the proposed small-boat, near-shore, halibut fishery provides the necessary guidelines to keep the fishing effort small-scale, and will have no adverse long-term impact on the halibut stocks in this area.

It is respectfully requested that this letter be considered a formal request to the Halibut Commission to be considered at their annual meeting in January, 1987. In addition, we would like to schedule a private meeting with the Commissioners at their convenience during the meeting.

We would also like to participate with any of the Conference Board meetings of the Halibut Commission during that time, and request that a copy of this letter be sent to all the Conference board members from your office as soon as possible.

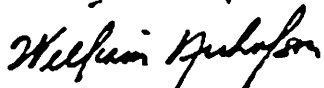
We sincerely hope that the Halibut Commission will give careful and favorable consideration to allow local Bristol Bay fishermen to diversify and maximize benefits from the abundant halibut resource, as it has done for so many other Pacific halibut fishermen.

If your office, or any of your Commissioners have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Andy Golia at (907) 842-5307, or William Nicholson at (907) 842-5648, or you may write us by sending the letter to Andy Golia, P. O. Box 663, Dillingham, Alaska 99576.

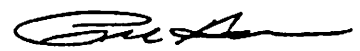
Sincerely yours,



Andy Golia  
Dillingham



William Nicholson  
Dillingham



Paul Hansen  
Naknek

Dr. McCaughran  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
November 17, 1986  
PAGE FOUR

*Dan O'Hara*  
Dan O'Hara  
Naknek

*Gusty Chythlook*  
Gusty Chythlook  
Aleknagik

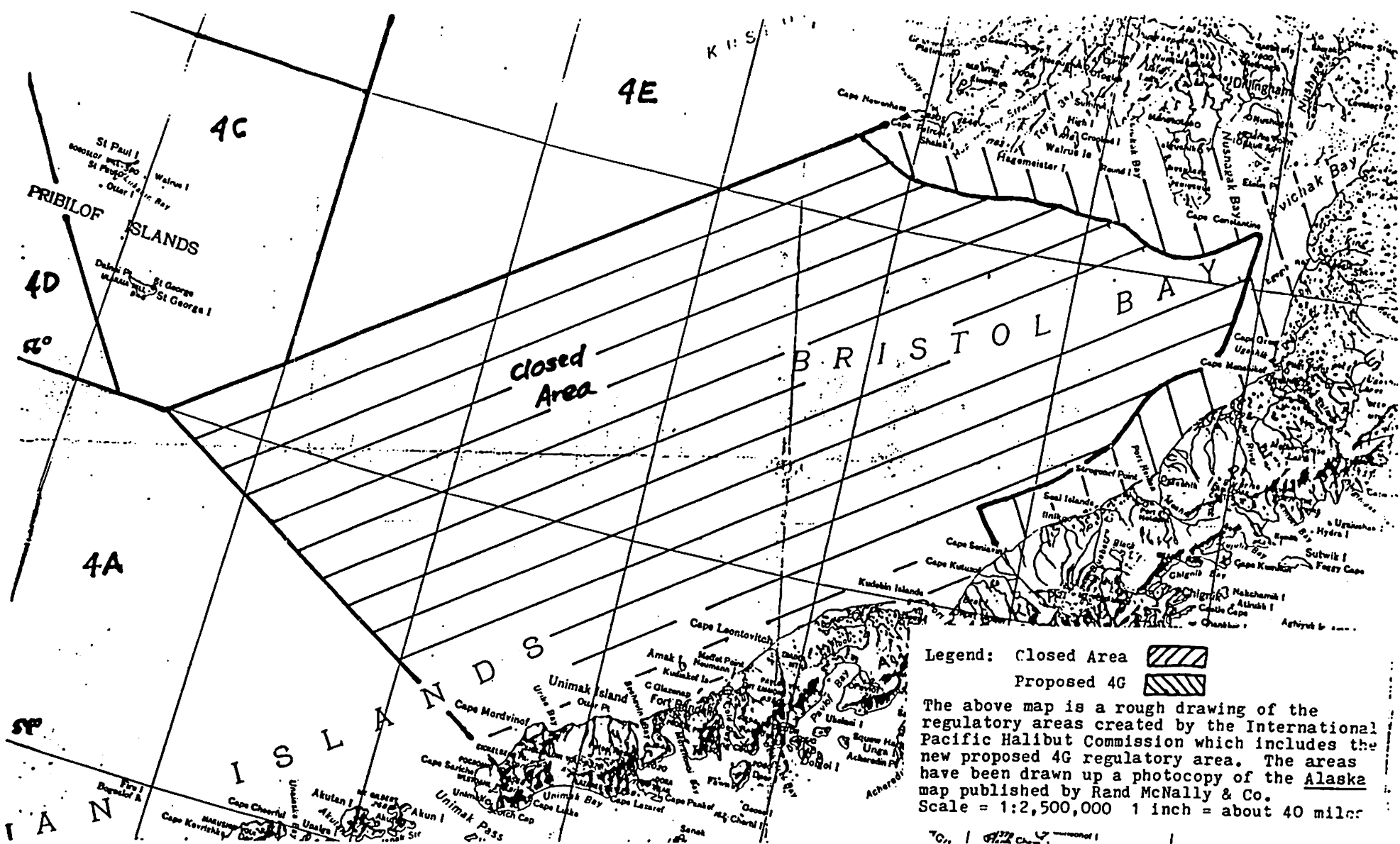
*Robert Heyano*  
Robert Heyano  
Dillingham

*Joe McGill*  
Joe McGill  
Dillingham

*Tom Hoseth*  
Tom Hoseth  
Twin Hills

*Harvey Samuelson*  
Harvey Samuelson, Sr.  
Dillingham

cc Governor Bill Sheffield  
Governor-elect Steve Cowper  
Rep. Adelheid Herrmann  
Sen. Fred Zharoff  
Sen. Ted Stevens  
Sen. Frank Murkowski  
Congressman Don Young  
Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Jim Branson, Exec. Director, NPFMC  
City of Dillingham  
Bristol Bay Borough  
Bristol Bay Native Corporation  
Bristol Bay Native Association  
United Fishermen of Alaska



# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

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Anchorage, Alaska 99510



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December 11, 1984

Mr. Don McCaughran, Executive Director  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
P.O. Box 95009  
Seattle, Washington 98145-2009

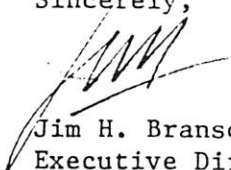
Dear Don:

At last week's meeting, the Council voted to forward the following proposals to the IPHC for its consideration at their annual meeting.

1. The Council recommends that the IPHC implement for the 1985 season in Areas 2C, 3A, and 3B, a scheme of concurrent 1-, 2-, or 3-day openings spaced approximately 20-30 days apart, pre-season hold inspections, and pre-season non-exclusive area registration. If the Commission implements pre-season hold inspections, the Council recommends elimination of the requirement that a vessel using setline gear for other species stop fishing 5 days before a halibut opening.
2. The Council recommends that its working relationship with the IPHC be formalized through a Joint Memorandum of Understanding . (A copy of a draft Memorandum of Understanding is attached.)

If you have any questions or feel further elaboration on these proposals is necessary, please call. I hope all is going well with preparations for your meeting in Vancouver.

Sincerely,

  
Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

Enclosure