

# PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: C-8 Unguided Halibut rental boats

		<i>Check the boxes below if you will have a PowerPoint or Handout</i>		
	<b>NAME (Please Print)</b>	<b>TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:</b>	<b>Handout</b>	<b>PPT</b>
1	RICHARD YAMADA	ACA		
2	Tim Comer	SEA OTTER SOUND LODGE	✓	
3	Mike Warner	Coffman Cove ADVENTURES		
4	Jeff Wedekind	Chinook shores		
5	Forrest Braden	SEASO		✓
6	Tom Gemmell	Halibut Coalition.		
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

Guest Halibut Summary for Sea Otter Sound Lodge

4 year summary 2016 - 2019

Sea otter Sound is a full service high end self guided lodge in a remote area 50 miles north of Criag. Stays are mostly 5 days with 2 - 6 day and 1- 7 day booking week. We have 10 self guided boats w/2 guests per boat.

2016				
Guest weeks	Number of Guests	Guest Days	Total Guest Days	Halibut Caught
Week 1	20	5	100	7
Week 2	20	5	100	11
Week 3	20	5	100	15
Week 4	22	6	132	11
Week 5	22	5	110	7
Week 6	22	5	110	19
Week 7	20	5	100	25
Week 8	23	5	115	14
Week 9	23	7	161	25
Week 10	20	6	120	12
Week 11	20	5	100	30
Week 12	22	5	110	7
Week 13	20	5	100	6
Week 14	23	5	115	31
Week 15	20	5	100	6
Totals	317		1673	226
2017				
Guest weeks	Number of Guests	Guest Days	Total Guest Days	Halibut Caught
Week 1	20	5	100	5
Week 2	20	5	100	5
Week 3	20	5	100	10
Week 4	22	6	132	9
Week 5	22	5	110	3
Week 6	22	5	110	5
Week 7	20	5	100	0
Week 8	23	5	115	15
Week 9	23	7	161	9
Week 10	20	6	120	8
Week 11	20	5	100	15
Week 12	22	5	110	10
Week 13	20	5	100	4
Week 14	23	5	115	4
Week 15	20	5	100	18
Totals	317		1673	120





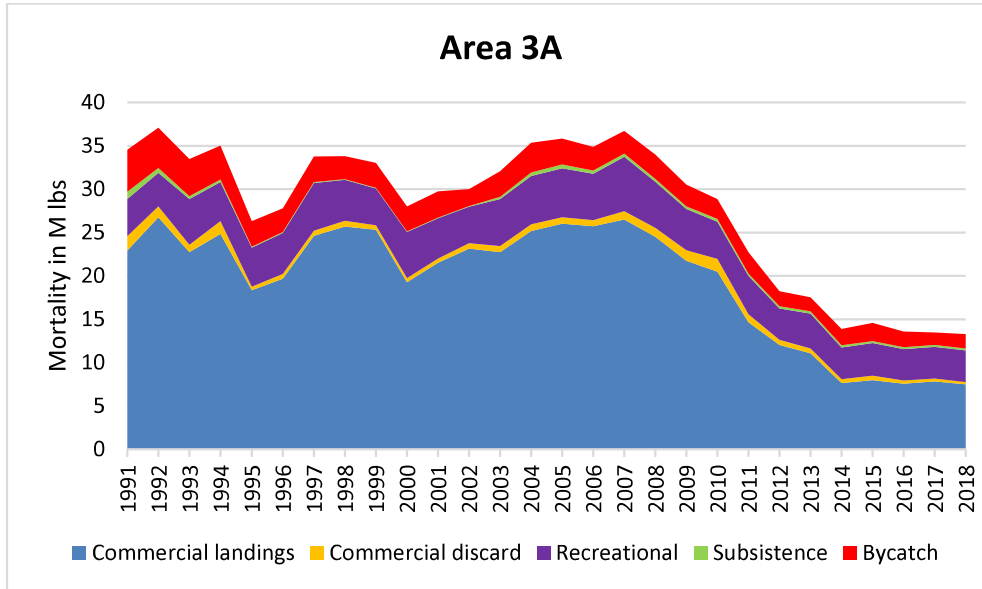
Putting these numbers in perspective is educational. One charter boat and skipper operating out of any SE Alaska community, fishing 80 days with 4 fishermen per day may harvest 320 halibut per season. Or, a full guided lodge that accommodates 20 guests and has 5 full guided boats (4 guests per vessel) will surpass our entire season's halibut catch in the first 9 days of their season. Another perspective is that out of any one day during our season, 2 halibut will come in for 20 guests. Our total halibut catch for the 2018 season is 186 halibut for 1,673 fisherman days.

Our guest demographic is 70% in their 60's to mid-70's in age. Retiree's, couples, or small business owners. They have been steady guests at the lodge for an average of 10 years. They know our waters. They do not have the patience or skill to catch halibut. Guessing this, but it seems half the halibut brought in are accidental catches on our \$500 salmon rods and reels.

The expectation of catching a halibut is extremely important to our guests. A logical solution to this issue is to put ALL recreational fishing under the CSP with a one halibut per day limit in 2C. We believe that Richard Yamada's proposal as outlined in his letter to the Council dated November 29, 2019 has a lot of merit.

Tim & Murtie Comer  
Sea Otter Sound Lodge  
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Figure 2-10 Area 3A halibut mortality estimates by sector in millions of net pounds.



Source: IPHC. Table originates from file 2Cand3Amortality1991\_2018.xlsx

Table 2-2 Charter GHL/Quota, and charter, unguided, and total sport harvest (M lb) of Pacific halibut in Area 2C and Area 3A.

Year	Area 2C				Area 3A			
	GHL/Quota	Charter	Unguided	Total	GHL/Quota	Charter	Unguided	Total
2003	1.43	1.41	0.85	2.26	3.65	3.38	2.05	5.43
2004	1.43	1.75	1.19	2.94	3.65	3.67	1.94	5.61
2005	1.43	1.95	0.85	2.80	3.65	3.69	1.98	5.67
2006	1.43	1.80	0.72	2.53	3.65	3.66	1.67	5.34
2007	1.43	1.92	1.13	3.05	3.65	4.00	2.28	6.28
2008	0.93	2.00	1.26	3.26	3.65	3.38	1.94	5.32
2009	0.79	1.25	1.13	2.38	3.65	2.73	2.02	4.76
2010	0.79	1.09	0.88	1.97	3.65	2.70	1.59	4.28
2011	0.79	0.34	0.69	1.03	3.65	2.79	1.61	4.41
2012	0.93	0.61	0.98	1.58	3.10	2.28	1.34	3.63
2013	0.79	0.76	1.36	2.12	2.73	2.51	1.45	3.97
2014	0.83	0.78	1.17	1.95	1.78	2.03	1.53	3.57
2015	0.81	0.77	1.33	2.09	1.89	2.07	1.62	3.68
2016	0.84	0.79	1.25	2.04	1.81	2.00	1.54	3.54
2017	0.94	0.90	1.22	2.12	1.89	2.08	1.53	3.61
2018	0.81	0.66	1.22	1.82	1.79	1.87	1.56	3.43

Note: GHL was replaced with a quota under the Halibut CSP after 2013 (black line). GHL or quota applies only to the charter harvest.

Source: Table originates from file HalHarv2003-2018. Number of fish harvested in charter fishery is from logbook data, estimate for unguided fishery is from the ADF&G Statewide Harvest Survey.

Figure 2-11 and Figure 2-12 highlight changes in charter and unguided harvest in Area 2C and Area 3A. The unguided harvest of halibut in Area 2C was variable from 2003 – 2015 and stabilized from 2015-2018. The declines in charter harvest from 2008-2011 resulted in the unguided harvest exceeding the charter harvest in Area 2C starting in 2011. This decline in charter harvest in Area 2C is predominately