Analysis of Management Options for the Area 2C and 3A Charter Halibut Fisheries for 2026

A Report to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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1.0 Introduction

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) approves catch limits for Pacific halibut each year for Regulatory Areas in Alaska. In IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A, which roughly correspond with Southeast and Southcentral Alaska, these catch limits are allocated between the commercial longline fishery and the sport charter fishery. The allocations are specified in the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP)[1]. The allocations vary with the magnitude of the overall catch limit, such that the percentage allocated to the charter sector increases slightly as catch limits decrease. The CSP also specifies that release mortality will count toward the sector's allocation. The CSP further specifies that, effective in 2014, charter harvest accounting will be based on numbers of halibut reported harvested in Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) saltwater guide logbooks.

The charter fishery in Areas 2C and 3A is managed under regulations reviewed and recommended each year by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and approved and published by the IPHC and NOAA as annual management measures. As the first step in this process, the Council's Charter Halibut Management Committee met October 23, 2025, to develop alternative management measures for analysis by the ADF&G for the 2026 season. ADF&G staff provided preliminary estimates of charter harvest and release mortality for the 2025 season to committee members prior to the meeting. Electronic logbooks were mandatory statewide in 2025. Data for all trips that were submitted prior to September 12, 2025, were used for preliminary estimates in areas 2C and 3A.

At the time of the October meeting, the 2025 preliminary reported harvest in Area 2C for the charter fishery was 76,683 halibut with an estimated average net weight of 9.20 lb (St. Saviour 2025). The Area 2C preliminary estimate of charter removals was 0.734 million pounds (Mlb), including an estimated 0.028 Mlb of release mortality. The preliminary estimate of charter removals was 1.9% over the 0.720 Mlb allocation. Charter halibut regulations in 2C included a one-fish bag limit, a reverse slot limit allowing for harvest of fish less than or equal to 37 inches or greater than or equal to 80 inches (U37O80). Tuesdays were closed to halibut retention from May 13 through September 9. Measures included a limit of one trip per vessel per day, and a limit of one trip per Charter Halibut Permit (CHP) per day.

In Area 3A, an estimated 140,570 halibut were harvested with an average weight of 9.83 lb (St. Saviour 2025) when preliminary estimates were reported to the Charter Halibut Management Committee in October. The preliminary estimate of charter removals for Area 3A was 1.397 Mlb, including 0.015 Mlb of release mortality. The preliminary estimate was 5.6% under the allocation of 1.480 Mlb. Charter regulations in 3A included a two-fish bag limit of which one fish could be any size and the second must be less than or equal to 27 inches, no harvest of halibut on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, a limit of one trip per vessel per day, and a limit of one trip per CHP per day.

The Charter Committee considered the performance of last year's measures, and in light of recent trends in effort, numbers of halibut harvested by charter anglers, average weight of halibut, halibut abundance, and economic considerations, identified the following measures for analysis for 2026:

[1] Catch Sharing Plan regulations are at: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2013/12/12/2013-29598/pacific-halibut-fisheries-catch-sharing-plan-for-guided-sport-and-commercial-fisheries-in-alaska

Area 2C (all options include a one-fish bag limit and inflation factor for release mortality):

- Reverse Slot ranging from 32 – 50 inches on the low end and 50 – 80 inches on the upper end.
- Reverse Slot confined to ranges of 32 – 40 inches on the low end and 50 – 80 inches on the upper end and a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day.
- Reverse Slot with day closures on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday with savings in removals displayed for each day of closure.
    a. Analyzed for each day from May 15 – September 15 or for the entire season
    b. Analyzed for lower slot limits ranging from 32 inches to 50 inches, and an upper slot limit of 80 inches.
    c. Include results as an excel workbook so members of the CHMC can select different closure day combinations or date range combinations and determine removals.
- The analysis above and a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day.

- Reverse Slot ranging from 32 – 50 inches on the low end and 50 – 80 inches on the upper end and an annual limit of 3 fish and an annual limit of 2 fish.

Area 3A (all options include, unless otherwise noted, a two-fish bag limit with a maximum size limit on one fish and one fish of any size, one trip per vessel and one trip per CHP per day, and all Wednesdays closed to retention of halibut):

- Maximum size limits of 26 – 32 inches on one fish;
- Day of the week closures on Tuesdays from April 1 – October 6 or for the entire season;
- In addition to Tuesday closures, seasonal open/ close dates weekly May 1 – June 1 and September 1 – October 1 under a range of maximum size limits on one fish in the bag limit;
- A daily bag limit of one fish of any size and day of the week closures on Tuesdays from April 1 – October 6 or for the entire season;
- A daily bag limit of one fish of any size and seasonal open/ close dates weekly May 1 – June 1 and September 1 – October 1 with Tuesdays closed.

This analysis provides information to stakeholders and the Council to assist them in selecting management measures likely to keep total charter removals within their allocations. The charter allocations will be derived from catch limits determined by the IPHC at their Annual Meeting in January 2026. The charter allocations will not be known when the Council is expected to make its recommendations in December 2025. It is recommended that the Council include contingencies to accommodate adoption of a range of catch limits.

The IPHC's 2025 stock assessment results were not available at the time of this publication. There are no Regulatory Area TCEYs to use as reference points for the analyses for the 2C and 3A charter management measures; still, there are several reference points that the Council may wish to consider in making recommendations for 2026:

- The Coastwide TCEY in 2025 was 29.72 Mlb, down from 35.28 Mlb in 2024.
- The 2024 Stock Assessment estimated a 3-year surplus TCEY for of 37.4 Mlb;
- The 2024 TCEY at the reference fishing intensity ($F_{43\%}$) was estimated to be 39.8 Mlb (Stewart and Hicks 2024).

Updated estimates of the commercial fishery CPUE in recent years were lower than previously estimated and resulted in a 17% decrease to the spawning biomass compared to what was estimated at the end of 2023. The estimated spawning biomass increased slightly from 145 Mlb at the beginning of 2024 to 147

Mlb at the beginning of 2025 due to the continued maturation of the 2012 year-class and the onset of maturity of the 2016 year-class.

In addition to the Coastwide TCEY, the Council may wish to consider changes in the stock distribution as estimated by the IPHC's Fishery Independent Setline Survey. While modelled numbers-per-unit-effort (NPUE) of all sizes were up from 2023 to 2024 by +11% in Region 2 and +1% in Region 3, weight-per-unit-effort (WPUE) of halibut over 32' (O32) was down -6% in 2C and -18% in 3A. In 2024, modelled stock distribution continued to increase in Region 2 to 27% of the coastwide total and decreased slightly in Region 3 to 44% of the coastwide total. In recent years, distribution procedures have considered the distribution of O32 biomass among Regulatory Areas, in addition to other factors such as relative harvest rates, socio-economic considerations, international agreements, and both survey and fishery CPUE when determining Regulatory Area TCEYs.

Considering the paucity of information on 2025 catch limits and distribution to Regulatory Areas, we have used the 2025 allocations as reference points for the 2026 charter management measures. Results presented here are within the context of allocations set for 2025:

IPHC Area	2025 Allocation (Mlb)
2C	0.720
3A	1.480

This analysis projects total charter fishery removals under the current (status quo) charter fishery regulations in each Regulatory Area. As shown below, under current regulations the projected charter removal in 2026 for Area 2C is 0.726 Mlb. The projected removal for Area 3A is 1.430 Mlb.

Area	Projected Status Quo Charter Removals (Mlb)	Status Quo TCEY Difference (Mlb) (2026 Projection - 2025 Allocation)
2C	0.726	+ 0.008
3A	1.430	- 0.034

For consistency with analyses reported in recent years, the analyses included in this report generally follow previously reported methods (King et al. 2022; Bowman et al. 2023; and St. Saviour et al. 2024). The analyses cover a range of alternatives as proposed by the Charter Halibut Management Committee to allow stakeholders, the Council, and the IPHC to select the desired management measures to meet the charter allocation for each Area. Where applicable, results reference candidate measures that result in projected charter removals within the 2025 allocation.

2.0 General Methods

2.1 Definitions and Basic Calculations

Throughout this analysis, the term "harvest" means the number of halibut killed and landed in the charter fishery. "Yield" is the harvest expressed in units of weight. "Release mortality" refers to halibut that die as a result of stress or injury from being caught and then released and is expressed in units of weight. Finally, "removals" refers to all halibut killed in the sport fishery, including harvest and release mortality,

and is measured in units of weight. Weight is based on length data from harvested halibut sampled at ports and the length-weight relationship developed by IPHC (Webster and Stewart 2022). Removals are generally projected from harvest, average weight, and release mortality as follows:

$$Harvest(no.fish) = Effort\ (angler\ days) \times HPUE\ (harvest\ per\ angler\ day),$$

$$Yield(lb) = Harvest \times AverageNetWeight(lb), \text{ and}$$

$$Removals\ (lb) = Yield(lb) \times r(lb)$$

where *r* is the release mortality expansion factor.

In prior years, in IPHC Area 2C the release mortality expansion factor was estimated as a function of the lower limit of the reverse slot limit. It was noted that the strength of this correlation has decreased steadily and there no longer appears to be a meaningful relationship between estimated release mortality and the lower reverse slot limit. Therefore, Area 2C and Area 3A release mortality was forecast as the 5-year average ratio of estimated release mortality to estimated yield in each respective area:

$$r(lb)=1+[ReleaseMortality(lb)/Yield\ (lb)]$$

which for 2024 is 1.041 in Area 2C and 1.009 in Area 3A.

2.2 Calculations by Subarea

All calculations for Area 2C and Area 3A were done by Subarea and then summed to obtain yield estimates for each Regulatory Area. Analyses were done at the Subarea level because many of the variables analyzed (harvest, effort, average weight, etc.) vary substantially by Subarea.

There are six Subareas in Area 2C and eight Subareas in Area 3A (Table 2C.1 and Table 3A.9, Figure 1). With few exceptions, the Subareas correspond to ADF&G sport fishery management areas as well as the reporting areas used for the ADF&G Statewide Harvest Survey (SWHS, mail survey of sport fishing). The Juneau and Haines/Skagway Areas were combined because the Haines/Skagway Area is not sampled for average weight and harvests are quite small. SWHS Area J is split into three Subareas: Eastern Prince William Sound (EPWS), Western Prince William Sound (WPWS), and the North Gulf Coast (NG). Likewise, Cook Inlet (SWHS Area P) is split into Central Cook Inlet (CCI) and Lower Cook Inlet (LCI) Subareas. These SWHS areas were split into Subareas such that the landings in each Subarea could be matched to estimates of average weight from port sampling. ADF&G obtained length measurements from harvested halibut and interviewed anglers and charter captains in at least one port in each Subarea. In addition, SWHS Area G (Glacier Bay) is divided into the 2C and 3A portions using statistical areas reported during biological sampling and in saltwater guide logbooks.

2.3 Harvest Forecasts

Time series methods are used to forecast harvest per unit effort (HPUE) in both Areas. Effort is measured in angler days; any days when bottomfish hours or bottomfish statistical areas were recorded in the logbook or halibut were harvested are considered days with halibut effort, permitting that day was open to harvest of halibut. Forecasts are inherently uncertain because they rely only on past data, which are not necessarily indicative of future trends. Time series forecasts can't be used in all instances because they assume that the same underlying processes are in place as those that generated the historical data. Therefore, recent regulation changes or social/economic conditions may bias a forecast or render it unsuitable for other regulatory scenarios. Time series methods used in this report include simple and double exponential smoothing models using SAS/ETS™[2] software. Simple exponential models have a single parameter representing the level of the estimate and typically fit best to data without a clear trend. Double exponential models have a parameter for level and a parameter for trend, and typically fit best to

[2] SAS/ETS™ software, Version 9.4, SAS System for Windows, Copyright © (2002-2025), SAS Institute, Inc.

data with a trend. Both models contain a smoothing weight, the value of which determines how much weight is given to more recent observations. The smoothing weights are optimized to minimize one-step-ahead prediction errors over the entire time series. Generally, the stronger the trend and lower the variability, the higher the smoothing weight and the more emphasis is placed on recent observations. Both simple and double exponential models were run for each time series and the forecasts with the smallest AICc value (Akaike Information Criterion, corrected for small sample size) were selected.

For Area 2C, there was a significant change in how effort was managed when day closures to halibut retention were first implemented in 2023. Rather than forecasting effort from previous years data, the preliminary estimates of effort for 2025 were used as the best indication of status quo effort for 2026. Harvest forecasts for 2026 were calculated for each Subarea as the product of the effort and HPUE forecasts.

Simple exponential and double exponential forecasts were generated for 2026 HPUE using logbook data for 2009- 2025. The years 2020 and 2021 were omitted from all Areas due to the impacts of COVID-19 on recreational fishing practices during that period. Simple exponential models were used for all Areas for 2026 (Table 3A.11, Figure 2).

2.4 Accounting for Release Mortality of Halibut

Under the CSP, the charter halibut allocation includes total removals by the charter sector, including harvest and release mortality. All sizes of release mortality have been estimated for 2013-2025 for inclusion in the IPHC's annual stock assessment as part of sport fishery removals. Estimation methods are documented in Webster and Buzzee (2020) and in ADF&G's annual reports to the IPHC[3].

The numbers and average weight of released fish are expected to vary with the regulations (e.g., types of size limits, bag limits, annual limits). For example, anglers would be expected to release more fish under a one-fish bag limit than a two-fish bag limit as they search for the largest fish possible to retain. The average weight of released fish would be expected to be higher under maximum size limits or reverse slot limits than under a minimum size limit, because more of the released fish would be large. On the other hand, the number of fish released is likely to be higher under a minimum than maximum size limit because smaller fish are relatively more abundant and more likely to be caught. Under reverse slot limits, the amount of release mortality would be expected to vary with the sizes and range of the protected slot. A wide protected slot would likely result in more released fish than a narrow slot, and a higher protected slot would result in a higher average weight of released fish. Under annual limits, both the number of fish and average weight of released fish would likely increase as annual limits are made more restrictive. Seasonal or daily closures will also increase the total number of released fish.

Previously in Area 2C, under reverse slot limits, the ratio of release mortality to charter yield (in pounds) showed a strong correlation to the lower bound of the reverse slot limit, and a linear regression model was used to determine release mortality inflation factors. Recently, however, the strength of the correlation has decreased. For 2026, a 5-year average of the ratio of release mortality to charter yield was used. Under status quo regulations, the predicted 2026 ratio of release mortality to harvested halibut is 0.041.

In Area 3A, the ratio of release mortality to charter yield has generally decreased over time, mostly due to a decrease in the number of released fish rather than to changes in the average weight of released fish. For 2026 projections, the 5-year average of 0.009 was applied to yield to account for release mortality under the status quo management measures.

[3] The ADF&G annual reports to the IPHC are available for download at https://www.npfmc.org/fisheries-issues/fisheries/halibut-fisheries/halibut-recreation/

3.0 Area 2C Management Measures

3.1 Status Quo Forecast of the Number of Fish Harvested

Status quo measures for Area 2C include a one-fish bag limit, a U37O80 reverse slot limit and closed Tuesdays May 13 and through September 9 and a limit of one trip per vessel per day, and a limit of one trip per CHP per day. The best forecast for effort in 2C in 2026 is the current year's effort. HPUE is predicted to decrease in both areas. The 2026 status quo effort forecast for Area 2C is 107,545 angler-days, the weighted average HPUE forecast is 0.741 halibut per angler-day, and the harvest forecast is 79,691 halibut, with a 95% margin of error (±2 standard errors) of ± 2,325 fish (Table 2C.3).

3.2 Reverse Slot Limit

3.2.1 Approach

Reverse slot size limits have been used to manage the Area 2C charter fishery since 2012. The goal of the reverse slot limit is to control the average weight of the harvest by requiring retained fish to be either below a lower size limit or above an upper size limit. The reverse slot size limit functions mostly as a maximum size limit, while still preserving the opportunity for anglers to retain exceptionally large fish. The charter industry and the Council have recommended reverse slot size limits because they effectively control average weight without severely impacting angler demand under a one-fish bag limit, thus preserving charter revenues in the face of restrictions.

Average weight under reverse slot limits was predicted using the same methods used for 2014-2025. Briefly, this procedure fixes the proportion of harvest above the upper size limit equal to the proportion in 2010, the last year without a size limit. The proportion of harvest below the lower size limit is assigned the remainder. Average weight is then estimated as a weighted mean of the average weight of fish above and below the upper and lower limits in 2010, where the weighting factors are the respective proportions of harvest above and below those limits. All estimates of average weight were adjusted to account for the updated length-weight relationship in all 2C analyses.

Average weights estimated from the fishery in 2021-2025 were compared to the 2010 predicted average weights for the size limits that were in place at the time. The average weights estimated from the fishery included any illegally harvested fish in the protected size slot between the lower and upper size limits (illegal-size fish made up an estimated 0.3% to 1.6% of the Area 2C harvest each year). Errors in predicted average weights since 2021 ranged from -3.2% to +73.7% for individual Subareas. Predicted average weight errors were highly variable among years and among Subareas. Correction factors were developed for the predicted average weights for each Subarea. The correction factors were based on the average ratio of the predicted and observed average weights from the most recent 5 years and ranged from 0.64 to 0.99 among Subareas.

This analysis assumes that there are no day of the week closures for 2026. To add the harvest from closed Tuesdays back in, the proportional reduction of harvest by Subarea was determined for Tuesdays in 2024, the most recent year with finalized data and Tuesdays open. This proportional reduction of harvest by Subarea for 18 Tuesdays was then added to the 2026 status quo forecast of harvest.

Total charter removals were projected for 2026 under a range of reverse slot limits with lower limits ranging from 32 to 50 inches and upper limits ranging from 50 to 80 inches. Projections of charter removals include the correction factors for bias in estimation of average weight as well as an inflation factor for predicted release mortality based on the lower slot limit.

3.2.2 Results

The projected charter removal under the status quo size limit of U37O80, with no day of the week closures or trip/CHP limits for Area 2C is 0.858 Mlb (Table 2C.4). Projections ranged from 0.679 to 1.903 Mlb. Most options for reverse slot limits were above the 2025 allocation of 0.720 Mlb. The most liberal combinations of reverse slot limits that were below the 2025 allocation are shaded in Table 2C.4.

Including a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day resulted in a range of projections from 0.662 to 1.858 Mlb (Table 2C.5).

3.3 Reverse Slot Limit with Day of the Week Closures (Presented as Savings Per Day)

3.3.1 Approach

Harvest was projected with day of the week closures in Area 2C with reverse slot limits ranging from a lower limit of 32 to 50 inches and a fixed upper limit of 80 inches. The potential effect of closing days on each day from May 13 through September 9 was estimated (Table 2C.6). To give decision makers more flexibility, the information is presented as savings per day in lbs. Removals can be calculated by subtracting the amount saved by closing each individual day from the estimated removals with no days closed at a given lower slot limit (as shown in the last column of Table 2C.6). The analysis relied on complete logbook data for 2024. This analysis entailed estimating the proportional effect of each day closure in 2024 and applying those to the harvest forecast for 2026, adjusted to assume all days are open to fishing, as described in section 3.2.1.

The first step was to identify dates that would be closed in 2026. Once the specific closed dates were identified for Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, the corresponding days that most closely match were identified from the 2024 data set for analyses. The analysis assumed that the proportion of harvest occurring on each day in 2024 represents the expected change in harvest if those days are closed in 2026. All analyses were done by Subarea to account for differences in the structure of the charter fleet among Subareas. The total annual harvest under each scenario of closed days was compared to the harvest scenario of no closed days to estimate the proportional change in harvest for 2026.

3.3.2 Results

Lower slot limits of 33 inches and less were below the 2025 allocation of 0.720 Mlb without any day closures (as shown in Table 2C.4 and the last column of Table 2C.6). This table can be used to evaluate how day closures might allow for greater lengths on the lower end of the slot limit. The total removals without day closures at the status quo of U37O80 is estimated to be 0.858 Mlb (Table 2C.6). Of the days analyzed, the maximum projected savings is on Thursdays. Closing at least 17 Thursdays is projected to save the necessary 108,788 lb (at the U37O80 slot limit) to get below the 2025 allocation. Each day has a different savings, so the days selected influence how many days will be required to get below the 2025 allocation.

3.4 Reverse Slot Limit with Day of the Week Closures and One-Trip per Vessel and Permit per Day (Presented as Savings Per Day)

3.4.1 Approach

Harvest was projected with day of the week closures in Area 2C with reverse slot limits ranging from a lower limit of 32 to 50 inches and with the upper limit fixed at 80 inches and a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day. This is the same analysis as 3.3 with the addition of one-trip per vessel and permit per day. The potential effect of closing days on each day from May 13th through September 9th was estimated (Table 2C.7).

To estimate the effect of one trip per vessel and permit per day, the proportion of halibut retained on second+ trips in a day 2022 through 2024 was subtracted from harvest estimates used in the "Day of the week closure" analyses. The year 2025 was not used here because there was a one trip limit in 2025.

3.4.2 Results

Limiting trips to one per day reduces the number of halibut retained by 2.7% area-wide. Total removals without day closures at U37O80 is estimated to be 0.836 Mlb (Table 2C.7). Closing at least 14 Thursdays is projected to save the necessary 116,056 lb (at the U37O80 slot limit) to get below the 2025 allocation.

Each day has a different savings, so the days selected influence how many days will be required to get below the 2025 allocation.

4.0 Area 3A Management Measures

4.1 Status Quo Forecast of the Number of Fish Harvested

The status quo measures for Area 3A included a two-fish bag limit with a maximum size limit of 27 inches on one fish, no retention of halibut on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and limits of one trip per vessel and one trip per CHP per day. The status quo effort forecast for Area 3A for 2025 is 95,592 angler-days, with a weighted average HPUE of 1.508 halibut per angler-day, and the harvest forecast is 145,660 halibut with a 95% margin of error (± 2 standard errors) of 4,137 fish (Table 3A.11).

4.2 Forecast of the Average Weight in each Subarea

4.2.1 Approach

Average weight was calculated as a weighted mean of the fish of any size and the fish subject to a maximum size limit. Calculations were done for each Subarea, then aggregated to Area 3A. The average weight for the fish of any size was calculated from the overall average weight in 2013, the last year without a size limit in Area 3A. The average weight for size-restricted fish was calculated as the average weight of fish less than or equal to the specified size limit in 2013 (28 inches under status quo, size limits from 26 to 32 inches were all evaluated). These average weights were then weighted by the 2026 projected proportions of harvest made up of "first" and "second" fish in an angler's bag limit. These terms do not refer to the order in which the fish were caught, but rather to whether the fish came from limits of one or two fish. For example, if an angler kept only one halibut on a trip, the fish was designated a "first" fish. If an angler kept two halibut, one was designated "first" and the other "second." The proportions of "second" fish in the harvest were forecasted for 2026 from 2010-2019 and 2022-2025 logbook data using the exponentially weighted time series models described in Section 2.3. Data from 2020 and 2021 were excluded to mimic the methods used to forecast HPUE and because the substantial increase seen in second fish in 2020 and 2021 was likely a result of pandemic regulations. HPUE forecasts ranged from 0.992 in subarea H to 1.795 in subarea CCI (Figure 3).

The average weights predicted using this method for each size limit differed from average weights observed under those size limits in past years. Factors contributing to those differences include changes since 2013 in the size distribution of the population, changes in the sizes of fish anglers are willing to keep given annual limits, and changes in the proportions of first and second fish in the harvest. Therefore, the predicted average weights were corrected, or adjusted to match current average weights. Bias corrections were based on the difference between predicted and estimated (observed) average weights for 2023-2025. Predicted average weights for past years tended to be underestimated for most Subareas, ranging from 40.5% below to 58.6% above observed values across all Subareas and years. Correction factors, based on the average ratio of the predicted and observed average weights, ranged from 0.803 to 1.213 among Subareas.

4.2.2 Results

The status quo forecast of average weight in 3A is 9.74 lb. Status quo is based on a two fish bag limit with one fish of any size and a maximum size limit of 27 inches on one fish, Tuesday and Wednesday closures. This is similar to the 2025 preliminary average weight estimate of 9.83 lb. Estimated removals, including yield and release mortality, under status quo regulations is 1.430 Mlb and is below the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

4.3 Maximum Size Limit on One Fish Combined with Day Closures

4.3.1 Approach

Charter removals were projected under maximum size limits ranging from 26 to 32 inches on the second fish and Tuesday closures from April 1 – October 6 or for the entire season were explored for flexibility in recommending management measures. Projected removals include a 0.9% inflation factor to account for release mortality and a correction for the average weight as described above. These projections

incorporate all other status quo measures. This analysis used data from 2014 to determine the proportion of halibut that were harvested on each Wednesday in that year and applied those proportions to the 2025 forecasted harvest.

The analysis for Tuesday closures relied on logbook data from 2024, the most recent year in which the fishery was open on all Tuesdays and closed on Wednesdays. In this case, closed Tuesdays were status quo, so effectively, this analysis provides information on opening Tuesdays. The proportional effect of harvest that occurred on each Tuesday in 2024 was calculated and applied to the harvest forecast for 2026. The first step was to identify the dates of specific Tuesdays that would be closed in 2026 under each possible number of closed days. A range of 27 Tuesday closures during the period April 7 – October 6, 2026, and all Tuesdays from February – December 2026 were evaluated (Table 3A.12). Once the specific closed Tuesdays were identified, the corresponding Tuesday to each of those dates was identified from 2024. The analysis assumed the proportions of harvest occurring on each Tuesday in 2024 would be added if those days were opened. Closing all Tuesdays beyond the May 26 – September 1 period would reduce harvest by less than 1% (Table 3A.12).

Daily closures, the harvest reductions (relative to all Tuesdays open) under each scenario represent the maximum expected reduction in the number of fish harvested. A day of the week closure may not achieve the maximum reduction in halibut harvest because of the potential for displaced anglers to book on alternate dates. We do not have sufficient information to accurately estimate the effect of a day of the week closure; we can only say it would reduce halibut harvest by no more than the presented maximum reductions, and that the reduction could be less.

Average weight under each size limit from 26 to 32 inches was calculated as a weighted mean of the fish of any size and the fish subject to a maximum size limit as outlined in section 4.2.1.

4.3.2 Results

Removal estimates for combinations of status quo closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and size limits on one fish ranged from 1.403 Mlb for a 26-inch fish with all Tuesdays closed to 1.921 Mlb for a 32-inch fish with no Tuesdays closed (Table 3A.13). Combinations of size limits and closed days that were below the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb ranged from 26 to 28 inches and ten to All closed Tuesdays.

4.4 Seasonal Open/ Close Dates with Tuesday and Wednesday Closures

4.4.1 Approach

In order to view further potential reductions in harvest than the above analyses, the Charter Halibut Committee asked for an analysis of seasonal closures if and only if all Tuesdays and Wednesdays were closed. Therefore, this analysis assumes status quo Tuesdays and Wednesdays closed. Seasonal closures were analyzed on a weekly basis for the months of May and September. The same methods were used as in day of the week closures to estimate the proportion of harvest that occurred in 2024. That proportion was then applied to the 2026 status quo forecast with Tuesdays and Wednesdays closed for comparable dates.

Combinations of other size limits were explored to provide the Council flexibility in recommending management measures. Charter removals were projected under maximum size limits ranging from 26 to 32 inches on the second fish. Separate tables for each size limit were generated and include all possible combinations of seasonal open/ closed dates on a weekly basis. Projected removals include a 0.9% inflation factor to account for release mortality. These projections incorporate all other status quo measures, including the charter vessel trip limit, permit trip limit, Tuesday and Wednesday closures. Average weight under each size limit was calculated as described in section 4.2.1.

4.4.2 Results

Reductions from seasonal closures vary by week. Reductions are greatest at the end of May and the beginning of September with slightly more savings in September than in May. No seasonal closures are

needed to be below the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb for length limits of 26 to 28 inches with other status quo measures. Seasonal closures provide options that do not exceed the 2025 allocation for larger length limits of 29 to 32 inches (Table 3A.14).

4.5 Daily Bag Limit of One Fish Any Size

4.5.1 Approach

Area 3A has never had a one-fish bag limit of any size regulation, so we cannot directly estimate the effects from past data. The biggest challenge of this analysis is estimation of the average weight. When the Area 2C charter fishery went from a two-fish bag limit with a maximum size limit on one fish (32 inches) to a one-fish bag limit with no size limit in 2009, the average weight increased 20% from the previous year and increased another 13% in 2010 under the same regulation. The total increase in average weight over those two years was 36%. Under a one-fish bag limit, it is expected that anglers will high-grade to get the largest fish possible; the resulting increase in average weight will offset the decrease in the number of fish harvested to an unknown degree.

There are no empirical data from the Area 3A fishery under a one-fish bag limit to use to predict the degree anglers may high-grade. It is also questionable whether the data from Area 2C is applicable to Area 3A, but the increase in average weight seen in 2009 and 2010 may be indicative of what is possible. There are many plausible approaches to predict average weight, with no clear way to decide which is the most accurate. Three average weight scenarios were considered. The first scenario used the average weight of O27 fish in 2025. It is not possible to tell from biological sampling data which fish were “first” fish. Because there was a size limit on one fish of 27 inches, it was assumed that all fish over 27 inches were “first” fish and might emulate conditions under a one fish bag limit. This assumption is an approximation, as there may have been charter trips where some anglers retained two fish under the maximum size limit for one fish. In the second scenario, a 10% “high-grading” inflation factor was applied to the first scenario of O27. The third scenario looked at the average weight of all sizes of fish from 2025 and included a 36% inflation factor as observed in Area 2C as mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

For both scenarios, the projected harvest was based on the status quo harvest forecast under a two-fish bag limit (section 4.1.1), reduced by the 2026 forecast of the proportion of second fish in the harvest. It is assumed that a one fish bag limit will not affect effort in Area 3A. It is unknown whether this measure would incentivize an increase in days fished to harvest the same numbers of fish or lead to a reduction in angler effort due to the more restrictive bag limits. Most likely, any changes due to angler behavior will be offset and result in similar levels of effort to the status quo forecast.

Harvest projections for one-fish were multiplied by each average weight scenario to obtain the projected yield under each scenario, and yields were multiplied by 1.5% to account for release mortality. This number was selected by calculating the yield to release mortality ratio in 2025 and adding 0.4% for high-grading. It was assumed that releases will increase with a more restrictive bag limit both due to high-grading and the bag limit itself.

4.5.2 Results

The forecast proportions of second fish varied by Subarea, with an overall average of 42.0% of all harvested fish being designated as ‘the second fish’. After removing the second fish, the harvest forecast drops from 145,660 to 84,463 fish. The projections of charter removals under the three scenarios were 1.258 Mlb using the average weight of O27 fish in 2025, 1.384 with 10% added to the O27 average weight, and 1.156 Mlb using the average weight of all size of fish in 2025 with 36% inflation (Table 3A.15). The range of results demonstrates the uncertainty with this type of regulation and it is unknown whether removals would be below the reference allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

It was not possible to identify the most accurate projection for this measure. The projections are highly sensitive to the average weight, and average weight will be affected by angler behavior which is unknown at this time.

4.6 Daily Bag Limit of One Fish Any Size One Fish Combined with Day Closures

4.6.1 Approach

This measure combines the one-fish bag limit results from the three scenarios described in section 4.5 with the day of the week closure analysis methods described in section 4.3. The main difference is the output tables are a single line for all fish rather than separate lines for each maximum size of the second fish.

4.6.2 Results

Using the 2025 All mean weights + 36% inflation scenario resulted in the lowest levels of removals, whereas the O27 + 10% scenario resulted in the highest levels of removals of these analyses. Removal estimates for combinations of status quo closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and a bag limit of one-fish any size ranged from 1.156 Mlb for the "All + 36%" scenario with all Tuesdays closed to 1.663 Mlb for the "O27 + 10% scenario with no Tuesdays closed (Table 3A.16). Combinations of average weight scenarios and closed days that were below the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb ranged from zero to nine closed Tuesdays.

4.7 Daily Bag Limit of One Fish Any Size One Fish Combined with Seasonal Open/ Close Dates

4.7.1 Approach

This measure combines the one-fish bag limit results from the three scenarios described in section 4.5 with the seasonal closure analysis methods described in section 4.4. Again, this analysis assumes status quo Tuesdays and Wednesdays closed. Seasonal closures were analyzed on a weekly basis for the months of May and September. Separate tables for each mean weight scenario of the one-fish limit analysis were generated and include all possible combinations of seasonal open/ closed dates on a weekly basis. Projected removals include a release mortality inflation factor equal to 1.5% of yield.

4.7.2 Results

Reductions from seasonal closures vary by week. Reductions are greatest at the end of May and the beginning of September with slightly more savings in September than in May. All combinations of a one-fish limit with seasonal closure dates are below the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb (Table 3A.17).

5.0 Implementation Considerations

5.1 Size Limits

There are no anticipated problems associated with implementation of a reverse slot limit in Area 2C or maximum size limit on the second fish in Area 3A. Size limits have been used successfully in both Regulatory Areas for several years. Maximum size limits and reverse slot limits are implemented for the charter halibut fishery to control the average weight of harvested fish. This type of regulation increases the number of fish released thereby increasing removals associated with release mortality. Not only do these size limits generate additional regulatory (versus voluntary) release of halibut, but they also increase the average weight of released fish. The relative impact of size limits, in terms of release mortality and angler satisfaction, is expected to vary by Subarea due to variation in the availability of large fish caught. For example, clients fishing in Subareas where large fish are commonly caught would likely end up releasing relatively more fish above the maximum size limit or in the protected slot, and those fish would likely be larger. Although release mortality is likely higher under size limits, it is included in the estimates of removals and is accounted for in the charter sector allocation.

5.2 Annual Limits

Annual limits were implemented in Area 3A in 2015– 2019. If annual limits are recommended for the charter fishery, it is crucial for enforcement purposes to ensure that the regulation is accompanied by a recording requirement like that implemented in past years. Specifically, immediately upon retaining a halibut, charter anglers must record, the date, location (IPHC area), and species (halibut) on their harvest record. Enforcement of the annual limit consists of checking anglers with halibut to make sure the harvest is recorded. It is expected that Guided Angler Fish (GAF) taken under the CSP would be exempt from the recording requirement as these harvests accrue toward the IFQ fishery allocation.

Halibut harvest accounting by individual anglers would be implemented through ADF&G charter logbooks as was done in past years. Logbooks require reporting the number of halibut kept and released by individual anglers, as well as the angler's name and fishing license/ID number. No number can be recorded for youth anglers as they are not required to be licensed. Under the CSP, all anglers (including youth) are required to certify in the logbook that the reported number of halibut kept and released is correct.

Another concern with annual limits is that compliance may be low among youth anglers. Youth anglers are not required to be licensed but are still required to complete a harvest record upon harvesting halibut. Although enforcement in the field would be no different for youth anglers, their annual harvests cannot be evaluated post-season using logbook data. However, youth anglers comprised only 5.5% of angler-days in Area 3A in 2025, so harvest by youth anglers beyond the annual limit is unlikely to be substantial.

5.3 Daily Closures

As mentioned earlier, the primary issue with daily closures is that the effect cannot be accurately predicted or evaluated. Daily closures are expected to reduce effort, and therefore their effect is confounded with any factors that affect effort (e.g., trip limits, economic trends, or client changeover days at lodges). This analysis could only estimate the maximum potential change in halibut harvest but cannot predict possible changes in angler behavior, such as anglers booking alternate days. Closure of days during the peak season (June through August) may be more effective than closure of a day or two here and there. With each additional day closed, there would be fewer days available to rebook and fewer charters available to take the displaced anglers. The effectiveness of day of the week closures in Area 2C is expected to be similar to those seen in Area 3A. However, differences in business models and angler behavior between the Areas may impact the effectiveness of this management measure.

Another impact of daily closures is the potential increase in the harvest of other species such as salmon, rockfishes, sablefish, and lingcod. Some charter businesses are able to book anglers to catch other species, particularly salmon. Increases in harvest may intensify conservation concerns for these stocks.

5.4 Seasonal Open/ Close Dates

A delayed opening or early closure to the season has not occurred previously. The effects of this measure are expected to be similar to those of daily closures. There is less angler effort at the beginning of the season and at the end of the season than in the middle. Therefore, this measure would provide fewer savings per day than singular day closures in the middle of the season. As with any closures to charter halibut fishing, there are concerns about shifting effort to other species.

5.5 Daily Bag Limit of One Fish Any Size in Area 3A

A one-fish bag limit has never been implemented in Area 3A. There is more uncertainty around this measure than the others due to the unknown effects of high-grading on mean weight and release mortality. If a one-fish any size limit is enacted in Area 3A, it would provide data to support future analyses of a one-fish limit. It took two seasons to fully realize the increase in mean weight when a one-

fish limit was implemented in Area 2C in 2009. This would be an important consideration in future analyses of a one-fish limit.

6.0 References

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Analysis of Management Options for the Area 2C Charter Halibut Fisheries for 2026

Table 2C.1: Subareas of IPHC Areas 2C, ports where ADF&G halibut sampling occurs, and Subarea abbreviations used in tables and figures in this report.

IPHC Area	Subarea	Ports with Sampling and Angler Interviews	Abbreviations
2C	Ketchikan	Ketchikan	Ketch, A
	Prince of Wales Island	Craig, Klawock	PWalesI, PWI, B
	Petersburg/Wrangell	Petersburg, Wrangell	Pburg, C
	Sitka	Sitka	D
	Juneau, Haines, Skagway	Juneau	Jun, E, EF
	Glacier Bay (2C portion)	Gustavus, Elfin Cove	GlacB, GlacB-2C, G2C

Table 2C.2: Charter logbook effort, harvest per unit effort, and harvest of halibut in IPHC Area 2C, 2015 - 2025. Preliminary numbers for 2025 (in italics) are based on logbook data for charter trips entered as of October 21, 2025.

	Subarea						
Year	Ketch	PWI	Pburg	Sitka	Jun	GlacB-2C	Total 2C
Effort (angler-days)*							
2015	16,685	21,931	3,071	31,113	11,391	10,613	94,804
2016	16,595	23,440	3,373	31,093	12,069	9,694	96,264
2017	18,678	25,466	3,133	33,481	13,729	9,786	104,273
2018	21,661	25,708	3,538	32,394	13,993	11,396	108,690
2019	20,998	24,412	3,194	33,057	14,674	10,414	106,749
2020	4,521	12,644	1,934	16,605	4,089	5,133	44,926
2021	13,536	26,082	3,303	33,689	12,112	12,618	101,340
2022	21,223	28,486	3,293	37,044	12,965	13,761	116,772
2023	25,240	27,772	3,302	33,862	12,717	13,100	115,993
2024	26,042	27,789	2,635	33,737	13,311	12,611	116,125
2025	*25,107*	*24,766*	*2,282*	*32,591*	*12,334*	*10,465*	*107,545*
Halibut Harvest per Angler-Day (HPUE)							
2015	0.465	0.744	0.691	0.759	0.675	0.768	0.693
2016	0.507	0.725	0.621	0.789	0.633	0.667	0.687
2017	0.460	0.753	0.630	0.777	0.592	0.692	0.677
2018	0.440	0.729	0.606	0.751	0.572	0.637	0.644
2019	0.439	0.742	0.523	0.766	0.615	0.699	0.661
2020	0.776	0.771	0.768	0.834	0.854	0.783	0.804
2021	0.674	0.794	0.668	0.806	0.718	0.786	0.768
2022	0.480	0.794	0.610	0.807	0.689	0.706	0.714
2023	0.533	0.814	0.631	0.824	0.741	0.721	0.732
2024	0.586	0.869	0.683	0.839	0.775	0.789	0.773
2025	*0.491*	*0.828*	*0.752*	*0.808*	*0.772*	*0.800*	*0.733*
Harvest (number of halibut)							
2015	7,762	16,322	2,121	23,611	7,687	8,153	65,656
2016	8,414	16,999	2,095	24,528	7,642	6,469	66,147
2017	8,590	19,173	1,975	26,018	8,123	6,769	70,648
2018	9,530	18,731	2,143	24,327	7,998	7,255	69,984
2019	9,217	18,105	1,672	25,306	9,020	7,280	70,600
2020	3,507	9,750	1,485	13,848	3,490	4,020	36,100
2021	9,125	20,706	2,206	27,155	8,692	9,919	77,803
2022	10,177	22,608	2,009	29,693	8,928	9,721	83,136
2023	13,454	22,618	2,082	27,896	9,419	9,442	84,911
2024	15,262	24,142	1,801	28,313	10,318	9,950	89,786
2025	*12,338*	*20,505*	*1,716*	*26,334*	*9,522*	*8,376*	*78,791*

*Effort is defined as an angler-day on open days with recorded bottomfish hours or harvest of at least one halibut.

Table 2C.3. Forecasts of effort, halibut harvest per unit effort (HPUE), and harvest (numbers of halibut) for Area 2C in 2026 under status quo regulations, with associated standard errors. Status quo regulations include a one-fish bag limit, a U37O80 reverse slot size limit, and Tuesdays closed May 13 to September 9 and a limit of one trip per vessel per day, and a limit of one trip per CHP per day.

Subarea	Effort (angler-days)**	HPUE	Std Error	Harvest (no. halibut)	Std Error
Ketch	25,107	0.513	0.050	12,880	1,249
PWI	24,766	0.832	0.044	20,617	1,079
Pburg	2,282	0.752	0.048	1,716	110
Sitka	32,591	0.815	0.044	26,553	1,433
Jun	12,334	0.782	0.043	9,650	530
GlacB-2C	10,465	0.791	0.055	8,275	578
Area 2C	107,545	0.741	*	79,691	2,325

*This SE cannot be calculated because unlike effort and harvest, HPUE is not expected to additive across subareas.

**Preliminary effort data for 2025 was used in the 2026 forecasts.

Table 2C.4. Projected charter removals (Mlb, includes release mortality) for Area 2C in 2026 under reverse slot limits ranging from U32O50 to U50O80 with a 1-fish bag limit. Shaded cells represent projections for the most liberal combinations that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 0.720 Mlb. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. The harvest projection is for all days open throughout the season. The last column is the release mortality estimate (Mlb) for the UXO80 removal estimates.

Harvest = 94,207

Lower Limit (in)	Upper Length Limit (in)																*Amount of release mortality at uXo80*
	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	
32	1.411	1.308	1.231	1.145	1.083	1.028	0.949	0.874	0.831	0.799	0.766	0.744	0.713	0.695	0.693	0.679	0.027
33	1.439	1.337	1.261	1.175	1.115	1.059	0.981	0.906	0.864	0.831	0.799	0.777	0.746	0.728	0.726	0.712	0.028
34	1.472	1.372	1.297	1.212	1.151	1.096	1.019	0.944	0.902	0.870	0.837	0.815	0.785	0.767	0.765	0.751	0.030
35	1.497	1.398	1.323	1.239	1.179	1.124	1.047	0.973	0.931	0.899	0.867	0.845	0.814	0.796	0.794	0.781	0.031
36	1.537	1.440	1.367	1.284	1.224	1.170	1.094	1.020	0.978	0.946	0.914	0.893	0.862	0.844	0.842	0.829	0.033
37	1.562	1.466	1.393	1.311	1.252	1.198	1.122	1.049	1.007	0.975	0.944	0.922	0.891	0.874	0.872	0.858	0.034
38	1.599	1.504	1.433	1.351	1.293	1.240	1.164	1.092	1.051	1.019	0.987	0.966	0.935	0.918	0.916	0.902	0.036
39	1.626	1.533	1.462	1.382	1.324	1.271	1.196	1.124	1.083	1.051	1.020	0.998	0.968	0.951	0.948	0.935	0.037
40	1.649	1.557	1.487	1.407	1.350	1.297	1.223	1.151	1.110	1.079	1.048	1.026	0.996	0.979	0.977	0.963	0.038
41	1.677	1.586	1.517	1.438	1.381	1.329	1.255	1.184	1.144	1.112	1.081	1.060	1.030	1.012	1.010	0.997	0.039
42	1.695	1.606	1.537	1.459	1.403	1.351	1.277	1.207	1.166	1.135	1.104	1.083	1.053	1.036	1.034	1.020	0.040
43	1.715	1.627	1.559	1.481	1.426	1.374	1.301	1.231	1.191	1.160	1.129	1.108	1.078	1.061	1.059	1.045	0.041
44	1.744	1.658	1.591	1.514	1.459	1.408	1.335	1.266	1.226	1.195	1.164	1.143	1.113	1.096	1.094	1.081	0.043
45	1.776	1.691	1.625	1.549	1.495	1.444	1.372	1.303	1.263	1.232	1.202	1.181	1.151	1.134	1.132	1.119	0.044
46	1.797	1.713	1.648	1.573	1.519	1.469	1.398	1.329	1.289	1.259	1.228	1.207	1.178	1.161	1.159	1.146	0.045
47	1.826	1.744	1.680	1.605	1.552	1.503	1.432	1.363	1.324	1.294	1.263	1.242	1.213	1.196	1.194	1.181	0.047
48	1.847	1.765	1.702	1.628	1.576	1.526	1.456	1.388	1.349	1.319	1.288	1.267	1.238	1.221	1.219	1.206	0.047
49	1.880	1.800	1.738	1.665	1.613	1.565	1.495	1.427	1.388	1.358	1.328	1.308	1.279	1.262	1.260	1.247	0.049
50	1.903	1.825	1.764	1.692	1.640	1.592	1.523	1.456	1.417	1.387	1.358	1.337	1.308	1.291	1.289	1.276	0.050

Table 2C.5. Projected charter removals (Mlb, includes release mortality) for Area 2C in 2026 under reverse slot limits ranging from U32O50 to U50O80 with a 1-fish bag limit *and* a limit of **one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day**. Shaded cells represent projections for the most liberal combinations that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 0.720 Mlb. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. The harvest projection is for all days open throughout the season. The last column is the release mortality estimate (Mlb) for the UXO80 removal estimates

Harvest = 91,589

Lower Limit (in)	Upper Length Limit (in) 50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	*Amount of release mortality at uXo80*
32	1.378	1.278	1.202	1.117	1.057	1.002	0.926	0.852	0.810	0.778	0.747	0.725	0.695	0.677	0.675	0.662	0.026
33	1.405	1.306	1.231	1.147	1.087	1.033	0.957	0.883	0.842	0.810	0.779	0.757	0.727	0.709	0.707	0.694	0.027
34	1.437	1.340	1.266	1.182	1.123	1.069	0.993	0.920	0.879	0.847	0.816	0.794	0.764	0.747	0.745	0.732	0.029
35	1.461	1.365	1.291	1.209	1.150	1.096	1.021	0.949	0.907	0.876	0.845	0.823	0.793	0.776	0.774	0.761	0.030
36	1.501	1.406	1.334	1.252	1.194	1.141	1.066	0.994	0.953	0.922	0.891	0.870	0.840	0.823	0.821	0.807	0.032
37	1.525	1.431	1.360	1.279	1.221	1.168	1.094	1.022	0.982	0.951	0.920	0.898	0.868	0.851	0.849	0.836	0.033
38	1.560	1.469	1.398	1.318	1.261	1.209	1.135	1.064	1.024	0.993	0.962	0.941	0.911	0.894	0.892	0.879	0.035
39	1.587	1.496	1.427	1.348	1.291	1.239	1.166	1.095	1.055	1.024	0.994	0.972	0.943	0.926	0.924	0.911	0.036
40	1.609	1.520	1.451	1.373	1.316	1.265	1.192	1.122	1.082	1.052	1.021	1.000	0.970	0.953	0.951	0.938	0.037
41	1.636	1.548	1.480	1.403	1.347	1.296	1.224	1.154	1.114	1.084	1.054	1.032	1.003	0.986	0.984	0.971	0.038
42	1.654	1.567	1.500	1.423	1.368	1.317	1.245	1.176	1.137	1.106	1.076	1.055	1.026	1.009	1.007	0.994	0.039
43	1.674	1.588	1.522	1.445	1.390	1.340	1.269	1.200	1.160	1.130	1.100	1.079	1.050	1.033	1.031	1.018	0.040
44	1.702	1.618	1.553	1.477	1.423	1.373	1.302	1.234	1.195	1.165	1.135	1.114	1.085	1.068	1.066	1.053	0.041
45	1.733	1.650	1.586	1.511	1.458	1.408	1.338	1.270	1.231	1.201	1.172	1.151	1.122	1.105	1.103	1.090	0.043
46	1.754	1.672	1.609	1.535	1.482	1.433	1.363	1.296	1.257	1.227	1.198	1.177	1.148	1.131	1.129	1.117	0.044
47	1.782	1.702	1.639	1.566	1.514	1.465	1.396	1.329	1.291	1.261	1.232	1.211	1.182	1.166	1.164	1.151	0.045
48	1.802	1.723	1.661	1.589	1.537	1.489	1.420	1.353	1.315	1.286	1.256	1.235	1.207	1.190	1.188	1.176	0.046
49	1.835	1.757	1.696	1.625	1.573	1.526	1.458	1.392	1.354	1.324	1.295	1.275	1.246	1.230	1.228	1.215	0.048
50	1.858	1.781	1.721	1.651	1.600	1.553	1.485	1.420	1.382	1.353	1.324	1.303	1.275	1.259	1.257	1.244	0.049

Table 2C.6. Projected charter **savings per day** (lbs) for Area 2C in 2026 under reverse slot limits with lower limits of the protected slot ranging from 32 to 50 inches and an upper limit of 80 inches with days closed between May 15 and September 15 for **Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.** All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. To determine removals from a closed day(s), take the total removals for a given lower slot limit and subtract the savings from a date(s) in that row.

a. Wednesday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Wednesdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 9	September 2	August 26	August 19	August 12	August 5	July 29	July 22	July 15	July 8	July 1	June 24	June 17	June 10	June 3	May 27	May 20	May 13	
32	588	2,987	4,901	6,867	4,926	7,324	8,172	7,990	6,730	7,212	6,947	7,928	7,659	5,872	3,702	2,696	1,890	1,060	679,391
33	621	3,131	5,148	7,202	5,156	7,671	8,576	8,380	7,048	7,552	7,292	8,313	8,027	6,143	3,886	2,829	1,977	1,111	712,270
34	662	3,317	5,426	7,590	5,431	8,086	9,040	8,835	7,416	7,950	7,690	8,767	8,457	6,477	4,112	2,987	2,093	1,179	751,196
35	690	3,451	5,655	7,889	5,637	8,402	9,394	9,185	7,705	8,266	7,989	9,110	8,788	6,734	4,289	3,118	2,183	1,231	780,653
36	741	3,679	6,039	8,370	5,954	8,910	9,974	9,747	8,152	8,757	8,479	9,669	9,312	7,134	4,585	3,335	2,335	1,319	828,788
37	770	3,828	6,281	8,660	6,155	9,233	10,326	10,098	8,426	9,067	8,781	10,005	9,637	7,392	4,772	3,466	2,428	1,372	858,133
38	817	4,037	6,618	9,113	6,474	9,711	10,863	10,634	8,861	9,544	9,244	10,519	10,140	7,781	5,037	3,650	2,552	1,446	902,376
39	849	4,192	6,881	9,437	6,691	10,060	11,255	11,015	9,165	9,880	9,575	10,896	10,496	8,056	5,238	3,797	2,656	1,505	934,953
40	881	4,323	7,122	9,728	6,877	10,357	11,594	11,352	9,440	10,189	9,857	11,224	10,812	8,304	5,429	3,943	2,753	1,562	963,163
41	917	4,491	7,401	10,074	7,115	10,726	12,006	11,768	9,770	10,559	10,213	11,614	11,197	8,606	5,647	4,093	2,851	1,620	996,962
42	941	4,606	7,605	10,310	7,269	10,978	12,279	12,045	9,995	10,821	10,440	11,881	11,457	8,821	5,813	4,219	2,940	1,671	1,020,204
43	963	4,729	7,843	10,562	7,432	11,257	12,585	12,349	10,235	11,100	10,697	12,164	11,737	9,043	5,983	4,345	3,022	1,716	1,045,172
44	1,004	4,890	8,119	10,923	7,667	11,623	13,006	12,761	10,575	11,471	11,048	12,580	12,128	9,345	6,210	4,518	3,142	1,787	1,080,646
45	1,045	5,082	8,430	11,300	7,918	12,030	13,454	13,205	10,926	11,868	11,425	13,020	12,542	9,679	6,463	4,704	3,280	1,866	1,118,782
46	1,078	5,223	8,635	11,563	8,093	12,309	13,757	13,511	11,169	12,146	11,676	13,330	12,830	9,923	6,652	4,844	3,388	1,930	1,145,508
47	1,118	5,385	8,908	11,931	8,343	12,682	14,182	13,936	11,523	12,533	12,036	13,744	13,233	10,237	6,875	5,008	3,496	1,994	1,180,855
48	1,149	5,502	9,097	12,184	8,507	12,938	14,477	14,225	11,758	12,790	12,281	14,041	13,505	10,450	7,038	5,132	3,586	2,048	1,206,028
49	1,181	5,682	9,416	12,602	8,806	13,385	14,967	14,715	12,176	13,250	12,697	14,510	13,975	10,819	7,275	5,306	3,702	2,112	1,246,575
50	1,210	5,822	9,688	12,909	9,006	13,710	15,326	15,079	12,473	13,592	12,999	14,848	14,314	11,090	7,480	5,459	3,799	2,167	1,276,035

Table 2C.6. (continued)

b. Thursday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Thursdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 10	September 3	August 27	August 20	August 13	August 6	July 30	July 23	July 16	July 9	July 2	June 25	June 18	June 11	June 4	May 28	May 21	May 14	
32	1,061	3,039	5,805	8,007	8,105	9,632	9,010	8,408	8,946	8,795	6,875	7,995	8,474	7,028	4,704	3,254	2,332	1,516	679,391
33	1,127	3,202	6,087	8,397	8,495	10,093	9,440	8,813	9,376	9,209	7,216	8,383	8,892	7,369	4,933	3,424	2,447	1,597	712,270
34	1,205	3,399	6,417	8,848	8,969	10,642	9,953	9,292	9,885	9,699	7,604	8,839	9,377	7,776	5,221	3,638	2,600	1,699	751,196
35	1,253	3,540	6,664	9,200	9,315	11,056	10,334	9,656	10,268	10,066	7,895	9,188	9,750	8,087	5,430	3,787	2,708	1,773	780,653
36	1,344	3,791	7,063	9,777	9,886	11,721	10,945	10,246	10,888	10,645	8,369	9,750	10,353	8,588	5,776	4,060	2,903	1,912	828,788
37	1,390	3,943	7,305	10,122	10,237	12,134	11,327	10,607	11,265	10,994	8,659	10,095	10,708	8,893	5,987	4,220	3,017	1,989	858,133
38	1,475	4,168	7,681	10,641	10,765	12,763	11,911	11,154	11,840	11,546	9,110	10,626	11,268	9,361	6,305	4,444	3,171	2,095	902,376
39	1,531	4,333	7,950	11,031	11,151	13,215	12,327	11,554	12,259	11,938	9,429	11,006	11,673	9,699	6,537	4,624	3,301	2,186	934,953
40	1,578	4,478	8,180	11,378	11,474	13,604	12,675	11,902	12,618	12,271	9,697	11,344	12,041	10,006	6,742	4,776	3,413	2,267	963,163
41	1,641	4,658	8,464	11,777	11,873	14,083	13,117	12,319	13,052	12,676	10,040	11,752	12,467	10,365	6,986	4,950	3,531	2,351	996,962
42	1,669	4,773	8,649	12,062	12,139	14,405	13,404	12,607	13,346	12,945	10,251	12,030	12,762	10,619	7,157	5,075	3,628	2,419	1,020,204
43	1,694	4,897	8,848	12,370	12,423	14,752	13,717	12,915	13,660	13,229	10,494	12,327	13,067	10,878	7,323	5,199	3,718	2,482	1,045,172
44	1,763	5,079	9,142	12,801	12,837	15,240	14,159	13,352	14,117	13,660	10,832	12,745	13,530	11,262	7,588	5,400	3,867	2,589	1,080,646
45	1,827	5,278	9,450	13,256	13,291	15,768	14,639	13,821	14,605	14,110	11,188	13,190	14,002	11,666	7,873	5,622	4,035	2,706	1,118,782
46	1,879	5,424	9,664	13,571	13,612	16,137	14,970	14,149	14,946	14,426	11,422	13,503	14,340	11,961	8,092	5,792	4,168	2,798	1,145,508
47	1,947	5,602	9,962	13,995	14,025	16,634	15,424	14,586	15,403	14,863	11,771	13,929	14,805	12,346	8,353	5,973	4,298	2,890	1,180,855
48	2,002	5,735	10,170	14,298	14,323	16,979	15,736	14,895	15,727	15,169	12,005	14,224	15,134	12,620	8,549	6,125	4,413	2,972	1,206,028
49	2,049	5,910	10,512	14,784	14,794	17,558	16,271	15,400	16,256	15,684	12,412	14,711	15,642	13,046	8,822	6,300	4,539	3,054	1,246,575
50	2,084	6,055	10,751	15,148	15,125	17,970	16,640	15,766	16,628	16,027	12,697	15,070	16,020	13,365	9,025	6,440	4,640	3,127	1,276,035

Table 2C.6. (continued)

c. Saturday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Saturdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 12	September 5	August 29	August 22	August 15	August 8	August 1	July 25	July 18	July 11	July 4	June 27	June 20	June 13	June 6	May 30	May 23	May 16	
32	1,474	2,759	4,120	7,075	7,352	6,514	7,525	8,245	8,632	7,563	6,283	7,377	6,502	6,787	4,903	2,071	1,490	1,680	679,391
33	1,560	2,905	4,325	7,420	7,702	6,832	7,898	8,651	9,026	7,928	6,590	7,712	6,803	7,134	5,124	2,179	1,564	1,761	712,270
34	1,656	3,080	4,568	7,820	8,123	7,205	8,330	9,115	9,499	8,354	6,957	8,119	7,163	7,533	5,399	2,305	1,660	1,868	751,196
35	1,724	3,202	4,759	8,119	8,432	7,474	8,654	9,481	9,857	8,674	7,227	8,432	7,433	7,843	5,607	2,404	1,727	1,943	780,653
36	1,849	3,423	5,083	8,616	8,931	7,925	9,194	10,080	10,411	9,182	7,673	8,924	7,866	8,362	5,946	2,583	1,850	2,080	828,788
37	1,918	3,561	5,283	8,920	9,237	8,201	9,524	10,442	10,761	9,496	7,948	9,231	8,130	8,669	6,151	2,686	1,921	2,160	858,133
38	2,027	3,754	5,563	9,373	9,709	8,616	10,019	10,983	11,302	9,991	8,361	9,688	8,528	9,135	6,444	2,826	2,017	2,266	902,376
39	2,107	3,902	5,783	9,710	10,047	8,921	10,383	11,389	11,682	10,335	8,663	10,027	8,823	9,482	6,676	2,945	2,098	2,357	934,953
40	2,176	4,018	5,981	9,986	10,328	9,160	10,690	11,753	12,004	10,631	8,914	10,318	9,067	9,801	6,870	3,055	2,165	2,433	963,163
41	2,260	4,171	6,207	10,330	10,680	9,471	11,071	12,174	12,407	11,006	9,229	10,661	9,360	10,168	7,085	3,168	2,238	2,512	996,962
42	2,308	4,263	6,376	10,554	10,911	9,661	11,318	12,473	12,679	11,244	9,434	10,911	9,564	10,425	7,254	3,259	2,295	2,578	1,020,204
43	2,363	4,374	6,560	10,814	11,157	9,885	11,600	12,801	12,971	11,505	9,658	11,174	9,783	10,699	7,427	3,357	2,350	2,642	1,045,172
44	2,453	4,521	6,798	11,163	11,521	10,194	11,984	13,246	13,378	11,877	9,978	11,540	10,099	11,091	7,678	3,491	2,441	2,743	1,080,646
45	2,543	4,693	7,066	11,543	11,913	10,535	12,401	13,718	13,818	12,269	10,329	11,941	10,441	11,500	7,958	3,637	2,543	2,859	1,118,782
46	2,607	4,810	7,254	11,794	12,188	10,757	12,680	14,042	14,122	12,537	10,573	12,224	10,678	11,791	8,159	3,742	2,622	2,949	1,145,508
47	2,693	4,952	7,484	12,142	12,556	11,066	13,065	14,483	14,544	12,927	10,894	12,590	10,990	12,178	8,394	3,861	2,701	3,035	1,180,855
48	2,760	5,059	7,654	12,386	12,815	11,284	13,335	14,794	14,828	13,187	11,123	12,848	11,214	12,457	8,576	3,958	2,770	3,112	1,206,028
49	2,837	5,212	7,909	12,801	13,244	11,655	13,780	15,301	15,351	13,641	11,489	13,296	11,595	12,870	8,861	4,082	2,848	3,202	1,246,575
50	2,900	5,330	8,121	13,094	13,535	11,904	14,104	15,688	15,700	13,957	11,749	13,605	11,848	13,200	9,056	4,193	2,909	3,270	1,276,035

Table 2C.7. Projected charter **savings per day** (lbs) for Area 2C in 2026 under reverse slot limits with lower limits of the protected slot ranging from 32 to 50 inches and an upper limit of 80 inches with days closed between May 15 and September 15 for **Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday *and* a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day** All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. To determine removals from a closed day(s), take the total removals for a given lower slot limit and subtract the savings from a date(s) in that row.

a. Wednesday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Wednesdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 9	September 2	August 26	August 19	August 12	August 5	July 29	July 22	July 15	July 8	July 1	June 24	June 17	June 10	June 3	May 27	May 20	May 13	
32	568	2,909	4,792	6,681	4,782	7,135	7,951	7,765	6,546	7,023	6,747	7,724	7,450	5,720	3,618	2,649	1,866	1,042	662,056
33	600	3,049	5,033	7,006	5,004	7,472	8,343	8,143	6,856	7,352	7,081	8,098	7,806	5,983	3,797	2,779	1,952	1,092	693,980
34	639	3,229	5,305	7,382	5,270	7,875	8,793	8,584	7,212	7,739	7,465	8,539	8,223	6,307	4,016	2,934	2,066	1,159	731,826
35	667	3,361	5,529	7,674	5,470	8,183	9,138	8,924	7,493	8,047	7,756	8,873	8,545	6,558	4,190	3,063	2,155	1,210	760,556
36	716	3,582	5,906	8,141	5,778	8,679	9,702	9,470	7,928	8,525	8,232	9,418	9,055	6,948	4,480	3,277	2,305	1,297	807,470
37	744	3,727	6,142	8,423	5,972	8,994	10,045	9,811	8,194	8,827	8,525	9,745	9,371	7,200	4,662	3,405	2,397	1,349	836,056
38	789	3,930	6,471	8,862	6,280	9,458	10,565	10,330	8,616	9,289	8,972	10,244	9,858	7,577	4,921	3,586	2,520	1,421	879,009
39	821	4,081	6,729	9,178	6,490	9,797	10,947	10,701	8,911	9,617	9,294	10,612	10,205	7,845	5,117	3,731	2,622	1,479	910,785
40	851	4,210	6,965	9,461	6,671	10,088	11,277	11,029	9,180	9,918	9,570	10,932	10,513	8,087	5,305	3,874	2,718	1,535	938,362
41	886	4,372	7,237	9,797	6,902	10,447	11,677	11,432	9,499	10,278	9,914	11,310	10,886	8,380	5,517	4,021	2,815	1,593	971,171
42	910	4,486	7,438	10,028	7,052	10,693	11,945	11,703	9,720	10,534	10,135	11,572	11,140	8,591	5,680	4,145	2,902	1,642	993,985
43	931	4,606	7,672	10,274	7,211	10,966	12,243	12,000	9,954	10,807	10,387	11,849	11,414	8,808	5,847	4,269	2,984	1,687	1,018,415
44	970	4,764	7,943	10,626	7,439	11,323	12,654	12,401	10,285	11,169	10,728	12,255	11,795	9,103	6,069	4,440	3,103	1,757	1,053,067
45	1,010	4,952	8,249	10,993	7,683	11,722	13,092	12,834	10,627	11,557	11,095	12,685	12,199	9,430	6,317	4,623	3,239	1,834	1,090,362
46	1,043	5,090	8,451	11,251	7,854	11,996	13,388	13,133	10,864	11,828	11,341	12,989	12,480	9,668	6,503	4,761	3,346	1,897	1,116,546
47	1,081	5,247	8,718	11,608	8,096	12,359	13,801	13,546	11,208	12,205	11,690	13,392	12,871	9,974	6,721	4,921	3,453	1,961	1,150,956
48	1,111	5,362	8,904	11,855	8,255	12,609	14,089	13,827	11,437	12,456	11,929	13,681	13,137	10,182	6,880	5,044	3,542	2,014	1,175,551
49	1,142	5,538	9,217	12,262	8,546	13,046	14,567	14,305	11,844	12,904	12,333	14,139	13,595	10,542	7,113	5,215	3,656	2,077	1,215,136
50	1,170	5,675	9,483	12,562	8,741	13,363	14,917	14,660	12,134	13,239	12,628	14,469	13,926	10,807	7,313	5,365	3,751	2,131	1,243,939

Table 2C.7. (continued)

b. Thursday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Thursdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 10	September 3	August 27	August 20	August 13	August 6	July 30	July 23	July 16	July 9	July 2	June 25	June 18	June 11	June 4	May 28	May 21	May 14	
32	1,011	2,947	5,643	7,815	7,890	9,373	8,758	8,194	8,714	8,560	6,671	7,778	8,247	6,844	4,581	3,180	2,295	1,491	662,056
33	1,073	3,104	5,916	8,196	8,269	9,820	9,175	8,586	9,131	8,961	7,001	8,154	8,653	7,175	4,803	3,345	2,407	1,570	693,980
34	1,148	3,295	6,236	8,635	8,729	10,353	9,672	9,052	9,626	9,437	7,376	8,597	9,123	7,570	5,082	3,554	2,557	1,671	731,826
35	1,193	3,433	6,477	8,979	9,066	10,756	10,042	9,407	9,998	9,793	7,659	8,937	9,486	7,873	5,286	3,700	2,664	1,743	760,556
36	1,279	3,676	6,864	9,542	9,622	11,403	10,636	9,983	10,603	10,357	8,118	9,483	10,073	8,361	5,623	3,966	2,856	1,879	807,470
37	1,324	3,824	7,098	9,879	9,964	11,804	11,007	10,335	10,969	10,697	8,399	9,819	10,418	8,658	5,828	4,122	2,968	1,956	836,056
38	1,404	4,040	7,463	10,384	10,475	12,414	11,573	10,865	11,527	11,231	8,834	10,333	10,961	9,112	6,137	4,341	3,119	2,059	879,009
39	1,457	4,201	7,725	10,765	10,851	12,854	11,977	11,256	11,936	11,613	9,145	10,703	11,355	9,441	6,363	4,517	3,247	2,149	910,785
40	1,502	4,342	7,949	11,105	11,166	13,234	12,317	11,596	12,287	11,937	9,406	11,032	11,714	9,741	6,563	4,666	3,358	2,229	938,362
41	1,562	4,516	8,223	11,493	11,553	13,698	12,744	12,001	12,707	12,330	9,737	11,428	12,127	10,090	6,799	4,836	3,473	2,311	971,171
42	1,589	4,629	8,404	11,773	11,815	14,014	13,025	12,283	12,996	12,594	9,943	11,700	12,416	10,339	6,967	4,958	3,569	2,378	993,985
43	1,613	4,750	8,599	12,075	12,092	14,352	13,330	12,585	13,303	12,871	10,180	11,990	12,714	10,592	7,130	5,081	3,658	2,441	1,018,415
44	1,679	4,927	8,885	12,497	12,496	14,828	13,761	13,011	13,749	13,291	10,508	12,398	13,166	10,966	7,388	5,277	3,805	2,546	1,053,067
45	1,739	5,121	9,185	12,943	12,939	15,344	14,229	13,470	14,226	13,730	10,855	12,832	13,626	11,361	7,667	5,496	3,971	2,661	1,090,362
46	1,789	5,264	9,394	13,252	13,254	15,705	14,552	13,792	14,559	14,038	11,083	13,138	13,956	11,649	7,881	5,662	4,103	2,752	1,116,546
47	1,854	5,436	9,684	13,665	13,656	16,188	14,993	14,217	15,004	14,463	11,421	13,553	14,407	12,024	8,134	5,839	4,230	2,842	1,150,956
48	1,906	5,566	9,885	13,962	13,946	16,524	15,297	14,519	15,321	14,761	11,648	13,840	14,728	12,291	8,325	5,988	4,343	2,923	1,175,551
49	1,951	5,736	10,219	14,437	14,406	17,089	15,818	15,012	15,836	15,264	12,044	14,315	15,224	12,707	8,592	6,159	4,467	3,003	1,215,136
50	1,984	5,877	10,452	14,794	14,729	17,491	16,178	15,369	16,200	15,598	12,322	14,665	15,592	13,018	8,791	6,297	4,568	3,075	1,243,939

Table 2C.7. (continued)

c. Saturday closures

Lower Length Limit (in)	Closed Saturdays																		Projected removals (O80 upper limit)
	September 12	September 5	August 29	August 22	August 15	August 8	August 1	July 25	July 18	July 11	July 4	June 27	June 20	June 13	June 6	May 30	May 23	May 16	
32	1,423	2,680	4,033	6,890	7,152	6,333	7,321	8,045	8,405	7,340	6,112	7,209	6,349	6,611	4,814	2,038	1,465	1,656	662,056
33	1,506	2,820	4,233	7,226	7,491	6,641	7,683	8,440	8,787	7,693	6,409	7,536	6,641	6,947	5,031	2,144	1,537	1,736	693,980
34	1,599	2,991	4,471	7,614	7,900	7,003	8,102	8,892	9,246	8,104	6,766	7,933	6,992	7,335	5,301	2,268	1,631	1,841	731,826
35	1,664	3,109	4,658	7,906	8,200	7,265	8,418	9,249	9,595	8,415	7,028	8,239	7,256	7,637	5,505	2,366	1,697	1,915	760,556
36	1,785	3,324	4,975	8,390	8,686	7,703	8,943	9,834	10,135	8,908	7,462	8,721	7,679	8,142	5,839	2,542	1,817	2,051	807,470
37	1,852	3,457	5,171	8,685	8,983	7,971	9,264	10,187	10,475	9,211	7,729	9,020	7,937	8,442	6,041	2,644	1,887	2,130	836,056
38	1,956	3,645	5,444	9,125	9,440	8,373	9,743	10,713	10,999	9,690	8,130	9,466	8,324	8,894	6,327	2,781	1,981	2,233	879,009
39	2,034	3,788	5,660	9,453	9,769	8,670	10,098	11,110	11,370	10,024	8,423	9,797	8,612	9,232	6,556	2,899	2,062	2,324	910,785
40	2,101	3,901	5,855	9,724	10,043	8,902	10,398	11,466	11,685	10,312	8,668	10,082	8,851	9,544	6,747	3,007	2,128	2,399	938,362
41	2,182	4,049	6,075	10,058	10,384	9,203	10,767	11,876	12,075	10,674	8,973	10,416	9,136	9,900	6,958	3,118	2,199	2,477	971,171
42	2,229	4,140	6,241	10,278	10,610	9,390	11,010	12,169	12,341	10,907	9,174	10,662	9,337	10,152	7,124	3,208	2,256	2,542	993,985
43	2,282	4,248	6,422	10,531	10,850	9,609	11,285	12,491	12,626	11,160	9,393	10,919	9,551	10,420	7,295	3,305	2,310	2,606	1,018,415
44	2,369	4,391	6,657	10,872	11,205	9,910	11,660	12,926	13,023	11,523	9,706	11,279	9,860	10,803	7,543	3,437	2,399	2,705	1,053,067
45	2,457	4,560	6,919	11,244	11,587	10,242	12,067	13,388	13,453	11,903	10,048	11,672	10,196	11,203	7,819	3,581	2,500	2,821	1,090,362
46	2,519	4,674	7,105	11,490	11,856	10,460	12,340	13,706	13,750	12,164	10,287	11,950	10,428	11,488	8,017	3,685	2,578	2,909	1,116,546
47	2,602	4,813	7,330	11,829	12,214	10,760	12,715	14,136	14,161	12,542	10,599	12,307	10,733	11,864	8,248	3,802	2,655	2,994	1,150,956
48	2,666	4,918	7,497	12,067	12,467	10,973	12,978	14,440	14,438	12,794	10,822	12,561	10,952	12,136	8,427	3,898	2,723	3,070	1,175,551
49	2,742	5,066	7,747	12,473	12,884	11,334	13,412	14,936	14,948	13,237	11,179	12,998	11,324	12,539	8,707	4,020	2,801	3,159	1,215,136
50	2,803	5,181	7,955	12,759	13,168	11,577	13,729	15,315	15,289	13,544	11,432	13,302	11,572	12,863	8,900	4,129	2,860	3,226	1,243,939

Table 2C.8. Projected charter removals (Mlb, includes release mortality) for Area 2C in 2026 under reverse slot limits ranging from U32O50 to U50O80 with a 1-fish bag limit **and with an annual limit of 3 fish and an annual limit of 2 fish**. Shaded cells represent projections for the most liberal combinations that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 0.720 Mlb. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. The harvest projection is for all days open throughout the season. The last column is the release mortality estimate (Mlb) for the UXO80 removal estimates.

Harvest = 91,096; Annual limit = 3

Lower Length Limit (in)	Upper Length Limit (in)																Amount of release mortality at uXo80
	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	
32	1.361	1.262	1.188	1.104	1.045	0.991	0.916	0.843	0.802	0.771	0.740	0.719	0.689	0.672	0.670	0.657	0.026
33	1.388	1.290	1.217	1.134	1.075	1.022	0.947	0.875	0.833	0.802	0.772	0.750	0.721	0.704	0.702	0.689	0.027
34	1.420	1.324	1.251	1.169	1.111	1.058	0.983	0.911	0.871	0.840	0.809	0.788	0.758	0.741	0.739	0.726	0.029
35	1.444	1.349	1.276	1.195	1.137	1.085	1.010	0.939	0.899	0.868	0.837	0.816	0.786	0.770	0.768	0.755	0.030
36	1.483	1.390	1.319	1.238	1.181	1.129	1.055	0.985	0.944	0.914	0.884	0.862	0.833	0.816	0.814	0.801	0.032
37	1.507	1.414	1.344	1.264	1.208	1.156	1.083	1.012	0.972	0.942	0.912	0.891	0.861	0.844	0.842	0.830	0.033
38	1.543	1.452	1.382	1.304	1.248	1.197	1.124	1.054	1.014	0.984	0.954	0.933	0.904	0.887	0.885	0.872	0.034
39	1.569	1.479	1.411	1.333	1.277	1.226	1.154	1.085	1.045	1.015	0.985	0.964	0.935	0.918	0.916	0.904	0.036
40	1.591	1.502	1.435	1.357	1.302	1.252	1.180	1.111	1.072	1.042	1.012	0.991	0.962	0.945	0.943	0.931	0.037
41	1.618	1.531	1.464	1.387	1.333	1.283	1.211	1.143	1.103	1.074	1.044	1.023	0.994	0.978	0.976	0.963	0.038
42	1.635	1.549	1.483	1.407	1.353	1.303	1.232	1.164	1.125	1.095	1.066	1.045	1.016	1.000	0.998	0.985	0.039
43	1.654	1.569	1.504	1.429	1.375	1.326	1.255	1.187	1.148	1.119	1.090	1.069	1.040	1.024	1.022	1.009	0.040
44	1.683	1.599	1.535	1.460	1.407	1.358	1.288	1.221	1.182	1.153	1.124	1.103	1.074	1.058	1.056	1.043	0.041
45	1.713	1.631	1.568	1.494	1.442	1.393	1.324	1.257	1.218	1.189	1.160	1.140	1.111	1.095	1.093	1.080	0.043
46	1.734	1.653	1.590	1.517	1.466	1.417	1.348	1.282	1.244	1.215	1.186	1.165	1.137	1.120	1.119	1.106	0.044
47	1.762	1.682	1.620	1.548	1.497	1.450	1.381	1.315	1.277	1.248	1.219	1.199	1.171	1.154	1.153	1.140	0.045
48	1.782	1.703	1.642	1.571	1.520	1.473	1.404	1.339	1.301	1.272	1.244	1.223	1.195	1.179	1.177	1.164	0.046
49	1.814	1.737	1.677	1.606	1.556	1.509	1.442	1.377	1.339	1.311	1.282	1.262	1.234	1.218	1.216	1.203	0.047
50	1.836	1.760	1.701	1.631	1.582	1.536	1.468	1.404	1.367	1.338	1.310	1.290	1.262	1.246	1.244	1.231	0.049

Table 2C.8. (continued)

Harvest = 76,701; Annual limit = 2

Lower Length Limit (in)	Upper Length Limit (in)																Amount of release mortality at uXo80
	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	
32	1.138	1.055	0.992	0.922	0.874	0.830	0.766	0.705	0.671	0.645	0.620	0.602	0.577	0.563	0.562	0.551	0.022
33	1.161	1.079	1.017	0.948	0.900	0.855	0.792	0.732	0.698	0.672	0.647	0.629	0.604	0.590	0.589	0.578	0.023
34	1.189	1.107	1.046	0.977	0.930	0.886	0.823	0.763	0.729	0.703	0.679	0.661	0.636	0.622	0.621	0.610	0.024
35	1.209	1.128	1.068	0.999	0.952	0.909	0.846	0.787	0.753	0.727	0.702	0.685	0.660	0.646	0.645	0.634	0.025
36	1.242	1.163	1.104	1.036	0.989	0.946	0.884	0.825	0.792	0.766	0.742	0.724	0.699	0.686	0.684	0.674	0.027
37	1.262	1.184	1.125	1.058	1.012	0.969	0.907	0.848	0.815	0.789	0.765	0.748	0.723	0.709	0.708	0.697	0.027
38	1.292	1.215	1.157	1.091	1.046	1.003	0.942	0.884	0.850	0.825	0.801	0.784	0.759	0.745	0.744	0.733	0.029
39	1.315	1.239	1.181	1.116	1.071	1.028	0.968	0.910	0.876	0.851	0.827	0.810	0.785	0.772	0.770	0.760	0.030
40	1.333	1.258	1.202	1.137	1.092	1.050	0.990	0.932	0.899	0.874	0.850	0.833	0.808	0.794	0.793	0.783	0.031
41	1.356	1.282	1.226	1.162	1.117	1.076	1.016	0.958	0.926	0.901	0.877	0.860	0.835	0.822	0.820	0.810	0.032
42	1.370	1.298	1.242	1.178	1.134	1.093	1.033	0.976	0.944	0.919	0.895	0.878	0.854	0.840	0.839	0.829	0.033
43	1.386	1.314	1.260	1.196	1.153	1.112	1.052	0.996	0.963	0.938	0.915	0.898	0.873	0.860	0.858	0.848	0.033
44	1.410	1.340	1.286	1.223	1.180	1.139	1.080	1.024	0.992	0.967	0.944	0.927	0.902	0.889	0.888	0.877	0.035
45	1.436	1.367	1.313	1.252	1.209	1.169	1.110	1.054	1.022	0.998	0.974	0.957	0.933	0.920	0.918	0.908	0.036
46	1.454	1.385	1.333	1.272	1.229	1.189	1.131	1.076	1.044	1.019	0.996	0.979	0.955	0.942	0.940	0.930	0.037
47	1.477	1.410	1.358	1.298	1.256	1.216	1.159	1.104	1.072	1.048	1.024	1.008	0.984	0.970	0.969	0.959	0.038
48	1.494	1.428	1.377	1.317	1.275	1.236	1.179	1.124	1.092	1.068	1.045	1.028	1.004	0.991	0.990	0.980	0.039
49	1.521	1.456	1.406	1.346	1.305	1.266	1.210	1.155	1.124	1.100	1.077	1.060	1.037	1.023	1.022	1.012	0.040
50	1.540	1.476	1.426	1.367	1.327	1.288	1.232	1.178	1.147	1.123	1.100	1.084	1.060	1.047	1.045	1.035	0.041

Analysis of Management Options for the Area 3A Charter Halibut Fisheries for 2026

Table 3A.9: Subareas of IPHC Area 3A, ports where ADF&G halibut sampling occurs, and Subarea abbreviations used in tables and figures in this report.

IPHC Area	Subarea	Ports with Sampling and Angler Interviews	Abbreviations
3A	Glacier Bay (3A portion)	Gustavus, Elfin Cove	GlacB, GlacB-3A, G3A
	Yakutat	Yakutat	Yak, H
	Eastern Prince William Sound	Valdez	EPWS
	Western Prince William Sound	Whittier	WPWS
	North Gulf	Seward	NGulf, NGC
	Lower Cook Inlet	Homer	LCI
	Central Cook Inlet	Anchor Point, Deep Creek	CCI
	Kodiak	Kodiak	Kod, QR

Table 3A.10. Charter logbook effort, harvest per unit effort, and harvest of halibut in IPHC Area 3A, 2015 - 2025. Preliminary estimates for 2025 (in italics) are based on logbook data for charter trips as of October 22, 2025.

	Subarea								
Year	GlacB-3A	Yak	EPWS	WPWS	NGulf	CCI	LCI	Kod	Tot 3A
Effort (angler-days)									
2015	1,852	3,267	3,527	3,484	30,864	19,882	33,011	8,756	104,643
2016	1,887	3,382	4,126	4,094	33,007	16,865	36,978	8,427	108,766
2017	2,211	3,405	3,579	3,679	27,934	17,330	35,426	7,899	101,463
2018	2,739	4,412	4,045	3,955	27,535	16,871	33,723	8,476	101,756
2019	2,094	4,365	4,653	4,764	29,889	15,184	33,663	8,961	103,573
2020	958	1,994	3,495	3,770	20,694	10,773	24,250	5,851	71,745
2021	1,282	4,220	4,940	4,721	32,297	17,284	46,506	12,628	123,878
2022	1,130	4,130	4,718	4,597	30,120	15,897	42,965	12,385	115,942
2023	1,046	2,874	3,925	4,730	26,020	12,840	39,899	11,778	103,112
2024	1,136	3,106	4,052	5,222	27,321	12,136	41,180	10,614	104,767
2025	*830*	*2,888*	*3,737*	*4,642*	*24,131*	*11,875*	*38,206*	*10,283*	*96,592*
Halibut Harvest per Angler-Day (HPUE)									
2015	0.746	0.983	1.218	1.330	1.501	1.802	1.791	1.010	1.564
2016	0.757	0.964	1.149	1.096	1.294	1.705	1.741	1.001	1.455
2017	0.728	0.939	1.143	1.016	1.166	1.665	1.718	0.983	1.406
2018	0.688	0.980	1.187	1.088	1.056	1.670	1.668	0.883	1.340
2019	0.755	0.985	1.103	1.094	1.143	1.660	1.642	0.916	1.343
2020	0.899	1.157	1.379	1.296	1.212	1.779	1.744	1.227	1.486
2021	0.981	1.116	1.431	1.138	1.177	1.831	1.759	1.154	1.489
2022	0.662	0.888	1.364	0.936	1.225	1.795	1.746	1.129	1.463
2023	0.598	1.020	1.240	1.073	1.279	1.820	1.766	1.204	1.508
2024	0.619	0.913	1.312	1.187	1.270	1.864	1.826	1.314	1.542
2025	*0.629*	*1.020*	*1.425*	*1.079*	*1.337*	*1.795*	*1.733*	*1.183*	*1.509*
Harvest (number of halibut)*									
2015	1,381	3,210	4,296	4,635	46,321	35,834	59,110	8,845	163,632
2016	1,428	3,259	4,742	4,487	42,721	28,747	64,392	8,438	158,214
2017	1,609	3,196	4,090	3,737	32,576	28,850	60,845	7,761	142,664
2018	1,884	4,322	4,803	4,302	29,068	28,183	56,262	7,488	136,312
2019	1,582	4,301	5,132	5,214	34,171	25,200	55,274	8,208	139,082
2020	861	2,308	4,882	4,887	25,078	19,094	42,299	7,180	106,589
2021	1,257	4,709	7,070	5,371	38,000	31,640	81,825	14,569	184,441
2022	748	3,668	6,437	4,304	36,909	28,534	75,015	13,977	169,592
2023	626	2,707	4,867	5,076	33,262	23,245	70,809	14,054	154,646
2024	703	2,835	5,315	6,201	34,704	22,617	75,190	13,947	161,512
2025	*522*	*2,945*	*5,327*	*5,009*	*32,272*	*21,313*	*66,196*	*12,163*	*145,747*

*Effort is defined as an angler-day on open days with recorded bottomfish hours or harvest of at least one halibut.

Table 3A.11. Forecasts of effort (angler-days), halibut harvest per unit effort (HPUE), and harvest (numbers of halibut) for Area 3A in 2026 under status quo regulations, with associated standard errors. Status quo regulations include a two-fish bag limit with a maximum size limit of 27 inches on one of the fish, no retention of halibut on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, CHP trip limits, and vessel trip limits.

Subarea	Effort (angler-days)	Std Error	HPUE	Std Error	Harvest (no. halibut)	Std Error
CCI	11,875	0	1.795	0.114	21,316	1,358
EPWS	3,737	0	1.397	0.136	5,221	508
GlacB	830	0	0.629	0.154	522	128
Yak	2,888	0	0.992	0.137	2,864	395
LCI	38,206	0	1.733	0.072	66,214	2,759
NGulf	24,131	0	1.337	0.098	32,261	2,373
Kod	10,283	0	1.183	0.105	12,165	1,075
WPWS	4,642	0	1.098	0.142	5,097	661
Area 3A	96,592	0	1.508	NA	145,660	4,137

Table 3A.12. Area 3A projected harvest, change in harvest, and specified dates with status quo (grey) management measures combined with Tuesday closures.

Number of Closed Tuesdays	Beginning and Ending Dates	Percentage change in harvest	Projected Harvest (no. Fish	Projected Removals (Mlb) (Size limit of 2nd fish is 27")
0	NA	0.0%	174,850	1.721
1	July 28	-1.4%	172,299	1.696
2	July 28 - Aug 4	-2.1%	171,143	1.684
3	July 21 - Aug 4	-3.8%	168,252	1.656
4	July 14 - Aug 4	-5.4%	165,515	1.628
5	July 14 - Aug 11	-6.9%	162,852	1.602
6	July 7 - Aug 11	-8.3%	160,523	1.579
7	June 30 - Aug 11	-9.7%	157,894	1.553
8	June 30 - Aug 18	-10.7%	156,257	1.537
9	June 23 - Aug 18	-11.8%	154,325	1.518
10	June 16 - Aug 18	-12.8%	152,617	1.500
11	June 16 - Aug 25	-13.3%	151,752	1.492
12	June 9 - Aug 25	-14.3%	150,097	1.475
13	June 2 - Aug 25	-14.9%	149,091	1.465
14	June 2 - Sept 1	-15.4%	148,204	1.456
15	May 26 - Sept 1	-15.9%	147,418	1.448
16	May 19 - Sept 1	-16.0%	147,333	1.445
17	May 19 - Sept 8	-16.1%	147,090	1.444
18	May 12 - Sept 8	-16.3%	146,867	1.440
19	May 5 - Sept 8	-16.3%	146,815	1.440
20	May 5 - Sept 15	-16.4%	146,706	1.439
21	April 28 - Sept 15	-16.4%	146,588	1.439
22	April 21 - Sept 15	-16.5%	146,407	1.437
23	April 21 - Sept 22	-16.6%	146,396	1.436
24	April 14 - Sept 22	-16.6%	146,303	1.435
25	April 7 -Sept 22	-16.9%	145,702	1.430
26	April 7 - Sept 29	-16.9%	145,688	1.430
27	April 7 - Oct 6	-16.9%	145,688	1.430
48	Feb 01 - Dec 31	-16.9%	145,660	1.430

Table 3A.13. Area 3A projected harvest (upper table) and removals (lower table) for 2026 under a range of maximum size limits on one fish in the bag limit and **Tuesday closures**. Projected removals assume the following status quo measures: two fish bag limit – one of any size, one under X inches, limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day, and Wednesday closure all year. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. Shaded cells represent projections for the most liberal combinations that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

Projected Harvest (number of fish)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
Harvest	145,660	145,688	145,688	145,702	146,303	146,396	146,706	146,815	146,867	147,333	146,407	146,588	147,090	147,418	148,204

Projected Charter Removals (Mlb)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
Size limit	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
26	1.403	1.403	1.403	1.404	1.409	1.410	1.412	1.413	1.414	1.419	1.411	1.413	1.418	1.421	1.429
27	1.430	1.430	1.430	1.430	1.435	1.436	1.439	1.440	1.440	1.445	1.437	1.439	1.444	1.448	1.456
28	1.472	1.472	1.472	1.472	1.478	1.479	1.481	1.482	1.483	1.488	1.480	1.482	1.487	1.491	1.499
29	1.498	1.498	1.498	1.499	1.504	1.505	1.508	1.509	1.509	1.514	1.506	1.508	1.514	1.517	1.525
30	1.536	1.537	1.537	1.537	1.542	1.543	1.546	1.547	1.548	1.553	1.545	1.547	1.552	1.556	1.564
31	1.562	1.562	1.562	1.562	1.568	1.569	1.572	1.573	1.573	1.578	1.570	1.572	1.578	1.581	1.590
32	1.595	1.596	1.596	1.596	1.602	1.602	1.605	1.606	1.607	1.612	1.604	1.606	1.612	1.615	1.624

Table 3A.13. (continued)

Projected Harvest (number of fish)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Harvest	149,091	150,097	151,752	152,617	154,325	156,257	157,894	160,523	162,852	165,515	168,252	171,143	172,299	174,850

Projected Charter Removals (Mlb)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
Size limit	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
26	1.438	1.448	1.464	1.473	1.490	1.508	1.525	1.550	1.572	1.598	1.625	1.653	1.665	1.689
27	1.465	1.475	1.492	1.500	1.518	1.537	1.553	1.579	1.602	1.628	1.656	1.684	1.696	1.721
28	1.508	1.519	1.536	1.545	1.562	1.582	1.599	1.626	1.649	1.676	1.705	1.734	1.747	1.772
29	1.535	1.546	1.564	1.572	1.590	1.611	1.628	1.655	1.679	1.706	1.735	1.765	1.778	1.804
30	1.574	1.585	1.603	1.612	1.631	1.652	1.669	1.697	1.722	1.750	1.780	1.810	1.823	1.850
31	1.600	1.611	1.630	1.639	1.658	1.679	1.697	1.725	1.750	1.779	1.809	1.840	1.854	1.881
32	1.635	1.646	1.665	1.674	1.693	1.715	1.733	1.762	1.788	1.817	1.848	1.880	1.894	1.921

Table 3A.14. Area 3A projected removals for 2026 with **seasonal open/ close dates** weekly May 1 – June 1 and September 1 – October 1 under a range of maximum size limits on one fish in the bag limit. Projected removals assume the following measures: **two fish bag limit** – one of any size, one under X inches, limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day, **Tuesday and Wednesday closures** all year. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. Shaded cells represent projections that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

		Season end date					
26 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.320	1.355	1.377	1.389	1.395	1.403
	1-May	1.316	1.351	1.374	1.386	1.392	1.400
	8-May	1.310	1.345	1.368	1.380	1.386	1.394
	15-May	1.301	1.336	1.359	1.371	1.377	1.385
	22-May	1.281	1.316	1.339	1.351	1.357	1.365
	29-May	1.243	1.278	1.301	1.312	1.319	1.327

*In 2025, the recreational (sport) fishing season was from Feb 1- Dec 1.

		Season end date					
27 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.344	1.380	1.403	1.415	1.422	1.430
	1-May	1.341	1.377	1.400	1.412	1.418	1.426
	8-May	1.335	1.371	1.394	1.406	1.412	1.420
	15-May	1.326	1.361	1.385	1.397	1.403	1.411
	22-May	1.305	1.341	1.364	1.376	1.383	1.391
	29-May	1.266	1.302	1.325	1.337	1.343	1.351

Table 3A.14. (continued)

		Season end date					
28 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.385	1.421	1.445	1.457	1.464	1.472
	1-May	1.381	1.418	1.441	1.454	1.460	1.468
	8-May	1.375	1.411	1.435	1.447	1.454	1.462
	15-May	1.366	1.402	1.426	1.438	1.445	1.453
	22-May	1.344	1.381	1.405	1.417	1.424	1.432
	29-May	1.304	1.341	1.365	1.377	1.383	1.391

		Season end date					
29 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.409	1.447	1.471	1.483	1.490	1.498
	1-May	1.406	1.443	1.467	1.480	1.486	1.495
	8-May	1.400	1.437	1.461	1.473	1.480	1.488
	15-May	1.390	1.427	1.451	1.464	1.470	1.479
	22-May	1.369	1.406	1.430	1.442	1.449	1.457
	29-May	1.328	1.365	1.389	1.401	1.408	1.416

		Season end date					
30 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.446	1.484	1.508	1.521	1.528	1.536
	1-May	1.442	1.480	1.505	1.517	1.524	1.533
	8-May	1.436	1.474	1.498	1.511	1.518	1.526
	15-May	1.426	1.464	1.489	1.501	1.508	1.516
	22-May	1.404	1.442	1.466	1.479	1.486	1.494
	29-May	1.361	1.400	1.424	1.437	1.444	1.452

Table 3A.14. (continued)

		Season end date					
31 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.470	1.508	1.533	1.546	1.553	1.562
	1-May	1.466	1.505	1.530	1.543	1.549	1.558
	8-May	1.459	1.498	1.523	1.536	1.543	1.552
	15-May	1.450	1.488	1.513	1.526	1.533	1.542
	22-May	1.427	1.466	1.491	1.504	1.510	1.519
	29-May	1.384	1.423	1.448	1.461	1.468	1.476

		Season end date					
32 " size limit		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.501	1.541	1.567	1.580	1.586	1.595
	1-May	1.498	1.537	1.563	1.576	1.583	1.592
	8-May	1.491	1.530	1.556	1.569	1.576	1.585
	15-May	1.481	1.520	1.546	1.559	1.566	1.575
	22-May	1.458	1.497	1.523	1.536	1.543	1.552
	29-May	1.414	1.453	1.479	1.492	1.499	1.508

Table 3A.15. Area 3A projected harvest, mean weight, and removals for a **one-fish bag limit** of any size under three possible mean weight scenarios. Projected removals include other status quo measures of a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day and Tuesday and Wednesday closures all year. Assumed release mortality is 1.5% of projected yield.

Harvest (no. fish)	Size	Mean weight	Removals	SE
84,463	2025 O27	14.68	1.258	0.084
84,463	2025 O27+10%	16.15	1.384	0.093
84,463	2025 All+36%	13.48	1.156	0.083

Table 3A.16. Area 3A projected harvest (upper table) and removals (lower table) for 2026 for a **one -fish of any size** bag limit and **Tuesday closures**. Projected removals assume other status quo measures: of a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day and Wednesday closure all year. All values in the table include corrections for errors in estimation of average weight and inflation factors for release mortality. Shaded cells represent projections that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

a. 2025 O27 mean weight scenario

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
Harvest	84,463	84,479	84,479	84,488	84,934	85,003	85,199	85,279	85,317	85,613	84,914	85,017	85,318	85,507	85,954

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
Size limit	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
All	1.258	1.259	1.259	1.259	1.263	1.264	1.267	1.268	1.268	1.273	1.266	1.267	1.272	1.275	1.282

a. 2025 O27 mean weight scenario (continued)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Harvest	86,475	87,053	88,002	88,508	89,485	90,588	91,531	93,027	94,354	95,869	97,441	99,095	99,762	101,208

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
Size limit	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
All	1.290	1.299	1.313	1.321	1.336	1.352	1.367	1.389	1.409	1.432	1.456	1.481	1.491	1.512

Table 3A.16. (continued)

b. 2025 O27+10% mean weight scenario

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
Harvest	84,463	84,479	84,479	84,488	84,934	85,003	85,199	85,279	85,317	85,613	84,914	85,017	85,318	85,507	85,954

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
Size limit	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
All	1.384	1.384	1.384	1.385	1.390	1.391	1.393	1.394	1.395	1.400	1.392	1.394	1.400	1.403	1.410

b. 2025 O27+10% mean weight scenario (continued)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Harvest	86,475	87,053	88,002	88,508	89,485	90,588	91,531	93,027	94,354	95,869	97,441	99,095	99,762	101,208

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
Size limit	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
All	1.419	1.429	1.445	1.453	1.470	1.488	1.504	1.528	1.550	1.575	1.601	1.629	1.640	1.663

Table 3A.16. (continued)

c. 2025 All + 36% mean weight scenario

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
Harvest	84,463	84,479	84,479	84,488	84,934	85,003	85,199	85,279	85,317	85,613	84,914	85,017	85,318	85,507	85,954

	Number of Closed Tuesdays														
Size limit	All (SQ)	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
All	1.156	1.156	1.156	1.156	1.161	1.162	1.164	1.165	1.166	1.170	1.162	1.164	1.168	1.171	1.177

c. 2025 All + 36% mean weight scenario (continued)

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Harvest	86,475	87,053	88,002	88,508	89,485	90,588	91,531	93,027	94,354	95,869	97,441	99,095	99,762	101,208

	Number of Closed Tuesdays													
Size limit	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
All	1.185	1.193	1.207	1.214	1.228	1.243	1.257	1.277	1.295	1.316	1.338	1.361	1.370	1.390

Table 3A.17. Area 3A projected removals for 2026 with **seasonal open/ close dates** weekly May 1 – June 1 and September 1 – October 1 under three possible mean weight scenarios. Projected removals assume the following measures: **one fish bag limit of any size**, a limit of one trip per vessel and one trip per permit per day, **Tuesday and Wednesday closures** all year. Assumed release mortality is 1.5% of projected yield. Shaded cells represent projections that do not exceed the 2025 allocation of 1.480 Mlb.

a. 2025 O27 mean weight scenario

		Season end date					
One fish O27 mean wt		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.184	1.215	1.235	1.246	1.251	1.258
	1-May	1.181	1.212	1.232	1.243	1.248	1.255
	8-May	1.175	1.207	1.227	1.237	1.243	1.250
	15-May	1.167	1.199	1.219	1.229	1.235	1.242
	22-May	1.149	1.181	1.201	1.211	1.217	1.224
	29-May	1.115	1.146	1.166	1.177	1.182	1.189

*In 2025, the recreational (sport) fishing season was from Feb 1- Dec 1.

b. 2025 O27+10% mean weight scenario

		Season end date					
One fish O27+10% mean wt		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.302	1.336	1.359	1.370	1.376	1.384
	1-May	1.299	1.333	1.355	1.367	1.373	1.381
	8-May	1.293	1.327	1.350	1.361	1.367	1.375
	15-May	1.284	1.319	1.341	1.352	1.358	1.366
	22-May	1.264	1.299	1.321	1.332	1.339	1.346
	29-May	1.226	1.261	1.283	1.295	1.301	1.308

Table 3A.17. (continued)

c. 2025 All + 36% mean weight scenario

		Season end date					
One fish All lengths +36% mean wt		1-Sep	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	No early close*
Season start date	No delayed opener*	1.087	1.116	1.134	1.144	1.149	1.156
	1-May	1.084	1.113	1.132	1.141	1.146	1.153
	8-May	1.080	1.108	1.127	1.136	1.142	1.148
	15-May	1.072	1.101	1.120	1.129	1.134	1.141
	22-May	1.056	1.084	1.103	1.112	1.118	1.124
	29-May	1.024	1.053	1.071	1.081	1.086	1.092

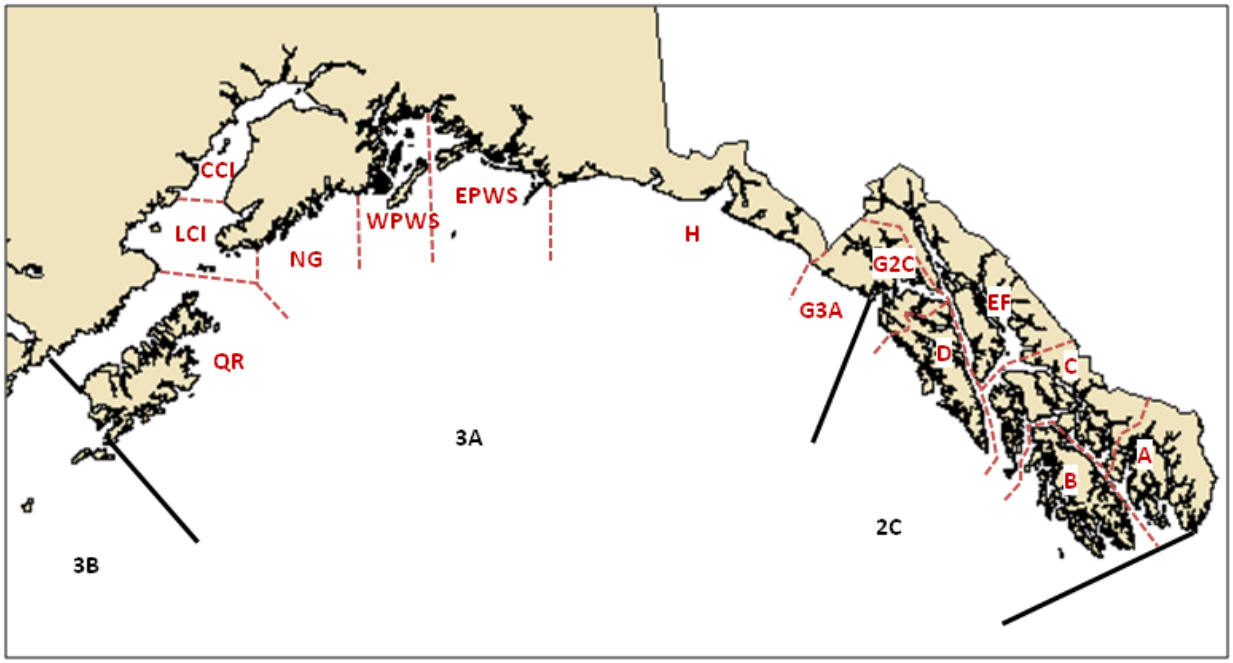

Figure 1. Subareas of IPHC Areas 2C and 3A used for analysis and reporting. A – Ketchikan; B - Prince of Wales (Craig, Klawock); C - Petersburg, Wrangell; D – Sitka; EF - Juneau, Haines, Skagway; G2C - Glacier Bay, Elfin Cove (2C areas); G3A - Glacier Bay, Elfin Cove (3A Areas); H – Yakutat; EPWS - Eastern Prince William Sound (Valdez, Cordova); WPWS - Western Prince William Sound (Whittier); NG - North Gulf (Seward); CCI - Central Cook Inlet (Deep Creek, Anchor Point); LCI - Lower Cook Inlet (Homer); QR – Kodiak.

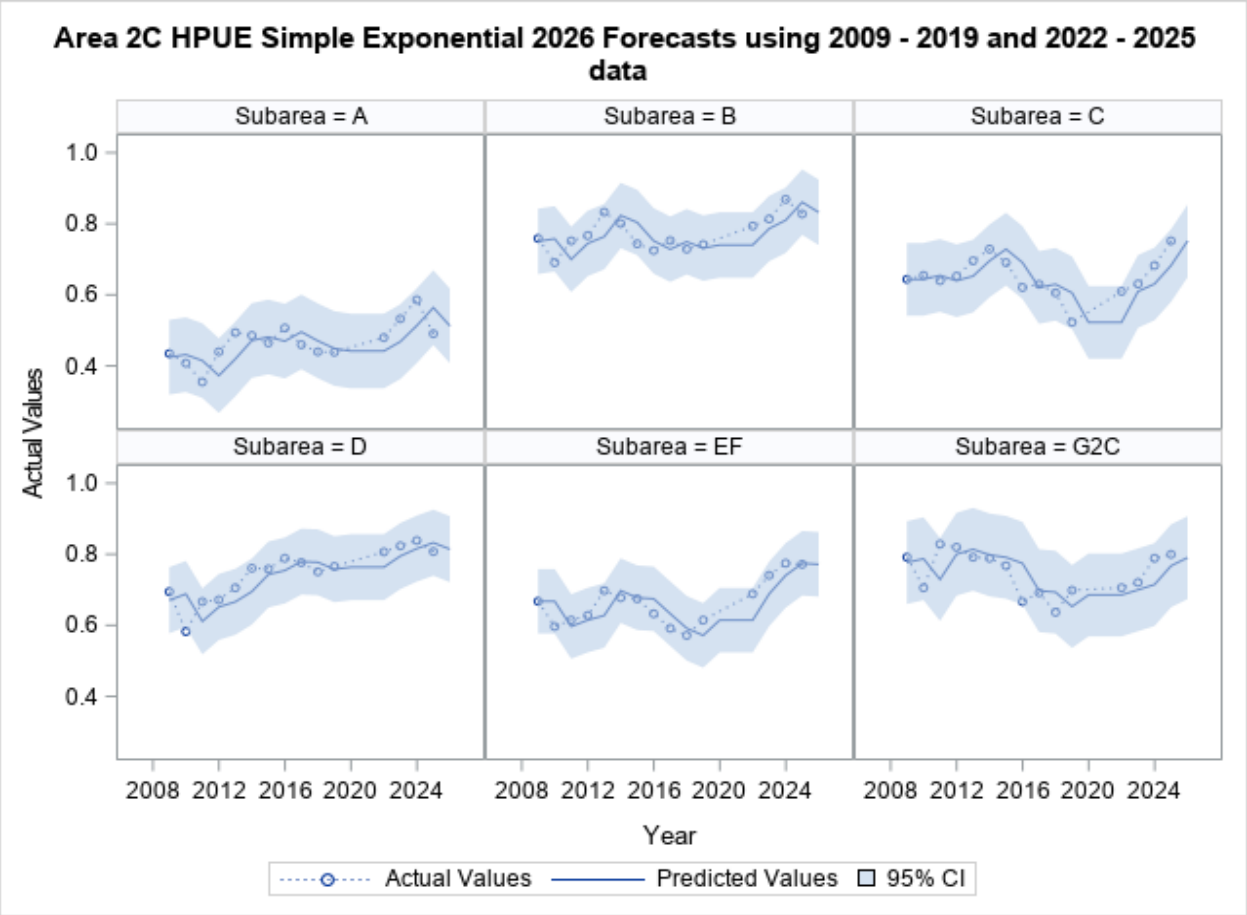

Figure 2 Time series of charter HPUE by subarea of Area 2C, with predicted values and 2026 forecasts of HPUE only. Time series forecasts were made for effort are displayed here, however observed 2025 effort was used in the 2026 forecast. Shaded bands indicate 95% confidence intervals for the forecasts. (Source: ADF&G charter logbook).

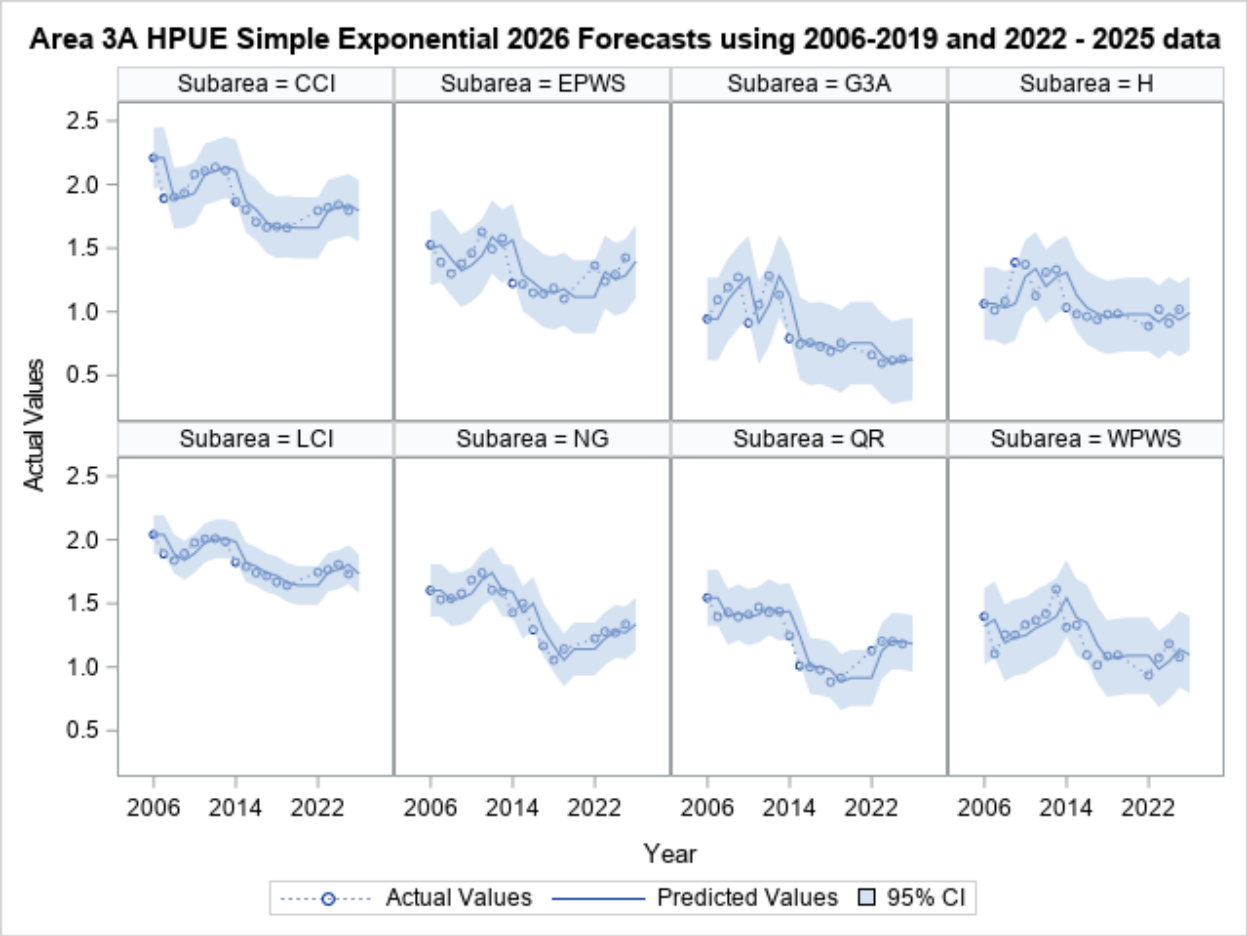

Figure 3 Time series of charter HPUE by subarea of Area 3A, with predicted values and 2026 forecasts of HPUE only. Shaded bands indicate 95% confidence intervals for the 2026 HPUE forecasts. (Source: ADF&G charter logbook)