



North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Preliminary 2023 IFQ Vessel Cap Information

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The Regulatory Impact Review analysis posted for agenda item C3 includes IFQ vessel caps through 2022. Final 2023 IFQ allocations and vessel use caps have not yet been calculated and will be published on the NMFS website¹ when available. The following tables represent preliminary estimates calculated based on 2023 IPHC fishery regulations.² Table 1 reports the commercial fishery landings limits published by the IPHC and calculates estimates of IFQ allocations by area (subtracting CDQ allocations of 4B 20%, 4C 50%, 4D 30%, 4E 100%). Table 2 displays these 2023 annual catch limits and the vessel cap calculations (1% of 2C halibut IFQ TAC of 3.41 million pounds for 2C; and 0.5% of all halibut IFQ TAC of 17.806 million pounds for all areas) in a time series beginning in 2013 (an update of table 4 included in the analysis).

Table 1 Preliminary 2023 IFQ TAC estimates based on IPHC mortality limits

IPHC Area	IPHC Commercial landings limit (million pounds)	IFQ TAC estimate (million pounds)
2C	3.41	3.41
3A	7.84	7.84
3B	3.09	3.09
4A	1.41	1.41
4B	1.22	0.976
4C	0.9	0.45
4D	0.9	0.63
4E	0.22	0
Total	21.01	17.806

Table 2 Annual catch limits and vessel use caps for halibut IFQ, 2013-2023 (updated from table 4 in the analysis)

Year	All Areas		Area 2C	
	Total Catch Limit (lbs)	Vessel Cap (lbs)	Area 2C Catch Limit (lbs)	Vessel use cap (lbs)
2013	21,810,800	109,054	2,970,000	29,700
2014	15,954,370	79,772	3,318,720	33,187
2015	17,136,920	85,685	3,679,000	36,790
2016	17,152,320	85,762	3,924,000	39,240
2017	18,295,400	91,477	4,212,000	42,120
2018	16,630,200	83,151	3,570,000	35,700
2019	17,710,000	88,550	3,610,000	36,100
2020 ¹	16,079,200	80,396	3,410,000	34,100
2021 ²	18,569,600	92,848	3,530,000	35,300
2022 ²	20,298,000	101,490	3,510,000	35,100
2023 ³	17,806,000	89,030	3,410,000	34,100

¹ In 2020 vessel caps were waived for vessels fishing in Areas 4B, 4C, and 4D.

² In 2021 and 2022 vessel caps were waived for vessels fishing in Areas 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D.

³ Preliminary estimates based on 2023 IPHC commercial landing limits.

¹ <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/sustainable-fisheries/alaska-fisheries-management-reports#ifq-halibut/sablefish>

² IPHC 2023. International Pacific Halibut Commission Fishery Regulations (2023). IPHC–2023–FISHR23, 20 pp. <https://www.iphc.int/uploads/pdf/regs/iphc-2023-regs.pdf>