

C7 Council Motion

Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures

December 7, 2025

For the 2026 charter fishing season in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A, the Council recommends:

For IPHC Area 2C:

All allocations shown below include a daily bag limit of one halibut and a reverse slot size limit where the upper limit is fixed at O80 (halibut 80 inches or longer may be retained).

1) If the allocation is at or above 0.858 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U37 (retained halibut must be less than or equal to 37 inches in length) and increase the lower size limit until the allocation is reached, as indicated in Table 2C.4 (page 19) of the ADF&G analysis.

As indicated in Table 2C.6b (page 22) of the ADF&G analysis:

2) If the allocation is less than 0.858 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.715 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U37 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May 14 until the allocation is reached.

3) If the allocation is less than 0.715 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.691 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U36 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May 14 until the allocation is reached.

4) If the allocation is less than 0.691 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.651 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U35 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May 14 until the allocation is reached.

5) If the allocation is less than 0.651 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.626 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U34 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May 14 until the allocation is reached.

6) If the allocation is less than 0.626 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.594 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U33 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May 14 until the allocation is reached.

7) If the allocation is less than 0.594 Mlb but greater than or equal to 0.566 Mlb, begin with a lower size limit of U32 closing Thursdays starting September 10 working to May

14 until the allocation is reached.

For IPHC Area 3A:

All allocations shown below include, unless otherwise specified:

A daily bag limit of 2 halibut. One fish of any size and one fish with a maximum size limit of 28 inches. 1 trip per charter vessel per day with retention of halibut; and 1 trip per charter halibut permit per day. All Wednesdays to be closed to the retention of halibut.

- 1) If the allocation is greater than or equal to 1.798 Mlb, raise the size of the second fish until the allocation is reached with no Tuesday closures as indicated in Table 3A.13 (page 33) of the ADF&G analysis.
- 2) If the allocation is less than or equal to 1.797 Mlb, but greater than or equal to 1.430 Mlb: lower the size of the second fish to 27 inches. Close Tuesdays as needed to keep charter harvest removals within the Area 3A allocation, as indicated in Table 3A.13 (page 33) of the ADF&G analysis.
- 3) If the allocation is below 1.430 Mlb, but greater than or equal to 1.403 Mlb: Lower the size of the second fish to as low as 26 inches, continue to close Tuesday as needed until the projected charter harvest removals meet the allocation, as indicated in Table 3A.13 (page 33) of the ADF&G analysis.
- 4) If the allocation is below 1.403 Mlb, but greater than or equal to 1.327 Mlb, in addition to all closed Tuesdays and a second fish of 26 inches, adjust the season start date to open between May 1 and May 29 to align with allocation (Table 3A.14).
- 5) If the allocation is below 1.327 Mlb, but greater than or equal 1.243 Mlb, in addition to all closed Tuesdays, a second fish of 26 inches, and a season start date of May 29, adjust the season close date between September 28 and September 1 to align with allocation (Table 3A.14).
- 6) If the allocation is below 1.243 Mlb, in addition to all closed Tuesdays, a season start date of May 29, and a season close date of September 1, implement a daily bag limit of 1 halibut of any size (Table 3A.17).