

## **E1 Staff Tasking – Council RQE Motion April 8, 2019**

The Council directs staff to initiate a discussion paper to develop a mechanism for the Recreational Quota Entity (RQE) to fund the purchase of halibut quota share by selling halibut stamps to charter operators. The discussion paper should examine requiring all charter operators to purchase an RQE halibut stamp from the RQE for each guided angler, each day, that they plan to harvest halibut on a charter vessel operating in IPHC regulatory areas 2C and 3A. The discussion paper should:

- Include examples of the design specifications and implementation of numbered stamps used to harvest animals or fish – King Salmon, Duck or Deer tags for example.
- Inform the Council on the amount of revenue that could be generated by the sale of the stamps for guided halibut trips in regulatory areas 2C and 3A based on past participation. Consider 10 , 15, and 20 dollars per stamp. One day and three day stamps should be considered.
- Describe the amount of potential fees collected by the RQE from charter operators, and how fees would be used to purchase halibut QS and would also be used to fund administrative costs of the RQE program and all other purposes as dictated by federal law
- Describe a NMFS approval process for the design specifications of the stamps, and an annual financial review of the Stamps sold and other related RQE expenses.
- Monitoring and enforcement provisions if all guided halibut fishermen are required to be in possession of a valid RQE Halibut Stamp when harvesting charter halibut.

. **SEC. 510. FEES.**

. 18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The North Pacific Fishery

. Management Council may recommend, and the Secretary of Commerce may approve, regulations necessary for the collection of fees from charter vessel operators who guide recreational anglers who harvest Pacific halibut in International Pacific Halibut Commission regulatory areas 2C and 3A as those terms are defined in part 300 of title.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section all ref- 1 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

. 3 (b) USE OF FEES.—Any fees collected under this section shall be available, without appropriation or fiscal year limitation, for the purposes of financing administrative costs of the Recreational Quota Entity program; the purchase of halibut quota shares in International Pacific Halibut Commission regulatory areas 2C and 3A by the recreational quota entity authorized in part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations); halibut conservation and research; promotion of the halibut resource by the recreational quota entity authorized in part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)