



D1 Halibut Catch Sharing Plan Allocation Review Workplan

October 2021

Action Memo

Council Staff: Sarah Marrinan
Action Required: 1. Review workplan
2. Suggest any changes to the proposed workplan

BACKGROUND

In July 2016, NOAA Fisheries created an Allocation Policy to provide a mechanism to ensure fisheries allocations are periodically evaluated to remain relevant to current conditions. In response to this Policy, the Council is preparing to conduct an Allocation Review for its Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP). The halibut CSP established an abundance-based allocation between the commercial halibut fishery and the guided recreational (charter) fishery in the International Pacific Halibut Commission Regulatory Area 2C and Area 3A. The CSP also defined an annual process for establishing charter halibut management measures and created an opportunity for commercial halibut IFQ to be leased on an annual basis as guided angler fish to charter halibut permit holders for harvest in the charter halibut fishery.

At this meeting the SSC, AP, and Council will review a workplan which outlines the proposed scope and content of the charter and commercial halibut CSP Allocation Review. This workplan includes 1) a summary of the NOAA Allocation Policy and the triggers and process for Allocation Reviews, 2) a summary of the resources that help to define the scope of the Allocation Review, and 3) the proposed content to be included.

At this time, Council bodies and stakeholders should consider the scope and content proposed in this CSP Allocation Review workplan. The Council may suggest modifications to this workplan after additional input is provided. When the CSP Allocation Review is presented to the Council at a future Council meeting (tentatively scheduled for February 2022), stakeholders may wish to suggest specific changes to the allocation or program. If the Council supports these changes, this would initiate 'Step 3' of the Allocation Review process, which would likely constitute a regulatory amendment to the program.