



C7 Charter Halibut Management Measures

December 2023 Council Meeting

Action Memo

Council Staff: Sarah Marrinan
Other Presenters: Brianna Bowman (ADF&G; **lead**); Sarah Webster (ADF&G)
Action Required:

1. Review ADF&G analysis of proposed measures
2. Review Charter Halibut Management Committee minutes
3. Recommend preferred management measures for 2024

BACKGROUND

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to recommend management measures (e.g., bag limits, size restrictions, day-of-the-week closures, etc.) for the charter halibut fisheries in IPHC Areas 2C (Southeast) and 3A (Southcentral), for implementation in 2024. The AP and Council will consider analysis presented by Brianna Bowman (ADF&G Division of Sport Fish) which projects 2024 charter removals under different scenarios of management measures and advice from its Charter Halibut Management Committee. The objective is to fit the expected charter removals within the established catch limits. Since the 2024 charter halibut catch limits will not be set until the annual IPHC meeting (Jan 22-26, 2024), the Council's motion should demonstrate how the measures would become more or less restrictive depending on the limits set.

The Council's **Charter Halibut Management Committee will meet on December 6, 2022, 8am – 12pm** to review the ADF&G analysis and recommend measures to adopt for Area 2C and 3A. Minutes from the Charter Halibut Management Committee meeting will be available and posted to the eAgenda shortly thereafter.

The Council's **Charter Halibut Management Committee previously met on Oct 20, 2022**. The Committee received an ADF&G report of final estimates for 2022 halibut removals (harvest + release mortality) for Area 2C and 3A and preliminary removals for 2023. These reports are available on the October CHMC meeting's [eAgenda](#). The measures requested for analysis are detailed in the [Committee report](#) from October 20. The report also details discussion around a number of other topics the Committee covered including: adopting a [draft Terms of Reference](#) for Council approval, consideration around the charter halibut management timeline, and the concerns regarding the unguided rental boat sector.