

Gulf of Alaska Halibut and Salmon Committee

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Shoreside and CP Trawl

Julie Bonney, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank

Rebecca Skinner, Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association

Chris Woodley, Groundfish Forum

GOA Overarching Halibut and Salmon Bycatch Tools

1. Implement management measures that create individual vessel incentives to minimize bycatch and wastage (cooperatives and/or catch shares coupled with appropriate levels of electronic and/or observer monitoring that tracks individual vessel fishing practices).
2. Ensure current and accurate analyses and estimates of economic contributions of each fishery to (a) coastal communities that depend on those fisheries, (b) Alaska, and (c) the Nation (necessary to weigh and balance impacts of proposed management decisions).
3. Outreach materials from the State of Alaska readily available to the public that are brief and easy to understand regarding the impacts of bycatch/wastage on fisheries.
4. Better collaboration between agencies on research priorities, projects and funding requests.
5. Expand educational tax credits for the development of technologies to minimize impacts of bycatch/wastage.

GOA Halibut Research and Fishery Management Tools

Improve our understanding of Stock Dynamics:

1. Mark recapture tagging in Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Canada, Russia and Gulf of Alaska to better understand exchange between areas.
2. Selective satellite tag deployments for same objectives as above

Update the Discard Mortality Rates

1. Study survival of released fish with accelerometer tags for all gear types

Impacts of Size Limit

1. Halibut diet and growth rate/ stress levels to understand why length at age has changed so dramatically over time
2. Sensitivity analysis of size limit impact, taking into consideration release rate mortality from marine mammal predation, length at age, and actual economics of markets
3. Analyze trade-off between size selectivity with use of pots for halibut
4. Collect and analyze data on sex and size of halibut bycatch and wastage (all sources)
5. Determine relative fecundity of halibut based on size and age, then estimate impact on Halibut stock of removals from all sources (requires data from item above)

Miscellaneous

1. Gear innovation to improve selectivity for trawl, longline
2. Develop one report for annual bycatch and halibut wastage amounts that both NMFS and IPHC agree to and recognize

GOA Salmon Research and Fishery Management Tools

1. Better understand the interactions and impact of hatchery salmon (pink salmon and Chinook) on wild-run Alaska salmon and the amount of hatchery salmon bycatch
2. Support funding that continues the annual genetic reporting for the Gulf pollock fishery
3. Once an individual vessel management system is in place, change salmon counts in non-pollock fisheries to census counts instead of estimates based on at-sea samples