



Skokomish Indian Tribe

Fisheries Department

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SKOKOMISH TRIBE'S 2016 ANNUAL HALIBUT REGULATION F#16-03

1. Introduction and Species

This regulation shall apply to halibut fishing for commercial and subsistence purpose by the members of the Skokomish Indian Tribe. Provisions governing the harvest of other bottomfish remain in effect under separate Skokomish Tribe regulations. No other species or gear type may be fished unless authorized by a Tribal regulation.

2. Management Periods and Areas

These regulations shall be in effect from March 19, 2016 through November 7, 2016 unless specifically modified. Marine Fish and Shellfish Areas 27C, 27B, 27A and 25C (except Port Gamble Bay) are open for fishing.

3. Special Area and Time Restrictions (Days and Times)

- a. Unrestricted Landings Fishery: Opened by in-season emergency regulation(s) on or after 12:00 noon Saturday, March 19, 2016, based on conditions described in the 2016 Tribal Commercial Halibut Management Plan, with no poundage limit per landing. All landings must be completed within 12 hours of the end of an open period.
- b. Restricted Landings Fishery: Opened by in-season emergency regulation(s) on or after 12:00 noon Saturday, March 19, 2016 and shall close for the season when the commercial harvest target of 69,369 pounds for the restricted fishery has been reached. During the restricted fishery, halibut taken in halibut directed fisheries or incidentally in other fisheries may be sold commercially within the restrictions imposed by in-season regulation(s).
- c. Mop-up Fishery: Opened by in-season emergency regulation(s).

4. Size Limits

All commercial halibut measuring less than 32 inches (head and tail on) must be returned to the water unharmed.

5. Lawful Commercial Gear

- a. Set lines: Maximum 500 hooks/skate, maximum 3,000 hooks/vessel.

- b. Bottomfish troll gear: Maximum 12 hooks/line; maximum 4 lines/vessel.
- c. Hand lines/jigs: Maximum 2 hooks/line; maximum 2 lines/fisherman.
- d. Power jigs: Maximum 2 hooks/line; maximum 8 lines/vessel.

6. Licensing and Catch Reporting

- a. Fishers must at all times comply with licensing and vessel registration requirements under the Tribal Fishing Ordinances.
- b. All halibut sales must be recorded on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets.
- c. All catches must be recorded and reported to the Skokomish Tribe Fisheries office within 24 hours of landing.
- d. All halibut sales, throughout the season, must be made by the owner/operator of each fishing vessel using the Treaty Indian Fishing Card.
- e. All halibut must be landed with heads on.
- f. All fishers who use set line gear must maintain a log book, provided by Skokomish Fisheries Office.
- g. Log books must be returned to the Skokomish Fisheries Office at the end of the fishery.

7. Subsistence Catch and Bycatch

During a Treaty commercial halibut opening a vessel may hold and land up to four (4) halibut per day for subsistence purposes; the tail of subsistence halibut shall be clearly marked on board using a technique designed to eliminate commercial marketability.

All rockfish must be retained and recorded on commercial fish tickets as take-home and can only be used for subsistence or ceremonial purposes, no commercial sale of rockfish species during commercial halibut fisheries.

Refer to Skokomish Tribe Annual Marine Bottomfish Regulation for subsistence restrictions and limits for other bottomfish species.

8. Authority

These regulations are promulgated by the Skokomish Fish Committee and adopted by the Skokomish Tribal Council under authority of the Skokomish On-Reservation Treaty Fishing Ordinance section 7.02.025. Emergency regulations may at any time modify the regulations promulgated herein.



Cynthia Gray
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Skokomish Natural Resources

"I certify that copies of this document were mailed pre-paid on 3-23-16 to all persons required by the Federal District Court's Order of March 1 1976.
Signed Irene Miller
Title Admin Asst