The following regulations are promulgated by the Point No Point Treaty Council under authority delegated by its member Tribes. These regulations shall govern the commercial harvest of halibut from March 14, 2020 through November 15, 2020, unless specifically modified.

Provisions governing the harvest of other bottomfish remain in effect under separate PNPTC regulations.

I. AREAS

Catch reporting areas under these regulations shall be those used for bottomfish catch reporting. For the Jamestown and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes these areas are:


II. FISHERIES

1. Season

   March 14 to November 15, 2020.

2. Days and Times

   a) Unrestricted Landings Fishery: Opened by inseason emergency regulation(s) on or after 12:00 noon Saturday, March 14, 2020 with no poundage limit. All landings must be completed within 12 hours of the end of an open period.

   b) Restricted Landings Fishery: Opened by inseason emergency regulation(s) on or after 12:00 noon Saturday, March 14, 2020. During the restricted fishery, halibut taken in halibut directed fisheries or incidentally in other fisheries may be sold commercially within the restrictions imposed by this regulation and the in-season halibut regulation(s).

   c) Mop-up Fishery: Opened by inseason emergency regulation(s).
3. Size Limits

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

4. Lawful Gear

Lawful gear under these regulations shall consist of:

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.

5. 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 either the Jamestown or Port Gamble 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 their Tribal Fisheries Office. Log books must be returned to the originating Fisheries Office at the end of the fishery.

6. 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 PNPTC Annual Marine Fish Regulations for subsistence restrictions and limits for other bottomfish species.
7. Emergency Regulations

The above regulations may be modified at any time based on in-season management considerations. Fishers are notified that closures may occur on short notice. Prior to fishing, fishers are advised to check with their Tribal Fisheries office, the PNPTC office, or the Internet at www.pnptc.org.

II. AUTHORITY

These in-common regulations are promulgated by the Point No Point Treaty Council under authority delegated by its member Tribes.

Scott Bass
Finfish Program Manager
Point No Point Treaty Council