



# 2021 PACIFIC HALIBUT SPORT REGULATIONS

Inseason changes can be found on the NMFS Hotline (1-800-662-9825; #5; #1), at [myodfw.com/pacific-halibut-sport-regulations](http://myodfw.com/pacific-halibut-sport-regulations), & by text/e-mail subscription. Changes from last year are underlined.

**COLUMBIA RIVER SUBAREA** (Leadbetter Pt., WA, to Cape Falcon, OR)

**Nearshore Season** ..... Quota = 500 lbs.  
Open Mondays-Wednesdays inside the 40-fathom line off of Oregon beginning May 10, through June 24, 2021. Closed after June 24 for the remainder of 2021

**All-Depth Season** ..... Quota = 18,162 lbs.

Open Dates						Additional Dates (if quota)
Thurs May 6	Sun May 9	Thurs May 13	Sun May 16	Thurs May 20	Sun May 23	Thurs May 27
						Jun 3-24, every Thurs & Sun; <b>OPEN, Fri Aug 27</b>

**CENTRAL COAST SUBAREA** (Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt.)

**Nearshore Season** ..... Quota = 32,808 lbs.  
Open May 1, seven days a week, inside the 40-fathom line, through the earlier of the quota or Oct 31.

**All-Depth Seasons** ..... Combined Quota = 240,595 lbs.

	Quota (lbs)	Open Dates						Back-Up Dates
<b>Spring</b>	172,244	May 13-15	May 20-22	Jun 3-5	Jun 10-12	Jun 17-19	Jul 1-3	Jul 15-17 & 29-31
<b>Summer</b>	68,351	Aug 5-7; <b>EVERY</b> Thurs, Fri & Sat, <u>through Sept 12. Beginning Monday, Sept 13 open 7 days per week through the earlier of the quota or Oct. 31.</u>						

The Stonewall Bank YRCA (about 15 miles west of Newport) is closed to Pacific halibut fishing. Anglers on vessels possessing Pacific halibut are prohibited from fishing in the Stonewall Bank YRCA, even when targeting legal species.

**SOUTHERN OREGON SUBAREA** (Humbug Mt. to OR/CA border)

Open May 1, seven days per week, through the earlier of quota, or Oct 31. Quota = 8,000 lbs.

## STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

- It is **mandatory to have a descending device** onboard the vessel when fishing for Pacific halibut, to use a device when releasing any rockfish species when fishing outside of 30 fathoms.
- Daily bag limit: **2** fish, beginning Sept 13, 2021 in the Central OR Coast & Southern OR Coast Subareas. Annual limit: 6.
- No length limit.
- Pacific halibut possession limit: 1 daily limit at sea, 3 daily limits on land.
- Fathom lines and conservation areas are defined by waypoints.
- Pacific halibut seasons are managed and enforced based on port of landing. Halibut may only be landed into ports located within areas currently open to halibut retention, regardless of area of catch.
- During MAY, SEPT, & OCT bottomfish may be combined with all-depth halibut on days open to all-depth halibut. Longleader gear fishing cannot be combined with all-depth halibut.
- When angling for Pacific halibut outside of the 40-fm curve only salmon (as regulations allow), bottomfish as regulations above allow, tuna and most other offshore pelagic species may be in possession or landed when Pacific halibut are onboard the vessel.
- During a nearshore halibut trip, retention of bottomfish is allowed. However, on days when the all-depth halibut fishery is open, all-depth rules apply regardless of depth.
- It is unlawful to fish for or take and retain any species while possessing onboard any species not allowed to be taken in that area at the time.
- Anglers are advised to consult the 2021 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for General (statewide), Zone, and Special Regulations prior to fishing.

