



02/14/2023

Attachment 8

## Staff Recommended 2023 PACIFIC HALIBUT SPORT REGULATIONS

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will finalize the 2023 sport halibut seasons on April 21

Inseason changes can be found on the NMFS Hotline (1-800-662-9825; #5; #1), at [myodfw.com/pacific-halibut-sport-regulations](https://myodfw.com/pacific-halibut-sport-regulations), & by text/email 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 Oregon beginning May 8, through the earlier of quota or Sept. 30.

**All-Depth Season** ..... **Quota = 18,375 lbs.**

Open Dates						Additional Dates (if quota)
Thurs May 4	Sun May 7	Thurs May 11	Sun May 14	Thurs May 18	Sun May 21	Thurs May 25
						Jun 1, every Thurs & Sun, through earlier of quota, or June 30

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

**Nearshore Season** ..... **Quota = 33,026 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 = 242,188 lbs.**

	Quota (lbs)	Open Dates	Back-Up Dates (if quota)
Spring	173,385	Open <u>May 1</u> through June 30, 7 days per week	Jul 10-16 & 24-30
Summer	68,803	Aug 3-5; then every other Thurs- Sat, until Oct 31 or the quota is caught	

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, and to use a device when releasing any rockfish species when fishing outside of 30 fathoms.
- Daily bag limit: 1 Pacific halibut. 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. [myodfw.com/waypoints-sport-fishing](https://myodfw.com/waypoints-sport-fishing)
- 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 all-depth halibut days, longleader gear fishing OR the traditional general marine bottomfish fishery (lingcod and black rockfish) may be combined with all-depth halibut during days when the bottomfish fishery is not depth restricted. The longleader fishery and traditional bottomfish fishery cannot be combined on the same trip.
- Sablefish, Pacific cod & other flatfish species can be combined with all-depth halibut and the longleader gear or traditional bottomfish fishery. When retained, sablefish and Pacific cod will count towards any bottomfish and/or longleader bag limit.
- When angling for Pacific halibut outside of the 40-fm regulatory line, 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.
- 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 that time.
- Anglers are advised to consult the 2023 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for General (statewide), Zone, and Special Regulations prior to fishing.

