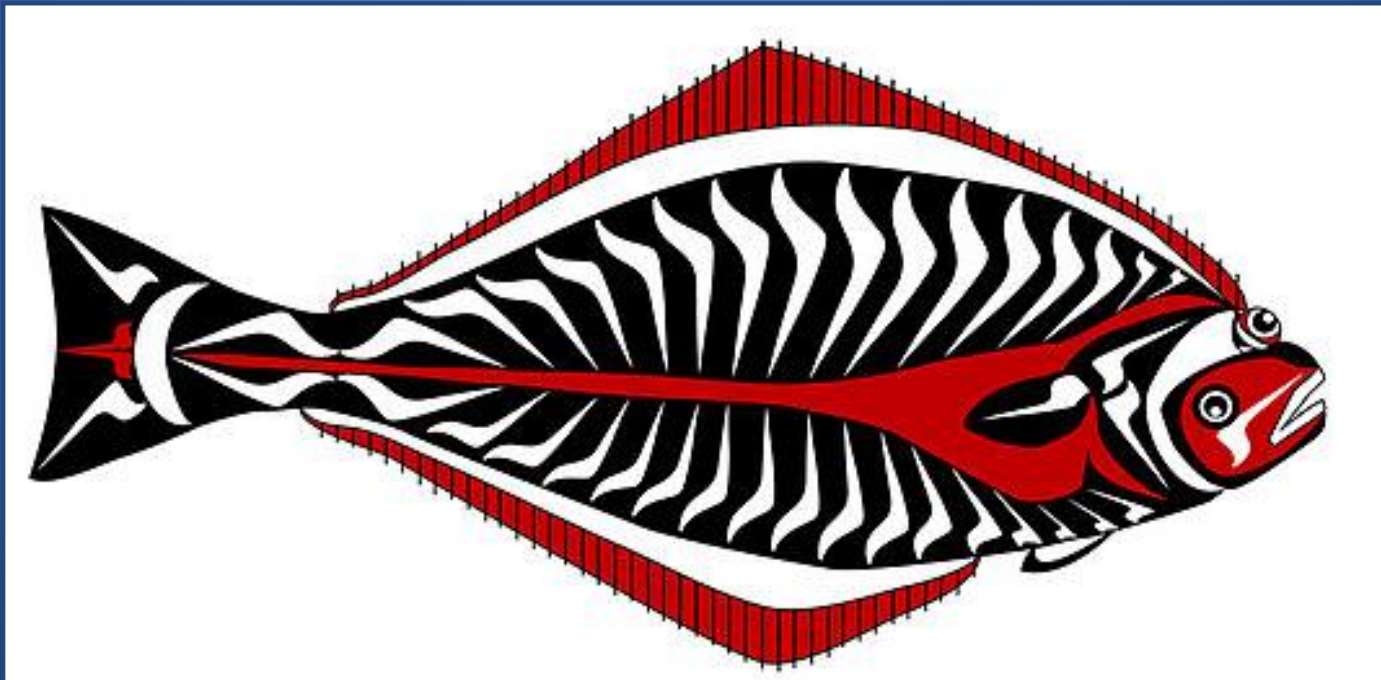




Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for 2020





Meeting Outline

- Status of the P. halibut stock
- Area 2A allocation
- Recent changes
- Ideas & Suggestions
- Discussion for 2020



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Halibut Stock Status: IPHC 2019 Annual Meeting

Summary

- Fishery and modelled survey trends down coastwide
- Biomass estimates are slightly larger than from last year's assessment, and observations of incoming recruitments further reduced estimated fishing intensity
- Spawning biomass still estimated to be decreasing and projected to decrease for TCEYs >20 Mlb, with greater uncertainty in this year's results



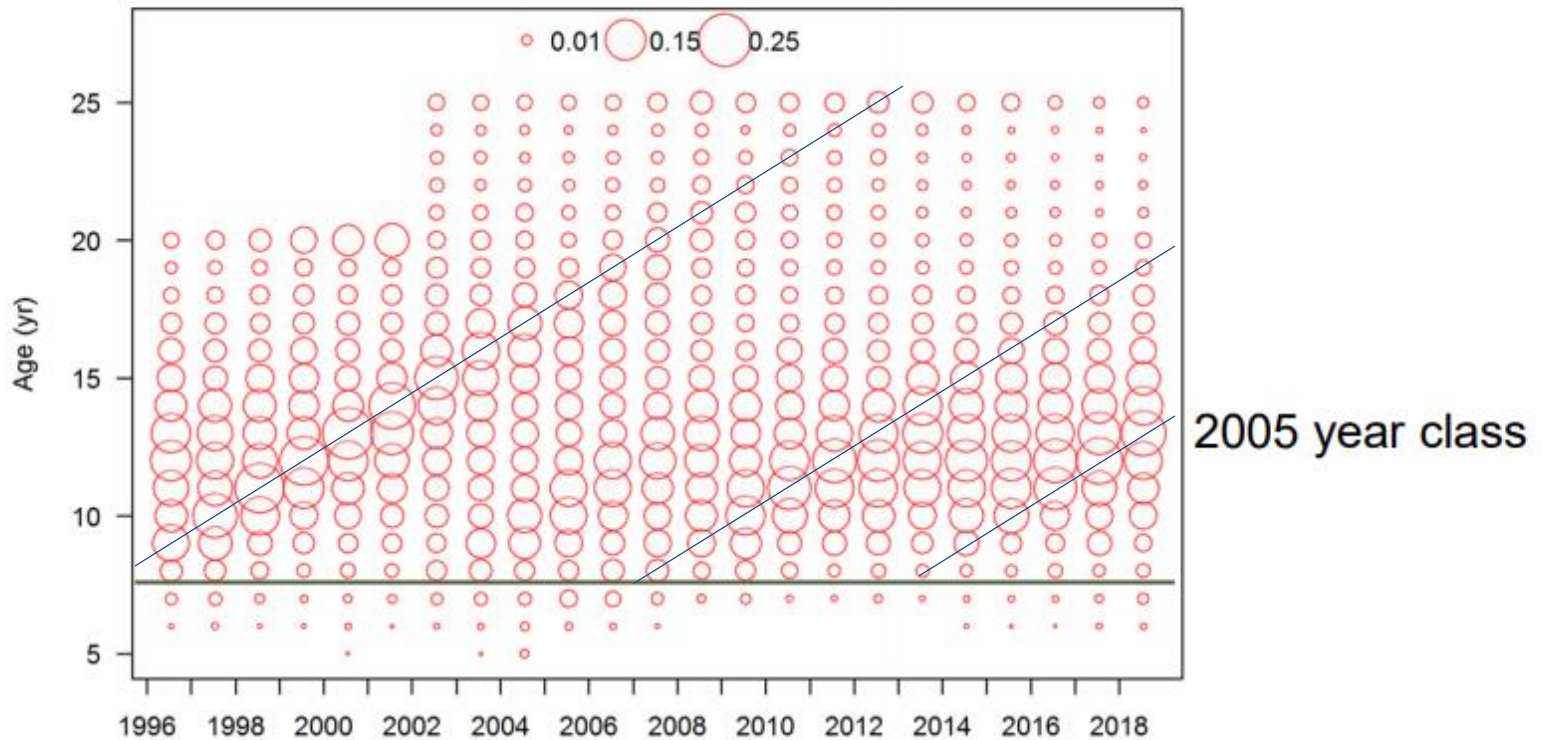
IPHC Annual Meeting

- Stock decreasing coastwide (AK-CA)
- 2018 down compared to 2017
 - Total Fishing mortality 5% ↓
 - Setline NPUE 7% ↓
 - Setline WPUE of legal (O32) 5% ↓
 - Commercial WPUE 11% ↓
- Little recruitment since 2005
 - Early showing of year classes 2011 & 2013



Year classes supporting the fisheries

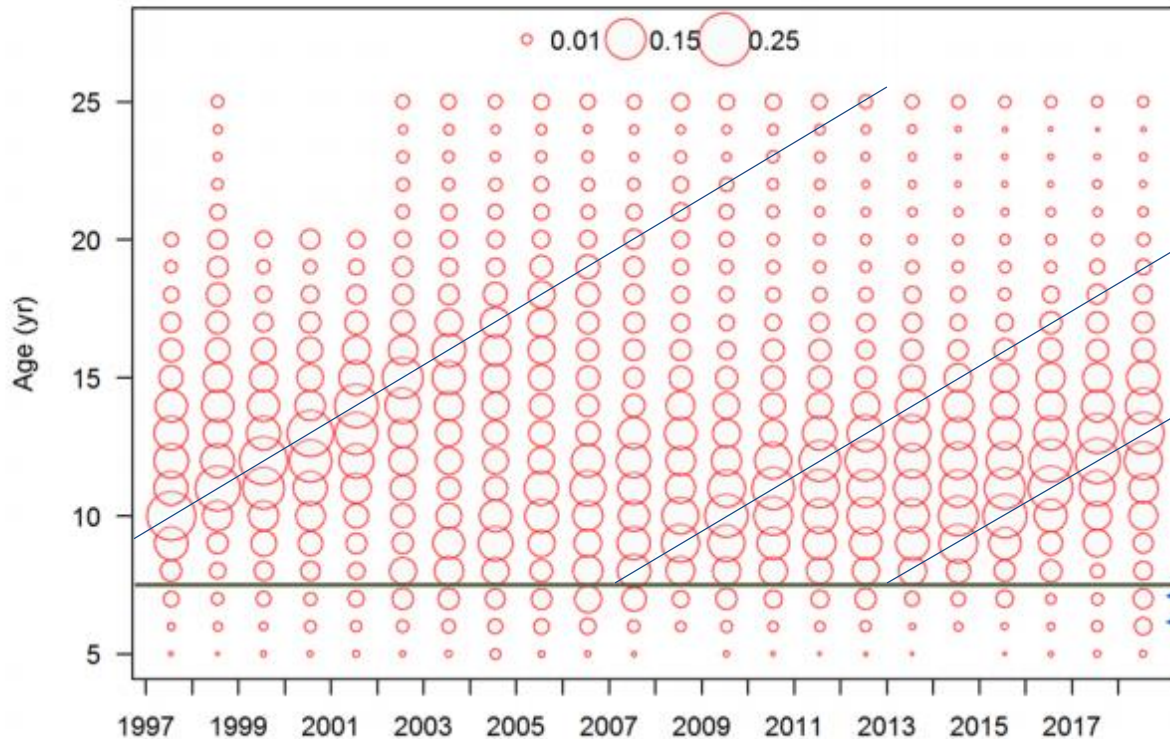
Fishery ages (sexes combined)





Year classes showing up in setline survey

Setline survey ages (sexes combined)



*Good News?!?
Maybe... too
early to tell*



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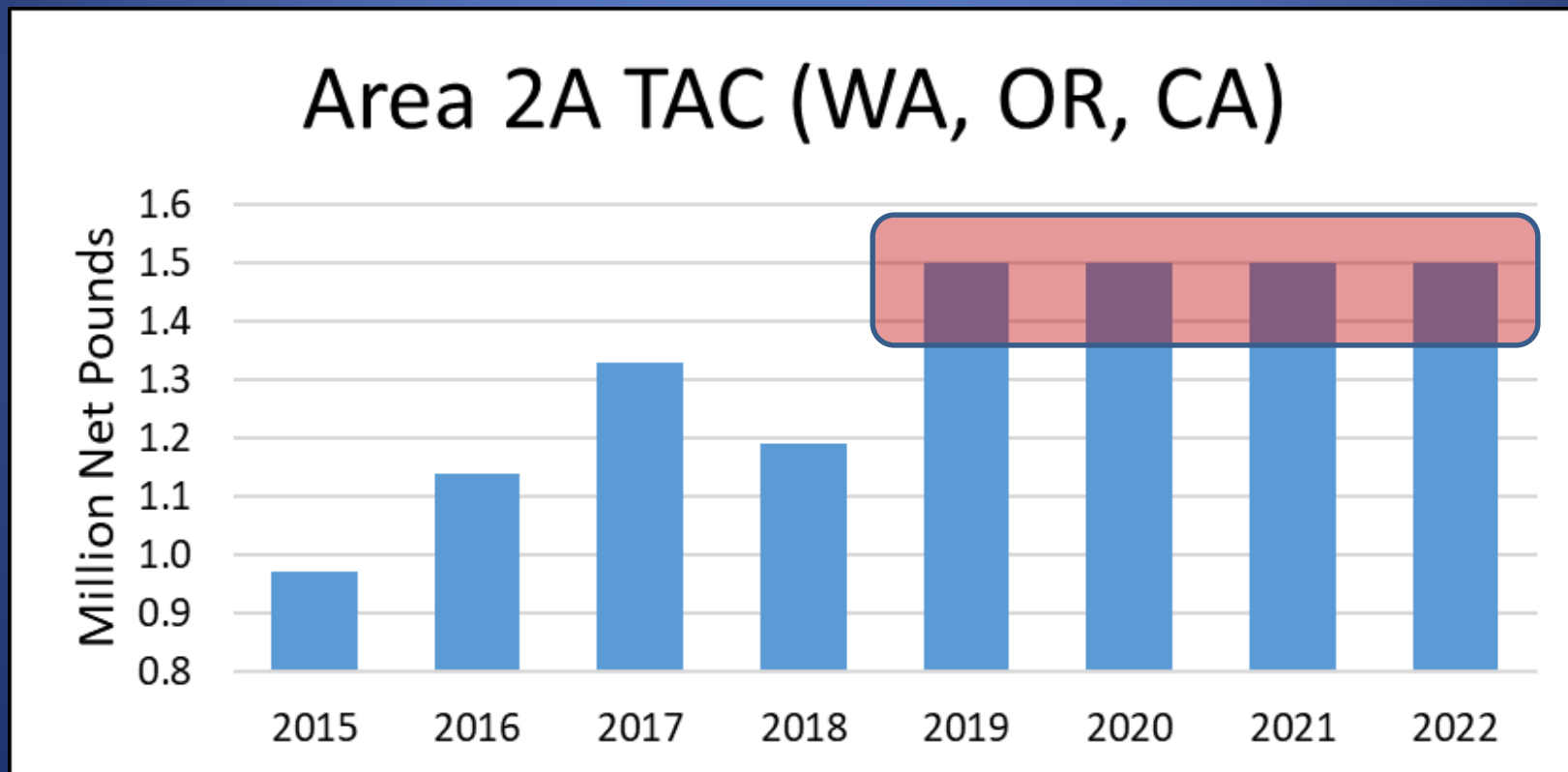
IPHC Meeting Results

- Area 2A (WA, OR & CA) was looking at a potential reduction, BUT...
- The Makah Tribe proposal
 - Set 1.5 Mlbs Total Annual Catch (TAC)
 - 3-5 year period
 - Stabilize the fishery
 - Drop in the bucket compared to Alaska and BC fisheries (4.3% for 2019)
 - No biological concern



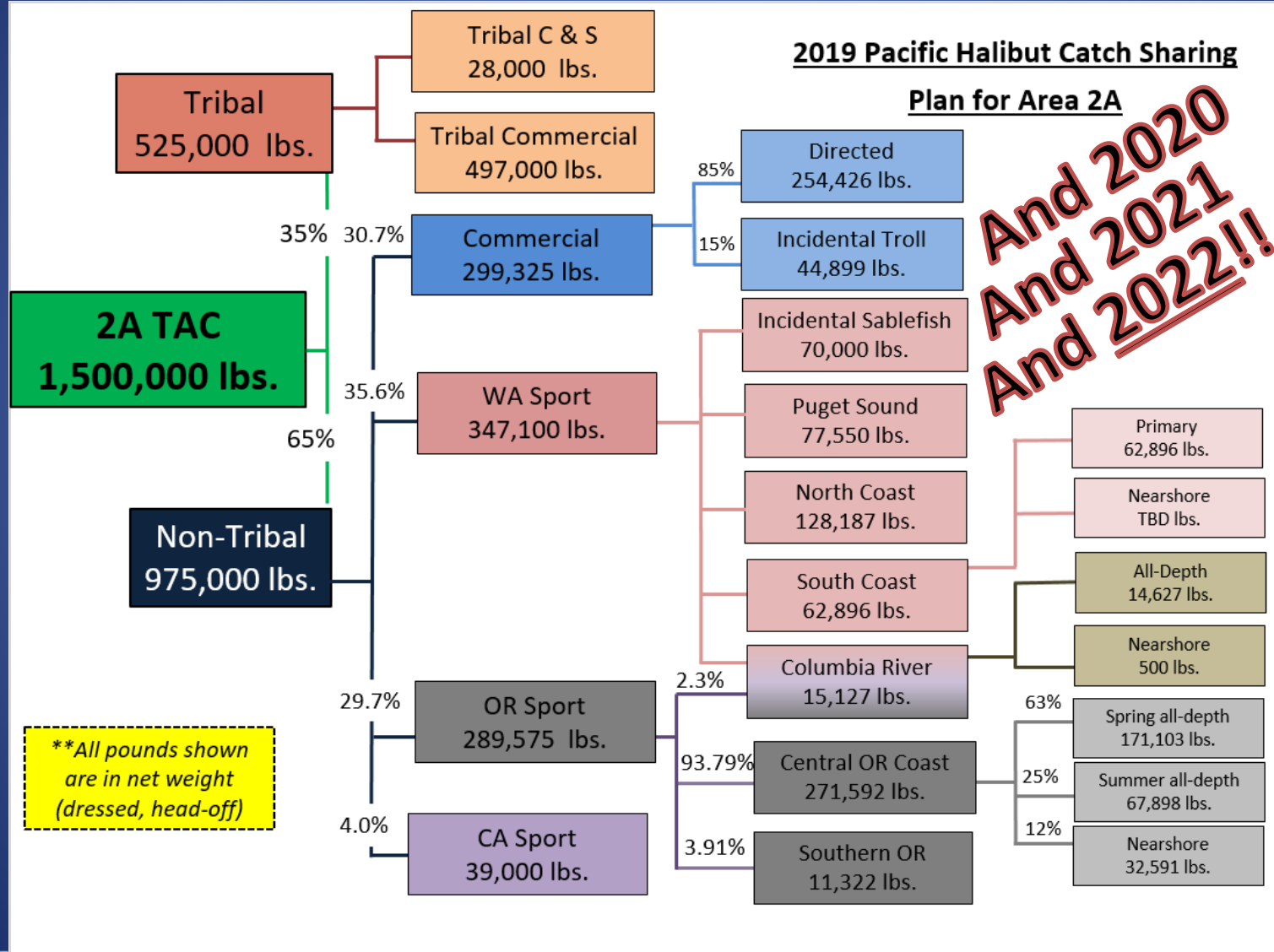
Area 2A Allocation

- 1.5 million pounds TAC!!!





289,575 lbs. for OR Sport



Cascadia

Basin **Leadbetter Point**

Columbia River Subarea

Cape Falcon 15,127 lbs.

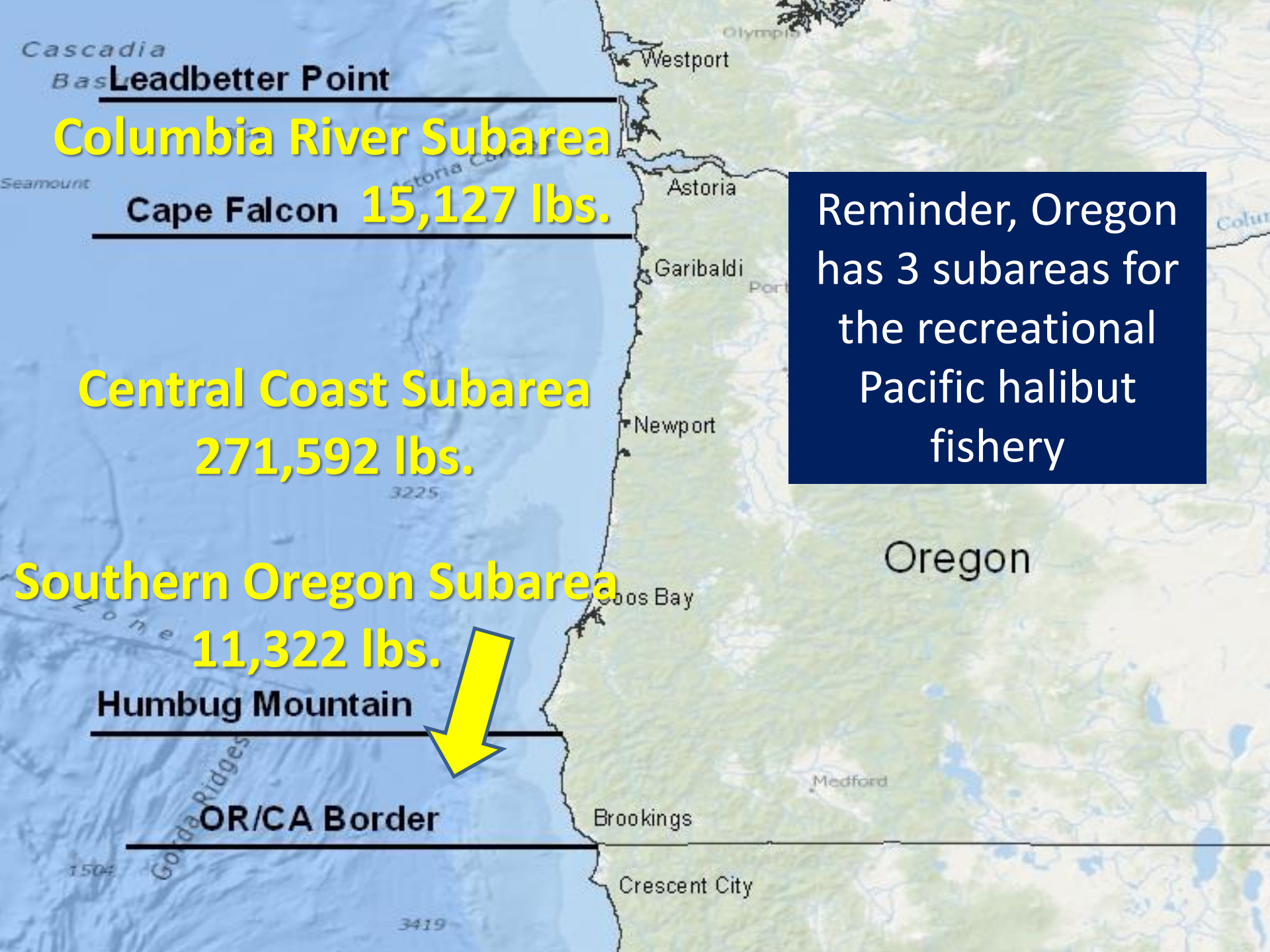
Central Coast Subarea
271,592 lbs.

Southern Oregon Subarea
11,322 lbs.

Humbug Mountain

OR/CA Border

Reminder, Oregon has 3 subareas for the recreational Pacific halibut fishery





Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP)

- Process to implement changes for 2020 fishery:
 - **Early August: ODFW solicits public input**
 - September 11-18, 2019: PFMC preliminarily adopts changes for 2020 for further public comment (Boise, ID) www.pcouncil.org
 - Late Sept / early Oct: ODFW solicits public input on specific proposals forwarded by PFMC
 - November 13-20, 2018 : PFMC adopts final changes for 2018 fishery (Costa Mesa, CA) www.pcouncil.org
 - February 3-7, 2020: IPHC Annual Meeting, quotas set (Anchorage, AK) www.iphc.int **2A ALREADY SET!!!**



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Recent Changes Implemented

- Retention of sablefish, Pacific cod and flatfish species may be landed with Pacific halibut on all-depth days
- Columbia River Subarea all-depth seasons now two days a week, in conjunction with other WA openers
 - Requested by anglers
 - Intended to expand the fishery longer into the summer months



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Recent Suggestions, not Implemented

- Return to 32 inch minimum size limit
- Reduce the annual bag limit
- Go to something like a big-game tag
- Split the Central Coast Subarea into smaller areas
- Allow lingcod (& rockfish) retention on all-depth halibut days



Allow Lingcod (& Rockfish) Retention on All-Depth Days

- Risk of additional yelloweye rockfish impacts had been too high in the past
- Moving forward, higher yelloweye impacts allowed (2019)
 - Want to proceed cautiously
 - More anglers = more yelloweye encounters
- Could draw additional participation into the halibut fishery
 - Eat up halibut quota quicker



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Halibut Regulations (2019)

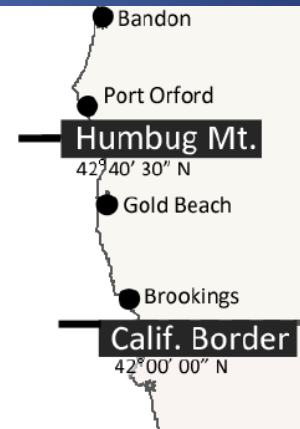
The Stonewall Bank YRCA (about 15 miles west of Newport) is closed to Pacific halibut fishing. Anglers on vessels possessing Pacific halibut are prohibited from fishing in the Stonewall Bank YRCA, even when targeting legal species

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 = 11,322 lbs.

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

- It is mandatory to have a descending device onboard the vessel when fishing for Pacific halibut, and to use 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.
- Pacific halibut seasons are managed and enforced based on port of landing. Halibut may only be landed at ports located within areas currently open to halibut retention, regardless of area of catch.
- North of Humbug Mt.: During days open to all-depth halibut fishing, only salmon (as regulations allow), sablefish, Pacific cod, flatfish species (soles, flounders, sanddabs & turbot), tuna, and most other offshore pelagic species may be in possession or landed when Pacific halibut are onboard the vessel. During days closed to all-depth halibut fishing, retention of groundfish (as regulations allow; including other species of flatfish outside of the seasonal depth restriction) is permitted when Pacific halibut are onboard.
- South of Humbug Mt.: When angling for Pacific halibut outside of the 40-fm curve, only salmon (as regulations allow), sablefish, Pacific cod, flatfish species (soles, flounders, sanddabs & turbot), 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 the time.
- Anglers are advised to consult the 2019 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for General (statewide), Zone, and Special Regulations prior to fishing.





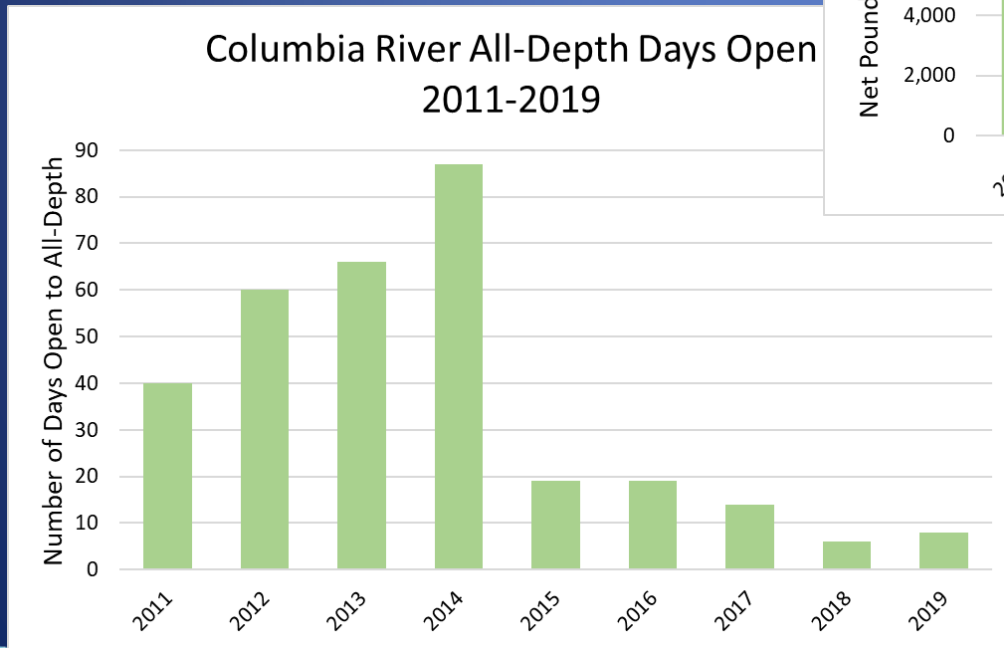
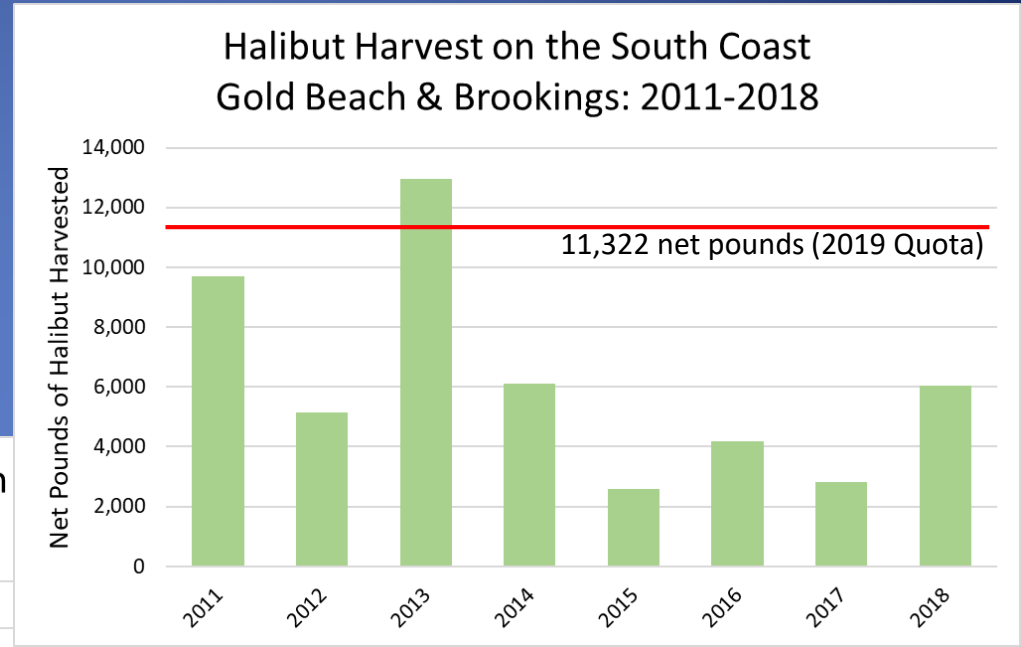
Staff Suggestions for 2020

- Central Coast Triggers for CSP:
 - If TAC > \underline{X} , nearshore open early May?
 - If TAC > \underline{Y} , 3-day summer all-depth openers?
- South Coast / Columbia River Trigger:
 - If South Coast quota > \underline{Z} , move lbs. over that threshold to the Col. R. preseason?
- Columbia River:
 - Remove nearshore, add to all-depth?



South Coast & Columbia River

South Coast AD
Open 184 Days



Columbia River AD
Open < 20 Days
since 2014



Directed Commercial Fishery

- 10-hour openings every other Wed, starting last Wednesday in June
- Vessel size based trip limits
- 2-3 openings in recent years

- In 2020, fishery may start earlier (May?) and may have fewer but longer openers



E-mails/Phone calls in 2019

- Changing start date of Nearshore Halibut
- Allow Lingcod/Rockfish on AD days
- Longleader Trips in combination with Halibut Trips
 - Interest in this option?
 - Complicated?
 - Enforcement concerns?
- Col. R. AD open in conjunction with other openers in WA and OR



If you have any questions, comments
or concerns, please contact us

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