



Marine Resources

Staff Recommended 2026 PACIFIC HALIBUT SPORT REGULATIONS

February 9, 2026

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will finalize the 2026 sport halibut seasons on April 24

Inseason changes can be found on the NMFS Hotline (1-800-662-9825; #5; #1), at 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)

All-Depth Season Quota = 19,299 lb

Open Dates and Back-up Dates	Additional Dates (if quota)
Every Thursday, Friday, and Sunday April 30 through June 28 or the quota is caught Back-up dates: June 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, and 23 (Monday and Tuesday) if quota	Up to 7 days per week in August and September

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

Nearshore Season Quota = 10,000 lb

Open May 1, 7 days per week, inside the 40-fathom line, until October 31 or the quota is caught.

All-Depth Season Combined Quota = 268,835 lb

	Quota (lb)	Open Dates	Backup Dates (if quota)
Spring	209,126	May 1 through July 31, 7 days per week	N/A
Summer	59,709	Aug. 1 through Oct. 31, 7 days per week, 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, 7 days per week, until Oct. 31 or the quota is caught Quota = 8,000 lb

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS:

- It is **mandatory to have a descending device** onboard the vessel when fishing for Pacific halibut and to use the descending device when releasing any rockfish when fishing outside of 30 fathoms.
- Daily bag limit: 1 Pacific halibut for the Columbia River Subarea and 2 Pacific halibut for the Central Oregon Coast and Southern Oregon 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: 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, offshore long-leader 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 offshore long-leader 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 offshore long-leader gear or traditional bottomfish fishery. When retained, Pacific cod will count towards any bottomfish and/or offshore long-leader 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 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for General (statewide), Zone, and Special Regulations prior to fishing.

