



## North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Simon Kinneen, Chair | David Witherell, Executive Director  
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May 7, 2019

John Poole  
1496 N. Albright Ave  
Upland, CA 91786

Dear Mr. Poole,

Thank you for your letter dated April 30, 2019. It is my understanding that you will be fishing in Alaska this summer and are seeking the opportunity to catch a trophy size halibut. It is not clear from your letter whether you will be fishing with a guide or are planning on renting a boat on your own. There are opportunities to catch trophy sized halibut with either option.

If you are fishing with a guide, the 2019 regulations for Southeast Alaska (approximately Glacier Bay and east to the Canadian border) allow for one fish per day that must be less than or equal to 38 inches or greater than or equal to 80 inches. This allows guided anglers the opportunity to keep a trophy sized fish while still protecting the reproductive potential of mature fish. If you wish to focus on the opportunity for a trophy sized fish, you can inform your guide of your intentions although you may encounter fewer legal fish this way. In Southcentral Alaska (west of Glacier Bay to the western side of Kodiak Island), the 2019 regulations allow for guided anglers to keep two fish per day, one of any size and one fish no more than 28 inches. This allows guided anglers to keep more than one fish and provides opportunity for trophy-sized fish to be kept. Again, if you wish to focus on the trophy sized halibut, I recommend that you inform your guide of your intentions.

If you plan to rent a boat and fish for halibut on your own, the regulations for “guided anglers” do not apply. In this case you would be considered unguided anglers and the limit, statewide, is for two fish of any size, per person, per day. This allows anglers who can safely operate a boat the opportunity to keep two fish per day with the opportunity for either fish (or if you are really lucky, both fish!) to be trophy sized. There are several companies in Alaska that offer boats for rent.

Regarding your request to waive regulations for a specific period and a specific party, that would be prohibited by law.

Good luck with your fishing this summer. I hope you and your family have a wonderful trip to Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DW'.

David Witherell  
Executive Director