

Alaska Charter Association Poll Results 10-19-2015

Area 3A Southcentral Alaska - If further restrictions are necessary, please rank the following with 1 being your first choice.

	37 Respondents	Score
Reducing annual limit to 4 fish		3.26
Removing the second fish and allowing just one fish of any size.		2.71
Reducing the size of the second 29" fish.		2.38
Closing an additional day of the week.		1.83

Area 2C Southeast Alaska - If further restrictions are necessary, please rank the following with 1 being your first choice.

	33 Respondents	Score
Limit to one halibut fishing trip per day.		5.19
Annual limit of 4 fish.		5.13
Lower size of lower slot limit to 40".		4.42
Remove the upper slot limit (FYI this amounts to less than 1 per cent of harvest)		4.13
Annual limit of 3 fish.		3.63
Lower size of lower slot limit between 36" and 40".		3.23
Select a day of the week closure.		2.59

Area 3A Southcentral Alaska - If a current harvest measure could be eliminated or changed to be less restrictive, please rank the following with 1 being your first choice.

34 Respondents	Score
Remove day of the week closure.	3.48
Increase the size of second fish.	2.91
Remove annual limit of 5-fish	2.00
Remove limit of one trip per day.	1.66

Area 2C Southeast Alaska - If a current harvest measure could be made less restrictive, please rank the following with 1 being your first choice.

26 Respondents	Score
Increase the size of the lower slot limit and keep the upper slot limit the same.	3.15
Slightly lower the size limit of the upper slot limit while allowing for more increase in size of lower slot limit.	2.60
Slightly increase the size of the lower slot limit while allowing for more reduction of upper slot limit.	2.60
Lower the size of the upper slot limit and keep the lower slot limit the same.	1.68

Please enter any other recommendation you may have for a harvest measure that would reduce harvest.

In both areas, the limits should be the same for all sportsfishermen, ie. no difference for guided and unguided sportsfishermen. Additionally, the limit should be just one fish per day with no size limit and with a one day per week closure.

Size limit on private fisherman with an annual harvest limit

Please work on getting the CATCH Program implemented - our only hope

Implement the CATCH Program

Increased restrictions on the definitions of "non-guided angler". There are non-guided anglers that are essentially guided with anchor bouys in place and all gear prerigged. Nonguided anglers should have more emphasis on their own abilities. They are taking advantage of this loophole.

Do away with the 29" fish. Do away with No-Halibut-Thursdays. Adopt a 6 halibut per angler per year limit. Extend the 6 halibut limit to all anglers not just charter.

Implement the CATCH program. Get a grant from the cruise ship head tax for at least 2 years and purchase as much quota as possible. Buy all possible quota on the market, any quota not fished in last 2-3 years becomes mandatory sell back.

Make the Halibut restrictions for all sport fish instead of restriction only when on Charters

2 fish limit for non resident guided or non guided 1 any size and 1 slot limit 2c and 3a

1. Prohibit leasing of non-transferable permits. 2. Prohibit leasing of transferable permits.

Allow for 1 fish a day any size in either 3A and 2C

1 halibut any size in 2c and 3a. Annual limit of 5. Reduce to 4 if need be

For area 2C I would love to see 1 Halibut any size even if we had to set a annual limit

If we stay with the 2nd fish being 29" or under I would like to see that size increased to 31" this is a much healthier fish and there seems to be plenty of them

Change all of Alaska to one fish any size per day. If need be do an annual limit.

Limit each vessel or permit to an annual catch or number/pounds and allow operators to choose which days to operate or not to operate. For example, 70 clients per season, per number of permitted lines, so a 6 line permit would have a max of 420 clients per season. Each season it would be fairly simple to establish the max catch. Dormant permits would thereby need a registration process "in advance" to get back into the fishery.

All sport fishermen whether guided or unguided adhere to the same regulations

One halibut per day any size with an annual limit of 2, 3, or 4 halibut. This rule could change with abundance. Similar to the SE AK king salmon regulations.

Annual non-resident halibut limit of 12 fish.

(anglers choice of one big fish or 2 little fish) daily bag limit of 1 fish Over 32-35 inches, or 2 fish under 32-35 inches.

None! We are too close to the bottom of the barrel as it stands.

Make halibut catch limits the same across the board for recreational fishers...then restrict all to 1 fish per day. Another possibility, have different limits for in-State and out-of-State fishers.

Restrict halibut/ sportfishing from 8:00 pm to 8:00 am...from June 1 to sept. 1 Therefore restricting the hog hunters from targeting larger halibut and trophy hunting mentality...

It is time to allocate "halibut shares" to each permit holder and allow them to decide how they use this to suit their business model. It may also be time to stop leasing of permits.

2C 1 halibut a day per person, no size limit and 3 annual fish. No one needs more. Send your friends up here to get they're own fish.

Allow the charter operator the ability to only fish 6 TRIPS a week and not 6 DAYS. This would allow the operator to still fish the current number of times but would allow for flexibility for boat breakdowns or bad weather.

one any size

None, we are too near the bottom now.

Please enter any other recommendation you may have for a harvest measure that would reduce harvest.

One licence, one limit. The same for all sportfishermen, guided or unguided. The charter halibut permit already limits the number of charterboats who can take people fishing for halibut, so lets push to have all sportfishermen be treated the same. A charterboat operator is not a commercial fisherman. He or she is licensed to take passengers for hire and one of the reasons passengers want to hire a charterboat is so they can sportfish. So the angler who takes a charterboat should be regulated just like all sportfishermen. All sportfishermen should have the same rule.

We have to do something with the private fishing fleet. There are private boats doing doubles and taking 6-10 people on their boats. Also there are more and more of them which increases the amount of fish taken from the private fleet.

Not a proponent of the GAF Program - not much fish available and too expensive if available for us to buy or our clients to pay for.

GAF Program really does not work financially and not much halibut available if a person could afford GAF

There needs to be an easier way to use/lease/share a CHP. A digital version that could easily transfer between boats would save a lot of hassles.

The current rules are too convoluted for charter anglers not to mention the operators charged with keeping things in order. Thanks. Ron Hurley

Absolutely stricter by-catch limiting. Look at lowering and assigning by-catch quota to each vessel. When quota is reached they are done fishing regardless of targeted catch vs quota limits.

Make it illegal to keep a Halibut over a hundred pounds Commerical and Sport

I didn't comment on the So.East as I never worked there and don't know the situation there.

there needs to be less restriction in 2C. Definitely.

Self guided and residents should have to keep logbooks like charter do. Otherwise how do you have any clue of harvest reports. Kinda sounds like a bunch of garbage unless everyone has to follow same rules

I vote for equity for ALL who buy an Alaska fishing license. I vote that commercial fishermen receive increased penalties for rampant waste and destruction of the

resource - and have their names in the newspaper just as law-breaking sport fishermen do.

personally i think the 29" fish is absolutly stupid, we are killing way too many fish trying to obtain these "unders", if the fish cannot of at least the length of the commercial size limit, i think we should just go to one fish!

All of Alaska should have one size halibut per day. If need be put in a season allocation.

Forced closures of a certain day of the week really hurts, let's see if we can improve on that restriction

The 2015 season saw my charter captains targeting the lower end of the slot limit halibut. While targeting an upper level trophy halibut is possible they have to catch and release a lot of 80-200 lb halibut. Potentially injuring these fish to attain a trophy. Furthermore, having a 1 a day measure would lessen the possibility of released damaged halibut. The client catches a 50-100 lb halibut, keeps it and is done fishing. 4 clients on board would keep 4 halibut, no catch and release looking for a trophy, and damaging 2-3 times as many halibut.

Puh-leeze do not advocate for a day of the week closure under any circumstances!!

if regs stay the same with trip and day limitations, then allow maximum of 6 starts per week per vessel.

Further economic input from operators and related industries are needed to educated policy makers and the public about the negative impacts created by the CSP and catch shares in general.

Obviously, institute a CATCH program.

If needed more reduce harvest, then take one day away

The date for returning gaf fish back to ifq is too restrictive. Eligible dates to complete this should be lifted

one any size

In both 2C & 3A we need to do a survey to begin documenting the negative economic effects these restrictions are having in our communities and the state. Thanks, Richard! testing....