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FISHERIES**

National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/index.html



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Information Contact:
(206) 526-4646

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International Pacific Halibut Commission License Changes for 2014 Fishing Season

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) has made several changes to their Area 2A licenses for the 2014 fishing season.

1. Separate licenses are now required for the directed commercial halibut fishery and for incidental halibut retention in the sablefish primary fishery (N. of Pt. Chehalis). Fishers may obtain both licenses and fish in both fisheries.
2. Area 2A (WA-OR-CA) license applications for the incidental commercial fishery during the sablefish primary longline fishery (N. of Pt Chehalis, WA) must be postmarked or faxed no later than 11:59 p.m. March 17, 2014.
3. Area 2A (WA-OR-CA) license applications for the directed commercial fishery must be postmarked or faxed no later than 11:59 p.m. April 30, 2014.

These changes are necessary to allow for a possible early April start date for halibut retention in the sablefish primary fishery (N. of Pt Chehalis, WA). Opening date and landing limits will be discussed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council at its March 8-13, 2014, meeting. Following the meeting NMFS will implement the Council recommended season date and landing limits.

All application materials and instructions can be found on the IPHC website at <http://www.iphc.int/commercial/2a-licensing.html>