

IPHC Catch Limit Comment Form

Comment on Regulatory Area: 2A/2B/2C/3A/3B/4A/4B/4CDE Year: 2008
 (Circle all that apply)

Submission Information (Please print or type)

Name: <u>Suzanne West</u>		
Affiliation: <u>Commercial Fisherman</u>		
Address: <u>P.O. Box 383</u>		
City: <u>Petersburg</u>	State/Prov.: <u>AK</u>	Postal/ZIP Code: <u>99833.0383</u>
Telephone: <u>907.772.3480</u>	Fax: <u>same</u>	Email: <u>talon@aptalaska.net</u>
Signature: <u>Suzanne West</u>		

1. What is your recommended catch limit or proposal?

Excellent question for the IPHC to answer. Starting from the onset of Halibut IFQ's in 1995 and coming forward through 2007 the IPHC should be analyzing their switch from one model to another and the consequence. Several years ago the IPHC staff recommended a 14 million quota for 2C, now they believe this area has been over-harvesting. The IPHC staff is now recommending switching to a "coastwide" model but segregating quota increases/decreases at the area borders as a "conservation measure".

2. What is the supporting information for this recommendation (e.g., catch rates, biomass trends, recruitment, etc.)? Please be specific where possible.

The IPHC needs to consider that if out west in Alaska is the nursery and there exists a problem with the coastwide biomass then the resulting management plan should be an across-the-board decrease—all areas need to be decreased to eliminate this problem to safeguard the fishery's future. We need to believe in the IPHC staff science that seems to continually change—from the schooner fleet era through to now there have been quite a few models. Now with conservation concerns, an across-the-board-quota reduction is the prudent and fair decision as this resource belongs to every IFQ holder.

Please attach any other supporting materials. All items submitted by December 31, 2007 will be considered at the IPHC Annual Meeting. **Remember to include contact information and signature.**