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><(((°> ><(((°> *** **SUQUAMISH TRIBE FISHING REGULATION** *** ><(((°> ><(((°>
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FILING ORGANIZATION: SUQUAMISH TRIBE
AFFECTED ORGANIZATIONS: HALIBUT TRIBES, WDFW, NWIFC, VTF
REGULATION NUMBER: 26-09F
REGULATION SUPERCEDE/MODIFIED: NONE
DATE ADOPTED: March 23, 2026

EFFECTIVE DATES: 0600 March 26 - midnight December 7, 2026, or until further notice
FISHERY TYPE: Halibut: Restricted Sub-Fishery
SPECIES: Pacific Halibut
CATCH AREAS: ALL SUQUAMISH Usual and Accustomed Fishing Areas, including Marine Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23A, 23B, 24B, 24D, 25A (fishing will remain closed from a line projecting from the northern tip of Protection Island, northwest to Trial Island in B.C. Canada), 25B and 26A (fishing is closed to all gear north and west of a line from Camano Head to Sandy Point on Whidbey Island and in that portion of area 26A north of a line extended from Camano Head southeast to Mission Point).

SEASON: Open March 26- December 7, 2026
Days and times:

- a) Beginning 6:00 AM Thursday (3/26), Open continuously until the Restricted sub-fishery harvests its 19% share of tribal TAC of Halibut, or until the Unrestricted Sub-fishery harvests its share of the TAC, whichever comes first

These regulations are subject to emergency amendment at any time based in court directed modifications or in-season management considerations.

LANDING RESTRICTIONS:

- a) All Halibut must be landed dressed with the head on.
- b) No more than 500 lbs of commercial Halibut may be harvested by or off-loaded from any participating vessel
- c) A vessel may land a maximum of 500 lbs of commercial Halibut on a calendar day
- d) Multi-day trips are authorized with a trip limit of 500 lbs, with all catch landed on a single calendar day upon return to port
- e) A 24 hour period is Midnight to midnight

LEGAL GEAR:

Commercial fishery:

- a) Hook and line: (rod and reel with no more than two (2) hooks).
- b) Hand line: with no more than two (2) hooks per line or two (2) lines per fisher.
- c) Bottomfish Troll: no more than six (6) lines per vessel.
- d) Set line (long line): with gangions fixed or snapped to a lead line. Maximum 500 hooks/skate, maximum 3,000 hooks/vessel; max. of 8 skates/vessel.

Skates are to be anchored at each end with a buoy that must be clearly marked with the fishers' identification number.

SIZE RESTRICTIONS:

Head On: No person shall take, or possess any halibut that with the head on, is less than 32 inches tip of the lower jaw with mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail. All halibut measuring less than 32 inches total length (with head and tail on), must be returned to the water unharmed.

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS:

HOLD INSPECTIONS: The holds of all vessels participating in the treaty halibut fishery shall be inspected and certified by tribal enforcement to verify that no halibut has been improperly taken or stored prior to the season starting date.

24-Hour Reporting Period: Following the completion of a sub-fishery opening, there shall be no longline fishing, including C&S fishing, for 24 hours so that data collection and reporting can be completed.

LANDING LIMITS: Applicable landing limits shall be strictly enforced. A landing limit is the total amount of commercial catch from a single vessel, after being personally harvested by that vessel's crew, that may be offloaded from the vessel to a shore based facility or buyer in a single calendar day.

NO TRANSFERS: No halibut may be transferred from one vessel to another, including to a tender vessel, or be reported as landed from a vessel other than the vessel that harvested it. All commercial halibut on a vessel shall be reported as a single landing using fisher identification number belonging to the vessel owner or captain.

NO STACKING: No more than the applicable landing limit may be harvested by, held by, or offloaded from any participating vessel (except that a vessel may hold and land bona fide C & S catch subject to the Subsistence Landing Restriction section below). No portion of any commercial catch on a vessel may be withheld on landing or subdivided in any other way which "spreads" the commercial catch among landing dates, vessels or fishers, or otherwise conceals that a vessel has harvested or holds more than the landing limit.

SUBSISTENCE LANDING RESTRICTIONS:

A vessel may hold and land up to four halibut per day for subsistence purposes during the treaty commercial halibut opening. Subsistence catch must be marked as such by notching the tail.

CATCH REPORTING:

In addition to a TREATY INDIAN FISH RECEIVING TICKET, every Suquamish fisher must report the number and weight of halibut landed to the Suquamish Fisheries Department (360-394-8445) within twelve (12) hours of landing. Report must state vessel name, license number, and date of landing and total number of fish and poundage landed.

All Take-Home fish MUST be reported, as above, to the Suquamish Fisheries Office within 24 hours of the landing and will be recorded on a Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Ticket.

EXPECTED EFFORT: Up to 5 Suquamish vessels are expected to participate in this fishery

JUSTIFICATIONS: Harvestable Treaty share identified by PFMC and IPHC Management Plan, and according to Intertribal Agreement.

SIGNED: Jonathan Oleyar, Fisheries Biologist, Suquamish Tribe: 360-394-8445