



Halibut update

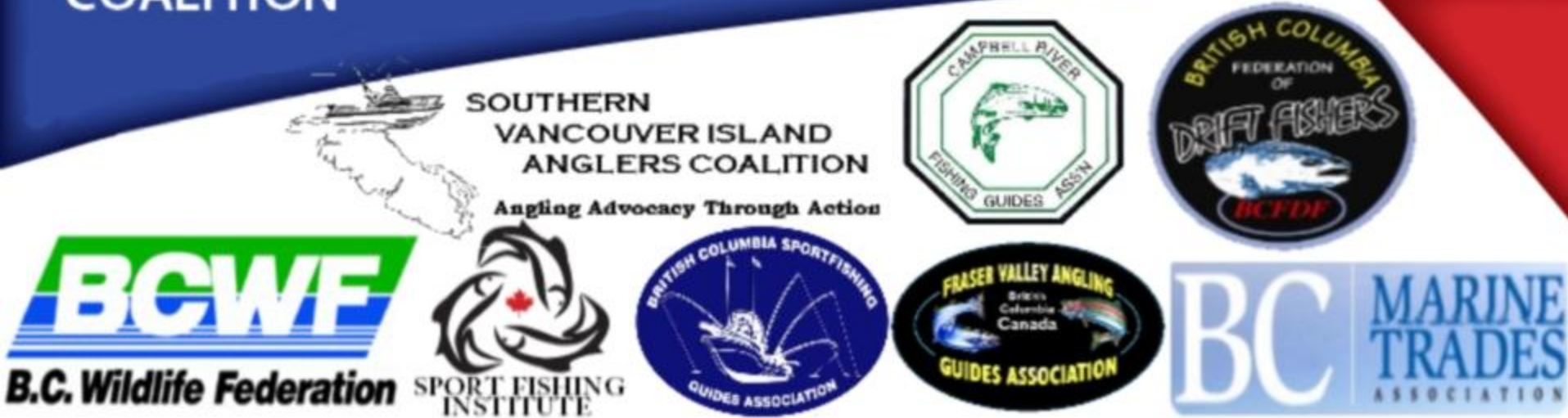
SFI Policy Conference

Dec 1st, 2011

Setting the stage...

- Nov 20th DFO groundfish states it's plan to manage to 88\12.
- SFAB rejects plan, insists on a stable season with sustainable bag limits.
- Dec 15th Stanyer Process fails.
- SFI joins forces with other interested parties to form the BC Sport Fishing Coalition...

BRITISH COLUMBIA SPORT FISHING COALITION



- A GROUP OF CONCERNED ORGANIZATIONS WILLING TO STAND UP FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO COMMON PROPERTY FISHERY RESOURCES
- REPRESENT BUSINESSES, CONCERNED CITIZENS, AND INDIVIDUAL ANGLERS ACROSS CANADA.
- REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF OVER 600,000 LICENSED ANGLERS IN BC.
- SET UP A STEERING COMMITTEE TO PLAN STRATEGY, HELP WITH EVENTS
- ADD YOUR VOICE – SAVE YOUR FISHERY
- WEB SITE FOUND AT: www.SFIBC.com

Website...

- <http://www.sfibc.com/>
- A focal point for anglers and businesses.
- Fact sheets, polls, media, town halls, petitions, links to blogs etc...
- Over 72,000 hits!
- Still active.

Town Hall Meetings...

- Ucluelet, Victoria, Nanaimo, Campbell River, Maple Ridge, Port Hardy, Kitimat, Kelowna.
- Collaborative effort of all groups.
- Standing room only, thousands of attendees.
- A chance for the public to be heard.
- Respectful exchange between commercial and recreational sectors.
- Some attendance by local politicians, MP's etc. No official attendance by DFO.
- Great media coverage and public awareness.

Media\Lobbying...

- Newspaper ads in major national & local publications.
- Television & radio interviews.
- TV ad on Vancouver Island.
- Over 70 newspaper articles including Globe & Mail and National Post.
- BCSFC met with MP's in every coastal riding and many in the interior.
- Faxes and letters by the thousands.

What Happened?

- DFO chose to ignore public outcry and stick with 88\12.
- Minister's Statement called for introduction of "experimental fishery" and Kamp Process.
- BCSFC ramped up efforts in response.
- Halibut allocation became a national election issue.
- Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Campbell River:
"Our government recognizes the importance of the halibut fishery in B.C. The jobs and regional economic impact of commercial and recreational fishing and related tourism in B.C. are substantial. We remain committed to finding a solution to B.C.'s halibut allocation issues in advance of the 2012 season which strikes a fair balance between all sectors."

2011 Season

- March 1st to Sept 5th.
- 1 per day, 2 in possession.
- Recreational TAC: 947,760 lbs
- Recreational Catch: 1,219,802 lbs
- “Overage”: 272,042 lbs. 2010 overage: 112,728 lbs.
- Is 12% enough to sustain a viable recreational fishery?
- Experimental Fishery attempted by DFO Groundfish.

Experimental Fishery

- Attempt to provide a “market based mechanism” for transfer from commercial to recreational sector.
- Anglers lease quota from commercial sector and then can ignore bag limits and seasons.
- The preferred option of the PHMA at the Stanyer Process.
- Reinforced and confirmed privatization of halibut.
- A complete failure. 447lbs transferred\222lbs reported.
- The rec fishery remains united in spite of serious economic impacts.

Kamp Process

- Randy Kamp – DFO Parliamentary Secretary.
- 3 key components:
 - Conservation – through enhanced monitoring.
 - Economic prosperity - through predictable access.
 - Flexibility – through an effective transfer mechanism.
- Public meetings in VI North and sector\stakeholder meetings. SFI well represented.
- Recommendation end of November, decision end of December.

2012?

- Kamp Process decision by Jan 1st, 2012.
- SFAB\SFI\BCWF have consistently represented the “Fixed Number” approach.
- Assign a catch to the rec sector pre-season, assign the rest to the commercial sector.
- Feb 1st – Dec 31st.
- 2 per day, 2 in possession.
- SFAB will not participate in management planning until after a Kamp Process solution is announced.
- SFI will be represented at IPHC meetings.