

**LIMITS ON QUOTA SHARES (QS) HOLDINGS  
UNDER THE PACIFIC HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH PROGRAM<sup>i</sup>**

By: NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region, Restricted Access Management

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The following information is provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended to nor does it replace specific regulatory requirements under federal regulations at 50 CFR Part 679.

**Quota Share Use Caps**

No person, individually or collectively, may use more QS than specified by the use caps found at 50 CFR 679.42(e) and (f)<sup>ii</sup>:

	Applicable %	Size of Relevant QSPs	QS Use Cap
<b>Halibut</b>	1% of 2C QSP	59,979,977 QS units	599,799 QS units
	.5% of 2C, 3A, 3B	300,564,647 QS units	1,502,823 QS units
	1.5% of Area 4 QSPs	33,002,937 QS units	495,044 QS units
<b>Sablefish</b>	1% of SE QSPs	68,848,467 QS units	688,485 QS units
	1% of All QSPs	322,972,132 QS units	3,229,721 QS units

**Note:** The “Relevant” QSPs for calculating the Use Caps for both halibut and sablefish are the 1996 QSPs.

**Quota Share Block Limits**

Quota Share permits (for each species, regulatory area and vessel category) are issued as blocked or unblocked. Under regulations at 50 CFR 679.42 a person, individually or collectively, may not hold **more than in any regulatory area**<sup>iii</sup>:

- 2 blocks of sablefish
- 3 blocks of halibut
- 1 block of halibut or 1 block of sablefish **and** unblocked QS up to the use cap limits under 50 CFR 679.42(e) or (f).

Fishery	IF YOU OWN:	THEN YOU MAY PURCHASE (up to the QS use cap limits)
Halibut	Unblocked QS	more unblocked or 1 additional block
	Unblocked QS and 1 Block	Unblocked QS only
	1 Block	2 additional Blocks
	2 Blocks	1 additional Block
	3 Blocks	To purchase additional quota share, you would need to sell one or more blocks.
Sablefish	Unblocked QS	More unblocked or 1 additional block
	Unblocked QS and 1 Block	Unblocked QS only
	1 Block	1 additional block
	2 Blocks	To purchase additional quota share, you would need to sell one or more blocks.

### **Quota Share “Sweep-up” Limits (QS Blocks)**

Regulations at 50 CFR 679.41(e) authorize the consolidation of small blocked QS permits. The consolidation of blocked QS is referred to as a “sweep-up”. To complete a “Sweep-Up” (i.e., to combine two blocks that you currently hold or add to a new block), the QS must be the same IFQ regulatory area and vessel category. The maximum number of QS units that may be consolidated into a single block in each IFQ regulatory area is as follows:

<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Quota Share Units (QS)</b>
<b>Halibut</b>	2C	33,320
	3A	46,520
	3B	44,193
	4A	22,947
	4B	15,087
	4C	30,930
	4D	26,082
<b>Sablefish</b>	AI	99,210
	BS	91,275
	CG	46,055
	SE	33,270
	WG	48,410
	WY	43,390

A consolidated block cannot be divided and is considered a single block for purposes of use and future transferability.

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<sup>i</sup> This information does not place the specific regulatory language found at 50 CFR 679.41 or 50 CFR 679.42.

<sup>ii</sup> Exceptions apply to persons initially issued QS over the specified use caps. In such cases, these persons may not receive any additional QS by transfer until their QS holdings come below the use caps.

<sup>iii</sup> These limits do not apply to a Community Quota Entity (CQE). A CQE may hold no more than 10 blocks of halibut QS and no more than 5 blocks of sablefish QS in any IFQ regulatory area. See 50 CFR 679.42(g) for additional information.