

## A Call for Fair and Equitable Sharing of Canada's Pacific Halibut Resources

**We, the undersigned citizens of Canada, draw the attention of the candidates for Prime Minister of Canada to the following:**

**WHEREAS**, the federal Conservative government continues to give 436 individuals ownership of 88% of Canada's total allowable catch (TAC) of Halibut while limiting the public's share to a mere 12% of TAC., and

**WHEREAS**, the 88 % /12 % decision compromises the rights of all Canadians to fish in tidal waters by reducing the fishing season and cutting daily limits in half. It will also result in the loss of millions of dollars to coastal communities and hundreds of jobs in businesses serving the recreational angler, and

**WHEREAS** the Fisheries Act does not provide for the Minister's unprecedented decision to create a special license whereby anglers must lease commercial quota to continue fishing after the public's share of TAC is caught and their fishery is closed in mid-summer. Nor does the Act mention the leasing of quota to the public who already own the fish, and

**WHEREAS**, This policy continues the unconstitutional gifting of a common property resource to private interests and sets a precedent for other marine resources in future.

**THEREFORE**, your petitioners call on the next Prime Minister to instruct the next Minister of Fisheries to recognize the priority right of Canadians to access their resource and establish an allocation framework that will provide fair, stable, and predictable year-round opportunities for anglers while providing sustainable economic benefits for those who are employed in the public fishery and for the coastal communities in which they live.

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**Fax completed Petitions to: Stephan Harper 613- 941-6900 Jack Layton 613-995-4565:Michael Ignatieff 613-947-0310  
Sport Fishing Intitute fax number 604-940-9582**

**Please also fax to the Candidates in Skeena Nathan Cullen 250- 877-4141 Clay Harmon 250-635-6353**

*Additional Petitions are available at [www.fightforhalibut.wordpress.com](http://www.fightforhalibut.wordpress.com)*