

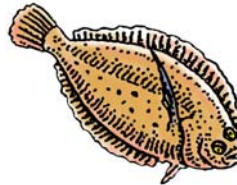
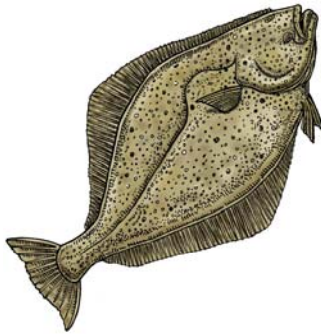
American Fisheries Society

Organized 1870 to Promote the Conservation and Wise Utilization of the Fisheries
Alaska Chapter organized in 1974

135th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Anchorage.
September 12-15, 2005, Egan Center and Performing Arts Center.

NEWS RELEASE

Symposium will detail Alaska fisheries management



Halibut and Rex Sole by Ray Troll used with permission

Nearly 40 of Alaska's hands-on fisheries experts will be in the Anchorage Performing Arts Center September 15, presenting their techniques and philosophies in a symposium focused on North Pacific groundfish fisheries management.

The symposium, entitled 'Innovative Approaches in Managing North Pacific Groundfish Fisheries,' is part of the American Fisheries Society's 135th annual meeting, held this year in Anchorage, Alaska from September 11-15.

"Anyone interested in the nuts and bolts of Alaska's fisheries management will be interested in this symposium," said organizer Jane DiCosimo, staffer for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. "The 22 presentations will give a picture of the people, organizations and policies that influence the stewardship of Alaskan groundfish."

"We use a wide array of tools in managing nearly 60 groundfish and shellfish stocks, worth more than \$1 billion and representing over half the total U.S. fish landings each year," explained DiCosimo. "Some of the more interesting of those tools will be discussed at the symposium."

The presentations are organized into four sessions which focus on:

- *technology and information for catch and bycatch monitoring
- *technology and information for fisheries management

- *precautionary management and ecosystem approaches
- * management solutions

Each presentation will run about 20 minutes. The complete symposium is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m, on Thursday, September 15. Dicosomo and other experts will be available for questions and interviews Wednesday at noon in the media room.

Presenters include representatives of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Coast Guard, the Alaska Board of Fisheries, universities, and non-government organizations as well as commercial and community fishing representatives and members of the general public.

Approximately 2,200 fisheries scientists are expected to attend, including some of the world's foremost experts on fish and fisheries. The technical program includes 1,800 oral and poster presentations over four days.

The American Fisheries Society is the world's oldest and largest fisheries science society, with more than 9,000 members in 70 countries. Its mission is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals. The society publishes four journals, Fisheries magazine, and up to a dozen books every year.

For details on the symposium and the meeting check the web at:
http://wdafs.org/Anchorage2005/program/35_np_groundfish.htm
or call the media room at 263-2868.
