This sportfishing vessel operator strives to be a good steward of Alaska’s halibut resource by minimizing halibut release mortality through these best practices.

We minimize handling and release fish carefully.

If possible, we unhook fish while they are still in the water. If a fish is too large to bring aboard, we cut the leader as close to the hook as possible.

We never lift a fish only by the tail. We also support the weight of the fish with our other hand under the body.

If it is necessary to bring a fish into the boat, we handle it in a designated area and protect it from injury while it is flopping.

We always use circle hooks when bait fishing.

If a fish is hooked so firmly that we can’t get the hook out without further injury, we cut the leader.

We reel in a fish quickly to minimize exhaustion and stress on the fish.

If a fish is bleeding or noticeably injured, we keep the fish and it counts toward the angler’s bag limit.

We encourage anglers not to release more fish than necessary in pursuit of their limit.

We accurately report numbers of released halibut.

For more information visit everyhalibutcounts.org