

News Release



P.O. Box 95009, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98145-2009

July 26, 2000

2000 Halibut Landing Report No. 8

Area 2A Non-treaty Commercial Fishery to Reopen on August 2

The July 19 commercial fishing period in Area 2A resulted in a catch of about 13,000 pounds, leaving 9,600 pounds in the commercial catch limit, including the original rolled-over amount from the salmon troll fishery.

Area 2A will reopen on August 2 for 10 hours from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local time. The fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington (46°53' 18"N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Fishing period limits as indicated in the following table will be in effect for this opening.

Vessel Class		Fishing Period Limit (pounds)	
Length	Letter	Dressed, head-on	dressed, head-off*
0-25	A	225	200
26-30	B	225	200
31-35	C	225	200
36-40	D	260	230
41-45	E	285	250
46-50	F	340	300
51-55	G	380	335
56+	H	570	500

*Weights are after 2% has been deducted for ice and slime if fish are not washed prior to weighing.

The appropriate vessel length class and letter are printed on each halibut license.

The fishing period limit is shown in terms of dressed, head-off weight as well as dressed, head-on weight, although fishermen are reminded that regulations require that all halibut from Area 2A be landed with the head on.

Incidental Commercial Halibut Fishery in the Area 2A to Reopen

As required by the Pacific Fishery Management Council, if there is commercial catch limit available on August 1, the incidental halibut fishery during the salmon troll season will reopen. Therefore, the incidental halibut fishery will reopen from August 1 to August 4. For further information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

continued.....

Quota Share Commercial Fishery Update

It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the British Columbia IVQ and in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fisheries through July 24, 2000.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	8,400	5,508	1,990
3A	18,310	11,536	1,898
3B	15,030	8,261	501
4A	4,970	2,389	178
4B	4,910	1,926	165
4C	2,030	1,036	535
4D – IFQ	1,421	572	25
4DE CDQ	999	453	1,258
Alaska total	56,070	31,681	6,550
2B	10,600	6,172	554
Grand Total	66,670	37,853	7,104

The Alaskan catch represents 57% of the catch limit. For comparison, from March 15 to July 22, 1999, 34.8 million pounds, or 57% of the 1999 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fishery. From March 15 to July 24, 1999, 7.8 million pounds, or 65% of the catch limit, were landed from Area 2B (British Columbia) compared to 58% in 2000.

Annette Island Reserve Fishery in Area 2C

The Metlakatla Indian community has been authorized by the United States Government to conduct a commercial halibut fishery within the Annette Island Reserve. Six 48-hour fishing periods occurred between April 29 and July 9, with a total catch of 20,075 pounds. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

- END -

Bruce M. Leaman, Director
Phone: (206) 634-1838
Fax: (206) 632-2983
Web: www.iphc.washington.edu