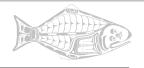
INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

News Release



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2001 Halibut Landing Report No. 3

South Coast Washington All-Depth Sport Halibut Season To Be Closed May 24th

Preliminary estimates through May 22 and projections through May 24 for the South Coast Washington sport halibut fishery (Queets River to Leadbetter Point) indicate that the 42,739-pound quota will be attained by May 24. Therefore, the all-depth sport fishery for halibut, including the near shore area (Queets River south to 47°00′00" N. latitude and east of 124°40′00" W. longitude) closes at 11:59 p.m. on May 24, 2001. After the closure, the harvest will be re-evaluated by managers from the Washington Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service and International Pacific Halibut Commission. If the quota is not reached and a sufficient number of pounds are available, a limited opening may be permitted.

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