

News Release

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

July 2, 2002

2002 Halibut Landing Report No. 5**Area 2A Non-treaty Directed Commercial Fishery to Reopen on July 10**

The June 26 non-treaty commercial fishing period in Area 2A resulted in a catch of about 129,000 pounds, leaving 93,700 pounds in the directed commercial catch limit.

Area 2A will reopen on July 10 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. 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	380	335
26-30	B	475	420
31-35	C	760	670
36-40	D	2,100	1,850
41-45	E	2,260	1,990
46-50	F	2,710	2,385
51-55	G	3,020	2,660
56+	H	4,545	4,000

*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 fishers are reminded that regulations require that all halibut from Area 2A be landed with the head on.

continued.....

Area 2A Incidental Commercial Halibut Fishery during the Salmon Troll Season

The total allowable incidental commercial catch of halibut allocated to the Area 2A salmon troll fishery was 39,300 pounds. An estimated 5,700 pounds of halibut have been landed in Oregon through June 26. During the initial May/June salmon troll fishery off of Washington, 2,200 pounds were landed. The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

Incidental Commercial Halibut Catch in the Area 2A Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery

The total allowable incidental commercial catch of halibut allocated to the limited entry, fixed gear sablefish fishery which operates in Area 2A north of Point Chehalis, Washington is 88,389 pounds. It is estimated that 14,159 pounds have been landed through June 26. This incidental halibut catch fishery remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

-END-

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