

News Release

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

December 17, 2002

2002 Halibut Landing Report No. 12**Quota Share Commercial Halibut Fishery Summary**

The British Columbia IVQ fishery and the Alaska IFQ and CDQ fisheries closed on November 18. The following table contains estimates of the final catches and numbers of landings for the 2002 season.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	8,500	8,426	2,758
3A	22,630	22,557	2,545
3B	17,130	17,120	966
4A	4,970	4,952	379
4B	4,180	4,045	292
4C	2,030	1,193	735
4D	2,030	1,759	57
4E	390	550	1,515
Alaska total	61,860	60,602	9,247
2B	11,750	11,987	1,025
Grand Total	73,610	72,589	10,272

The Alaskan catch represents 98% of the catch limit. For comparison, from March 15 to November 19, 2001, 58.5 million pounds, or 95% of the 2001 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fisheries. From March 15 to November 19, 2001, 10.0 million pounds, or 95% of the 2001 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B (British Columbia) compared to 102% in 2002. Please note that these percentages do not take into consideration overage/underage plans that are in effect.

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 was 88,389 pounds. It is estimated that 56,186 pounds were landed in this fishery, which closed on October 31.

- END -

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