

News Release

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April 21, 2004

2004 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 1Quota Share Commercial Fishery Update

It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the British Columbia IVQ fishery and in the Alaskan IFQ fishery through April 16, 2004. No Community Development Quota (CDQ) landings have been made.

| Area | Catch Limit (000's pounds) | Catch (000's pounds) | Number of Landings |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2C | 10,500 | 1,857 | 383 |
| 3A | 25,060 | 4,391 | 331 |
| 3B | 15,600 | 930 | 52 |
| 4 | 10,065 | 99 | 16 |
| Alaska total | 61,225 | 7,277 | 782 |
| 2B | 12,144 | 3,018 | 168 |
| Grand Total | 73,369 | 10,295 | 950 |

The Alaskan catch represents 12% of the catch limit. For comparison, from March 1 to April 17, 2003, 9.7 million pounds, or 16% of the 2003 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery. Comparing British Columbian landings, from March 1 to April 16, 2003, 2.7 million pounds, or 23% of the catch limit, were landed from Area 2B compared to 25% in 2004.

Northwest Treaty Tribes Fishery in Area 2A

In 2004, the Northwest treaty Indian tribes were allocated a total allowable catch of 543,000 pounds in subarea 2A-1 (northwest Washington coast): 19,400 pounds were reserved for ceremonial and subsistence purposes, leaving 523,600 pounds for the treaty Indian commercial fishery. Preliminary estimates indicate that 178,201 pounds were landed during unrestricted openings individually managed by the participating tribal groups (February 29 - March 20). A restricted fishery with landing restrictions of 500 pounds per vessel per 24-hour period opened on March 21. It is estimated that approximately 111,782 pounds have been landed in the restricted fishery as of April 21, for a total tribal commercial harvest of 289,983 pounds to date.

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