

News Release

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

July 13, 2004

2004 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 6Quota Share Commercial Fishery Update

It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the British Columbia IVQ fishery through July 12, 2004 and in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fisheries through July 13, 2004.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	10,500	6,417	1,438
3A	25,060	15,544	1,515
3B	15,600	8,665	433
4A	3,470	1,240	110
4B	2,810	926	68
4C	1,720	453	178
4D/4E	2,065	408	628
Alaska total	61,225	33,653	4,370
2B	12,141	5,995	472
Grand Total	73,366	39,648	4,842

The Alaskan catch represents 55% of the catch limit. For comparison, from March 1 to July 14, 2003, 34.7 million pounds, or 56% of the 2003 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery. Comparing British Columbian landings, from March 1 to July 14, 2003, 5.9 million pounds, or 50% of the catch limit, were landed from Area 2B compared to 49% in 2004.

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 Islands Reserve. The fifth 48-hour fishing period occurred between June 11 and June 13, with a total catch of 4,659 pounds. A sixth opening occurred between June 25 and June 27, resulting in a total catch of 13,434 pounds. After six openings, a grand total of 33,571 pounds have been landed. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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 is 44,554 pounds. It is estimated that 12,507 pounds of halibut have been landed in Washington State and that 11,200 pounds of halibut have been landed in Oregon through to June 30. The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season remains open until further notice.

continued...

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 70,000 pounds. It is estimated that 28,877 pounds have been landed through July 9. 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