

News Release

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

September 20, 2004

2004 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 11Quota Share Commercial Fishery Update

It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the British Columbia IVQ fishery through September 17, 2004 and in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fisheries through September 20, 2004.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	10,500	8,835	2,370
3A	25,060	21,139	2,220
3B	15,600	13,706	756
4A	3,470	3,100	252
4B	2,810	2,537	171
4C	1,720	857	401
4D/4E	2,065	1,876	901
Alaska total	61,225	52,050	7,071
2B	12,141	9,146	806
Grand Total	73,366	61,196	7,877

The 2004 Alaskan catch represents 85% of the catch limit. For comparison, from March 1 to September 16, 2003, 51.3 million pounds, or 83% of the 2003 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery. Comparing the British Columbia landings, from March 1 to September 15, 2003, 8.7 million pounds, or 74% of the catch limit, were landed from Area 2B, compared to 75% in 2004.

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 46,944 pounds had been landed through September 3. This incidental halibut catch fishery remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

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