

News Release

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October 3, 2005

2005 Halibut Landing Report No. 11**Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update**

The quota share halibut fisheries opened on February 27, 2005. It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the Alaskan IFQ/CDQ fisheries through October 3, 2005 and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through September 30, 2005.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	10,930	9,494	2,644
3A	25,470	22,502	2,314
3B	13,150	11,610	709
4A	3,440	3,049	275
4B	2,260	1,829	122
4C	1,815	536	383
4D/4E	2,174	2,763	1,234
Alaska total	59,239	51,783	7,681
2B	11,658	10,226	965
Grand Total	70,897	62,009	8,646

The Alaskan catch represents 87% of the 2005 catch limit. For comparison, from February 29 to October 3, 2004, 54.0 million pounds, or 88% of the 2004 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery. The British Columbian catch represents 88% of the 2005 catch limit. Between February 29 and September 30, 2004, 9.9 million pounds, or 82% of the catch limit, were landed from Area 2B.

Annette Islands 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 tenth 48-hour fishing period of 2005 occurred between September 2 and September 4, with a total catch of 2,541 pounds. The eleventh opening of 2005 occurred between September 16 and September 18, with a total catch of 1,281 pounds. After eleven openings, a grand total of 44,832 pounds have been landed in 2005. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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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 58,055 pounds have been landed through September 30. 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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