

*News Release*

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

May 29, 2007

**2007 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 3**Non-treaty Commercial Fishing Period Limits in Area 2A

The Commission has determined that fishing period limits will be required during the 10-hour, June 27 non-treaty directed commercial fishing period in Area 2A to avoid exceeding the 227,955 pound catch limit. The June 27 fishing period will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 6:00 PM. The fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington (46°53'18" N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Fishing period limits as indicated in the following table will be in effect for this opening.

Vessel Class		Fishing Period Limit (pounds)	
Length	Letter	Dressed, head-on	Dressed, head-off*
0-25	A	860	755
26-30	B	1,075	945
31-35	C	1,715	1,510
36-40	D	4,735	4,165
41-45	E	5,090	4,480
46-50	F	6,095	5,365
51-55	G	6,800	5,985
56+	H	10,225	9,000

\*Weights are after 2% has been deducted for ice and slime if fish are not washed prior to weighing.

The appropriate vessel length class and letter are printed on each vessel license.

**The fishing period limit is shown in terms of dressed, head-off weight as well as dressed, head-on weight, although fishers are reminded that regulations require that all halibut from Area 2A be landed with the head on.**

The fishing period limit applies to the vessel, not the individual fisher, and any landings over the vessel limit will be subject to forfeiture and fine.

NMFS implemented mandatory depth-based area closures that are in effect for the directed halibut fishery to protect specific rockfish species. NMFS has mailed information on the closures to license holders. For further information, call the NMFS hotline at 1-800-662-9825, then press "5" for the halibut fisheries.

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Area 2A Commercial Tribal Fisheries

In 2007, the Treaty Indian tribes of Area 2A-1 were allocated 461,000 pounds of halibut for commercial use by the Pacific Fishery Management Council. As of May 24, 303,148 pounds have been landed by the Treaty tribes.

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