News Release

September 19, 2007

2007 Halibut Landing Report No. 10

Corrections to Previous Announcement for the 2007 IPHC Interim Meeting

The days and hotel contact information previously provided for the 2007 Interim Meeting were incorrect. The correct days for the meeting are Wednesday, November 28 and Thursday, November 29, 2007. The meeting will be held at the Watertown Hotel. The corrected reservations phone number is (866) 944-4242, or online at www.watertownseattle.com. For more information please see:
 http://www.iphc.washington.edu/halcom/newsrel/2007/nr20070720.htm.

Important state fish ticket regulation reminder for Area 2A fisheries

This is an important reminder to individuals who fill out state fish tickets for halibut caught in Washington, Oregon and California (Area 2A). Section 17, paragraph (7) of the 2007 IPHC regulations **requires** that the individual filling out the state fish ticket also record whether the halibut weight is of head-on or head-off fish.

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 40,227 pounds. The catch limit now available is 43,667 pounds which includes 3,440 pounds that has rolled from the directed fishery. A total of 24,027 pounds of halibut were landed through September 17, with 15,526 pounds landed in Washington and 8,501 pounds landed in Oregon. The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season remains open until further notice.

Incidental Commercial Halibut Catch in the Area 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 26,148 pounds have been landed through September 14. This incidental halibut catch fishery remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update

The 2007 quota share halibut fisheries opened on March 10. It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the Alaskan IFQ and CDQ fisheries through September 17, 2007 and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through September 15, 2007.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	8,510.0	7,199	2,201
3A	26,200.0	20,901	2,146
3B	9,220.0	7,834	595
4A	2,890.0	2,289	224
4B	1,4400.0	1,212	97
4C*	1,866.5	507	503
4D*	1,866.5	1,927	178
4E*	367.0	542	2,199
Alaska total	52,360.0	42,411	8,143
2B	10,089.0	7,930	1,021
Grand Total	62,449.0	50,341	9,164

*Area 4C CDQ and IFQ can be fished in Area 4D; Area 4D CDQ can be fished in Area 4E

The Alaskan catch represents 81% of the 2007 catch limit. For comparison, 46.1 million pounds, or 83% of the 2006 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery between March 5 and September 18, 2006.

The British Columbian catch represents 73% of the 2007 catch limit. For comparison, 9.5 million pounds, or 82% of the 2006 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B between March 5 and September 17, 2006.

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 seventh 48-hour opening of the 2007 season occurred between July 20 and July 22 and resulted in the landing of 3,140 pounds of halibut. An eighth opening, which occurred between August 3 and August 5, yielded a catch of 1,814 pounds. After eight openings, a grand total of 33,716 pounds of halibut have been landed in 2007. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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