

*News Release*

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**2007 Halibut Landing Report No. 12**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 and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery during the 2007 season.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	8,510.0	8,304	2,675
3A	26,200.0	25,957	2,725
3B	9,220.0	9,217	737
4A	2,890.0	2,775	289
4B	1,440.0	1,376	111
4C*	1,866.5	544	511
4D*	1,866.5	2,708	203
4E*	367.0	581	2,222
Alaska total	52,360.0	51,462	9,473
2B	10,089.0	9,694	1,160
Grand Total	62,449.0	61,156	10,633

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

The Alaskan catch represents 98% of the 2007 catch limit. For comparison, 54.2 million pounds, or 98% of the 2006 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery in 2006.

The British Columbian catch represents 96% of the 2007 catch limit. For comparison, 11.95 million pounds, or 103% of the 2006 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B in 2006. The apparent excess in 2B in 2006 was due to carryover poundage from the previous year's fishery, which was not included in that year's catch limit.

The quota share halibut fisheries closed on November 15, 2007.

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 was 40,227 pounds. A total of 23,446 pounds of halibut were landed during 2007, with 15,538 pounds landed in Washington and 7,908\*\* pounds landed in Oregon. The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season opened on May 1 and closed on November 15.

\*\* downward re-estimation since last news release

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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 was 70,000 pounds. It is estimated that 46,000 pounds were landed during 2007. This incidental halibut catch fishery opened on May 1 and closed on October 31.

### Annette Islands Reserve Fishery in Area 2C

The Metlakatla Indian Community was authorized by the United States Government to conduct a commercial halibut fishery within the Annette Islands Reserve. Ten 48-hour openings occurred between April 27 and September 2, 2007 and yielded a total of 39,252 pounds of halibut. The Metlakatla catch has varied over time, from a high of 126,000 pounds in 1996 to a low of 12,000 pounds in 1998.

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