

News Release

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2008 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 7**Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update**

The 2008 quota share halibut fisheries opened on March 8. It is estimated that the following catches and numbers of landings were made in the Alaskan IFQ fishery and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through July 20, 2008.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	6,210.0	3,972.1	1,214
3A	24,220.0	14,830.8	1,507
3B	10,950.0	5,671.0	399
4A	3,100.0	822.3	84
4B IFQ	1,488.0	491.4	39
4CD IFQ	2,122.8	598.9	30
4BCDE CDQ	2,139.2	680.2	1,238
Alaska total	50,230.0	27,066.7	4,511
2B	7,917.7	4,345.2	532
Grand Total	58,147.7	31,411.9	5,043

The catch off Alaska represents 54% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 27.7 million pounds, or 53% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery between March 10 and July 17, 2007.

The catch from British Columbian waters represents 55% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 5.9 million pounds, or 59% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B between March 10 and July 18, 2007.

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 8,728 pounds have been landed through June 25. This incidental halibut catch fishery remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

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 37,707 pounds. A total of 10,062 pounds of halibut were landed in Washington through July 11. The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season remains open until further notice.

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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 fourth 48-hour opening of the 2008 season occurred between June 20 and June 22 and resulted in the landing of 5,182 pounds of halibut. After four openings, a grand total of 19,914 pounds of halibut have been landed in 2008. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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