

*News Release*

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September 16, 2008

**2008 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 10****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 and CDQ fisheries and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through September 15, 2008.

<b>Area</b>	<b>Catch Limit (000's pounds)</b>	<b>Catch (000's pounds)</b>	<b>Number of Landings</b>
2C	6,210.0	5,326.3	1,827
3A	24,220.0	19,361.3	2,032
3B	10,900.0	8,912.2	642
4A	3,100.0	2,293.3	222
4B IFQ	1,488.0	1,148.5	79
4C IFQ*	884.5	48.1	15
4D IFQ*	1,238.3	1,648.3	56
4BCDE CDQ	2,139.2	1,934.8	2,261
<b>Alaska total</b>	<b>50,180.0</b>	<b>40,672.8</b>	<b>7,134</b>
2B	7,917.7	6,003.4	812
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>58,097.7</b>	<b>46,676.2</b>	<b>7,946</b>

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

The catch off Alaska represents 81% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 42.4 million pounds, or 81% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery between March 10 and September 17, 2007.

The catch from British Columbian waters represents 76% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 7.9 million pounds, or 73% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B between March 10 and September 15, 2007.

**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 24,254 pounds have been landed through August 27. 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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## Annette Islands Reserve Fishery Continues 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 eighth 48-hour opening of the 2008 season occurred between August 22 and August 24 and resulted in the landing of 2,231 pounds of halibut. After eight openings, a grand total of 34,626 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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