

News Release

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2008 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 12**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 during the 2008 season, which closed on November 15.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	6,210.0	6,107.5	2,130
3A	24,220.0	24,020.9	2,517
3B	10,900.0	10,761.7	813
4A	3,100.0	2,962.3	296
4B IFQ	1,488.0	1,357.1	97
4C IFQ*	884.5	52.4	17
4D IFQ*	1,238.3	2,061.0	67
4BCDE CDQ	2,139.2	2,108.8	2,311
Alaska total	50,180.0	49,431.7	8,248
2B	7,917.7	7,721.0	1,083
Grand Total	58,097.7	57,152.7	9,331

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

The catch off Alaska represents 99% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 51.5 million pounds, or 98% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery between March 10 and November 15, 2007.

The catch from British Columbian waters represents 98% of the 2008 catch limit. For comparison, 9.7 million pounds, or 96% of the 2007 catch limit, were landed from Area 2B between March 10 and November 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 34,961 pounds were landed during the 2008 season, which closed on October 31, 2008.

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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 16,685 pounds of halibut were landed in Washington through November 15, the closing date of this fishery.

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 tenth 48-hour opening of the 2008 season occurred between September 19 and September 21 and resulted in the landing of 958 pounds of halibut. The eleventh, and final, 48-hour opening, which occurred between October 3 and October 5, yielded a catch of 1,316 pounds. After eleven openings, a grand total of 40,855 pounds of halibut were landed in 2008.

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