

*News Release*

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July 1, 2014

**2014 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 5****Area 2A Non-treaty Directed Commercial Fishery Will Open July 9 With Reduced Fishing Period Limits**

The June 25 non-treaty commercial fishing period in Area 2A resulted in a catch of about 134,000 pounds, leaving approximately 34,100 pounds remaining in the catch limit.

Area 2A will re-open on July 9 for 10 hours, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM local time. The fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington (46°53'18" N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Fishing period limits as indicated in the following table will be in effect for this opening.

Vessel Class		Fishing Period Limit (pounds)	
Length	Letter	Dressed, head-on with ice/slime	Dressed, head-off without ice/slime
0-25	A	225	200
26-30	B	240	210
31-35	C	380	335
36-40	D	1,050	925
41-45	E	1,130	995
46-50	F	1,350	1,190
51-55	G	1,510	1,330
56+	H	2,275	2,000

The appropriate vessel length class and letter are printed on each vessel license.

**The fishing period limit is shown in terms of dressed, head-off weight as well as dressed, head-on weight, although fishers are reminded that regulations require that all halibut from Area 2A be landed with the head on.**

The fishing period limit applies to the vessel, not the individual fisher, and any landings over the vessel limit will be subject to forfeiture and fine.

NMFS implemented mandatory depth-based area closures that are in effect for the directed halibut fishery to protect specific rockfish species. For the exact coordinates of the closed areas, contact Sarah Williams at NMFS at 206.526.4646.

For further information, call the NMFS hotline at 1-800-662-9825, then press "7" for the halibut fisheries.

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