

News Release



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August 22, 2014

2014 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 7

Area 2A Oregon All-Depth Sport Fishery Closing for 2014

During the Aug 15-16 opening, 24,574 pounds were landed in the summer all-depth sport fishery off Oregon. The remaining 4,043 pounds in the summer all-depth quota is insufficient for additional days. Therefore, the central Oregon coast all-depth sport fishery is closed for the remainder of 2014. The remaining quota will be transferred to other Oregon fisheries.

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 29,671 pounds. Incidental catch of halibut in the salmon troll fishery was allowed beginning April 1. On the 1st of August, 4,000 pounds of halibut were rolled over from the directed commercial fishery, increasing the catch limit to 33,671 pounds. It is estimated that 31,800 pounds have been landed through August 19 in Washington and Oregon, leaving 1,871 pounds to be harvested. In-season actions were made to the halibut possession or trip limit on August 22 and 23 depending on area. For further incidental fishery retention information, call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825 press 7 for halibut information). The incidental halibut catch fishery during the salmon troll season remains open until further notice.

Area 2A Incidental Commercial Halibut Fishery During the Limited Entry, 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 14,274 pounds. Incidental catch of halibut in the sablefish fishery was allowed beginning April 1. It is estimated that 6,560 pounds of halibut have been landed through July 29, leaving 7,714 pounds. The incidental commercial halibut fishery during the limited entry, fixed gear sablefish fishery remains open until further notice. For further incidental fishery retention information, call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825 press 7 for halibut information).

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Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update

The 2014 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 August 19, 2014.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	3,318.72	2,449	892
3A	7,317.73	5,446	1,032
3B	2,840.00	1,921	286
4A	850.00	516	84
4B	1,140.00	765	84
4CDE	1,285.00	992	685
Alaska total	16,751.45	12,089	3,063
2B	5,792.50	4,124	427
Grand Total	22,543.95	16,213	3,490

The catch off Alaska represents 72% of the 2014 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 15.7 million pounds, or 68% of the 2013 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery by this same date in 2013; however, the opening date of the 2013 fishery occurred fifteen days later in the year than that of the 2014 fishery. Thus, during the first 164 days of the 2013 Alaskan commercial halibut fishery, 17.3 million pounds, or 75% of the catch limit, were landed.

The catch from British Columbian (Area 2B) waters represents 71% of the 2014 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 4.1 million pounds, or 68% of the 2013 catch limit, had been landed from Area 2B by this same date in 2013. Also, during the first 164 days of the 2013 IVQ fishery, 4.5 million pounds, or 76% of the catch limit, had been landed.

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 sixth, seventh, and eighth 48-hour fishing periods of the 2014 season, with opening dates of June 27, July 11, and July 25, had halibut catches by opening of 10,207 pounds, 10,623 pounds, and 6,265 pounds, respectively. The total landed weight of halibut to date is 55,079 pounds. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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