

News Release

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2015 HALIBUT LANDING REPORT NO. 7**Quota Share Commercial Fisheries Update**

The 2015 quota share halibut fisheries opened on March 14. It is estimated that the following commercial landings, in pounds and numbers, were made in the Alaskan IFQ fishery through October 14, 2015 and in the British Columbian IVQ fishery through October 13, 2015.

Area	Catch Limit (000's pounds)	Catch (000's pounds)	Number of Landings
2C	3,679	3,426	1,190
3A	7,790	7,407	1,436
3B	2,650	2,467	331
4A	1,390	1,217	160
4B	1,140	1,025	133
4CDE	1,285	1,093	454
Alaska total	17,934	16,635	3,704
2B	5,914	5,471	643
Grand Total	23,848	22,106	4,347

The catch off Alaska represents 93% of the 2015 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 15.9 million pounds, or 95% of the 2014 catch limit, were landed in the Alaskan fishery by this same date in 2014; however, the opening date of the 2014 fishery occurred six days earlier in the year than that of the 2015 fishery. Thus, during the first 214 days of the 2014 Alaskan commercial halibut fishery, 15.7 million pounds, or 94% of the catch limit, were landed.

The catch from British Columbian (Area 2B) waters represents 93% of the 2015 commercial fishery catch limit. For comparison, 5.2 million pounds, or 89% of the 2014 catch limit, had been landed from Area 2B by this same date in 2014. Also, during the first 213 days of the 2014 IVQ fishery, 5.0 million pounds, or 86% 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 eleventh 48-hour fishing period of the 2015 season, with an opening date of September 11, had a halibut catch of 5,853 pounds. The total landed weight of halibut reported to date during the 2015 season is 62,640 pounds. The Metlakatla Indian Community and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will announce future halibut openings.

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