



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
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 Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Agenda Item I.1.c
 Supplemental NMFS Report
 September 2008

DATE: August 26, 2008
 TO: DISTRIBUTION
 FROM: F/NWR2 -Becky Renko
 SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report 10 -- 2008 Pacific Whiting Fishery

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2008 Pacific whiting fishery. Due to concerns about the incidental catch of overfished species, bycatch limits are in place in the non-tribal sectors of the fishery for canary (4.7 mt), darkblotched (40 mt) and widow rockfish (275 mt). When a bycatch limit is reached, the primary whiting seasons for the non-tribal fisheries are ended regardless of the amount of whiting allocation remaining. Preliminary data indicated that the bycatch limit for canary rockfish had been reached, therefore all sectors of the fishery were closed on August 19, 2008.

| | Allocation | | Whiting Catch* (mt) | Overfished Species and Chinook salmon catch | Thru [date] | Status | Percent of allocation taken |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Percentages | Metric Tons | | | | | |
| California (south of 42° N. lat.) | (5% of the shore – based allocation) | 4,880 | 4,815 | | | started 4/1, closed noon 5/21 | 98.7% |
| Coastwide | | | 29,901 | | | started 6/15, closed noon 8/19 | |
| WOC shore-based | 42% commercial OY | 97,669 | 34,716 | Canary – 1.54 mt Widow – 95.58 mt Darkblotched – 0.94 mt Chinook # 1,696 | 8/19 | | 35.5% |
| Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.) | 24% commercial OY | 55,811 | 46,866 | Canary – 0.74 mt Widow – 60.75 mt Darkblotched – 3.92 mt Chinook # 225 | 8/19 | started 5/15, closed noon 8/19 | 84.0% |
| Catcher/processor (n. of 42 N. lat.) | 34% commercial OY | 79,065 | 49,269 | Canary – 2.40 mt Widow – 39.30 mt Darkblotched – 2.36 mt Chinook # 89 | 8/19 | started 5/15, ended 8/19 | 62.3% |
| Total nontribal | commercial OY | 232,545 | 130,851 | Canary – 4.68 mt Widow – 195.63 mt Darkblotched – 7.22 mt Chinook # 2,010 | -- | -- | 56.2% |
| Tribal (Makah) | | 35,000 | 71 | Canary – 0.02 mt Widow – 0.02 mt Darkblotched – 0.00 mt Chinook # 5 | 5/17 | | 0.2% |
| Total directed fishing | | 267,545 | 130,922 | Canary – 4.7 mt Widow – 195.65 mt Darkblotched – 7.22 mt Chinook # 2,015 | -- | | 48.9% |
| Total | OY=optimum yield | 269,545 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

* Catch includes: discards from at-sea processors; weigh-backs from shore-based vessels; and catch landed under trip limits prior to the season. The values for at-sea processing sectors are based on NMFS observer data. Data for shore-based vessels were derived from electronic fish ticket submissions. Data for the at-sea processing portion of the Makah fishery are based on preliminary NMFS observer data and shore-based catch provided by tribal samplers. All weights are in metric ton (2,204.6 pounds).