

## **2008 Tribal Halibut Summary**

The 2008 treaty halibut allocation was 427,000 lbs of which 397,000 lbs was assigned to the commercial total allowable catch (TAC) and 30,000 lbs was set aside for the ceremonial and subsistence (C&S) fishery.

The commercial fishery was structured into “separately managed” fisheries wherein certain percentage limits of the TAC were separated into regional management groupings. These could be harvested any time between noon on March 8<sup>th</sup> and noon on July 30<sup>th</sup> 2008. Collectively, the separately managed fisheries accounted for 75%, or 290,250 lbs. of the 2008 Tribal Commercial TAC. The separately managed fisheries landed 326,133 lbs in 385 landings.

The other commercial fishery is intended to provide a 40 day continuous opportunity using the remaining 25% of the TAC which is open to all Halibut fishing Tribes as a "joint restricted" fishery. The joint restricted fishery opened at noon on March 17<sup>th</sup> with a 500-lb/vessel/day limit and closed on April 15<sup>th</sup> due to an unexpected higher catch level in that fishery. The joint restricted fishery expected harvest was 99,250 lbs. and the recorded catch was 100,746 lbs in 356 landings.

The total tribal commercial catch in 2008 was 426,879 lbs – which resulted in an unanticipated overage of 29,879 lbs for the Tribal Commercial TAC. The final catch update is attached, which shows landings by fishery and tribe. The C&S fishery will continue through December 31.

The tribes will continue to work internally with each other to improve coordination of in-season management and to avoid overages in future halibut fisheries. We are also working closely with the IPHC staff on getting better data on the halibut populations in area 2A to improve abundance estimates.

PFMC  
11/02/08



# Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

PO Box 1029 Forks, WA 98331-1029  
 (360) 374-5501 Fax (360) 374-5592

## Memorandum

To: Halibut Tribe Fishery Managers  
 From: Sandy Zeiner, Coastal Regional Biologist  
 Date: 11/2/2008  
 Subject: Halibut Catch Update # 22

Report Date:

08/04/08

**FINAL**

These are catch statistics reported by the tribes to the NWIFC

| Total Tribal Commercial Halibut Landings   |                |        |
|--|----------------|--------|
| 2008 Commercial Halibut Allocation:        | <b>397,000</b> | Pounds |
| Separately Managed Fishery expected catch: | <b>297,750</b> | Pounds |
| Restricted Fishery expected catch:         | <b>99,250</b>  | Pounds |

### Total Halibut Catch by Fishery and Tribe

| Separately Managed Fishery |                |                 |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Tribes                     | Catch (pounds) | No. of landings |
| Hoh                        | 0              | 0               |
| Jamestown                  | 0              | 0               |
| Lower Elwha                | 900            | 5               |
| Lummi                      | 16,280         | 53              |
| Makah                      | 181,463        | 229             |
| Nooksack                   | 282            | 2               |
| Port Gamble                | 0              | 0               |
| Quileute                   | 47,360         | 25              |
| Quinault                   | 76,421         | 62              |
| Skokomish                  | 0              | 0               |
| Suquamish                  | 0              | 0               |
| Swinomish                  | 3,427          | 9               |
| Tulalip                    | 0              | 0               |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>326,133</b> | <b>385</b>      |

| Restricted Fishery |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Catch (pounds)     | No. of landings |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 381                | 3               |
| 2,642              | 18              |
| 30,064             | 135             |
| 63,681             | 179             |
| 861                | 5               |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 0                  | 0               |
| 52                 | 1               |
| 3,065              | 15              |
| 0                  | 0               |
| <b>100,746</b>     | <b>356</b>      |

| Season         | Pounds         |
|----------------|----------------|
| Allocation:    | <b>397,000</b> |
| Total Harvest: | <b>426,879</b> |
| Remaining:     | <b>-29,879</b> |

Reported Weights are dressed weights adjusted (reduced) by 2% for ice and slime.  
 Head on and gutted weight x .90 = head off gutted weight;  
 Head off gutted weight x .98 = adjusted dressed weight