



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
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DATE: September 7, 2000
 TO: DISTRIBUTION *Katherine King*
 FROM: F/NWR2 - Katherine King
 SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report #6 -- 2000 Pacific Whiting Fishery

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2000 Pacific whiting fishery off Washington, Oregon, and California. The catcher/processor and non-tribal mothership fisheries started on May 15. The mothership fishery was projected to reach its allocation and was closed on June 9. The catcher/processor fishery resumed on August 16, following an inactive period that occurred when the processing vessels moved to the Alaskan pollock fishery. The tribal fishery began on June 10 and continued until July 18. Fishing was suspended while the tribal processor participated in the Alaskan pollock fishery. On August 29, the tribal fishery resumed. The shore-based season in most of the Eureka area (between 42°- 40°30' N. lat.) began on April 1, and the fishery south of 40° 30' N. lat. opened April 15. The shore-based whiting fishery south of 42° N. lat. reached its allocation and was temporarily "closed" (a 20,000 lb per trip limit applied) from June 8 until June 15 when the shore-based fishery north of 42° N. lat. began. The shore-based sector is expected to reach its allocation during the second week of September, if the previous week's catch rates continue.

	Allocation		Catch (mt)	Thru [date]	Status	Percent of allocation taken
	Percentages	Metric Tons				
California (south of 42 N lat.)	(5% shore alloc'n; included in WOC shore-based allocation)	4,190	4,985 (4,109)	9/2 (6/8)	started 0001 hours April 1; 5% alloc'n taken 6/8/00. Temp. "closure" noon 6/8/00 to 0001 hours 6/15/00	98.1%
Oregon	--	NA	55,261	9/2	started 0001 hours 6/15 (37 mt taken under 20,000 lb per trip limit)	
Washington	--	NA	10,801	9/2	started 0001 hours 6/15	
WOC shoreside	42% commercial OY	83,790	71,047			84.8%
Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.)	24% commercial OY	47,880	46,876	6/9	started 0001 hours 5/15/00, closed 1600 6/9/00	97.9%
Catcher/processor (n. of 42 N. lat.)	34% commercial OY	67,830	54,067	9/5	started 0001 hours 5/15/00	79.7%
Total nontribal	commercial OY (86% OY)	199,500	171,990	--	--	86.2%
Tribal (Makah)	14% OY	32,500	5,507	9/5	started 6/10	16.9%
Total	OY=optimum yeild	232,000	177,497	--	--	76.5%

* Catch includes discards from at-sea processors; weigh-backs from shore-based catcher vessels; and small amounts landed under the 20,000-pound trip limit between the seasons. The data for at-sea processing (catcher/processors and motherships) are preliminary and are based on reports from NMFS-trained observers. Data for shoreside processors also are preliminary and are provided by each State to NMFS for the purpose of monitoring the fishery. If you have questions on shoreside landings, please contact the appropriate state fishery management agency. Preliminary data for the Makah fishery will be from a NMFS-trained observer (s). All weights are round weight (the weight of the whole fish before processing) or round-weight equivalents. One metric ton is 2,204.62 pounds.

