



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
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TO: DISTRIBUTION
 FROM: F/NWR2 - Becky Renko
 SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report #2 -- 2001 Pacific Whiting Fishery

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2001 Pacific whiting fishery off Washington, Oregon, and California. The catcher/processor and non-tribal mothership fishery started on May 15. Since the beginning of the season, 5 motherships and 4 catcher/processors have participated in the fishery. As of June 7, only 2 of the mothership processors remained in the fishery. 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 primary shore-based fishery north of 42° N. lat. will begin June 15.

Incidental catch of chinook salmon has remained above the guideline of 0.05 chinook per metric ton (mt) of whiting. This guideline is specified in the terms and conditions of the section 7 Endangered Species Act consultation on the whiting fishery. In all, 2,265 chinook salmon have been taken in 43,900 mt of whiting, resulting in a bycatch rate of 0.052 chinook per mt of whiting for all sectors combined.

	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 allocation)	3,421	2,098	6/7	CA season started April 1; 5% alloc'n	61.3%
Oregon	--	NA	18	6/3	starts 6/15	
Washington	--	NA	8	6/3	starts 6/15	
WOC shoreside	42% commercial OY	68,418	2,124			3.1%
Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.)	24% commercial OY	39,096	27,720	6/6	started 0001 hrs 5/15/00	70.9%
Catcher/process or (n. of 42 N. lat.)	34% commercial OY	55,386	14,056	6/6	started 0001 hrs 5/15/00	25.4%
Total nontribal	commercial OY (86% OY)	162,900	43,900	--	--	26.9%
Tribal (Makah)	14% OY	27,500	0	6/6		0.0%
Total	OY=optimum yield	190,400	43,900	--	--	

* 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-certified observers. Data for shoreside processors also are preliminary and are provided by each State to NMFS for the purpose of monitoring the fishery. Preliminary data for the Makah fishery will be from a NMFS-trained observer. All weights are round weight (the weight of the whole fish before processing) or round-weight equivalents. One metric ton is 2,204.6 pounds.