

ALBACORE LANDINGS BY CANADIAN VESSELS IN U.S. WEST COAST PORTS

PacFIN was queried for data on albacore landings in the six U.S. ports where Canadian vessels are permitted to land their catch (Astoria, Bellingham, Coos Bay, Eureka, Newport, and Westport).¹ The PacFIN database includes a table with state vessel registration records (the sv table). This table includes a column with codes for the vessel identification type, which has a flag for Canadian vessels (sv.idtype = '5'). The information from this table with combined with fish ticket data to distinguish Canadian vessels and their landings for the decade, 2001-2010.² Records were filtered for landings with the gear types specified as “surface hook-and-line” in the HMS SAFE (see Table 4-58).

Figure 1 shows annual landings by Canadian and U.S. vessels for this period. During this period albacore landings by Canadian vessels ranged from 55 to 1,002 mt per year, averaging 473 mt per year; for the decade Canadian vessels account for 7 percent of total albacore landings in five ports.

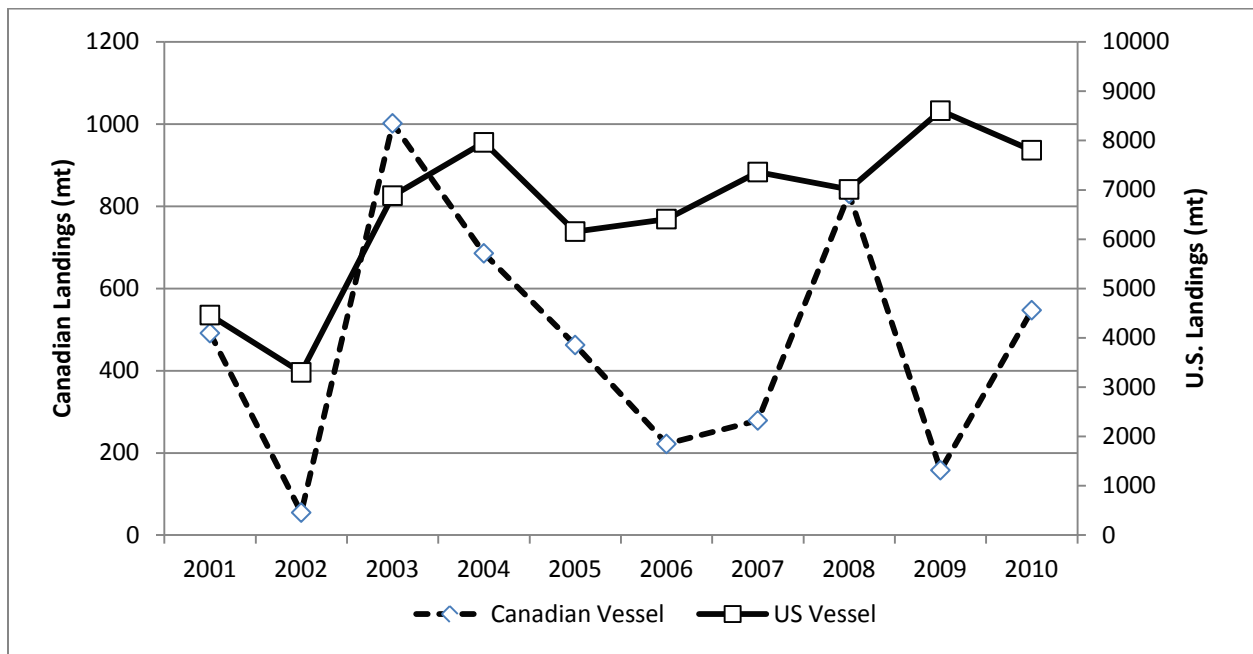


Figure 1. Albacore landings by Canadian vessels (left axis, mt) and U.S. vessels (right axis, mt), 2001-2010.

¹ No albacore vessels made landings in Eureka so this port was excluded from the query.

² A few records contained a null value in the idtype column. These records were excluded from the data reported here.

Table 1 shows the number of Canadian and U.S. vessels landing albacore and average annual landings amounts for the 2001-2010 period in the ports permitted under the Canada-U.S. albacore treaty. (Coos Bay and Westport are combined for data confidentiality reasons.) A total of 174 Canadian vessels made albacore landings in U.S. ports during the 10-year period (versus 1,696 U.S. vessels). Bellingham had the largest share of total vessels accounted for by Canadian vessels (one third) but Astoria had the largest absolute number of Canadian vessels making landings (80). The landings distribution tracks with the vessel counts.

Table 1. Total number of Canadian and U.S. vessels making albacore landings and average annual landings by port, 2001-2010.

Port	Vessels, # (%)		Average Ann. Landings, mt (%)	
	Canada	U.S.	Canada	U.S.
Bellingham	22 (33.3%)	44 (66.7%)	122 (37.9%)	200 (62.1%)
Astoria	80 (21.8%)	287 (78.2%)	250 (21.0%)	941 (79.0%)
Newport	69 (10.2%)	609 (89.8%)	100 (5.6%)	1,693 (94.4%)
Coos Bay and Westport	3 (0.4%)	756 (99.6%)	1.3 (0.0%)	3,760 (100.0%)

The PacFIN query upon which Table 1 is based counts the number of unique vessels making landings over the entire 10-year period. Counting the number of unique vessels in each year yields the following average annual numbers of Canadian vessels: Bellingham, 7; Astoria 15; Newport, 11; and Coos Bay and Westport, 3.

Table 2 shows these ports in terms of the impact of Canadian vessels on a coastwide basis. Astoria accounted for the largest share of Canadian vessels and landings at 46 percent of the total vessels and 53 percent of total landings during the 10-year period. Newport was second in terms of Canadian vessels at 40 percent but Bellingham was second in terms of the landings at 26 percent.

Table 2. Ports' share of total number of Canadian vessels making albacore landings and total landings amount, 2001-2010.

Port	# Vessels	Landings
Astoria	46%	53%
Newport	40%	21%
Bellingham	13%	26%
Coos Bay and Westport	1%	<1%