

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hotline
(360) 902-2500
Coastal Commercial Message
Commercial Msg. 7

This commercial hotline message # 7 was recorded August 18, 2017, updating the status of the coastal commercial fisheries.

Commercial Troll

SUMMER FISHERY

Washington catch areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 are open for all salmon species beginning July 1. In the area between the U.S./Canada border and the Queets River the fishery is open 5 days per week, Fridays through Tuesdays, with a landing and possession limit of **75** chinook and **10** coho per vessel per open period through August 20. Beginning August 21, the fishery is open 7 days per week with a landing and possession limit of **100** chinook and **10** coho per vessel per calendar week, defined as Monday through Sunday. Between the Queets River and Cape Falcon, OR, the fishery is open 7 days per week with a landing and possession limit of **150** chinook and **10** coho per vessel per calendar week, defined as Monday through Sunday. All retained coho must be marked with a healed adipose fin clip. The fishery will close the earliest of September 19 or attainment of the quota of 20,205 Chinook, no more than 10,870 of which may be caught in the area between the U.S.-Canada border and the Queets River, or the quota of 2,500 coho. All salmon are legal except no chum retention is allowed north of Cape Alava, WA in August and September. Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, Cape Flattery and Columbia Control Zones are closed. Grays Harbor Control Zone is closed beginning August 14.

Vessels must land and deliver their fish within 24 hours of any closure of this fishery and in Areas 1, 2, 3 or 4. **Vessels in possession of salmon north or south of the Queets River may not cross the Queets River line without first notifying WDFW by phone at (360)249-1215 or by email at Wendy.Beehley@dfw.wa.gov with Boat name, Area fished, total Chinook and halibut catch on board, and destination.** Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing north of Leadbetter Point must land their fish within the area and north of Leadbetter Point. Vessels fishing or in possession of salmon while fishing south of Leadbetter Point must land their fish within the area and south of Leadbetter Point. The minimum size limit for Chinook is 28 inches; the minimum size for coho is 16 inches. Gear is restricted to all legal troll gear with single point, single shank barbless hooks **only**.

HALIBUT

Retention of halibut in the commercial troll fishery is closed effective midnight, August 3. Vessels with halibut aboard must land and deliver all halibut no later than midnight, August 4.

The Washington State Quick Reporting System will be in effect throughout the 2017 commercial troll fishery. All wholesale dealers or trollers retailing their fish will be required to report their landing by 10:00 AM the day following delivery. Reports can be made by telephoning 1-866-791-1279 or faxing to 1-360-902-2949 and reporting the fish ticket number, the gear, the dealer name and number, the area fished, the date of landing, the number of days fished, the number of fish by species and the total weight by species including halibut.

Groundfish regulations were included in the troll mail. If you did not receive this information please call Wendy Beeghley at 360-249-1215 before going fishing.

Commercial troll fisheries are managed on a quota. Open days, landing and possession limits or any other regulation could change at any time. Always contact the fisheries hotline (1-360-902-2500) prior to going fishing.

Thank you for calling the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife coastal commercial hotline.