

Fishing Rule Change

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

Internet Address: <http://wdfw.wa.gov>

July 29, 2011

Halibut fishing will close after Sunday July 31 in Marine Area 2 (northern nearshore area)

Action: Close the northern nearshore area in Marine Area 2 to recreational halibut fishing on August 1, 2011.

Effective date: 12:00 a.m. Monday, August 1, 2011.

Species affected: Pacific halibut

Location: Marine Area 2 (northern nearshore area) from the Queets River (47°31.70'N. latitude) south to Point Chehalis (46°58.00'N latitude) and east of a line approximating the 30 fathom depth contour as defined by the following coordinates:

- 47 ° 31.70 N. lat, 124 ° 37.03 W. long
- 47 ° 25.67 N. lat, 124 ° 34.79 W. long
- 47 ° 12.82 N. lat, 124 ° 29.12 W. long
- 46 ° 58.00 N. lat, 124 ° 24.24 W. long

Reason for action: Federal regulations allow the northern nearshore halibut fishery to remain open until the quota is taken or September 30 whichever occurs first. There is sufficient halibut quota remaining in Marine Area 2 to allow the fishery to remain open through July 31, 2011. This rule conforms to federal action taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service and approved by the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Anglers are encouraged to check the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife website or hotline for information regarding re-openings.

Information contact: Heather Reed, (360) 249-4628 ext. 202

Fishers must have a current Washington fishing license. Check the WDFW "Fishing in Washington" rules pamphlet for details on fishing seasons and regulations. Fishing regulations are subject to change. Call the WDFW Fishing hotline for the latest rule information at (360) 902-2500, press 2 for recreational rules or check the WDFW webpage at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/fishregs.htm> for details on fishing seasons and regulations. For the Shellfish Rule Change hotline call (360) 796-3215 or toll free 1-866-880-5431.