

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hotline
(360) 902-2500
Coastal Commercial Message
Commercial Msg. 6

This commercial hotline message # 6 was recorded August 15, 2019, updating the status of the coastal commercial fisheries.

Commercial Troll

Washington catch areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 are open for all salmon species through the earlier of September 30 or attainment of the quota of 19,257 Chinook or 30,400 coho. The fishery is open seven days per week. All salmon are legal except no chum retention north of Cape Alava beginning August 1. All retained coho must be marked with a healed adipose fin clip.

Landing and Possession Limits

Landing and possession limit of 160 Chinook and 150 marked coho per vessel per landing week (defined as Thursday through Wednesday).

Please be aware that **landing and possession limits may be modified in-season.**

GENERAL RULES

Mandatory Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area, Cape Flattery, Grays Harbor, and Columbia Control Zones are closed.

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, coho, and halibut catch on board, and destination.

Vessels fishing, or in possession of salmon **north of Leadbetter Point** must land and deliver all species of fish in a Washington port and must possess a Washington troll license. Vessels may not land fish east of the Sekiu River or east of the Megler-Astoria bridge. For delivery to Washington ports south of Leadbetter Point, vessels must notify WDFW at (360)249-1215 or by email at Wendy.Beehley@dfw.wa.gov prior to crossing the Leadbetter Point line with area fished, total Chinook, coho, and halibut catch aboard, and destination with approximate time of delivery. During any single trip, only one side of the Leadbetter Point line may be fished.

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. Gear is restricted to all legal troll gear with single point, single shank barbless hooks **only.**

HALIBUT

The operator of a vessel that has been issued an incidental halibut harvest license may retain Pacific halibut caught incidentally in area 2A during authorized periods while trolling for salmon. License holders may land no more than 1 halibut per each 2 Chinook, except 1 halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement. No more than 2 halibut may be landed per trip. Halibut minimum size limit is 32 inches total length with head on. In-season action may be taken to avoid exceeding the commercial halibut allocation.

The Washington State Quick Reporting System will be in effect throughout the 2019 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 do 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.