



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
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DATE: August 26, 2008
 TO: DISTRIBUTION
 FROM: F/NWR2 -Becky Renko
 SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report 10 -- 2008 Pacific Whiting Fishery

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2008 Pacific whiting fishery. Due to concerns about the incidental catch of overfished species, bycatch limits are in place in the non-tribal sectors of the fishery for canary (4.7 mt), darkblotched (40 mt) and widow rockfish (275 mt). When a bycatch limit is reached, the primary whiting seasons for the non-tribal fisheries are ended regardless of the amount of whiting allocation remaining. Preliminary data indicated that the bycatch limit for canary rockfish had been reached, therefore all sectors of the fishery were closed on August 19, 2008.

	Allocation		Whiting Catch* (mt)	Overfished Species and Chinook salmon catch	Thru [date]	Status	Percent of allocation taken
	Percentages	Metric Tons					
California (south of 42° N. lat.)	(5% of the shore – based allocation)	4,880	4,815			started 4/1, closed noon 5/21	98.7%
Coastwide			29,901			started 6/15, closed noon 8/19	
WOC shore-based	42% commercial OY	97,669	34,716	Canary – 1.54 mt Widow – 95.58 mt Darkblotched – 0.94 mt Chinook # 1,696	8/19		35.5%
Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.)	24% commercial OY	55,811	46,866	Canary – 0.74 mt Widow – 60.75 mt Darkblotched – 3.92 mt Chinook # 225	8/19	started 5/15, closed noon 8/19	84.0%
Catcher/processor (n. of 42 N. lat.)	34% commercial OY	79,065	49,269	Canary – 2.40 mt Widow – 39.30 mt Darkblotched – 2.36 mt Chinook # 89	8/19	started 5/15, ended 8/19	62.3%
Total nontribal	commercial OY	232,545	130,851	Canary – 4.68 mt Widow – 195.63 mt Darkblotched – 7.22 mt Chinook # 2,010	--	--	56.2%
Tribal (Makah)		35,000	71	Canary – 0.02 mt Widow – 0.02 mt Darkblotched – 0.00 mt Chinook # 5	5/17		0.2%
Total directed fishing		267,545	130,922	Canary – 4.7 mt Widow – 195.65 mt Darkblotched – 7.22 mt Chinook # 2,015	--		48.9%
Total	OY=optimum yield	269,545	--	--	--	--	--

* Catch includes: discards from at-sea processors; weigh-backs from shore-based vessels; and catch landed under trip limits prior to the season. The values for at-sea processing sectors are based on NMFS observer data. Data for shore-based vessels were derived from electronic fish ticket submissions. Data for the at-sea processing portion of the Makah fishery are based on preliminary NMFS observer data and shore-based catch provided by tribal samplers. All weights are in metric ton (2,204.6 pounds).