

Central Cook Inlet Halibut Harvest Statistics

Each year the Alaska Department of Fish and Game summarizes halibut harvest statistics for the Central Cook Inlet sport fishery, defined as landings made from Anchor Point northward. The department samples sport-caught halibut and interviews anglers and charter boat operators on the beaches at Deep Creek and Anchor Point. Using these data, combined with statewide harvest survey estimates, ADF&G estimates the average weight and total harvest in pounds for this fishery. These estimates are provided to the International Pacific Halibut Commission and North Pacific Fishery Management Council to ensure that current information is used for management decisions. The tables below summarize basic harvest data since 1994. Note that all weights are expressed as net weight (headed and gutted), the standard measurement unit for halibut. Contact Scott Meyer with ADF&G in Homer 235-8191 for more information.

Table 1. Characteristics of the Central Cook Inlet sport halibut harvest since 1994. This information was derived from on-site sampling of halibut harvest and interviews with anglers and charter boat operators.

Year	No. Fish Measured		Average Length (in)		Average Net Wt (lb) ^a		No. Interviews (vessel-trips)	Average Harvest Per Angler-Day ^b	
	Charter	Private	Charter	Private	Charter	Private		Charter	Private
1994	577	256	33.9	30.6	15.1	11.5	340	1.7	1.2
1995	930	289	35.0	32.0	17.3	13.3	729	1.6	1.1
1996	768	267	34.8	32.6	16.9	14.6	600	1.7	1.0
1997	610	444	34.4	33.6	15.9	15.0	657	1.7	0.9
1998	514	364	36.0	32.6	18.8	13.2	582	1.6	1.0
1999	487	372	35.0	33.9	17.4	16.0	681	1.7	1.2
2000	546	448	35.4	32.1	17.7	13.1	717	1.7	1.3
2001	619	508	34.2	33.3	15.4	14.1	544	1.8	1.5
2002	524	296	34.0	34.0	15.1	14.1	558	1.8	1.5
2003	725	298	34.3	35.6	15.9	17.4	637	1.8	1.6
2004	678	335	33.5	31.2	14.8	12.7	471	1.9	1.7
2005	607	86	34.6	35.6	16.2	18.1	473	1.8	1.6
2006	992	225	34.6	33.2	15.8	13.2	608	1.9	1.5

^a – Net weight is defined as headed and gutted. The conversion is round wt = net wt * 1.33.

^b – Raw CPUE calculated from interviewed vessel-trips targeting halibut, bottomfish, or bottomfish & salmon, not standardized.

Table 2. Estimated halibut harvest in the Central Cook Inlet sport fishery in number of fish and pounds net weight since 1994. No harvest estimate is available yet for the most recent year.

Year	Number of Fish			Pounds Net Weight ^a (thousands)		
	Charter	Private	Total	Charter	Private	Total
1994	40,818	39,797	80,615	616	458	1,074
1995	44,584	36,737	81,321	771	489	1,260
1996	41,573	40,234	81,807	703	587	1,290
1997	43,442	44,828	88,270	691	672	1,363
1998	43,780	41,371	85,151	823	546	1,369
1999	38,654	30,601	69,255	673	490	1,162
2000	48,569	45,422	93,991	860	595	1,455
2001	53,990	33,628	87,618	831	474	1,306
2002	44,718	28,680	73,398	675	404	1,080
2003	45,559	32,149	77,708	724	559	1,284
2004	50,915	35,192	86,107	754	447	1,200
2005	51,747	32,899	84,646	818	434	1,252

^a – Calculated by multiplying the average weight by the number of fish harvested. Total may not equal the sum of charter and private harvest due to rounding.

