

Final 2006 harvest estimate for Area 3A from ADF&G Sport Fish Division

The Area 3A _sport charter_ harvest was 3.664 M lb, which is only 0.37% over the Area 3A GHL of 3.650 M lb. The final estimate is about 284,000 lb lower than last year's projection of 2006 harvest. Last year's projection was high by 7.7%. At the time we provided this projection we advised the Council and the IPHC that this was only a projection of past years' trend in harvest and that these projections have been off by as much as 20% or more due to year-to-year variability. Average weight for Area 3A was 17.9 lb, a little lower than the projected average weight of 18.2. Even though the final estimates and projections used the same average weights for each port, the overall Area 3A average weight declined because the harvest was distributed among the ports slightly differently than in the projection.

The Area 3A _sport private_ harvest was 1.674 M lb, which is about 467,000 lb lower than the 2006 year-end projection of 2.141 M lb. That projection was high by 27.9%. The average weight was 14.6 lb, up slightly from the projected average weight of 14.5 lb, and different for the same reason.

The _total_ Area 3A sport removals for 2006 were 5.337 M lb. This is considerably lower than our overall projection of 6.088 M lb. In setting the 2007 commercial catch limits for Area 3A, the IPHC deducted from the overall CEY the charter GHL of 3.65 M lb and our private harvest projection of 2.14 M lb, for a total sport fishery deduction of 5.79 M lb. The total sport fishery removals were therefore lower than the amount deducted from the CEY by about 450,000 lb.

The differences between the projections and final estimates are due almost entirely to differences in the numbers of fish harvested. I discovered that previous estimates of mean weight for each port were rounded to the nearest 0.1 lb before multiplying by the harvested number of fish. Starting with these 2006 final estimates all rounding will occur after all calculations are made. The differences are on the order of only a few hundred pounds.

ADFG Final 2006 Area 3A Harvests

Area 3A Harvest 1995-2006

Year	Charter			Non-charter			Total Sport Harvest			Charter GHL
	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	No. Fish	Avg. Wt.	Yield (M lb)	
1995	137,843	20.6	2.845	95,206	17.5	1.666	233,049	19.4	4.511	3.65
1996	142,957	19.7	2.822	108,812	17.6	1.918	251,769	18.8	4.740	3.65
1997	152,856	22.3	3.413	119,510	17.6	2.100	272,366	20.2	5.514	3.65
1998	143,368	20.8	2.985	105,876	16.2	1.717	249,244	18.9	4.702	3.65
1999	131,726	19.2	2.533	99,498	17.0	1.695	231,224	18.3	4.228	3.65
2000	159,609	19.7	3.140	128,427	16.9	2.165	288,036	18.4	5.305	3.65
2001	163,349	19.2	3.132	90,249	17.1	1.543	253,598	18.4	4.675	3.65
2002	149,608	18.2	2.724	93,240	15.9	1.478	242,848	17.3	4.202	3.65
2003	163,629	20.7	3.382	118,004	17.3	2.046	281,633	19.3	5.427	3.65
2004	197,208	18.6	3.668	134,960	14.4	1.937	332,168	16.9	5.606	3.65
2005	206,902	17.8	3.689	127,086	15.6	1.984	333,988	17.0	5.672	3.65
2006	204,115	17.9	3.664	114,887	14.6	1.674	319,002	16.7	5.337	3.65

2006 Area 3A - Final Halibut Harvest Estimates

User	Port	MeanWt	Harvest	Yield (lb)
CHARTER	CCI	15.8	55,915	883,891
	Homer	17.6	79,560	1,400,256
	Kodiak	22.1	14,219	314,309
	Seward	15.3	32,387	495,198
	Valdez	27.9	9,119	254,200
	Whittier	18.8	9,264	174,274
	Yakutat	38.7	3,651	141,399
	Area 3A		17.9	204,115
PRIVATE	CCI	13.2	28,704	380,015
	Homer	12.8	45,263	577,961
	Kodiak	19.6	11,000	215,907
	Seward	13.8	16,681	229,680
	Valdez	21.4	6,633	142,172
	Whittier	19.4	6,030	116,988
	Yakutat	19.0	576	10,951
	Area 3A		14.6	114,887
OVERALL	Area 3A	16.7	319,002	5,337,201

(variance estimates available after mid-September)

Comparison of last year's projection of 2006 harvest (M lb) and final estimates.

User	Projected	Final Proj	Error(%)
Charter	3.947	3.664	7.7%
Private	2.141	1.674	27.9%
Overall	6.088	5.337	14.1%

Charter GHL status 2006

Harvest	GHL	%diff
3.664	3.650	0.37%

