

North Pole Angler Takes the Lead in Valdez Halibut Derby

VALDEZ- Derek Nahinu reeled in a 262.3 pound flatfish to take the lead in the Valdez Halibut Derby. While last year's winning halibut weighed in at 325.4 pounds, there a good chance this year's fish will not be that big. The 2006 winner, caught by Glennallen angler David Bruno, is the largest fish on record in the Valdez derby.

When Bruno caught his 325.4 pounder late in the derby everyone was fairly certain it would take the top cash prize of \$15,000. When Joe Prax caught a 251 pound halibut early in the 2002 derby, he was certain it would not hold on and take the top prize. But it did. When it comes to figuring out whether or not Nahinu's 262.3 pounder will hold on to the lead through Sunday, May 3rd it's anybody's guess.

HALIBUT DERBY – OVERALL LEADERS – WEEK #7

	Name /address		Weight	Date	Charter
1st	Derek Nahinu	North Pole, AK	262.3	7/7	North Country
2nd	Steven Fitch	Fairbanks, AK	220.5	6/19	Lady Luck
3rd	George Thul	Tucson, AZ	216.1	6/29	North Country

HALIBUT DERBY- WEEKLY LEADERS – WEEK #7

1st	Derek Nahinu	North Pole, AK	262.3	7/7	North Country
2nd	Brian Yamamoto	Fairbanks, AK	177.4	7/7	Private Boat