

Salmon, halibut to hit \$550 million

Consumers will benefit this year from an excellent harvest of Alaska salmon and halibut, according to the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute.

The 1987 projected catch for premium halibut is about 69 million pounds, with the final harvest figures expected to exceed last year's record. Value to the fishermen will be about \$150 million.

The harvest of halibut extends from the coast of Washington State to the Bering Sea.

Five species of wild salmon are harvested off the coast of Alaska, and the projected catch will be about 95 million fish. This is down slightly from the 1986 record harvest, which was 130 million fish. Value to the fishermen is expected to be about \$400 million.