



LUKE WHITTAKER

David Lamson offloads tuna from the F/V Gooney Bird at Safe Coast Seafoods on Aug. 7 in Ilwaco. Lamson, along with skipper Vanya Taylor, spent 15 days at sea before arriving at port with 14 tons of albacore tuna. The fishermen planned to get some gear and get back on the ocean as quickly as possible, a pattern known as turn and burn. "We turn and burn as quick as we can, the summer is only so long," Taylor said.



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Crew offload tuna at Safe Coast Seafoods on Aug. 7 in Ilwaco.

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depending on weather.

Colbach said the tuna season has largely been "hit or miss" this summer until recently, when more schools of fish and bait began showing on local sonar screens.

"The commercial boats are doing fantastic, too. One caught 107 fish in one-hour trolling jigs, while on

their way in with 20 tons. It's just phenomenal fishing," Colbach said.

After 15 days at sea, F/V Gooney Bird skipper Vanya Taylor and crew David Lamson delivered 14 tons of tuna to Safe Coast Seafoods on Aug. 7, the second tuna offload of the season for the Port of Ilwaco processor.

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Albacore tuna are one of the most prized catches in Pacific Northwest waters. Washington state's record albacore was a 52-pounder caught in 1997, according to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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