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Date: 1-2-2023

To: Chris Hladick, City Manager, Assistant Manager Bill Honka, Clay Darnell, City Clerk
Majority Veeder, and Michelle Price

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for January 2, 2023

**Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 12-24-22 BSAI Crab,
Halibut/Sablefish IFQ, for 1-2-23.**

After 10 days of terrible weather two weeks ago, incoming flights of processors and harvesters have started picking up the day after Christmas. Aleutian Air started two flights daily, Ravn has four flights a day, a whole host of various charter flights have been coming in. The weather the past ten days has cooperated, I hope it keeps up.

Fishing activity will start picking up soon, on Sunday January 1st, 2023, A season fixed gear fisheries open so we should see some longline and pot cod fisheries picking up soon. The harvest last week, continues to be awfully slow with most fisheries wrapped up for the year, a small amount of fishing activity is still ongoing in the Aleutian Islands only 177MT groundfish was landed last week, (390,108lb) there were no landing of Golden King Crab, and Tanner Crab made last week. The local plants are getting geared up for the start of the Pollock A season which opens for fixed gear Pacific Cod on January 1st and the trawl sector for Pollock, Cod, and all flatfish opens January 20th. 2023. The Pollock total allowable catch for 2023 is 1.3 million metric tons (2.86 billion pounds) Pacific Cod 156,000MT (343,824lbs.) this includes the CDQ and State Water Cod allocations that come off the ABC amount.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 12-24-2022: the B season harvest last week was 177MT (390,108lbs) 800MT decrease over the previous weeks harvest, due to the Pollock B season, Cod and Flatfish harvests wrapping up for the year. The season totals are 1,606,631MMT harvested (3.54 billion pounds) leaving 255,521MT (563 million pounds) to harvest; 86% of the overall annual harvest of 1,862,152MMT (4.10 billion pounds) has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch 12-24-22: Last week harvest was 5MT for the season 45,769MT leaving 3,990MT to harvest 92% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 12-24-22: The bycatch total is 6,337 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the week. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 14% leaving 39,363 fish of the cap amount of 46,500 fish. Chum salmon, the season total is 242,376 fish.

Pacific Cod: 12-24-2022: Pacific Cod fishery continues to be slow with the closer of three of the pot cod vessels fisheries and trawl harvest mostly bycatch with Pollock. Last week harvest was 129MT (284,316lbs.) from the total allocation of 147,468MT this includes CDQ allocation. The A season harvest is at 136,411MT (300 million pounds) leaving 11,141MT to harvest (245,547lbs). Including CDQ 92% of the Pacific Cod allocation has been harvested. The Bering Sea directed Pacific Cod harvest closed on October 7th, 2022, except for CDQ harvest. That leaves only the Aleutian Islands and CDQ Pacific Cod fishery available for a directed fishery.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 0MT last week for the season 62,768MT from the A/B season allocation of 65,027MT leaving the A/B season allocation at 2,259MT to harvest, 97% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod Trawl: This fishery will be opened on January 20,2022, with the A/B season allocation of 50,722MT. We had a harvest through December 24th, 2022, last week of 0MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 0MT and CV sector 0MT A/B season harvest stands at 43,676MT leaving 5,685MT of A/B/C season trawl cod to harvest 86% of the A/B/C season harvest has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 5,677MT leaving -139MT cod allocation to harvest, -103% of the seasonal allocation was harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT was harvested last week of A season Cod for the season 1,758MT. The A season remaining allocation is 245MT 88% of the A season allocation was harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 11,846MT leaving -639MT of B season allocation to harvest 106% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest 129MT last week for the season 13,127MT from an allocation of 15,689MT leaving 2,996MT 83% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 1,879MT leaving 1,879MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

State Water Pot Cod <60' under 1-2-2023: the sixty' foot under pot vessels fishing, there were no landings made last week the fishery is still open. The fishery is at 567 landings from twenty-nine vessels for 35.88 million pounds leaving 1.31 million pounds to harvest 96% of the harvest of 37.19 million pounds has been completed. ADFG states one vessel is currently registered to fish this allocation. There were no landings made last week. The Fishery closed for the year on December 30,2022.

Amendment 80 Fisheries Bottom Trawl Sector 12-24-2022: The Amendment 80 sector fishing continues to be slow, last week harvest was 44MT (96,976 lbs.) 800MT decrease over last week's harvest. The total harvest stands 353,397MT (779 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by

species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 154,266MT, Rock Sole 18,386MT Alaska Plaice,11,253MT, Flathead Sole 14,683MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 7,858MT, Kamchatka Flounder 8,369MT other Flatfish 2,559MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish,43,470MT Atka Mackerel 58,108MT, Octopus,250MT Skate 29,298MT Greenland Turbot, 1,472MT and Sablefish Trawl 3,466MT.

Golden King Crab Fisheries 1-2-2023:

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery, reopened on August 1, 2022, at noon. There was no Golden King Crab landing made last week. from Western District. Most vessels will be tied up for the Holidays. The Eastern District allocation is set at 3.32 million pounds and has had twenty-four landings for 1,488,251 million lbs. leaving 1,499,749 million lbs. to harvest 50% of the allocation has been harvested. The Western District allocation is set at 1.73 million pounds there have been twenty-eight landings from the Western District which is still confidential. There have been four CDQ landings from the Eastern District for 245,680 lbs. leaving 86,320 lbs. to harvest 74% of the CDQ allocation has been harvested. The total harvest including CDQ is set at 5.05 million pounds. We have five vessels registered for this fishery. Ex-vessel value of the fishery may be in the \$70-80 million dollar range for the 5.05-million-pound allocation.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab 1-2-23: We have had 32 Tanner crab landings; 500,912lbs. leaving 545,788lbs. 48% of the Eastern district allocation has been harvested. The Western District Tanner Crab has had three landings the poundage amount is still confidential the Western district allocation is 765,000 lbs. There has been two Western District CDQ landings the poundage amount is confidential. Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab total allocation is set at 2.0 million pounds including CDQ. There was no Tanner Crab made last week.

Halibut IFQ 1-2-2023:

There have been 3,670 landings for this season for 17.57 million pounds leaving 2.72 million pounds to unharvested from the seasonal allocation of 20.3 million lbs. 87% of the allocation has been harvested. With no pounds landed last week. Port of Landings of Halibut, Kodiak leads the way with 2.73 million pounds. followed by Homer 2.48 million pounds. The Halibut CDQ, 141 landings for 674,961lbs. leaving 537,039lbs. to harvest 56% of the allocation has been taken. Halibut IFQ landings to Unalaska, have been made but they are still in the confidential category. Starting ex-vessel prices for are remarkably high in \$6.00-\$6.50 per pound depending on fish size. The IFQ Halibut season closed on December 7th at noon.

Sablefish IFQ 1-2-2023:

This fishery totals had no adjustment last week the current information is 2,222 landings for the season for 42.10 million lbs. leaving 14.29 million lbs. unharvested from the seasonal allocation of 56.4 million lbs. 75% of the allocation has been harvested. Last week had no harvest. Port of Landings of Sablefish, Seward leads the way with 7.48 million pounds landed, followed by Sitka at 7.14 million pounds. Landing to Unalaska have been made and have finally been released; 106 landings for 3.23 million pounds 1.5 million pounds more than 2021 landings. Prices for Sablefish at the start of the

season are in the \$5.00 to \$6.00 per pound based on size of the fish 1/2 2/3-pound fish are in \$1.50-\$2.00 range. The IFQ Sablefish season closed at noon on December 7th, 2022.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fishery Update Memo
2. Groundfish Harvest Data
3. NOAA Reports

