

Frank Kelty
Fisheries Consultant
City of Unalaska

Date: 11-27-2023

To: City Manager Bil Homka, Marjorie Veeder, Patricia Soule, Karen Magdaong, and Michelle Price, Mayor Vince, and City Council Members

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for November 27, 2023, Harvest Data, NPFMC Agenda and NOAA Reports.

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 11-18-2023, State Water Fisheries on Sablefish, Cod, BSAI Crab and IFQ Halibut and Sablefish, for 11-27-23.

Fishery activity in Unalaska continues to be very slow, with the Pollock B season completed. Most of the local plants have a minimal amount of crew onsite doing some lesser amounts Crab, Halibut and Sablefish. There may be a few more processors and harvesters leaving Unalaska by the end of November. This is time of year, is when facilities are doing major maintenance projects before the start of the Pollock A season on January 1st, 2024. The Pollock B season harvest is 99.8% complete. The Pollock fleet left 4,047MT (8.9 million lbs.) unharvested fishery closed by regulation on November 1st, 2023. The total B season Pollock harvest is 711,741MT (1.56 billion lbs.) for all four harvesting sectors 99.7% of the harvest is completed leaving 4,070MT unharvested. The seasonal Pollock harvest is 1.260MMT (2.777 billion pounds) leaving 4.070MT (8.9 million pounds) unharvested, 99.8% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

The total groundfish harvest for the last week was 4,015MT (8.8 million pounds), a 3,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest, due to a decrease in all trawl and fixed gear harvests. The season totals are 1,765,988MMT harvested (3.89 billion pounds) leaving 232,014MT (511 million lbs.) to harvest; 88% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) has been completed.

We continue to see Halibut and Sablefish landings; fishing continues to slow down with the onset of winter weather. We have had landings of Halibut and Sablefish to Unalaska the landings are still held confidential until one more buyer purchase Halibut and Sablefish. Halibut Statewide landings are at 15.01 million pounds 84% harvested from 18.6 million lbs. allocation leaving 2.79 million lbs. to harvest. Sablefish is at 36.67 million lbs. harvested, 59% harvested from the 62 million lbs. leaving 25.36 million lbs. to harvest. Crew changes and offloads by the Pacific Cod freezer longline fleet and the Amendment 80 Bottom trawl catcher processors as well will continue during the fall.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab, we have had one hundred-ten landings Bristol Bay Red King Crab landings of 2.14 million lbs. including CDQ 100% of the harvest is complete leaving 5,8920lbs. available to harvest. The fishery opened on Sunday at noon October 15, 2023. The Bristol Bay Red King allocation is IFQ 1.9 million lbs. and CDQ 215,000 for a total of 2.15 million lbs. The price rumors for Red King are \$8 dollars for opening prices. CPUE is nineteen crabs per pot, live weight 6.5 lbs. There are no vessels fishing, the season is completed.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab, the Tanner Crab IFQ allocation is 1.87 million pounds for both the East and Western Districts. The CDQ totals 250,000lbs lbs. for both the East and West Districts for a total allocation of 1.2 million lbs. There have been forty landings for 454,853lbs all from the Eastern District leaving 266,00lbs to harvest from the Eastern District 50% of the allocation has been harvested. There have been five small landings from the Western District, has seen 11 landing for 136,000lbs leaving the Western District allocation is 1.12 million lbs. There are six vessels actively fishing ADF&G fishing is very slow in the Western District.

The Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries, opened on August 1, 2023, there were four vessels registered to fish. The Eastern District allocation including CDQ is 3.7 million lbs. the Western District allocation including the City of Adak allocation is 1.8 million lbs. for a total allocation of 5.3 million lbs. We had a total of 61 IFQ landings for the season, thirty-eight landings from the Eastern District and twenty-four IFQ landings from the Western District. The total poundage for the Eastern District is 3.7 million lbs. With CDQ, the total landings with are estimated poundage of 2.65 million lbs. 69% is harvested, leaving an estimated 1.05 million lbs. to harvest. The Western District IFQ landings 24 for 1.06 million lbs. 60% harvested, leaving 750,000lbs. to harvest.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 11-18-2023: The harvest for the last week was 4,015MT (6.9 million pounds) 3,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest, due to a decrease in all trawl and fixed gear harvests. The season totals are 1,765,988MMT harvested (3.89 billion pounds) leaving 232,014MT (511 million lbs.) to harvest; 88% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) has been completed.

Pollock: 11-18-2023: Last week we had harvest of 0MT (0 lbs.) The total B season harvest is 711,741MT (1.56 billion lbs.) for all four harvesting sectors 99.7% of the harvest is completed leaving 4,070MT to harvest. (8.9 million lbs.). The seasonal harvest is 1.2604MMT (2.777 billion pounds) leaving 4.070MT (8.9 million pounds) to harvest, 99.9% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested. The At Sea Catcher Processor, and CDQ sector allocations are done. The Catcher Vessel sector that delivers to the shore left 2,035MT all shore-plant are done operating. The Mothership sector left 566MT unharvested. The Pollock trawl B season closed by regulation on November 1, 2023

Inshore CV: The harvested last week was 0MT (19,836 lbs.) from the B season allocation which puts the B season allocation at 321,787MT harvested (709.2 million lbs.) 103% of the B season allocation harvested. The seasonal harvest is 564,265MT (1.24 billion lbs.) -103% harvested. The B season allocation is 311,465MT leaving 2,035MT (4.4 million lbs.) of B season to harvest, with 100% of the B allocation having been harvested the

additional amount is carry over poundage from the Pollock A season. The Pollock trawl B season closed by regulation on November 1,2023

At Sea Processors: The At Sea fleet harvested 0MT last week, the B season total is at 250,974MT (553 million lbs.) 101% of the B season harvest is complete. The seasonal harvest is 451,680MT (995 million lbs.) 100% of the harvest is complete. The B season allocation is 249,172MT (549 million lbs.) leaving 1,360MT (2.9 million pounds) of the B Season allocation to harvest, 100% of the B season harvest is completed.

Mothership Sector: The harvested last week was 0MT (2.5 million lbs.) the B season total is 62,413MT 137.5 million lbs.) 100% has been harvested. The seasonal harvest is at 112,694MT (248 million pounds) 100% of the harvest has been completed. The B season harvest allocation is 56,853MT leaving 566MT (1.2 million lbs.) to harvest 100% of the B/A season allocations has been harvested. The Pollock trawl B season close by regulation on November 1,2023

CDQ Sector: The harvested last week was 0MT. The B season harvest is at 72,842MT (160 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is 131,787MT (290 million pounds) 100% of the harvest is completed. The B season allocation is 70,026MT (154 million lbs.) leaving 113MT (249,052lbs) to harvested 100% of the B season Pollock allocation has been harvested. The Pollock trawl B season closes by regulation on November 1,2023

Pollock Incidental Catch 11-18-23: Last week's harvest was 458MT for the season 49,253MT leaving 983MT to harvest 99% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 11-18-23: The bycatch total is 11,855 Chinook salmon fish taken as bycatch for the season. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 26% leaving 33,845fish of the cap amount of 45,700 fish. The Chum salmon bycatch totals no new figures from the previous week the 11-18-23 numbers came in at 112,302 fish compared to 242,375 fish at the end of the 2022 Pollock season.

Pacific Cod: 11-18-2023: the fishery pot gear fixed gear fisheries are wrapped up. The trawl harvest and freezer longline CPs have also slowed down. Last week's harvest was only 641MT (1.4 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A/B season harvest with CDQ is at 125,646MT (278.3 million pounds) leaving 10,165MT to harvest (22.4million pounds). Including CDQ, 93% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,867MT has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 3MT last week. The B season harvests 27,967MT (61 million lbs.) leaving the B season allocation at 895MT to harvest, 98% of the B season allocation has been harvested by this sector. The total A/B season catch is 57,777MT (127million lbs.) 98% of the seasonal harvest has been taken, leaving 895MT (1.97 million lbs.) to harvest This sector may be done for the year.

Pacific Cod Trawl: This fishery will be opened on January 20,2023, with the A season allocation of 50,722MT. (111.9 million pounds) We had a harvest last week through

November 18, 2023, last week harvest was 94MT mostly as bycatch. The Amendment 80 sector, 71MT At Sea 7MT and CV sector 16MT A/B season harvest stands at 42,184MT (92.9 million pounds) leaving 3,269MT (7.2 million pounds) of A/B season trawl cod to harvest 83% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 4,889MT leaving 151MT cod allocation to harvest, 97% of the seasonal allocation was harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT was harvested last week of A/B season Cod, for the season 1,545MT. The A season remaining allocation is 262MT 86% of the A season allocation of 1,807MT have been harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 9,632MT leaving 488MT of B season allocation to harvest 95% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 544thast week for the season 10,982MT (24 million lbs.) from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 3,515MT (7.7 million lbs.) 78% of the CDQ harvest have been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 98MT leaving 98MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 11-18 -2023: Amendment 80 sector fishing is slow with increased catch of Sole species as it traditionally is during at the end of the B season and less harvests of Perch and Mackerel. Last week's harvest was 4,779MT (10.5 million lbs.) a decrease of 1,000lbs from the previous week's harvest. The total harvest stands 318,774MT (702 million lbs.) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 109,357MT, Rock Sole 27,031MT Alaska Plaice, 15,156MT, Flathead Sole 8,897MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 7,136MT, Kamchatka Flounder 6,942MT other Flatfish 3,018MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish,47,648MT Atka Mackerel 65,883MT, Octopus 151MT Skate 24,998MT Greenland Turbot, 1,273MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,116MT

Halibut IFQ 11-27-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning, 3,431 landings for 15,01 million pounds. and leaving 2.79 million lbs. to harvest 84% of the fishery is complete. Fishing has been slow with 40,000lbs harvested in the past week. The IFQ allocation is 17.8 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is at 121 landings for 440,435lbs. leaving 743,565lbs. of Halibut to harvest 37% of the harvest has been taken. Landings of Halibut have been made in Unalaska, but the totals are still confidential. The leading port for Halibut landings is Homer with 3.197 million lbs. and Kodiak, 1.925 million lbs. Halibut ex-vessel prices for Halibut are in the \$5.50 to \$6.50 range depending on size.

Sablefish IFQ 11-27-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning show 1,991 landings for 36.67 million lbs. leaving 25.36 million pounds to

harvest 59% of the allocation have been harvested, fishing has really slowed down last week's harvest was 80,000lbs. The Sablefish allocation for Alaska is 62.04 million pounds. The leading Port for Sablefish landings is Seward at 5.95 million lbs. and Kodiak at 4.29 million lbs. Landings of Sablefish have been made in Unalaska, but the totals are still confidential. Sablefish prices range depending on size \$0.50-\$7.00 range for large fish, we understand the fleet is harvesting a lot of 1-2- and 2-3-pound fish which is driving down ex-vessel values and markets.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab 11-27-23: The fishery opens on Tuesday August 1, 2023, at noon. There were four vessels registered to fish. The Eastern District allocation including CDQ is 3.7 million lbs. the Western District allocation including the City of Adak allocation is 1.8 million lbs. for a total allocation of 5.3 million lbs. We had a total of 61 IFQ landings for the season, thirty-eight landings from the Eastern District and twenty-four IFQ landings from the Western District. The total poundage for the Eastern District is 3.7 million lbs. With CDQ, the total landings with are estimated poundage of 2.65 million lbs. 69% is harvested, leaving an estimated 1.05 million lbs. to harvest. The Western District IFQ landings 24 for 1.06 million lbs. 60% harvested, leaving 750,000lbs. to harvest.

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Misc. Items: Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there were no meetings held last week.

Regards Frank Kelty

Attachments:

- 1.Fishery Update Memo
- 2.Groundfish Harvest Data
- 3.NOAA Reports and NPFMC Agenda