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Date: 5-8-2023

To: Acting City Manager Bill Homka, Clay Darnell, Marjorie Veeder, and Michelle Price

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for May 8, 2023, Harvest Data and NOAA Reports

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 4-22-2023, State Water Pot Cod 58' < Under Fishery State Water Sablefish and IFQ Halibut and Sablefish, for 5-1-23.

We continue in the slow period for fishing activity in the Bering Sea until the Pollock B season opens on June 10th. We should start seeing some activity will processors and harvesters start to arrive during the last week of May. The B season allocation which is 60% of the overall Pollock allocation of 1.3 million Metric tons. The B season allocation comes in at 780,000MT in pounds (1.7 billion pounds) Unalaska shoreside allocation is 248,000MT in pounds (547 million) for the four local plants. There is still 19,277MT (41 million pounds) of A season Pollock allocation left the majority of that is in the shore side catcher vessel sector. I expect some of the A season left over quota to be harvested in late May. The A season does not close until June 10th at noon, this extra time will allow shoreside catcher vessels to scout around for good areas to fish for the B season starts on June 10th. We will still see in the next few weeks some Halibut and Sablefish landings coming to the shore-plants and crew changes and offloads by the Pacific Cod freezer longline catcher processors, and the Amendment 80 Bottom trawl catcher processors as well during this slow period.

The Pollock A season opened on January 20th. Pollock A season opened on January 20th. Last week we had a harvest of 179MT (394,546 lbs.) That was a 1,100MT reduction from the previous week's harvest. The total A season harvest is at 549,327MT (1.21 billion pounds) leaving 19,277MT (42.4 million pounds) to harvest 97.1% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The onshore sector has the largest share of the A season harvest to date 239,040MT. (526 million pounds).

Pacific Cod fishery pot gear fixed gear fisheries are wrapped up. The trawl harvest and freezer longline CPs have had strong fishing. Last week's harvest was 2,544MT (5.6 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A season harvest is at 79,416MT (175 million pounds) leaving 61,245MT to harvest (134million pounds). including CDQ 58.5% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,354MT has been harvested.

Bottom Trawl Fishery: The Amendment 80 sector fishing sector is seeing better fishing and improved weather, which is increasing their catch. The harvest last week was

4,027MT (8.8 million pounds) a 7,000MT decrease over last week's harvest due to the decrease in Yellowfin Sole harvest, and vessels in Unalaska doing offloads. The total harvest stands 111,176MT (245 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest.

Halibut, this fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning, 594 landings for 2.66 million pounds. and leaving 15.6 million pounds to harvest 14.6% of the fishery is complete. Fishing has been slow, and the harvesters have a lot of harsh weather. The CDQ harvest is still confidential currently. The IFQ allocation is 17.2 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is 1.18 million pounds of Halibut for a total of 18.2 million pounds. The leading port for Halibut landings is Juneau with 522,413lbs. and Homer 396,829lbs.

Sablefish IFQ this fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning show 650 landings for 12.2 million lbs. leaving 49.8 million pounds to harvest 20% of the allocation has been harvested. The Sablefish allocation for Alaska is 62.04 million pounds. The leading Port for Sablefish landings is Seward 2.02 million lbs. and Kodiak at 922,324lbs.

ADFG Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish as of this morning sixty-two landings for 1.05 million lbs. leaving 852,289lbs. to harvest 52% of the allocation remains to be harvested. There are thirteen vessels registered for this fishery.

All crab fisheries are closed. The North Peninsula Dungeness crab fishery opens on May 1st and the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries re-open on August 1st, 2023.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 4-29-2023: the A season harvest last week was 12,843MT (28 million pounds) 300MT increase over the previous week's harvest due to the Pollock, Cod harvests being completed. The season totals are 763,825MT harvested (1.68 billion pounds) leaving 1,222,460MMT (2.69 billion pounds) to harvest; 38% of the overall annual harvest of 1,987,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) to harvest.

Pollock: 4-29-2023: Pollock A season opened on January 20th. Last week we had a harvest of 179MT (394,546 lbs.) That was a 1,100MT reduction from the previous week's harvest. The total A season harvest is at 549,327MT (1.21 billion pounds) leaving 19,277MT (42.4 million pounds) to harvest 97.1% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The onshore sector has the largest share of the A season harvest to date 239,040MT. (526 million pounds).

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 179MT last week, the A season seasonal harvest is 239,049MT (526 million pounds) the A season allocation is 252,000MT leaving 15,786MT (34.7 million pounds) of A season to harvest, with 94% of the A allocation having been harvested.

At Sea Processors: At Sea Sector harvested 0MT last week, the A season seasonal harvest is 201,118MT (443 million pounds) the A season allocation is 201,600MT

leaving 2,816MT (4.8 million pounds) of the A season allocation to harvest. 99% of the A season is completed.

Mothership Sector: harvested last week was 0MT the A season seasonal harvest is at 50,281MT (110 million pounds) the A season harvest allocation is 50,400MT leaving 686MT (1.5 million pounds) to harvest 99% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: Harvested last week was 0MT the A season harvest is 58,945MT (129.9 million pounds). The A season allocation is 58,500MT leaving -445MT (-980,780 lbs.) having been harvested 101% is A season is harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch 4-29-23: Last week's harvest was 1,992MT for the season 26,823MT leaving 23,177MT to harvest 54% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 4-29-23: The bycatch total is 10,607 Chinook salmon fish taken as bycatch for the season. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 23% leaving 35,093 fish of the cap amount of 45,700 fish. Chum salmon, the season total is 451 fish.

Pacific Cod: 4-29-2023: Pacific Cod fishery pot gear fixed gear fisheries are wrapped up. The trawl harvest and freezer longline CPs have strong fishing. Last week's harvest was 2,544MT (5.6 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A season harvest is at 79,416MT (175 million pounds) leaving 61,245MT to harvest (134million pounds). including CDQ 58.5% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,354MT has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 984MT last week for the season 27,208MT from the A season allocation of 29,964MT leaving the A season allocation at 2,715MT to harvest, 91% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

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 through April 29, 2023, last week 1,040MT. The Amendment 80 sector, 865MT At Sea 67MT and CV sector 408MT A season harvest stands at 31,472MT (69 million pounds) leaving 4,727MT (10.4 million pounds) of A season trawl cod to harvest 62% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The CV trawl sector B season will reopen on April 13 to harvest and additional 2,200MT of trawl cod hopefully there will be enough vessels to harvest that amount.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,336MT leaving 27MT cod allocation to harvest, 99% of the seasonal allocation was harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT was harvested last week of A season Cod, for the season 828MT. The A season remaining allocation is 95MT 90% of the A season allocation of 923MT has been harvested.

Pot Cod 60’>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 5,087MT leaving 5,047MT of B season allocation to harvest 50% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest 220MT last week for the season 6,085MT from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 8,385MT 45% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 748MT leaving 748MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 4-29-2023: The Amendment 80 sector fishing sector is seeing better fishing and weather that is increasing their catch. The harvest last week was 4,027MT (8.8 million pounds) a 7,000MT decrease over last week’s harvest due to the decrease in Yellowfin Sole harvest, and vessels in Unalaska doing offloads. The total harvest stands 111,176MT (245 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 44,773MT, Rock Sole 16,981MT Alaska Plaice, 6,000MT, Flathead Sole 4,846MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 676MT, Kamchatka Flounder 54MT other Flatfish 1,034MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 3,409MT Atka Mackerel 21,743MT, Octopus, 108MT Skate 11,471MT Greenland Turbot, 5MT and Sablefish Trawl 76MT.

Halibut IFQ 5-8-2023: This Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning, 594 landings for 2.66 million pounds. and leaving 15.6 million pounds to harvest 14.6% of the fishery is complete. Fishing has been slow, and the harvesters have a lot of harsh weather. The CDQ harvest is still confidential currently. The IFQ allocation is 17.2 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is 1.18 million pounds of Halibut for a total of 18.2 million pounds. The leading port for Halibut landings is Juneau with 522,413lbs. and Homer 396,829lbs. Halibut ex-vessel prices for Halibut are in the \$6.00 to \$6.50 range depending on size.

Sablefish IFQ 5-8-2023: This Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning show 650 landings for 12.2 million lbs. leaving 49.8 million pounds to harvest 20% of the allocation has been harvested. The Sablefish allocation for Alaska is 62.04 million pounds. The leading Port for Sablefish landings is Seward 2.02million lbs. and Kodiak at 922,324lbs. Sablefish prices range depending on size \$1.50-\$7.00 for large fish, we understand the fleet is harvesting many 1-2- and 2-3-pound fish which is driving down ex-vessel value.

ADFG Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish 5-8-23: as of this morning six-two landings for 1.05 million lbs. leaving 852,289lbs. to harvest, 55% of the allocation has been harvested. There are thirteen vessels registered for this fishery.

Misc. Items:

SB 128 Senator Olson bill on closing area M will be heard once again at Senate Judiciary Committee on Friday May 12, no time set yet. They will be taking invited testimony only on SB128. The committee may try and move it out of the Judiciary

committee, but it still must be heard at Senate Resources, we do not believe it will make it to the Senate floor for action this year there is just not enough time.

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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