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**Date:** 7-31-2023

**To:** City Manager Bil Homka, Clay Darnell, Marjorie Veeder, Karen Magdaong, and Michelle Price

**From:** Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

**Subject:** Fishery Update Memo for July,31 2023, Harvest Data and NOAA Reports.

**Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 7-22-2023, State Water Fisheries on Sablefish, Dungeness Crab, Herring, and IFQ Halibut and Sablefish, for 7-31-23.**

Activity in the community continues to be strong with the Pollock B season ongoing, at a fast clip. The total groundfish harvest last week increased to 66,149MT (145 million lbs.) due to the Pollock fishery having five straight weeks of overall harvest of over 50,000MT and six full weeks of harvest at 325,000MT (717 million lbs.) of 46% of the B season harvest is complete. The shore-based Catcher Vessel fleet lead the way last week with a Pollock harvest of 25,578MT (56 million lbs.)

The size of the Pollock continues to be good for the Pollock harvesters with fish sizes in the medium range of 550–650-gram range fish. We should see an increase in the next few weeks on Halibut and Sablefish landings, as of now the landings for Unalaska are confidential until one more buyer purchase Halibut and Sablefish. The 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 summer.

All crab BSAI fisheries are now closed. The North Peninsula Dungeness crab fishery opened on May 1<sup>st</sup> catch is small so far 330,399lbs. and the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries re-opens on Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, the allocation is 5.6 million lbs.

**Overall Groundfish Harvest 7-22-2023:** The Harvest for the last week for the sixth full week of the B season 66,149MT (145.7 million pounds) 4,000MT increase over the previous week's harvest due increase in Pollock harvest. The season totals are 1.196 MMT harvested (2.63 billion pounds) leaving 789,667MT (1.74 billion pounds) to harvest; 60% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) to harvest.

**Pollock: 7-22-2023:** Last week we had 57,125MT (125 million lbs.) The total B season harvest is 325,460MT (717 million lbs.) for all four harvesting sectors. For the seasonal harvest 874,486MT (1.92 billion pounds) leaving 389,635MT (858 million pounds)

unharvested 67.2% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested. Leaving 389,320MT (858million lbs.) to harvest, 46.7% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

**Inshore CV:** The harvested last week was 25,578MT from the B season allocation which puts the B season allocation at 138,501MT harvested (305 million lbs.) The seasonal harvest is 380,980MT (839 million lbs.) the B season allocation is 311,465MT leaving 185,320MT (408 million lbs.) of B season to harvest, with 44% of the B allocation having been harvested.

**At Sea Processors:** The At Sea fleet harvested 16,921MT last week, the B season total is at 140,227MT (309 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is 341,280MT (752 million lbs.) the B season allocation is 249,172MT (549 million lbs.) leaving 111,760MT (246 million pounds) of the B Season allocation to harvest.56% of the B season harvest is completed.

**Mothership Sector:** The harvested last week was 2,416MT the B season total is 14,950MT (32million lbs.) seasonal harvest is at 65,231MT (143million pounds) the B season harvest allocation is 62,293MT leaving 48,029MT (105 million lbs.) to harvest 24% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

**CDQ Sector:** The harvested last week was 12,480MT the B season harvest is at 28,744MT (63 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is 87,689MT (193million pounds). The B season allocation is 72,545MT (159 million lbs.) leaving 44,211MT (97 million lbs.) having been harvested 40% of the B season Pollock allocation has been harvested.

**Pollock Incidental Catch 7-22-23:** Last week's harvest was 693MT for the season 32,684MT leaving 17,616MT to harvest 66% the annual allocation has been harvested.

**Salmon bycatch 7-22-23:** The bycatch total is 11,174 Chinook salmon fish taken as bycatch for the season. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 24% leaving 34,526 fish of the cap amount of 45,700 fish. The Chum salmon, the season total is 16,627 fish last week the fleet a had a big spike in Chum bycatch. No new bycatch Chum numbers for this week yet.

**Pacific Cod: 7-22-2023:** 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 2,184MT (4.8 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A/B season harvest is at 94,075MT (207 million pounds) leaving 47,483MT to harvest (104 million pounds). including CDQ 69.6% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,354MT has been harvested.

**Hook and Line C/Ps:** This sector harvested 2,040MT last week for the B season harvest of 11,028MT leaving the B season allocation at 17,722MT to harvest, 38% of the B season allocation has been harvested by this sector. The total A/B season catch is 40,852MT (90 million lbs.) 70% of the seasonal harvest has been taken, leaving 17,820MT (39.2 million lbs.to harvest.

**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 July 22, 2023, last week 135MT mostly as bycatch in the Pollock fishery. The Amendment 80 sector, 77MT At Sea 18MT and CV sector 50MT A/B season harvest stands at 34,775MT (76.6 million pounds) leaving 10,626MT (23.4 million pounds) of A/B season trawl cod to harvest 69.5% of the AB season allocation has been harvested.

**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 have 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 of 9MT last week for the season 7,405MT from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 7,129MT 50.0 % of the CDQ harvest have 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 7-22-2023:** The Amendment 80 sector fishing sector is slow with decreased catch of Sole species as it does during the summer fishing season. Last week's catch was 5,745MT (12.6 million pounds) an 800MT increase over last week's harvest due to an increase in Perch and Mackerel harvests. The total harvest stands 191,649MT (422 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 65,120MT, Rock Sole 21,627MT Alaska Plaice, 7,926MT, Flathead Sole 6,544MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 4,475MT, Kamchatka Flounder 4,489MT other Flatfish 2,468MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 20,885MT Atka Mackerel 38,195MT, Octopus 111MT Skate 16,512MT Greenland Turbot, 765MT and Sablefish Trawl 2,532MT.

**Halibut IFQ 7-31-2023:** The Fishery opened on March 10<sup>th</sup> landings reported as of this morning, 1,778 landings for 7.59 million pounds. and leaving 10.2 million lbs. to harvest 43% of the fishery is complete. The harvesters have been getting better weather to fish, but fishing is still terribly slow. The IFQ allocation is 17.8 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is at 63 landings for 93,757lbs. leaving 1.09 million pounds of Halibut to harvest 8% 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 1.37 million lbs. and Seward, 880,688lbs. Halibut ex-vessel prices for Halibut are in the \$5.50 to \$6.50 range depending on size.

**Sablefish IFQ 7-31-2023:** The Fishery opened on March 10<sup>th</sup> landings reported as of this morning show 1,202 landings for 23.5 million lbs. leaving 38.4 million pounds to harvest 38% of the allocation have been harvested, fishing has really slowed down the past two weeks. The Sablefish allocation for Alaska is 62.04 million pounds. The leading Port for Sablefish landings is Seward at 4.2 million lbs. and Kodiak at 2.96 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 for large fish, we understand the fleet is harvesting many 1-2- and 2-3-pound fish which is driving down ex-vessel values.

**ADFG Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish and Aleutian Island State Water**

**Pacific Cod 7-31-23:** as of this morning 107 landing landings for 1.3 million lbs. harvested, leaving 605,393lbs. to harvest, 68% from the allocation 1.9 million pounds has been harvested. There are twenty vessels registered for this fishery. The Pacific Cod Aleutians Islands State water fishery is at 140 landings for 9.9 million lbs. from and allocation 11.8 million lbs. leaving 1.9 million lbs. to harvest 84% of the harvest is complete. There were no landings last week.

**Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab 7-31-23:** The fishery opens on Tuesday August 1, 2023, at noon. There were four vessels registered to fish. The Eastern District allocation including CDQ is 3,700,000lbs the Western District allocation including the City of Adak allocation is 1,810,000lbs. for a total allocation of 5,600,000lbs. We should see the first landings in ten -fourteen days.

**North Peninsula Dungeness Crab 7-31-23:** since this fishery started in May, fishing has been awfully slow, there have been twenty-eight landings for 330,399 lbs. from ten vessels. Last week's harvest was 168,000lbs. from eight landings.

**Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery 7-31-23:** This fishery opened on June 24,2023 at noon. The allocation is set at 4,322 Short Tons (8.6 million lbs.) There have been eight landings total, with four landings last week. The catch is estimated to be between 850,000-900,000lbs, from the two vessels registered to fish. Fishing continues to be slow with limited markets. The actual catch amounts are still confidential. This fishery is managed out of the Sand Point ADFG office.

**Misc. Items:** Not a lot to report this week, the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab opens on Tuesday for 5.6 million lbs. 3.7 million in the Eastern District and the Western is at 1.87million lbs. four vessels are registered to fish. Last week the Dutch Harbor Herring Fishery had 500,000lbs landed last week the fishery is at almost 1.0 million pounds landed. So far, no word from ADFG Juneau when the next Crab Spend Plan meeting to discuss the Crab Disaster funding allocations between various impacted sectors. We also have not heard anything new on the Crab Surveys in the Bering Sea. They are finishing up the Opilio survey in the Northern region west of St Matthew Island I hope to get some information from the Crab Research Foundation soon. The Bristol Bay Sockeye salmon fishery is completed. They harvest 38.6 million fish (193 million lbs.) and with thirteen million fish in the escapement for the river systems brings the total run to fifty-two million fish. Another big harvest total base price at \$0.50 per pound for

Sockeye salmon. I have also included salmon harvest information for the Alaska Peninsula. Sockeye harvest for the South and North is at 2.3 million fish, Pinks 1.5 million fish and Chum 573,000 fish.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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