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

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for August 14, 2023, Harvest Data and NOAA Reports.

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 8-5-2023, State Water Fisheries on Sablefish, Dungeness Crab, Herring, and IFQ Halibut and Sablefish, for 8-14-23.

Activity in the community continues to be strong with the Pollock B season ongoing, at a fast clip. The total groundfish harvest last week 60,194MT (132 million lbs.) due to the Pollock fishery having seven straight weeks of overall harvest of over 50,000MT. The B season seven full weeks of harvest total is 432,822 (953 million lbs.) of 62% of the B season harvest is complete. The shore-based Catcher Vessel fleet lead the way last week with a Pollock harvest of 23,568MT (51.9 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 are seeing increases in the Halibut and Sablefish landings, as of now the landings for Unalaska are still by held by NOAA Fisheries is held confidentially 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.

The North Peninsula Dungeness crab fishery opened on May 1st catch is awfully slow so far 402,285lbs have been harvested. The Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries re-opened on Tuesday August 1st, 2023, the allocation is 5.6 million lbs. We expect the first Golden King Crab deliveries into Unalaska in the week of August 14th.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 8-5-2023: The Harvest for the last week for the sixth full week of the B season 60,194MT (132.6 million pounds) 5,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest due decrease in Pollock harvest. The season totals are 1.32MMT harvested (2.90 billion pounds) leaving 665,242MT (1.46 billion pounds) to harvest; 67% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) is completed.

Pollock: 8-5-2023: Last week we had 51,230MT (112 million lbs.) The total B season harvest is 432,822MT (953 million lbs.) for all four harvesting sectors 62.1% of the harvest is completed. For the seasonal harvest 982,506MT (2.16 billion pounds) leaving 281,684MT (620.8 million pounds) unharvested 75.5% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested. Leaving 389,320MT (858 million lbs.) to harvest, 62.1% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Inshore CV: The harvested last week was 23,568MT from the B season allocation which puts the B season allocation at 187,282MT harvested (412 million lbs.) The seasonal harvest is 429,761MT (947 million lbs.) 76% harvested. The B season allocation is 311,465MT leaving 136,539MT (300 million lbs.) of B season to harvest, with 60% of the B allocation having been harvested.

At Sea Processors: The At Sea fleet harvested 12,599MT last week, the B season total is at 166,655MT (367 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is 367,707MT (810 million lbs.) 81% of the harvest. The B season allocation is 249,172MT (549 million lbs.) leaving 85,333MT (188 million pounds) of the B Season allocation to harvest. 67% of the B season harvest is completed.

Mothership Sector: The harvested last week was 2,378MT the B season total is 19,839MT (43.7 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is at 70,120MT (154 million pounds) 62% of the harvest. The B season harvest allocation is 62,293MT leaving 43,140MT (95 million lbs.) to harvest 32% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: The harvested last week was 12,684MT the B season harvest is at 55,963MT (123 million lbs.) seasonal harvest is 114,908MT (253 million pounds) 87% of the harvest is completed. The B season allocation is 72,545MT (159 million lbs.) leaving 16,992MT (37 million lbs.) to harvested 77% of the B season Pollock allocation has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch 8-5-23: Last week's harvest was 389MT for the season 33,367MT leaving 16,932MT to harvest 67% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 8-5-23: The bycatch total is 11,200 Chinook salmon fish taken as bycatch for the season. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 25% leaving 34,500 fish of the cap amount of 45,700 fish. The Chum salmon, the season total, we did not receive harvest data for Chum bycatch last week.

Pacific Cod: 8-5-2023: 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 1,458MT (3.2 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A/B season harvest is at 98,981MT (218 million pounds) leaving 44,035MT to harvest (97 million pounds). including CDQ 72.5% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,354MT has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 1,168MT last week for the B season harvest of 14,017MT leaving the B season allocation at 14,733MT to harvest, 49% of the B season allocation has been harvested by this sector. The total A/B season catch is 43,842MT (96 million lbs.) 75% of the seasonal harvest has been taken, leaving 14,830MT (32.6 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 August 5, 2023, last week 272MT mostly as bycatch in the Pollock fishery. The Amendment 80 sector, 116MT At Sea 4MT and CV sector 152MT A/B season harvest stands at 35,225MT (77.6 million pounds) leaving 10,176MT (22.4 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 19MT last week for the season 7,533MT from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 7,098MT 51 % 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 8-14-2023: 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 9,691MT (21.3.3 million pounds) a 4,000MT increase over last week's harvest due to an increase in Perch and Mackerel harvests. The total harvest stands 206,935MT (456 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 65,160MT, Rock Sole 21,639MT Alaska Plaice, 7,926MT, Flathead Sole 6,765MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 5,042MT, Kamchatka Flounder 5,443MT other Flatfish 2,554MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 27,134MT Atka Mackerel 44,208MT, Octopus 111MT Skate 17,347MT Greenland Turbot, 886MT and Sablefish Trawl 2,900MT.

Halibut IFQ 8-14-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning, 2,050 landings for 8.8 million pounds. and leaving 8.9 million lbs. to harvest 50% of the fishery is complete. The harvesters have been getting better weather to fish, but fishing is still a bit slow but picked up last week with 800,000lbs harvested. The IFQ allocation is 17.8 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is at 77

landings for 121,522 lbs. leaving 1.06 million pounds of Halibut to harvest 10% 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 1.6 million lbs. and Seward, 946,935lbs. Halibut ex-vessel prices for Halibut are in the \$5.50 to \$6.50 range depending on size.

Sablefish IFQ 8-14-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning show 1,309 landings for 25.4 million lbs. leaving 36.5 million pounds to harvest 41% 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 4.6 million lbs. and Kodiak at 3.07 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 8-14-23: as of this morning the Sablefish harvest is at 116 landing landings for 1.43 million lbs. harvested, leaving 472,028lbs. to harvest, 75% 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 8-14-23: The fishery opens on Tuesday August 1, 2023, at noon. There were four vessels registered to fish. There have been no landings yet. 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 during the week of August 14th.

North Peninsula Dungeness Crab 8-14-23: since this fishery started in May, fishing has been awfully slow, there have been thirty-three landings for 402,295lbs. from ten vessels. Last week's harvest was 70,000lbs. from five landings.

Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery 8-14-23: 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 twenty-six deliveries total, the harvest is estimated at 1,350 short tons, (2.7 million lbs.) from the two vessels registered to fish. Fishing continues to be slow and with limited markets they are expecting one more delivery. The actual catch amounts are still confidential. This fishery is managed out of the Sand Point ADFG office.

Misc. Items: The Aleutian Island Golden King Crab is open for 5.6 million lbs. 3.7 million in the Eastern District and the Western is at 1.87million lbs. Four vessels are registered for the fishery. We expect the first deliveries in the week of August 14th. Last week the Dutch Harbor Herring Fishery had two small deliveries landed last week the fishery is at 1,350Tons (2.7 million lbs.) landed the fishery may be wrapped up. 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. I believe the Opilio

survey in the Northern region west of St Matthew Island is complete. The NOAA vessels are now working out of the standard crab areas and are up in the St Lawrence Island area. I hope to get some information from the Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation we have a meeting set for next week on Wednesday August 23rd, and hopefully we will get some of the preliminary results from ADFG and NOAA staff that have been invited to attend the BSFRF meeting. The Bristol Bay Sockeye salmon fishery is completed. The harvesters harvested 39.2 million fish (196 million lbs.) and with thirteen million fish for escapement for the river systems brings the total run to fifty-two million fish. The total base price was set at \$0.50 per pound for Sockeye salmon. I have also included salmon harvest information for the Alaska Peninsula from August 2nd. Sockeye harvest for the South and North districts is at 2.6 million fish, Pinks 4.6 million fish and Chum 759,000 fish, and Coho 114,000 fish. The summertime is always a slow time for meetings; in September thing will start getting busy again we have both the Goundfish and Crab NPFMC Plan teams meeting in Seattle. The first week of October we have the NPFMC meeting in Anchorage at the Hilton.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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