

Frank Kelty
43915 Via Granada
Palm Desert, CA 92211
fvkelty@gmail.com

Date: January 12, 2023

To: Chris Hladick, Bill Homka, Marjorie Veeder, Michelle Price:

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Re: Fishery Activities Memo, NOAA Information, and Fishery Articles for the week ending 1-12-2023.

First off, I want to thank everyone in Unalaska today for their thoughts and prayers as the community looked for our granddaughter today who was found and returned to us in good condition. A big shout out to all the departments within Unalaska Public Safety for responding so quickly and diligently searched the community. I also want to thank IHFS staff for getting Karina in good shape to go home today.

The Pacific Cod Pot Cod 60' fishery closed today at noon NOAA believes the 5,100MT (11.2 million pounds) A season Pot cod allocation was taken 8-9 days of actual fishing we heard fishing was very good. We expect some of the 24 vessels fishing cod to move over to start fishing the 1.2 million pounds left to harvest in the Bairdi Tanner Crab fishery We also expect a closure announcement which just came out closing the Pot Cod, Hook, and Line 60' under fishery their annual catch is 2,600MT (5.7 million lbs.) on Monday January 16th at noon no A/B season for this fishery this sector will have to wait for cod rollovers from other harvesting sectors that to go into effect in September. The State Water 60' under Pot Cod Dutch Harbor Sub-Section fishery opens 7 days after the federal water fisheries closure so that would be at noon on January 23rd. 2023, for a 38-million-pound harvest that will last all winter and longer into the summer.

The Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation (BSFRF) board of met on Thursday morning for another for another round of research update meeting on some State ADFG and federal dollars NOAA we have \$990,000 in total which total cost of the charters work that will hopefully start in mid to late March with two vessels deploying over 140 tags in the Bristol Bay Red King Crab area. There are three parts to this charter one. Red King Crab sampling sizes, sex, catch per unit effort, in various areas. 2. tagging work placing 140 satellite tags on Red King Crab. 3. Gear work changes on pots by using various mesh sizes and escape ring sizes. The (BSFRF) will manage the charters and do some of for the analysis work on project. At today meeting we discussed with ADFG managers on some of the parameters of the charters the area to

be worked how many pots would be needed how many hours a day would the crews work. ADFG wanted at least a 30-hour soak time per pot. We discussed how the vessels will be selected for the charters as you can image there is a lot of interest from crab vessels to get this work which could bring in \$250-\$300K for 30 days of work. I will attached with this memo and attachment on additional information on this charter work project that the BSFRF is involved in..

The Crab Plan team will also be meeting next week in Kodiak they will be making their recommendation to the NPFMC SSC on the Snow Crab Rebuilding plan that is up for final action at the February NPFMC meeting in Seattle. Much of the work at this meeting will be modeling work on various fisheries Plan team will also spend the last day of the meeting on Bristol Bay Red King Crab bycatch distribution models, and on pending crab tagging projects. The SSC will also have a half a day workshop at the February meeting in Seattle on Crab Issues the Council will take final action on the Snow Crab rebuilding plan and will discuss Red King Crab bycatch issues. I will attach the Council meeting agenda with this memo.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fishing Activities Memo
2. NPFMC Meeting Agenda in Seattle February 6-14-2023
3. NOAA Pacific Cod Closure Announcements
4. Fishery Articles for the week 1-5-23
5. Information on Charter Crab Survey Work Project to Begin in Late March