

Frank Kelty
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City of Unalaska

Date: 1-2-2024

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

From: Frank Kelty, Unalaska Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for January 2, 2024, Harvest Data, NOAA Reports.

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 12-23-2023, BSAI Crab for 1-2-24.

Fishery activity in Unalaska continues to be very slow due to the holidays and the fact that most groundfish fisheries are closed. Harvesters are returning to fish Tanner Crab, and Golden King Crab this week, we should see landings coming into Unalaska in the next 10-12 days. Most of the local processing plants are wrapping up maintenance projects before the start of the Pollock A season on January 20, 2024. The seasonal Pollock harvest for the BSAI is 1.300MMT (2.8 billion pounds). Shoreside allocation is 585,000MT (1.28 billion lbs.) Unalaska share for A/B seasons is 374,000MT (824million lbs.) The Fixed gear season for federal water Pacific Cod season opened on January 1st at noon for pots, longline and jig gear. We should see some pot boat landings at the local processing plants in the next 4-5 days. The airport is very busy with processors and harvesters try to get into town hopefully the weather won't be too bad for the next three to four weeks.

The total groundfish harvest for the last week was 127MT (279,908 lbs.), a 1,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest, due to an decrease in harvests of all groundfish. The season totals are 1,775,766MMT harvested (3.913 billion pounds) leaving 222,236MT (490 million lbs.) to harvest; 89% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) has been completed. There are a few Amendment 80 bottom trawlers still doing offloads but most vessels have tied up for holidays.

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 2.02 million lbs. There have been forty-eight landings for 659,000 lbs. all from the Eastern District leaving 101,082lbs to harvest from the Eastern District 85% of the allocation has been harvested. There have been 14 small landings from the Western District, for 196,000lbs leaving the Western District harvest at 1.1 million lbs. to harvest 17% harvested. There are 0 vessels actively fishing the harvesters will start fishing again in early January.

The Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery opens on Tuesday August 1, 2023, at noon. There are 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 69 IFQ landings for the season, forty-two landings from the Eastern District and twenty-nine IFQ landings from the Western District. The total poundage for the Eastern District is 3.4 million lbs. With CDQ, the total landings with are estimated poundage of 3.3 million lbs.92% harvested, leaving an estimated 300,000 lbs. to harvest there were no landings from the Eastern District last week. The Western District IFQ had no landing last week the season total is twenty-nine landings for 1.37 million lbs. 76% harvested, leaving 470,000lbs. to harvest.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 12-23-2023: The harvest for the last week was 127MT (279,908 lbs.) 1,200MT decrease over the previous week's harvest, due to a decrease in all groundfish fishery. The season totals are 1,775,766MMT harvested (3.913 billion pounds) leaving 222,336MT (490 million lbs.) to harvest; 89% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) has been completed.

Pollock Incidental Catch 12-23-23: Last week's harvest was 23MT for the season 50,265MT leaving -140MT to harvest 100% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 12-23-23: 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 12-2-23 numbers came in at 112,302 fish compared to 242,375 fish at the end of the 2022 Pollock season.

Pacific Cod: 12-23-2023: 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 56MT (123,424lbs.) including CDQ harvest. The A/B season harvest with CDQ is at 129,654MT (285.8 million pounds) leaving 7,762MT to harvest (17.1 million pounds). Including CDQ, 95.4% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,867MT has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 0MT 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 December 23rd 2023, last week harvest was 4MT mostly as bycatch. The Amendment 80 sector, 1MT At Sea 0MT and CV sector 3MT A/B season harvest stands at 42,556MT (93.7 million pounds) leaving 2,899MT (6.389 million pounds) of A/B season trawl cod to harvest 83.9% 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 52MT last week for the season 12,915MT (28.4 million lbs.) from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 1,582MT (3.48 million lbs.) 89.2% 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 12-23-2023: Amendment 80 sector fishing is very slow with decreased catches of all species as it traditionally is during at the end of the B season. Last week's harvest was 48MT (105,792 lbs.) a decrease of 660MT from the previous week's harvest. The total harvest stands 328,844MT (720.3 million lbs.) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 111,863MT, Rock Sole 27,163MT Alaska Plaice, 15,252MT, Flathead Sole 8,987MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 7,281MT, Kamchatka Flounder 6,948MT other Flatfish 3,020MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 48,429MT Atka Mackerel 66,564MT, Octopus 152MT Skate 25,729MT Greenland Turbot, 1,273MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,132MT

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab 1-2-24: 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 69 IFQ landings for the season, forty-two landings from the Eastern District and twenty-nine IFQ landings from the Western District. The total poundage for the Eastern District is 3.4 million lbs. With CDQ, the total landings with are estimated poundage of 3.3 million lbs. 92% harvested, leaving an estimated 300,000 lbs. to harvest there were no landings from the Eastern District last week. The Western District IFQ had no landings last week the season total is twenty-nine landings for 1.37 million lbs. 76% harvested, leaving 470,000lbs. to harvest.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab 1-2-24: 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 2.02 million lbs. There have been forty-eight landings for 659,000 lbs. all from the Eastern District leaving 101,082lbs to

harvest from the Eastern District 85% of the allocation has been harvested. There have been 12 small landings from the Western District, for 196,000lbs leaving the Western District harvest at 1.1 million lbs. to harvest 17% harvested. There are 0 vessels actively fishing last ADF&G has the harvesters will be fishing again in early January.

Misc. Items: No meetings last week due to the Holidays.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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