

Frank Kelty
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City of Unalaska

Date: 1-8-2024

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 8, 2024, ADFG and NOAA Crab Harvest Reports.

Last week NOAA announced that they will not provide any more Groundfish harvest information until Thursday January 11th or January 18th, 2024.

Fishery activity in Unalaska continues to be slow due to the holidays and the fact that most groundfish fisheries are closed. Harvesters are returning to fish Pacific Cod, Tanner Crab, and Golden King Crab. We should see landings coming into Unalaska in the next 10-12 days. 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 trawl fisheries for Pacific Cod and the Amendment 80 bottom trawlers also start of January 20th, 2024. 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 already. I understand that only 10 60' over crab boats are fishing cod the allocation 5,900MT (13 million lbs.) There are 17 60' under pot boats registered to fish the 3,200MT allocation (7 million lbs.). The cod price is down from the mid \$0.42-\$0.45 price last year, to \$0.25 which is I understand this year's opening price which may explain the lack of effort on cod due to the low ex-vessel value, and market conditions.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab 1-8-24: 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 3.0 million lbs. 82% harvested, leaving an estimated 700,000 lbs. to harvest there were no landings from the Eastern District last week. The Western District IFQ had one landing last week. The season total is thirty landings for 1.47 million lbs. 81% harvested, leaving 330,000lbs. to harvest.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab 1-8-24: 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 of 658,918 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 twelve 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 zero vessels actively fishing last ADF&G has the harvesters will be fishing again in early January.

Misc. Items: Last week was slow once again due to the holidays. I will be listening in on the NPFMC Crab Plan Team via zoom which starts today at noon in Anchorage and runs until Thursday January 11, 2024.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

- 1.Fishery Update Memo
- 2.NOAA Reports