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Date: 4-22-2024

To: City Manager William Homka, Assistant City Manager Marjorie Veeder, Patricia Soule, Karen Magdaong, Michelle Price, Mayor Vince Tutikaoff, and Unalaska City Council Members

From: Frank Kelty, Unalaska Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for April 22,2024, Groundfish Harvest Data 4-13-2024 Crab Harvest, State Water Pacific Cod, IFQ Halibut and Sablefish 4-22-2024

With the A season complete and all the major crab fisheries wrapped up as well. It will be quiet in town until the June 10th Pollock B season opens. We still have some cod landing coming into town, and fifteen to seventeen Pacific Cod Freezer longline catcher processors, finishing up the Pacific Cod A season. The Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Catcher Processors working the Sole, Mackerel, and Pacific Ocean Perch fisheries they will also be doing crew changes every month or so. We have started to see some Halibut and Sablefish landings being processed in town that should increase as we move into summer.

Fishery activity in Unalaska continues to slow down, with the Pollock allocations now at 95% complete. The Pollock harvest came in at 10,086MT (22.2 million lbs.) all from the CV sector no landings from the At Sea, Mothership or CDQ sectors. The Pollock A harvest is at season 543,719MT equals (1.98 billion lbs.) 95% of the A season is complete. This leaves 25,294MT (55.7 million lbs.) to harvest from the 568,611MT (1.2 billion lbs.) from the Pollock A season allocation. The remaining allocation of 25,294MT may be taken before the Pollock B starts or the allocation will roll over to the Pollock B season.

The total cod harvest last week was 2,271MT (5.0 million lbs.) for the A season is 69,180MT (152 million lbs.) 41% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 96,478MT (212 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation. The state water fishery has had 408 landings for 39.9 million lbs. leaving 4.5 million lbs. to harvest 90% of the allocation has been harvested from the 44.4 million lbs.

IFQ Halibut 139 landing for 1.93 million lbs. leaving 15.3 million to harvest 11% of the allocation is harvested. IFQ Sablefish, there have been 280 Sablefish landings 5.86 million lbs. leaving 53.8 million lbs. to harvest 9% of the harvest is complete.

The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week's increased by 3,200MT to 8,088MT (17.8 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 81,390MT (179 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species.

The Golden King Crab the fishery is completed the harvest for both the Eastern and Western Districts plus the CDQ harvest was 5,523,113 lbs. leaving 5,530lbs unharvested. The Tanner Crab fishery is complete the fishery is completed in both the Eastern and Western Districts the harvest including CDQ was 2,073,103 lbs. leaving, 8,000lbs unharvested.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 4-13-2024: The harvest for the last week was 21,703MT (47.8 million pounds) 22,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest. The season totals are 717,554MT harvested (1.58 billion pounds) leaving 1,268,011MT (2.79 billion lbs.) to harvest; 36% of the overall annual harvest of 1,985,565MMT (4.3 billion pounds) has been completed.

Pollock 4-13-2024: The Pollock fishery opened on January 20th the eleventh full week of Pollock A season is about done. The Pollock harvest came in at 10,086MT (22.2 million lbs.) for the Pollock A season 543,719MT equals (1.98 billion lbs.) 95% of the A season is complete. This leaves 25,294MT (55.7 million lbs.) to harvest from the 568,611MT (1.2 billion lbs.) from the Pollock A season allocation. The remaining allocation of 25,294MT may be taken before the Pollock B starts or the allocation will roll over to the Pollock B season. The harvest by sectors is as follows Catcher Vessels Sector 242,901MT leaving 11,727MT to harvest 95% of the A season harvest is complete. At Sea Processors 191,399MT harvested leaving 12,303MT 94% of the A season is completed. Mothership Fleet 49,800MT leaving 1,126MT to harvest 98% of the A season is complete. CDQ Sector 59,217MT leaving 138MT to harvest 100% of the A season harvest is complete.

Inshore CV: the catcher vessels that deliver shoreside harvest 10,086MT (22.2million lbs.) last week for the season 242,901MT (535.3 million lbs.) leaving 11,727MT (25.8 million lbs.) of A season Pollock to harvest 95% of the A season has been harvested from 252,000MT allocation.

At Sea CP: the catcher processors harvested 0MT last week and have harvested 191,399MT (421 million lbs.) for the season, leaving 12,303MT (27.1 million lbs.) of A season Pollock to harvest 94% of the A season has been harvested.

Mothership: this sector harvested 0MT last week for the season 49,800MT (109 million lbs.) leaving 1,126MT (2.4 million lbs.) A season to harvest 98% of the A season has been harvested from 50,926MT.

CDQ: this sector harvested 0MT for the season 59,217MT (130.5 million lbs.) leaving 138MT (304,152lbs.) to harvest, 100% of the A season harvest of 58,300MT allocation.

Pollock Incidental Catch: the harvest last week was 1,313MT for the season 23,540MT (518.8 million lbs.) leaving 26,640MT (58.3 million lbs.) to harvest 47% of the allocation has been harvested.

Salmon Bycatch 4-6-2024: Chinook bycatch last week 119 fish for a season total of 5,145 fish leaving 40,555 fish remaining 11% of the cap has been from the cap of 45,000 fish. Chum salmon no new Chum bycatch reported last week. The amount is in the 800-900 fish range.

Pacific Cod: 4-13-2024: The total cod harvest last week was 2,271MT (5.0 million lbs.) for the A season is 69,180MT (152 million lbs.) 41% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 96,478MT (212 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 1,171MT (3.2 million lbs.) last week for the season 25,565MT (56.3 million lbs.) Leaving the A season allocation at 8,794MT (19.3 million lbs.) to harvest, 74% of the A season allocation of 34,359MT has been harvested by this sector.

Pacific Cod Trawl: The trawl fishery opened on January 20, 2024. With and A season allocation of 39,144MT. (86.2 million pounds) We had a harvest of 611MT for last week (1.3 million lbs.) for the season 29,382MT (64.7 million lbs.) through April 13, 2024. The Amendment 80 sector, 429MT At Sea 0MT and CV sector 182MT. (leaving 7,759MT (17.1 million lbs.) to harvest for the season, 75% of the A season allocation of 39,144MT has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 4,118MT (9.1 million lbs.) leaving -251MT cod allocation to harvest, 106% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT was harvested last week of A season Cod, for the season 1,058MT. The A season remaining allocation is 1,058MT 0% of the A season allocation of 1,058MT has been harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 34MT last week for the season 3,645MT (8.0 million lbs.) leaving 2,281MT (5.0 million lbs.) of A season allocation to harvest 62% of the A season allocation of 5,926MT has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 455MT (1.0 million lbs.) last week for the season 3,791MT (8.3 million lbs.) from an A season allocation of 7,949MT leaving 7,263MT (16 million lbs.) 47% of the A season CDQ harvest have been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 1,948MT leaving 1,948MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 4-13-2024 The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week's increased by 3,200MT to 8,088MT (17.8 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 81,390MT (179 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 22,442MT, Rock Sole 17,353MT Alaska Plaice, 3,137MT, Flathead Sole 8,345MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 468MT, Kamchatka Flounder 34MT other Flatfish 835MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 1,946MT Atka Mackerel 15,760MT, Octopus 114MT Skate 10,927MT Greenland Turbot, 1MT and Sablefish Trawl 29MT.

State Water Pacific Cod 60'< Pot Boats 4-15-2024: The state water fishery has had 408 landings for 39.9 million lbs. leaving 4.5 million lbs. to harvest 90% of the allocation has been harvested from the 44.4 million lbs.

Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab 4-22-24: 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 55 IFQ landings and CDQ for the season, from the Eastern District and thirty-eight IFQ landings from the Western District. The total poundage for the Eastern District is 3.714 million lbs. with CDQ, the total landings with are estimated poundage of 3.714 million lbs. 100% harvested allocation, leaving an estimated 5,430 million lbs. left unharvested. There were no landings from the Eastern District last week, we have one vessel fishing doing a cleanup trip on that amount he will be unloading later this week. The Western District IFQ had no landings last week. The season total is thirty-eight landings for 1.808 million lbs. 100% harvested, leaving 1,438lbs. left unharvested.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab 4-22-24: 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 2.073 million lbs. There have been fifty-nine IFQ and CDQ landings for 757,342 lbs. all from the Eastern District leaving 2,658lbs to harvest from the Eastern District 100% of the allocation has been harvested this fishery is completed. There have been Seventy-two landings of IFQ and CDQ landings from the Western District, 1,315,819 million lbs. leaving the Western District IFQ and CDQ at 4,239lbs. left unharvested 100% of the allocation has been harvested. The Western district had no landings last week. There are no vessels registered or fishing at this time in either district.

Halibut IFQ 4-22-24: the season open on March 15th. at noon, so far 359 landing for landings for 1.93 million lbs. leaving 15.3 million lbs. to harvest; 11% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs.no landings reported yet. Leading Port of landing is Homer, AK at 518,375lbs. followed by Seward, at 184,109lbs.

Sablefish IFQ 4-22-24: there have been 280 Sablefish landings 5.86 million lbs. leaving 53.8 million lbs. to harvest 9% of the harvest is complete. Ports of landing Seward 1.2 million lbs. followed by Kodiak 729,015lbs.

Misc. Items: Only had one short update meeting last by the Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation, on crab survey work that was just completed with two crab vessels and one trawl vessel. The Board of Directors received a verbal update, with more information coming in a few weeks as the work on the analysis of the information from the survey work gets finalized.

We also received some good news from NOAA Fisheries, last week that they denied the emergency request from Western Alaska organizations to set Chinook bycatch at zero in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery. Their petition did not meet the criteria to take that action. They told the groups to continue to work through the NPFMC council process. The notification by NOAA is attached with this memo.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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