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To: Erin Reinders, City Manager, JR Pierson, Asst. Manager, Mayor Tutikoff, & Unalaska City Council Members

From: Frank Kelty Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Harvest Updates on Federal Water Groundfish Harvests and State Water Crab, and IFQ Halibut/Sablefish Harvests

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 11-21-20, State Water Crab, Cod, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish, and State Water Black Cod 11-30-20.

Fishing Season: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) meeting started on Monday for the next two weeks; this week is the Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Industry Advisory Panel (AP). The Council start up on Friday takes the weekend off and then reconvenes on Monday December 7th -12th. We continue being in the slowest part of the fishing year, last week's total harvest was 6,836MT (15.2 million pounds) there will be little activity until January 1st, 2021. During this slow period, we will still have activity in the Freezer Longline CPs they have enough cod allocation left to fish until the end of the year but usually they will tie up for a couple of weeks during the Christmas holidays. The Amendment 80 Cooperative bottom trawlers can also fish most of their species, until the end of the years. The crab sector currently has 5 vessels fishing Golden King Crab and there are 3 vessels doing Tanner Crab in the Western District of the Bering Sea they usually tie up during the Christmas Holidays. Of note for the port department the airport will see activity picking up mid - December as processors are flying into to do their two week quarantine during Christmas so they can start work on Cod and Crab processing on January 1st, 2021. The Pollock A season for trawling and other trawl fisheries starts on January 20th, 2021.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The B season catch as of 11-21-2020 was 6,836MT (15.2million pounds) and 1,100MT increase in harvest from the previous week with most of the harvest 1.3MT being Sole species. The season totals are 1,862,006MMT (4.15 billion pounds) harvested leaving 137,994MT (308.2 million pounds) 93% of the overall annual harvest of 1.99MM. Just as a reminder all trawling for all species has stopped as of November 1st by regulation except for the Amendment 80 Cooperative.

Pollock Harvest: the fishery closed by regulation on November 1, 2020. The allocation is set at 1.42MMT (3.1billion pounds) with a 40% harvest for the A season 620,000MT

and 60% of the harvest of 840,000MT for the B season which opened on June 10th, 2020. Last week there were no harvest as the fishery is closed. The season total for this B season stands at 702,552MT a full 2 weeks behind the 2019 harvest level of 766,641MT leaving 70,855MT unharvested in pounds 158 million pounds.

The four Pollock harvesting sectors season totals are listed below.

Inshore CV: the Pollock fishery closed on November 1, 2020 this sector harvested 0MT last week, for the season 599,620MT the B season harvest stands at 324,242MT harvested leaving 22,905MT to unharvest 95% of the B season has been harvested. The

At Sea Processors: the Pollock fishery closed on November 1, 2020 harvest 0MT last week, from their B season harvest; for the season 468,607MT of their annual harvest has been taken. The B season harvest is 245,324MT 90% of the B season allocation has been harvested leaving a B season amount of 29,412MT of unharvested Pollock = 65.7 million lbs.

Mothership Sector: the Pollock fishery closed on November 1, 2020 the harvest last week was 0MT from their annual allocation is at 122,395MT the B season total is at 66,920MT leaving 2,110MT of B season allocation to unharvested in pounds 4.7 million pound, 98% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: the Pollock fishery closed on November 1, 2020. The CDQ sector last week harvest last week was 0MT for the season 127,972MT has been harvested. The B season allocation 63,105MT has been harvested leaving 16,428MT unharvested 89% of the B season allocation has been harvested. In pounds 36.7million pound left unharvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 704MT for the season 47,628MT leaving -175MT to harvest 100% of annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: Chinook bycatch stands at 32,289fish 53% allocation compared to 24,985 fish in 2019. We do not have new numbers on the Non-Chinook (Chum) salmon of 317,883 fish compared to 348,023 fish in 2019 (theses are last week's totals.)

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod continues to be slow which is normal for this time of year. The harvest last week ending on November 21, 2020 was 1,657MT including the CDQ harvest. There are basically two sectors fishing the Freezer Longline CPs and the Amendment 80 cooperative CPs trawlers. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season is 146,307MT from all harvesting sectors ((326) million lbs.). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 11,801MT including CDQ (in pounds 26.3million pounds) to harvest. The breakdown by harvesting sectors are listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60ft: harvested 10MT last week for the season 4,844MT leaving -28MT over their allocation of 4,807MT. -101% of the allocation has been harvested. This sector may receive a rollover before end of the year.

C/P Pot CPs harvested 0MT last week of B season Cod for the season 2,050MT. The B season allocation, which opens on September 1, 2020 has 24MT left and NMFS has announced a closure for September 12th, 2020.

CV Pot 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 10,311MT. leaving 1,105MT of B season allocation to harvest 90% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: harvested 1,053MT last week for the season 61,854MT from the A/B season allocation of 67,346MT 92% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested. The B season harvest is at 27,922MT leaving 5,592MT to harvest 85% of the B season allocation has been harvested. This sector will stay open until 12-31-2020

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 436MT last week for the season 13,965MT from an allocation of 14,920MT leaving 2,484MT 86% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery opened on January 20th. The harvest for last week was 158MT from the Amendment 80 sector fleet for the season and stands at 54,020MT (120.6 million pounds) from all three harvesting sectors, leaving 2,086MT (4.6 million pounds) of A/B/C season trawl cod to harvest. I believe some of this allocation will roll over to other fixed gear sectors later this fall when trawling closes by regulation on November 1, 2020 except for the Amendment 80 cooperative vessels are still fishing.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 10MT harvested from the jig allocation of 178MT leaving 168MT 6% of the allocation has been harvested. The jig allocation had 1,300 rollovers to the 60< 'fixed sector last.

Amendment 80 Fisheries: opened on January 20th. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on November 21, 2020 the total harvest stands at 332,318MT of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 4,000MT increase of 500MT from the previous weeks harvest. The Amendment 80 fleet focus have moved most of their operations back over to the Eastern Bering Sea working the Sole fisheries. The seasonal totals by species is as follows, Yellowfin Sole 130,953MT, Rock Sole, 25,881MT Alaska Plaice, 20,049MT, Flathead Sole 9,260MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 10,497MT ,Kamchatka Flounder 7,326MT other Flatfish 4,157MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 39,973MT Atka Mackerel 58,536MT Octopus,683MT Skate 18,233MT Greenland Turbot, 2,320MTand Sablefish Trawl 4,450MT

Halibut/ Sablefish IFQ Fisheries: 11-30-2020

Halibut: The Halibut fishery closed by regulation on November 15,2020. The allocation is set at 16.079 million pounds for the season 3,162 landings have been made for 15.03million pounds leaving 1.075 million lbs. unharvested 93% of the allocation has been harvested. Fishing was slow last week with just 1 small landing recorded from a cleanup delivery made after the closer date. There have been Halibut landings in Unalaska, but the data is still confidential until more buyers purchase fish, traditionally we have landings in the 1.0-1.3 million-pound range for Unalaska. The CDQ harvest there were no landing posted by NMFS last week, the total in CDQ sector Area 4D which is NW of the Pribilof Islands 226 landings for lbs. for 909,740lbs leaving 121,060lbs still to harvest in 4-D 88% of the harvest has been taken in that area. Halibut prices are in a slump, running in the \$3.00-\$4.25 per pound depending on the size and port of landing. Homer is the leading port on Halibut landings at 2.86 million pounds, Kodiak,1.73 million pounds, and Seward 1.20 million pounds.

Sablefish: The Sablefish closed on November 15,2020. The allocation is set at 31.7 million lbs. for the season 1,925 landings for 22.72 million lbs. leaving 8.98 million lbs. unharvested 72% of the allocation has been harvested. The past weeks fishing we had 1 small cleanup delivery. Prices for Sablefish ex-vessel price splits are estimated at \$2.30 per pound for fish running in the 2- to 3-pound category, \$3.15 per pound for 3 - 4 pound fish, \$4.00 per pound for 4- to 5-pounders, \$5 per pound for 5- to 7s and \$7.50 per pound for 7-ups.. There have been landings made in Unalaska, for 2.56 million pounds. Kodiak at 4.0 million pounds followed by Sitka at 3.75 million pounds, and Seward at 3.6 million pounds. We expect a few deliveries being made in the next few days that will show up next week.

State Water Fisheries 11-30-2020

Bristol Bay Red King Crab opened at noon Thursday October 15th the allocation is set at 2.64 million pounds including CDQ poundage. Currently ADFG has 30 vessels pre-registered to fish BBRKC. As of this morning there have been 148 landings for 2.61 million pounds including CDQ poundage, leaving 30,343lbs. including the remaining CDQ poundage to harvest 99% of the harvest is complete. No vessels are actively fishing currently but the remains fishery open. The catch per unit (pot) effort (CPUE) pot is not bad based observer reports CPUE of 20-22 crab per pot which is surprisingly good. The live weight average is 6.0 pounds which is surprising new shell crab ADFG had thought there was little recruitment coming into the fishery I expected 7.0-pound average old shell crab to be delivered. This could be good news hope we have a survey next year. Opening price for Red King is \$9.00 per pound putting ex-vessel value at \$23.4 million but we expect that the ex-vessel price will go higher to the fleet when profit sharing agreements on sale prices come in.

Bering Sea Tanner Crab opened on Thursday October 15th for the Western District only the allocation is 2.3 million pounds including CDQ allocation of 10%. There have been 35 landings made, for 521,080lbs. leaving 1.59 million pounds 25% harvest is

completed. ADFG reports fishing has been slow with a CPUE of 16 crab per pot with seven vessels are currently fishing. One small landing was made last week.

Opilio Tanner Crab (Snow Crab), opens on Thursday October 15th for 45 million pounds, including the 10% for CDQ. Traditionally this fishery does not have much effort until early January due meat infill on the crab. There have been 1 small landing the amounts are confidential currently.

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab Fishery: this fishery opened on Saturday August 1st the allocation is set at 6.6 million pounds. the allocation by district is as follows the Eastern district was 3.65 million pounds and Western district at 2.96 million pounds. There have been 39 landings from 2 vessels in the Eastern District; the catch poundage is confidential in that district but is estimated at 3.0 million pounds there were 1 landing made last week. Leaving 650,000lbs. to harvest 83% of the allocation has been harvested the projected closure for the Eastern District could be in late early December. The Western District the catch information is as follows 14 landings from 3 vessels for 1.15 million pounds 43% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 1.59 million pounds to harvest There were 1 landings made last week from the Western District.

Dutch Harbor & Aleutian Islands Sub District Jig Cod 60ft < vessels:

The State Water Dutch Harbor area Pacific Cod fishery for 58' < for jig vessels opens on May 1st for about million pounds 5 jig machines allowed per vessel. There have been a few small landings so far, there are 2 jig vessels registered to fish. The harvest amount is still confidential.

State Water Sablefish (Black Cod): last week there was no landing made the fishery closed on November 15,2020 by regulation. There were two vessels registered for the fishery they have made 44 landings last week the new numbers are as follows 393,445bs. landed in Unalaska from a guideline harvest of 429,000 lbs. leaving 37,355bs. were left unharvest, 92% of the harvest was completed.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments:

1. Groundfish and Crab Harvest Data Reports

Dec 1-2 [IPHC Interim Meeting](#), Seattle, WA Teleconference

NOV 30-12-12-20 [NPFMC](#), Anchorage, Alaska Teleconferenced

Jan 25-29-21[International Pacific Halibut Commission](#) annual meeting, Victoria, British Columbia. The commission is expected to set catch limits for 2021.

Jan. 26- 28-21 Alaska Marine Science Symposium virtual event, Jan. 26-28. More information at alaskamarinescience.org.

Feb. 1-9-21 North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting via Zoom.

March 5-10-21 Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting, March 5-10, The board will consider shellfish proposals around much of the state via Zoom.