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Date: November 24, 2020

To: Erin Reinders, Mayor Tutikoff, and Council Members

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Re: November Fishery Activities

Friday, November 20, last week I attend the last half day of the Bering Sea Aleutian Island Groundfish plan team ZOOM meeting. In the morning session the reviewed the Economic Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (SAFE) document of which was and overview of 2019 fishing season I will attachment the document with this memo. The BSAI team then backtracked and reconsidered the Sablefish assessment once again they couldn't get a consensus on what model to use for the assessment so they moved 3 models on to the NPFMC Science and Statistical committee to choose the model to use for the assessment. The Plan team then moved on to a variety of small assessments on Greenland turbot, Blackspotted Rockfish, Kamchatka flounder, Other flatfish, Skates and Octopus. The BSAI plan team adjourned at 1200PM.

At noon on Friday I attended the Alaska Fishing Coalition monthly meeting we had a review of the various sub-committees, the bycatch committee reported on the issues on the Pacific Cod as it pertains to the BSAI CV Trawl LAPP program that the group if tis LAPP programs moves forward that Halibut bycatch by the CV sector should be reduced as part of the program as well as movement of cod allocations between trawl and fixed gear sectors. Jami Grom of the Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers gave and update on meetings she has been having with ADFG management as she prepares for the February NPFMC meeting where crab bycatch measures will be addressed. The coalition asked for volunteers for a new working group on Climate issues they received 8 names and will meet soon. We received a report from attendees at the NPFMC LKTK-Subsistence two-day meeting held two weeks ago via Zoom. The Communications committee gave and update they are working on for the web page development and what kind of content that will be added.

We also had a discussion on the Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act which would include the following measures.

*Protects and restores "blue carbon" ecosystems*

*Promotes wetland health and restoration*

*Establishes a pathway forward to protect 30 percent of our ocean by 2030*

*Prohibits oil and gas leasing in all areas of the Outer Continental Shelf*

*Promotes offshore wind energy and other marine energy research*

*Promotes climate-ready fisheries and eliminates fishing subsidies in trade agreements*

*Enhances the fuel efficiency of our fishing vessel fleet*

*Establishes a climate and fisheries research management program*

*Creates a restorative ocean aquaculture research and policy program*

*Amends the coastal Barrier Resource Act Reauthorizes the Coastal Zone Management Act*

*Promotes climate resiliency of Insular Areas Protects marine mammals through vessel speed programs*

*Expands climate mitigation efforts in the Arctic*

*Promote coastal resiliency and adaptation through living shorelines, coastal community adaptation, and more*

*Enhances ocean health by researching, forecasting, and mitigating ocean acidification and harmful algal blooms*

*Codifies a National Ocean Policy, enhances ocean data collection and monitoring, and creates a centralized website for resiliency grants*

*Establishes a grant program for shovel-ready projects that promote climate resilient coastlines and fisheries.*

Many of the recommendations in this bill would do partiture harm to Alaska interests, in oil and gas, and the seafood industry, which in turn impacts fishery dependent communities especial increasing Marine Protected Areas to 30%. Brad Gilman's shop is monitoring this legislation in DC. The Alaska Fisheries Coalition will meet again in two weeks.

Attachments:

1. Economic Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (SAFE)

Regards

Frank Kelty