

**Frank Kelty**  
fvkelty@gmail.com  
907-268-8718

**Date:** August 10,2020

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

**Subject:** Harvest Updates on Federal Water Groundfish Harvests 7-25-2020 and State Water Crab, and IFQ Halibut/Sablefish Harvests 8-3-2020

**Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 8-1-20, State Water Crab, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish, State Water Black Cod, and Herring Harvest of 8-10-2020**

**Overall Groundfish Harvest:** The A season catch as of 8-1-2020 last week's harvest was 65,002MT (145million pounds) a 12,000MT increase in harvest from the previous week with the majority of the harvest 54,000MT being Pollock; for the season 1,260,502MMT (2.81billion pounds) harvested leaving 727,399MT (1.62 billion pounds) 63% of the overall annual harvest of 1.98MMT.

**Pollock Harvest:** the allocation is set at 1.4MMT (3.1billion pounds) with a 40% harvest for the A season 620,000MT and 60% harvest 840,000MT for the B season which opened on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Last week we finally saw the weekly harvest come in at a near normal level for the B season with a 54,933MT harvest a 10,500MT increase from the previous weeks harvest. The season total for this B season stands at 270,197MT compared to 360,318MT in 2019 during the same time frame almost 2 weeks behind 2019 harvest level. The Pollock sector may have a tough time harvesting the total B season allocation by the November 1<sup>st</sup> closing date if fishing does not continue to improve or at least stay at last week's level.

Last week harvest came in at 54,933MT this was a 10,500MT increase from the previous weeks harvest mostly from the Catch Vessels, At Sea Processor and Mothership fleets. The week ending on August 1, 2020, the fleet has had B season total harvest of 271,197MT by all 4 harvestings sectors compare to the 2019 harvest amount of 360,318MT. The Pollock A/B season total harvest stands at 887,999MT (1.98billion pounds) was harvested 63% seasonal harvested has been harvested leaving 501,806MT (1.21billion pounds) of Pollock B season to harvest. The four harvesting sector harvest reports are listed below.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 22,305MT last week, for the season

398,848MT the B season harvest stands at 123,137MT harvested leaving 223,677MT to harvest 36% of the B season has been harvested.

At Sea Processors: harvest 24,902MT last week, from there B season harvest; for the season 336,252MT of their annual harvest has been taken. The B season harvest is 112,969MT 41% of the B season allocation has be harvested leaving a B season amount of 161,767MT to harvest.

Mothership Sector: harvest last week was 6,672MT from their annual allocation is at 76,491MT the B season total is at 21,016MT leaving 48,014MT of B season allocation to harvest 31% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvest last week was 749MT for the season 76,052MT has been harvested. The B season allocation 11,185MT harvested leaving 68,348MT to harvest 14% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 454MT for the season 32,544MT leaving 15,251MT to harvest 69% of annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: Chinook bycatch stands at 19,118fish 33% allocation taken compared to 16,559 fish in 2019. Non-Chinook 25,656 fish taken as bycatch compared to 143,343 fish in 2019

**Pacific Cod:** federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod continues to be slow which is normal for this time of year most of the harvest is bycatch in the Eastern Bering Sea Pollock fishery. The harvest last week ending on August 1,2020 was 1,443MT including the CDQ harvest, for the season the harvest total for the A/B season is 93,840MT for all harvesting sectors (in pounds (209 million lbs.)). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 53,078MT including CDQ (in pounds 118 million pounds) to harvest. The breakdown by harvesting sectors are listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,761MT leaving --328MT over their allocation of 3,433MT. This sector will receive rollover from other cod sectors later in the year to take care of the deficit.

C/P Pot CPs harvested 0MT last week for the season 1,058MT. This fishery closed on 1-12-2020. The unharvested amount of 108MT will be rolled over to the B season allocation, which opens on September 1, 2020.

CV Pot 60'+: harvested 0 MT last week for the season 5,272MT by 38 vessels of their A season allocation of 5,900MT and closed on 1-15-2020. The amount unharvested 652MT will rollover to the B season allocation which opens on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Hook and Line C/Ps: harvested 762MT last week for the season 38,407MT from

the A/B season allocation of 67,346MT 57% of the seasonal allocation. The B season harvest of is at 4,489MT leaving 28,939MT to harvest 14% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 388MT last week for the season 10,935MT from an allocation of 15,299MT leaving 5,611MT 71% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery opened of January 20<sup>th</sup>. The harvest for last week was 292MT for the season was stands at 46,492MT from all three harvesting sectors, leaving 9,529MT of A B/C season trawl cod to harvest. The CV trawl B season opened on April 1<sup>st</sup>. with an allocation of 9,217MT of B/C season Cod has been harvested leaving 9,529MT of trawl allocation to harvest from the A/B/C season trawl cod allocation I believe some of this allocation will roll over to 60' < fixed gear sector..

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week for the season 30MT harvested from the jig allocation of 1,278MT leaving 1,248MT 2% of the allocation has been harvested.

**Amendment 80 Fisheries:** opened on January 20<sup>th</sup>. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on 8-1-2020 the total harvest stands at 215,412MT of various species a catch of 7,000MT last week. The Amendment 80 fleet focus has moved over to the Aleutian Islands during the summer to harvest Perch and Atka Mackerel. The seasonal totals by species is as follows, Yellowfin Sole 87,729MT, Rock Sole, 19,370MT Alaska Plaice, 17,130MT, Flathead Sole 5,673MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 7,364MT ,Kamchatka Flounder 6,640 other Flat Fish 3,488MT other species harvested this season include Perch, 20,607MT Atka Mackerel 39,883MT Octopus,635MT Skate 11,994MT Greenland Turbot, 1,873MT. and Sablefish Trawl 1,600MT

### **Halibut/ Sablefish IFQ Fisheries: 8-10-2020**

**Halibut:** the allocation is set at 16.079 million pounds for the season 1,627 landings have been made for 7.86million pounds leaving 8.2 million lbs. to harvest 49% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested. Fishing slowed last week; the fleet harvested only 300,000 lbs. There have been landings in Unalaska, but the data is still confidential until more buyers purchase fish. The CDQ harvest we do have some landing posted by NMFS this week in CDQ sector Area 4 which is NW of the Pribilof Islands 6 landings for 109,147lbs. leaving 120,653lbs still to harvest in 4-D 47% of the harvest has been taken in that area. The total CDQ harvest still to be harvests is at 1.03 million pounds. Halibut prices are in a slump a 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 1.35 million pounds, Seward,888,361lbs. and Sitka 738,898lbs.

**Sablefish:** the allocation is set at 31.7 million lbs. for the season 979 landings for 12.16 million lbs. leaving 19.5 million lbs. 38% of the allocation has been harvested. The past weeks fishing was still slow, with only 300,000 lbs. harvested. I assume with the increase in Halibut last week most of the longlines focused on Halibut last week. 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- to 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. The fleet still has problems with a large amount of small fish keeping gross revenue per trip low. There have been landings made in Unalaska, at 1.71 million pounds. Seward is the leading port on Sablefish landings at 2.4 million pounds, Sitka at 2.27 million pounds and Unalaska at 1.71 million pounds.

### **State Water Fisheries 8-10-2020**

#### **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 1<sup>st</sup> for about million pounds 5 jig machines allowed per vessel. There have been a few small landings so far, there is 2 jig vessels registered to fish the harvest amount is still confidential at this time.

**State Water Sablefish (Black Cod):** last week there was 1 small landing made of 1,000 pounds. There are two vessels registered for the fishery they have made 30 landings for 305,068 lbs landed in Unalaska from a guideline harvest of 429,000 lbs. leaving 124,732 lbs. left to harvest

**Aleutian Island Golden King Crab Fishery:** this fishery reopened on Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> 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. We expect 4-5 vessels to fish the Golden King Crab this season. We should have the first landings and price information at the end of this week.

**Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery:** has an allocation of 2,900 tons. in pounds (5.8 million pounds) The fishery opens on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2 seiners were registered to fish. The fishery is managed out of Sand Point, Alaska ADFG office, they reported to me late today that has been little interest in the fishery, only 447 short tons were harvested (900,000 lbs.) there was little in interest in buying Herring, Westward Seafoods was the only processor that purchased fish, this is one of the smallest harvest in this bait fishery in many years. The rumors I have heard was that some processors had a large amount of frozen Herring inventory still on hand from last year, and with crab quotas except for Snow Crab to be very small there was no need to purchase more Bait Herring.

Regards

Frank V Kelty