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Date: 4-26-2021

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.

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 4-17-21, and State Water Pacific Cod, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish and BSAI Crab, 4-26-21.

Fishing Seasons: The 2021 Groundfish A season opened on January 1st with the fixed gear sector fishing Pacific Cod. The trawl Groundfish fishery open on January 20, 2021. Last week Groundfish harvest ending on Aril 17th was 38,078MT which was 10,000MT lower that than the previous weeks catch due to the Pollock and Pacific Cod fisheries winding down with most of the A season allocations harvested. The good news once again was the strong Pollock harvest by CV sector for the week ending on 4-17-2021 was 25,334MT that is 4 weeks in a row of harvests over 20,000MT. I believe that with 2 more good weeks the A season allocation harvest will be taken by all four sectors. The Pollock season harvest stands at 554,590MT of A season allocation to harvest 92% of the A season allocation has been harvested leaving 48,411MT. The current catch is 66,000MT behind last year's harvest during the same time, that is a full two weeks of harvest behind. The At Sea, Mothership, and CDQ sectors have completed their A season harvest. The CV sector which has the largest allocation 266,000MT has harvested 82% of the A season allocation leaving 46,000MT (102 million pounds) still to harvest. If the CV sector can get another 2 weeks of decent fishing, they will complete the A season harvest. The unharvested amount of Pollock will rollover to the Pollock B season.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The A season catch as of 4-17-2021 was 38,078MT (85 million pounds) with most of the harvest 26,000MT was Pollock. The season totals are 735,688MT (1.6 billion pounds) harvested leaving 1,252,348MMT (2.79 billion pounds) 37% of the overall annual harvest of 1.98MMT (4.4 billion pounds).

Pollock: the Pollock A season opens on January 20th with and allocation of 599,000MT (1.3billion pounds) this 40% of the Pollock seasonal allocation of 1,375MMT (3.07Billion pounds). The A season breakdown by sector is as follows CV shoreside 267,000MT At Sea CPs 213,840MT Mothership 53,460MT, CDQ 61,875MT. The harvest by sector for

the week ending on 4-17-2021 is 26,143MT. The season total harvest stands at 554,590MT leaving 48,411MT of A season allocation to harvest 92% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The CV sector has 46,787MT of A season Pollock still to harvest. The current catch is 66,000MT behind last year's harvest during the same time, that's a full 2 weeks of harvest behind. If the CV sector can have another 2 good weeks of harvest, they should be able to harvest their A season quota. It appears that any rollover to the Pollock B would be exceedingly small.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 25,334MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 594,000MT the A season harvest is at 223,348MT leaving 46,787MT A season harvest 82% of the A season has been taken. This sector is getting back on track after the largest harvest of the year for the CV sector vessels last week.

At Sea Processors: harvested 0MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 475,200MT the A season harvest is 190,109MT. The A season harvest has 23,731MT of the A season allocation to harvested 89% of the A season allocation has been taken.

Mothership Sector: harvested last week was 808MT from their annual allocation is at 118,800MT the A season total is at 53,409MT leaving 618MT of A season allocation to harvest 99% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvested last week was 0MT the seasonal allocation is 137,500MT. The A season allocation is 61,875MT with 62,596MT having been harvested, leaving - 721MT of the A season to harvest 101% of the allocation has been taken.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 1,557MT for the season 20,713MT leaving 28,787MT to harvest 42% over the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: there was 8,677 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation is at 19% leaving 37,023 fish of the cap amount of 45,000 fish, In the other salmon category Chum salmon 108 fish this season.

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on April 17, 2021 was 2,622MT (5.8 million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the freezer longline CPs fleet in the Bering Sea 1,291MT. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season are 65,261MT from all harvesting sectors (145.million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 45,000MT including CDQ (in pounds 102million pounds) 58.5% of the seasonal allocation has been taken. The breakdown by harvesting sectors is listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 27MT last week for the season 3,351MT -229MT over the Cod allocation of 3,122MT the 107% fishery is closed.

C/P Pot CPs harvested 0MT last week of A season Cod for the season 792MT.100% of this sector A sector allocation has been harvested leaving 58MT of A season allocation to harvest this amount will roll over to the B season allocation, fishery is now closed.

CV Pot 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 4,376MT leaving 385MT of A season allocation to harvest 92% of the A season allocation has been harvested. This sector closed on January 21st we will have the final A season numbers next week the unharvested amount will rollover to the B season.

Hook and Line C/Ps: harvested 1,291MT last week for the season 22,490MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT The A season harvest is set at 27,600MT leaving 5,110MT 81% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 264MT last week for the season 4,409MT from an allocation of 11,918MT leaving 7,509MT 37% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery will be opened on January 20,2021, with and A season allocation of 31,344MT the breakdown between sector is catcher vessels 18,281MT Amendment 80 11,234MT AFA At Sea fleet 1,928MT. We had a harvest 1,040MT harvested last week with 590MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 34MT and CV sector 416MT A season stands at 29,682MT which leaves 7997MT of A season trawl cod to harvest 90% of the A season harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 665MT leaving 665MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested. NOAA reallocated 900MT of jig cod to 60'< pot cod vessels.

State Water 60'< pot cod Dutch Harbor District season opened on 2-12-21 for the state water 60'< pot cod the harvest as of 4-26-21 27.2 million pounds harvested from 412 landings, leaving 293,000 pounds unharvested 99% of the allocation from the 27.5-million-pound has been harvested. The fishery is now closed. The Aleutian Islands state water fishery is at 14.7 million pounds harvested, leaving 222,837lbs unharvested 99% of the allocation has been harvested. The fishery in both districts is now closed.

Amendment 80 Fisheries: opened on January 20^{th.} the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on April 17, 2021 the total harvest stands 94,297MT (210.6 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 7,311 (16.3 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 47,585MT, Rock Sole,7,121MT Alaska Plaice, 8,764MT, Flathead Sole 2,645MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 335MT, Kamchatka Flounder 31MT other Flatfish 540MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 1,669MT Atka Mackerel 17,655MT Octopus,109MT Skate 7,760MT Greenland Turbot, 4MT and Sablefish Trawl 79MT

IFQ Halibut/Sablefish 4-26-21

Halibut: through April 26, 2021. The Halibut allocation for Alaska is 18.56 million pounds and the. As of the morning 409 Halibut landing have been made for 2.09 million pounds. leaving 16.47 million pounds to harvest 11% of the allocation has been harvested. Last week saw a harvest of 99,159lbs. Ex-vessel prices have been in \$5.00-

\$5.70 depending on size and port of landing. Juneau is the leading port of landing at 336,552lbs. followed by Seward at 326,627lbs.

Sablefish: through April 26, 2021 Sablefish allocation is set at 43.4 million pounds a 10-million-pound increase over last year allocation, it is speculated that a lot of that allocation will be small Sablefish at an exceptionally low value. As of this morning 316 landings have been made for 5.4million pounds leaving 37.9 million pounds to harvest 13% of the allocation has been taken. Last week harvest saw a harvest of 446,165lbs. Leading ports for Sablefish landings are Sika at 1.6 million pounds followed by Seward at 997,031lbs. Prices for Sablefish are in the \$3.00 to \$4.00 range depending on size.

State Water Crab Fisheries 4-26-2021

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 99 landings made, for 1.44 million pounds leaving 898,509lbs. unharvested including CDQ, the harvest is 61% of the harvest is complete. ADFG reports fishing has been slow the whole season with a CPUE of 16 crab per pot. The Tanner Crab fishery closed on March 31,2021 by regulation.

Opilio Tanner Crab (Snow Crab), opens on Thursday October 15th for 45 million pounds, including the 10% for CDQ. Fishing continues to be slow for much of the fleet, there has been some good reports of decent fishing west of St Matthew. Ice on the grounds is no longer an issue. ADFG reports the crab fleet is down to 20 vessels fishing. There have been 446 landings so far for 40.8 million pounds 90% of the harvest is complete, leaving 4.2 million pounds to harvest, including the CDQ portion. The breakdown by region North 15.03 million pounds 100% leaving 1lbs to harvest. South14.04 million pounds is 82% leaving 3.04 million pounds, additionally 4.36 million pounds. of CDQ has been harvested leaving 136,727lbs harvest 97% been taken additionally 935,146lbs of undesignated Snow Crab still to harvest 89% of that allocation has been harvested. This fishery closes on May 31,2021.

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 55 landings from 2 vessels in the Eastern District; the catch poundage the harvest stands at 3.65 million pounds there were no landings made last week. Leaving -187 lbs. over the harvest amount 100% of the allocation has been taken and this district is closed. The Western District the catch information is as follows 39 landings from 3 vessels for 2.4 million pounds 88% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 427,000 pounds to harvest There were no landing made last week.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments

- 1. NMFS Prohibits Directed Fishing for Greenland Turbot in the Aleutian Island Subarea of the Bering Sea
- 2. NMFS Prohibits Directed Fishing for Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels using trawl gear in the BSAI.
- 3. Central Gulf of Alaska Heat Wave Watch