

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

Date: 4-5-2021

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 3-27-21, and State Water Pacific Cod, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish and BSAI Crab, 4-5-21.

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 March 27th was 75,985MT which was 3,000MT lower than the previous weeks catch. The Pollock harvest by sector for the week ending on 3-27-2021 was the 2nd largest amount of the season at 62,110MT just 200MT lower than last week harvest and the third week in a row with harvest levels above 60,000MT of Pollock harvest. The Pollock season harvest stands at 444,875MT of A season allocation to harvest 74% of the A season allocation has been harvested leaving 152,321MT. The current catch is 71,622MT behind last year's harvest during the same time, that is a full week and half of harvest behind. The big problem is the CV sector which has the largest allocation 266,000MT has harvested only 55% of the A season allocation leaving 119,000MT (265 million pounds) to harvest. I doubt that amount can be fully made up. The other sectors are in good shape the percentages are as follows At Sea CPs are at 89% the Motherships are at 83% and the CDQ sector is at 101% The unharvested amount of Pollock will rollover to the Pollock B season.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The A season catch as of 3-27-2021 was 75,985MT (169 million pounds) with most of the harvest 62,110MT was Pollock. The season totals are 586,575MT (1.3 billion pounds) harvested leaving 1,401,462MMT (3.1 billion pounds) 30% 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 596,000MT (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 3-20-2021 is 62,110MT. The season total harvest stands at 444,875MT leaving152,321MT of A season allocation to harvest 74% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The current catch is 71,000MT behind last year's harvest during the same time, that's a full 1.5 weeks of harvest behind. I do not know

that can be made up which the unharvested amount will rollover to the B season. If the CV sector can have another 2-3 good weeks, I believe the roll over amount would be manageable during the Pollock B season.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 26,173MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 594,000MT the A season harvest is 147,998MT leaving 119,302MT A season harvest 55% 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 27,854MT 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 6,172MT from their annual allocation is at 118,800MT the A season total is at 44,172MT leaving 9,288MT of A season allocation to harvest 83% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvested last week was 1,911MT 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 2,221MT for the season 15,755MT leaving 33,745MT to harvest 32% over the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: there was 7,524 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation is at 16% leaving 38,176fish of the cap amount of 45,000 fish, In the other salmon category Chum salmon 81 no new data for this week.

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on March 27, 2021 was 3,242MT (7.2 million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the freezer longline CPs fleet in the Bering Sea 1,744MT. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season are 52,338MT from all harvesting sectors ((116.0million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 59,000MT including CDQ (in pounds 131million pounds) 46.8% of the A season allocation has been taken. The breakdown by harvesting sectors is listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,292MT -170MT over the Cod allocation of 3,122MT the 105% 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 1,744MT last week for the season 18,042MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT The A season harvest is set at 27,600MT leaving 9,558MT 65% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 331MT last week for the season 3,008MT from an allocation of 11,918MT leaving 10,387MT 25% 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 1,148MT harvested last week with 500MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 250MT and CV sector 398MT A season stands at 25,505MT which leaves 5,839MT of A season trawl cod to harvest 82% 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 fishery which is going well, the harvest as of 4-4-21 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 12.7 million pounds harvested, leaving 2.2 million pounds to harvest 85% of the allocation has be harvested.

Amendment 80 Fisheries: opened on January 20th. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on March 27, 2021 the total harvest stands 70,804MT (158.1 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 8,752MT (19.5 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 37,367MT, Rock Sole,5,309MT Alaska Plaice, 7,348MT, Flathead Sole 1,772MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 200MT, Kamchatka Flounder 20MT other Flatfish 452MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 1,269MT Atka Mackerel 10,535MT Octopus,103MT Skate 6,390MT Greenland Turbot, 3MT and Sablefish Trawl 36MT

IFQ Halibut/Sablefish 4-5-21

Halibut: through April 5, 2021. The Halibut allocation for Alaska is 18.56 million pounds and the. As of the morning ,190 Halibut landing have been made for 982,495lbs. leaving 17.5 million pounds to harvest 5% of the allocation has been harvested. Last week saw a harvest of 200,000lbs. 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 195,497lbs. followed by Seward at 147,096lbs.

Sablefish: through April 5, 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 112 landings have been made for 1.7million pounds leaving 41.6 million pounds to harvest 4% of the allocation has been taken. Last week harvest saw a harvest of 500,000lbs. Leading ports for Sablefish landings are Sika at 831,760lbs followed by Seward at 255,115lbs. prices for Sablefish are in the \$3.00 to \$4.00 range depending on size.

State Water Crab Fisheries 4-5-2021

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 86 landings made, for 1.2 million pounds leaving including 1.1 million pounds unharvested including CDQ, the harvest is 54% 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. There could be a few more pounds delivered this week.

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 but the vessels there may have issues from ice and may have to leave the area. The fleet is also having long waits to get unloaded. There have been 337landings so far for 33.5 million pounds 58% of the harvest is complete, leaving 13.2 million pounds to harvest including the CDQ portion. The breakdown by region North 11.6 million pounds 88% leaving 1.7 million pounds. South11.8 million pounds is 69% leaving 5.2 million pounds, additionally 3.8 million pounds of CDQ has been harvested leaving 657,348 to harvest 85% been taken. and 3.7 million pounds of undesignated Snow Crab still to harvest 55% 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 36 landings from 3 vessels for 2.13 million pounds 79% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 550,000 pounds to harvest There was 2 landing made last week from the Western District.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments

1. NOAA report Climate Change Raises Risk of Prey Mismatch for Young Cod in Alaska.