

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

Date: 8-16--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, IFQ Sablefish, Halibut, and State Water Crab Harvest.

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 8-7-21, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish and BSAI Crab, 8-16-21.

Fishing Seasons: The 2021 B season has now been open for 8.5 weeks fishing has steady for the past few weeks and a big improvement over the 2020 Pollock B season the 2021 season is 100,000MT ahead of last year's Pollock harvest which is a full two weeks. Last week saw a 4,000MT increase in Groundfish harvest to 64,591MT. The Pollock harvest last week was 56,462MT and increase of 4,000MT from the previous week. The CV sector lead the way with a harvest of 23,463MT (52.4 million pounds). The harvest by the Amendment 80 sector harvester last week decreased by 1,000MT 6,500MT to 201,000MT, this due to increase in the harvest of Atka Mackerel and Perch. The IFQ Halibut and Sablefish fisheries both had a good week with harvests of 300,000lbs. of Halibut landed statewide season total is at 10.4 million pounds leaving 8.16 million pounds to harvest, 56% of the allocation has been taken. Sablefish harvested 350,000lbs. for the season 19.6 million pounds harvested leaving 23.8million pounds to harvest 45% of the allocation has been taken. Landings for Unalaska on Halibut and Sablefish species are still confidential until more buyers come online to purchase fish.

The Bering Sea the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery has opened we had 5 small landings of Golden King Crab for 250,000lbs of cost recovery survey crab and 1 IFQ delivery that is being held confidential until more buyers purchase crab. The industry continues to work hard to reduce trawl bycatch of Salmon, Herring, and Black Cod during this B season, we are already seeing sight increases on the Sablefish, in the trawl fishery is at 130% taken almost 427MT over their cap amount. Chinook salmon is at 27% 10,855 fish and Herring is already at 57% with a bycatch 1,405MT. Of the cap on 2,400MT. Last week we saw another large increase in Chum salmon bycatch with 133,000 fish taken last week, for a season total of 473,000 fish, compared to 36,570 fish in 2020.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The A season catch as of 8-7-2021 was 64,591MT (144 million pounds) with most of the harvest 56,000MT was Pollock. The season totals are 1,334,346MMT (2.98 billion pounds) harvested leaving 651,814MT (1.45 billion pounds) 67% of the overall annual harvest of 1.98MMT (4.4 billion pounds) has been harvested.

Pollock: the Pollock B season opened on June 10th with an allocation of 737,000MT (1.6 billion pounds) this is 60% of the Pollock seasonal allocation of 1,375MMT (3.07 billion pounds). The B season breakdown by sector is as follows CV shoreside 330,165MT At Sea CPs 264,132MT Mothership 66,033MT, CDQ 76,670MT. The harvest by sectors for the week ending on 8-7-2021 is 56,462MT for all harvesting sectors and an increase of 2,000MT over the previous weeks harvest. The B season total harvest stands at 426,215MT (951 million pounds) 322,010, MT (in pounds (719 million pounds) of B season allocation to harvest 56% of the B season allocation has been harvested and 74% of the annual Pollock allocation has been harvested. The 2021 Pollock B season is a full two weeks ahead of the 2020 Pollock harvest by 100,000MT (223 million pounds).

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 23,463MT last week, the seasonal harvest is 447,650MT the B season allocation 330,165MT the B season harvest is at 187,832MT leaving 152,650MT of B season harvest, 57% of the B season has been taken and 75% of the annual allocation has been harvested.

At Sea Processors: At Sea sector harvested 19,978MT last week, the seasonal harvest is 374,645MT the B season allocation is 264,132 the harvest stands at 159,413MT leaving 105,595MT of the B season allocation to harvest 60% of the B season allocation has been taken and 78% of the seasonal allocation.

Mothership Sector: harvested last week was 5,114MT the seasonal harvest is at 92,341MT the B season total is at 38,932MT leaving 27,719MT of B season allocation to harvest 59% of the B season allocation has been harvested and 77% of the annual allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvested last week was 7,907MT the seasonal harvest is 100,370MT. The B season allocation is 76,803MT with 37,773MT having been harvested, leaving 39,030MT of the B season to harvest 40% of the B season allocation has been taken and 72% of the annual allocation.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 476MT for the season 26,891MT leaving 22,609MT to harvest 54% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: there was 10,855 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation is at 26% leaving 34,815 fish of the cap amount of 45,000 fish, in 2020 19,015 fish were taken. In the other salmon category Chum salmon, we saw another week of a big spike of Chum bycatch last week of 130,000 fish. The season total is 473,340 fish this season in 2020 36,759 fish were taken.

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on August 7, 2021, was 1,855MT (4.1 million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the freezer longline CPs fleet in the Bering Sea 1,455MT. The seasonal harvest totals for BSAI the A/B season are 90,793MT from all harvesting sectors (202.8 million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 27,463MT including CDQ (61.3million pounds) 80% of the seasonal allocation has been taken. The breakdown by harvesting sectors is listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,285MT -163MT 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 1,445MT last week for the season 39,812MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT the A/B leaving 14,306MT to harvest 74% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 99MT last week for the season 5,618MT from an allocation of 13,395MT leaving 7,746MT 42% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery will be opened on January 20,2021, with and A/B season allocation of 38,548MT the seasonal harvest for 3 sectors is CV (catcher vessels) 20,004MT Amendment 80 8,366MT At Sea fleet 4,923MT. We had a harvest 311MT harvested last week with 176MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 24MT and CV sector 111MT A/B season harvest stands at 33,943MT which leaves 8,318MT of A/B/C season trawl cod to harvest 87.5% of the A/B/C 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.

Amendment 80 Fisheries: opened on January 20th. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on August 7, 2021, fishing continues to be good last week, with more fishing activity in the Aleutian Islands on Perch and Atka Mackerel and less activity in the Bering Sea of flatfish species. The Kamchatka Sole directed fishery closed last week, allow enough fish as bycatch in other fisheries for the rest of the year. The total harvest stands 201,177MT (449 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 6,500MT (14.5 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 75,456MT, Rock Sole,12,932MT Alaska

Plaice, 13,559MT, Flathead Sole 6,519MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 5,690MT, Kamchatka Flounder 6,205MT other Flatfish 2,169MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 22,100MT Atka Mackerel 40,000MT Octopus, 140MT Skate 12,733MT Greenland Turbot, 1,295MT and Sablefish Trawl 2,379MT

IFQ Halibut/Sablefish 8-16-21

Halibut: through August 16, 2021. The Halibut allocation for Alaska is 18.56 million pounds. as of this morning 2,032 Halibut landings have been made for 10.4 million pounds. leaving 8.16 million pounds to harvest 56% of the allocation has been harvested. Last week saw a harvest of 300,000 by the fleet statewide. Ex-vessel prices have been in \$5.00-\$5.70 depending on size and port of landing. Homer is the leading port of landing at 1.93 million pounds. followed by Seward at 1.28 million pounds. Landings of Halibut have been made in Unalaska, and in the Area 4-CDE (CDQ)but are still confidential by NOAA until more buyers purchase fish.

Sablefish: through August 16, 2021, Sablefish allocation is set at 43.4 million pounds a 10-million-pound increase over last year allocation. As of this morning 1,181 landings have been made for 19.6 million pounds leaving 23.8 million pounds to harvest 45% of the allocation has been taken. Last week harvest saw a harvest of 350,000lbs Leading ports for Sablefish landings are Seward at 3.6million pounds followed by Sitka at 3.06 million pounds. Prices for Sablefish are in the \$3.00 to \$5.00 range depending on size. Landings of Sablefish in Unalaska are still confidential until more buyers purchase fish.

ADFG State Water Sablefish 8-16-21

The fishery is still ongoing, but fishing is very slow 5 vessels are registered to fish, the catch as of this morning is only 44,000lbs leaving 850,000lbs still to harvest.

State Water Golden King Crab Fisheries 8-16-2021

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery, opened on August 1, 2021. There have been 5 small landing made from two vessels fishing the cost recovery survey crab for the State of Alaska for a total of 250,343lbs. leaving 5.54 million pounds to harvest. Also 1 IFQ delivery the poundage is still confidential currently.

State Water Dungeness Crab Fishery 8-16-21

The Dungeness Crab fishery has 3 vessels are registered to fish, with landing of 240,000lbs as of this morning.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments

1. NOAA Report Multi -Year Effort to Observe Seafloor Habitats and Learn More about Deep Sea Corals and Sponges in Alaska.

