

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

Date: 8-30--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 8-21-21, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish and BSAI Crab, 8-30-21.

Fishing Seasons: The 2021 B season has now been open for 10.5 weeks fishing has steady for the past few weeks and a big improvement over the 2020 Pollock B season the 2021 season is 130,000MT ahead of last year's Pollock B harvest which is a full two weeks. Last week saw a 1,000MT increase in Pollock harvest to 56,421MT. The CV sector lead the way with a harvest of 25,009MT (55.8 million pounds). The total B season harvest is at 538,968MT in pounds (1.2 billion pounds)

The harvest by the Amendment 80 sector harvester last week increased by 1,000MT 6,100MT for the week the seasonal harvest to 212,694MT (473 million pounds). The IFQ Halibut and Sablefish fisheries both had a good week with harvests of 500,000lbs. of Halibut landed statewide season total is at 11.6 million pounds leaving 6.9 million pounds to harvest, 63% of the allocation has been taken. The CDQ Halibut harvest is 258,743lbs. leaving 771,657lbs to harvest 25% of the allocation harvested. Sablefish harvested 600,000lbs. last week for the season 20.8 million pounds harvested, leaving 22.6million pounds to harvest 48% of the allocation has been taken. Landings for Unalaska on Halibut and Sablefish species are still confidential until more buyers purchase fish.

The Bering Sea the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery has opened we had 8 small landings of Golden King Crab for 287,000lbs of cost recovery survey crab and 3 IFQ deliveries that is being held confidential until more buyers purchase crab the total harvest is at 287,289 leaving 5.13 million pounds to harvest. 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 143% taken almost 615MT over their cap amount. Chinook salmon is at 25% 11,200 fish and Herring is already at 63% with a bycatch 1,564MT. Of the cap on 2,400MT. Last week we saw a decrease in Chum salmon bycatch with 3,000 fish taken last week, for a season total of 496,000 fish, compared to 106,000fish in 2020 as a reminder there

is no cap amount on Chum salmon due to so much Asian and Russian hatchery fish mixed in with Alaska Chum.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The A season catch as of 8-21-2021 was 66,795MT (149 million pounds) with most of the harvest 56,000MT was Pollock. The season totals are 1,463,545MMT (3.26 billion pounds) harvested leaving 522,615MT (1.16 billion pounds) 74% 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 1.31MMT (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 8-21-2021 is 56,421MT for all harvesting sectors and increase of 1,500MT over the previous weeks harvest. The B season total harvest stands at 538,968MT (1.2 billion pounds) 199,000MT (in pounds (444 million pounds) of B season allocation to harvest 73% of the B season allocation has been harvested and 83% 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 130,000MT (268 million pounds). The season should be wrapped up in 4.5 weeks.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 25,009MT last week, the seasonal harvest is 497,257MT the B season allocation 330,165MT the B season harvest is at 237,438MT leaving 103,043MT of B season harvest, 72% of the B season has been taken and 83% of the annual allocation has been harvested.

At Sea Processors: At Sea sector harvested 14,390MT last week, the seasonal harvest is 408,974MT the B season allocation is 264,132 the harvest stands at 193,742MT leaving 71,266MT of the B season allocation to harvest 85% of the B season allocation has been taken and 86% of the seasonal allocation.

Mothership Sector: harvested last week was 5,937MT the seasonal harvest is at 102,971MT the B season total is at 49,562MT leaving 17,089MT of B season allocation to harvest 75% of the B season allocation has been harvested and 86% of the annual allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvested last week was 10,959MT the seasonal harvest is 114,929MT. The B season allocation is 76,803MT with 52,332MT having been harvested, leaving 24,471MT of the B season to harvest 68% of the B season allocation has been taken and 82% of the annual allocation.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 1,112MT for the season 28,559MT leaving 20,941MT to harvest 58% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: there was 11,200 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation is at 25% leaving 34,517 fish of the cap amount of 45,000 fish, in 2020 19,613 fish were taken. In the other salmon category Chum

salmon, we saw a big drop of Chum bycatch last week was 3,000 fish. The season total is 496,930 fish this season in 2020 106,345 fish were taken.

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on August 21, 2021, was 2,240MT (5.0 million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the freezer longline CPs fleet in the Bering Sea 1,758MT. The seasonal harvest totals for BSAI the A/B season are 95,230MT from all harvesting sectors (212.7 million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 25,266MT including CDQ (56.4 million pounds) 81% 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 1,758MT last week for the season 43,266MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT the A/B leaving 10,852MT to harvest 80% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest 13MT last week for the season 5,679MT from an allocation of 13,395MT leaving 7,685MT 44% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery will be opened on January 20, 2021, with an 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 443MT harvested last week with 337MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 17MT and CV sector 114MT A/B season harvest stands at 34,829MT which leaves 7,432MT of A/B/C season trawl cod to harvest 90% 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 21, 2021, fishing continues to be good last week, with more fishing activity moving back to the Bering Sea on flatfish, and less activity in the Aleutian Islands. 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 212,694MT (473 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last

week was 6,178MT (13.8 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 77,271MT, Rock Sole, 13,116MT Alaska Plaice, 13,787MT, Flathead Sole 7,050MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 6,217MT, Kamchatka Flounder 6,344MT other Flatfish 2,289MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 22,576MT Atka Mackerel 45,085MT Octopus, 141MT Skate 13,684MT Greenland Turbot, 1,522MT and Sablefish Trawl 3,612MT

IFQ Halibut/Sablefish 8-30-21

Halibut: through August 23, 2021. The Halibut allocation for Alaska is 18.56 million pounds. as of this morning 2,318 Halibut landings have been made for 11.6 million pounds. leaving 6.9 million pounds to harvest 63% of the allocation has been harvested. Last week saw a harvest of 500,000 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 2.06 million pounds. followed by Seward at 1.39 million pounds. Landings of Halibut have been made in Unalaska, and in the Area 4-CDE (CDQ) 62 landings for 258,743lbs leaving 771,657lbs to harvest 25% of the allocation has been harvested.

Sablefish: through August 30, 2021, Sablefish allocation is set at 43.4 million pounds a 10-million-pound increase over last year allocation. As of this morning 1,263 landings have been made for 20.8 million pounds leaving 22.6 million pounds to harvest 48% of the allocation has been taken. Last week harvest saw a harvest of 600,000lbs Leading ports for Sablefish landings are Seward at 4.02million pounds followed by Sitka at 3.14 million pounds. Prices for Sablefish are in the \$2.00 to \$5.50 range depending on size. Landings of Sablefish in Unalaska are still confidential until more buyers purchase fish.

ADFG State Water Sablefish 8-30-21

The fishery is still ongoing, but fishing is very slow 5 vessels are registered to fish, the catch as of this morning is only 45,319lbs from 9 landing leaving 848,000lbs still to harvest.

Unalaska Food and Bait Herring Fishery 8-30-21

The fishery is still open no one is currently fishing. The landings are confidential two seiners fished, possibly only 40% 3,000ST allocation was taken.

State Water Golden King Crab Fisheries 8-30-2021

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fishery, opened on August 1, 2021. There have been 8 small landing made from two vessels fishing the cost recovery survey crab for the State of Alaska for a total of 287,289lbs. leaving 5.53 million pounds to harvest; plus 3 IFQ deliveries with the poundage is confidential until one more processor purchases Golden King Crab but is estimated to be 400,000lbs, leaving 5.1 million pounds to harvest.

State Water Dungeness Crab Fishery 8-30-21

The Dungeness Crab fishery has 4 vessels are registered to fish, with 18 landings for 526,888lbs as of this morning.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments

1. NOAA Report Fishermen Sentenced to Prison and \$1.0 million fine for falsifying fishing records
2. NOAA Prohibits Directed Fishing for POP with trawl gear in the BSAI
3. NOAA Opens Directed Fishing for P-Cod for 60'ft and under fixed gear vessels