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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 2-20-21, and State Water Pacific Cod, and Crab, 3-1-21.

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. The big news this week is the Alyeska plant went back in operation on Sunday February 28, 2021. Last week Groundfish harvest ending on February 20th was 67,086MT the largest harvest amount of the A season so far, much of the catch was Pollock at 48,352MT. The overall Pollock A season catch is 171,737MT compared to 2020 season catch during the same time frame 269,131MT 63% behind last year's harvest rate.

The catcher vessel Cod trawl fleet went back fishing on Friday 2-20-21 so far 7,337MT of CV trawl leaving 10,700MT cod to harvest, fishing is reported to be excellent. The Catcher Processors Cod Freezer longline fleet is doing well and have harvested 10,051MT of their A season. Most of the 60' > over pot cod vessels and Catcher Processor pot cod vessels have harvested their A season allocations. The 60' < under Pot Cod vessels fishing the Dutch Harbor state water pot cod fishery cod fishery which is going well the harvest as of 3-1-21 12.1 million pounds harvested from 189 landings, leaving 15.2 million pounds to harvest 56% from the 27.5-million-pound allocation. The Aleutian Islands state water fishery is at 4.5 million pounds harvested, leaving 10.4 million pounds to harvest 30% of the allocation has been harvested.

The Snow Crab Fishery is almost back to normal with all the plants in Unalaska, Trident in Akutan, and in St Paul, as well as the Peter Pan plant in King Cove, are operating. Much of the fleet is fishing their Northern region shares which must be unloaded at the Trident Plant at St Paul Island. The breakdown by region. The breakdown by region North 9.5 million pounds 64% leaving 5.4 million pounds. South 5.1 million pounds is 30% leaving 11.9 million pounds, 2.7 million pounds of CDQ and 6.6 million pounds of undesignated Snow Crab to harvest.

Overall Groundfish Harvest: The A season catch as of 2-20-2021 was 67,086MT (149 million pounds) with most of the harvest 48,352MT of Pollock. The season totals are 238,430MT (532 million pounds) harvested leaving 1,749,607MMT (3.9 billion pounds) 12% of the overall annual harvest of 1.93MMT (4.31 billion pounds).

Bering Sea Crab, Snow Crab 18.1 million pounds harvested, leaving 26.9 million to harvest 40% of allocation complete. Golden King Crab 5.3 harvested leaving 1.0 million pounds to harvest 85% of the allocation compete. Biardi Tanner Crab 668,000lbs harvested leaving 1.45million pounds to harvest 32% of the allocation taken.

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 2-20-2021 is 48,352MT for the season 171,737MT leaving 434,252MT of A season allocation to harvest 28.6% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 15,545MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 594,000MT the A season harvest is 47,818MT leaving 219,482MT A season harvest 18% of the A season has been taken. This sector is going to be back on track soon with Trident and Alyeska catcher vessels fishing again.

At Sea Processors: harvest 17,463MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 475,200MT the A season harvest is 67,170MT. The A season harvest has 146,670MT of the A season allocation to harvested 31% of the A season allocation has been taken.

Mothership Sector: harvest last week was 4,877MT from their annual allocation is at 118,800MT the A season total is at 17,833MT leaving 35,927MT of A season allocation to harvest 33% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvest last week was 10,453MT the seasonal allocation is 137,500MT. The A season allocation is 61,875MT 39,202MT has been harvested, leaving 22,674MT of the A season to harvest 63% of the allocation has been taken.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 1,664MT for the season 4,100MT leaving 45,500MT to harvest 8% over the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: there was 3,533 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation left is 57,794 fish, other salmon Chum 51 fish.

Pacific Cod: federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on February 20, 2021 was 8,923MT (19.9million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the trawl fleet in the Bering Sea 6,500MT since the catcher vessel sector has

started up on February 12, 2021. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season are 30,188MT from all harvesting sectors ((67.4million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 98,487MT including CDQ (in pounds 220million pounds) to harvest 28% of the allocation has been taken. The breakdown by harvesting sectors is listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 7MT last week for the season 3,337MT -215MT over the cod allocation 3,122MT the 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 4,390MT. leaving 371MT of A season allocation to harvest 93% 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 1,421MT last week for the season 10,051MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT The A season harvest is set at 27,600MT leaving 17,549MT to harvest 36% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 319MT last week for the season 1,188MT from an allocation of 11,918MT leaving 10,730MT 10% 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. I understand that most of catcher vessel cod trawlers went fishing on Friday 2-12-21. We did have 6,858MT harvested last week with 666MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 441MT and CV sector 5,751MT leaves 21,061MT of A season trawl cod 35% 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 pot cod fishery which is going well the harvest as of 3-1-21 12.1 million pounds harvested from 189 landings, leaving 15.2 million pounds to harvest 56% from the 27.5-million-pound allocation. The Aleutian Islands state water fishery is at 4.5 million pounds harvested, leaving 10.4 million pounds to harvest 30% of the allocation has be harvested.

Amendment 80 Fisheries: opened on January 20th. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on February 20, 2021 the total harvest stands 33,707MT (75.3 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 8,474MT (18.9 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows,

Yellowfin Sole 18,454MT, Rock Sole,2,417MT Alaska Plaice, 1,521MT, Flathead Sole 1,024MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 90MT, Kamchatka Flounder 5MT other Flatfish 173MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 390MT Atka Mackerel 5,162MT Octopus,9MT Skate 3,423MT Greenland Turbot, 1MT and Sablefish Trawl 0MT

State Water Fisheries 3-1-2021

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 49 landings made, for 668,902lbs. leaving 1.5 million pounds including CDQ harvest 32% of the harvest is completed. ADFG reports fishing has been slow with a CPUE of 16 crab per pot with seven vessels are currently fishing. There was 1 small landing was made last week with Snow Crab delivery.

Opilio Tanner Crab (Snow Crab), opens on Thursday October 15th for 45 million pounds, including the 10% for CDQ. Traditionally this fishery does not have much effort until early January due meat infill on the crab. 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 coming down soon and may have to leave the area. There have been 177 landings so far for 18.1million pounds 40% of the harvest is complete leaving 26.9 million pounds to harvest including the CDQ portion. The breakdown by region North 9.5 million pounds 64% leaving 5.4 million pounds. South 5.1 million pounds is 30% leaving 11.9 million pounds, 2.7 million pounds of CDQ and 6.6 million pounds of undesignated Snow Crab to harvest.

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 54 landings from 2 vessels in the Eastern District; the catch poundage the harvest stands at 3.65 million pounds there were 2 small landing 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 27 landings from 3 vessels for 1.82 million pounds 70% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 1.0 million pounds to harvest There was no landings made last week from the Western District.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments

1. Understanding Nearshore Habitat for Fish and Crab in Alaska
2. NOAA Removes the restriction on allowing Squids and Sculpins to Fishmeal only.

