

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

**Date:** 3-8-2021

**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 2-27-21, and State Water Pacific Cod, and Crab, 3-8-21.**

**Fishing Seasons:** The 2021 Groundfish A season opened on January 1<sup>st</sup> with the fixed gear sector fishing Pacific Cod The trawl Groundfish fishery open on January 20, 2021. Last week Groundfish harvest ending on February 27<sup>th</sup> was 74,372MT the largest for the season 226,815MT leaving 379,151MT of A season allocation to harvest. The Pollock harvest by sector for the week ending on 2-27-2021 was 55,101MT the largest harvest week this A season. The season harvest stands at 226,815MT leaving 379,151MT of A season allocation to harvest 38.3% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The current catch is 106,000MT behind last year's harvest during the same time, that's a full two weeks of harvest behind. I do not know that can be made up. The big problem is the CV sector who has the largest allocation 266,000MT only has harvested 23% of the A season allocation leaving 204,000MT (455 million pounds) to harvest. I doubt that amount can be made up. The other sectors are in good shape the percentages are as follows At Sea CPs are at 43% the Motherships are at 43% and the CDQ sector is at 79% The unharvested amount of Pollock will rollover to the Pollock B season.

The catcher vessel Pacific Cod trawl fleet went back fishing on Friday 2-27-21 so far 11,780MT of CV trawl leaving 6,300MT cod to harvest, fishing is reported to be excellent. The Catcher Processors Cod Freezer longline fleet is doing well and have harvested 11,886MT of there 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 3-8-21 13.9 million pounds harvested from 220 landings, leaving 13.3 million pounds to harvest 49% from the 27.5-million-pound allocation. The Aleutian Islands state water fishery is at 5.3 million pounds harvested, leaving 9.6. million pounds to harvest 35% of the allocation harvested.

The Snow Crab Fishery, fishing continues to be slow, with weather and long waits to get unloaded the harvest is at 21.5 million pounds harvested leaving 23.5 million to harvest 46% of the allocation has been harvested.

**Overall Groundfish Harvest:** The A season catch as of 2-27-2021 was 74,372MT (166 million pounds) with most of the harvest 55,101MT was Pollock. The season totals are 312,790MT (698 million pounds) harvested leaving 1,675,247MMT (3.7 billion pounds) 16% of the overall annual harvest of 1.98MMT (4.4 billion pounds).

**Bering Sea Crab,** through 3-8-21 the Snow Crab 21.5 million pounds harvested, leaving 23.5 million to harvest 46% of allocation complete. Golden King Crab 5.6 harvested leaving 800,000lbs to harvest 88% of the allocation compete. Biardi Tanner Crab 824,000lbs harvested leaving 1.5million pounds to harvest 35% of the allocation taken.

**Halibut IFQ:** the season opened on Saturday 6 landing for 7,024lbs the allocation is 18.5 million pounds.

**Sablefish IFQ:** open on Saturday no landing yet allocation is 43.4 million pounds.

**Pollock:** the Pollock A season opens on January 20<sup>th</sup> 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 2-27-2021 is 55,101MT for the season 226,815MT leaving 379,151MT of A season allocation to harvest 38.3% of the A season allocation has been harvested. The current catch is 106,000MT behind last years harvest during the same time, that's a full two weeks of harvest behind I do not know that can be made up which the unharvested amount will rollover to the B season.

**Inshore CV:** this sector harvested 14,989MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 594,000MT the A season harvest is 62,798MT leaving 204,502MT A season harvest 23% of the A season has been taken. This sector is going to be back on track soon with Trident and Alyeska catcher vessels fishing Pollock again.

**At Sea Processors:** harvest 24,999MT last week, the seasonal allocation is 475,200MT the A season harvest is 92,169MT. The A season harvest has 121,671MT of the A season allocation to harvested 43% of the A season allocation has been taken.

**Mothership Sector:** harvest last week was 5,671MT from their annual allocation is at 118,800MT the A season total is at 23,204MT leaving 30,256MT of A season allocation to harvest 43% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

**CDQ Sector:** harvest last week was 9,442MT the seasonal allocation is 137,500MT. The A season allocation is 61,875MT 48,644MT has been harvested, leaving 13,231MT of the A season to harvest 79% of the allocation has been taken.

**Pollock Incidental Catch:** last week harvest was 2,903MT for the season 6,997MT leaving 42,503MT to harvest 14% over the annual allocation has been harvested.

**Salmon bycatch:** there was 4,167 Chinook salmon taken as bycatch for the season, the 2021 Chinook bycatch allocation is at 7% of the cap amount of 60,000 fish, In the other salmon category Chum salmon 63 fish have been taken.

**Pacific Cod:** federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod last week ending on February 27, 2021 was 8,623MT (19.2million pounds) including the CDQ harvest. The majority came from the trawl fleet in the Bering Sea 6,200MT since the catcher vessel sector has started up on February 12, 2021. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season are 38,810MT from all harvesting sectors ((86.7million pounds). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 89,866MT including CDQ (in pounds 200million pounds) to harvest 34% of the allocation has been taken. The breakdown by harvesting sectors is listed below.

**CV Pot/HL < 60'ft:** harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,337MT -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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 1,835MT last week for the season 11,886MT from the A/B season allocation of 54,118MT The A season harvest is set at 27,600MT leaving 15,714MT to harvest 43% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

**Pacific Cod CDQ:** had a harvest of 576MT last week for the season 1,802MT from an allocation of 11,918MT leaving 10,154MT 15% 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 6,213MT harvested last week with 1,088MT from the Amendment 80 sector, At Sea 683MT and CV sector 4,442MT A season stands at 16,637MT which leaves 14,848MT of A season trawl cod to harvest 53% 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 3-8-21 13.9 million pounds

harvested from 220 landings, leaving 13.3 million pounds to harvest 49% from the 27.5-million-pound allocation. The Aleutian Islands state water fishery is at 5.3 million pounds harvested, leaving 9.6 million pounds to harvest 64% of the allocation has be harvested.

**Amendment 80 Fisheries:** opened on January 20<sup>th</sup>. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on February 27, 2021 the total harvest stands 41,405MT (92.4 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 7,698MT (17.1 million pounds) the seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 22,575MT, Rock Sole,3,315MT Alaska Plaice, 2,098MT, Flathead Sole 1,205MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 113MT, Kamchatka Flounder 6MT other Flatfish 223MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 400MT Atka Mackerel 6,430MT Octopus,73MT Skate 3,506MT Greenland Turbot, 1MT and Sablefish Trawl 2MT

### **IFQ Halibut/Sablefish**

**Halibut:** opened at noon on Saturday March 6,2021. The Halibut allocation for Alaska is 18.56 million pounds and the. As of the morning 6 small Halibut landing have been made for 7,024lbs.

**Sablefish:** no landings have been made as of this morning. 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.

### **State Water Fisheries 3-8-2021**

**Bering Sea Tanner Crab** opened on Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> for the Western District only the allocation is 2.3 million pounds including CDQ allocation of 10%. There have been 59 landings made, for 824,000lbs. leaving 1.5.2 million pounds including CDQ harvest 35% 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 were 10 small landings was made last week. The Tanner Crab fishery closes on March 31,2021 by regulation. It is questionable with scratch fishing if the harvest will be taken unless effort increases.

**Opilio Tanner Crab (Snow Crab),** opens on Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> 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. The fleet is also having long waits to get unloaded. There have been 219 landings so far for 21.5million pounds 46% of the harvest is complete, leaving 23.4 million pounds to harvest including the CDQ portion. The breakdown by region North 10. million pounds 67% leaving 5.0 million pounds. South 6.9 million pounds is 41% leaving 10.9 million pounds, additionally 2.1 million pounds of CDQ and 3.7 million pounds of undesignated Snow Crab to harvest.

**Aleutian Island Golden King Crab Fishery:** this fishery opened on Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> 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 30 landings from 3 vessels for 1.89 million pounds 71% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 792,694 pounds to harvest There was 3 landings made last week from the Western District.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments

1. Women's History Month meet Alaska Scientist Ingrid Spies