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To: Erin Reinders, JR Pearson, Michelle Price, Mayor Tutikoff and City Council

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Re: Fishery Activities for the week ending 2-6-2022.

Things have been picking up for the Pollock A season they had excellent fishing last week had a harvest of 53,000MT (116 million lbs.) the weekly amount should increase when the Pollock Mothership sector starts their operations on the three large processors and the catcher vessels that fish for those operations. Pacific Cod harvesting has slowed down with both the 60' > over and 60' < under Pot cod operations having taken their A season allocations, the freezer longline and cod trawl sectors are just getting up to speed on their operations.

The Opilio Snow Crab fishery also had a good week with over a million pounds landed 42% of the 5.5 million pounds allocation has been harvested leaving 3.3 million pounds to harvest. The Western District Tanner Crab fishery is still awfully slow with only 200,000lbs harvested from the 990,000lbs allocation. The Golden King Crab fishery activity is picking up again in the Western Aleutian District that has 950,000lbs to harvest the Eastern District allocation 3.5 million lbs. has been harvested.

Last week I attended four days of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Advisory Panel meeting via adobe connect online. The main Council started their four-day meeting on Monday spending most of the day on the Federal and State agency reports, as of this morning they have completed action on one agenda item so far, the Economic Data Report (EDR) I will include the Council Motion with this report. I will now touch on most of the items that the AP panel acted on last week.

C-1 Economic Data Report – The AP panel spent half a day on this issue. The AP after much discussion and testimony from all gear type that must do these reports on the huge amount of time and expense on doing these complicated reports. The AP passed Alternative 3 that with all four sub-options to eliminate all four EDRs as currently constructed and implicated. Passed 13-3

C-2 BSAI Crab Specifications Norton Sound Red King Crab the AP passed what the Science Panel recommended an OFL 67,000lbs. ABC 40,000lbs. The State of Alaska ADFG will set the TAC amount.

C-3 Snow Crab Rebuilding Plan, this was just a plan update on how the work is progressing. The report will be attached with this memo.

D-1 Allocation review of the Halibut Charter /Sport Charters Catch Share Plan for Areas 2-C Southeast- 3-A. Central Gulf of Alaska. This request is for more Halibut be reallocated from the commercial Halibut fishers to their sector from 2-C Southeast and 3-A Central Gulf. Very controversial issue, they had a full day of public testimony from both sides of this issues all when the resource is declining. The AP panel members were spilt on this issue, after much debate they voted on Alternative 1. Status Quo it passed 11-3 they then started Alternative 2. which would revise the catch sharing plan sector allocations this passed 9-7 the main motion to adopt with the two alternative failed 7-9. The AP did recommend that the Council develop a Purpose, Need Statement, and analyze the two alternatives for initial review.

D-2 Greenland Turbot- The AP recommended to the Council to adopt the purpose and need statement and to analyze Alt. 1 No Action and Alt .2 to allow fishing for Greenland Turbot with longline pot gear in the Bering Sea. Alt. 2 has one Element which is a tunnel opening restriction for longline pots when directed fishing for Greenland Turbot in the Bering Sea. Alt 2. Also has two options- Option1 is an exemption from the 9-inch tunnel opening restriction. Option 2- states that a 14inch maximum tunnel opening restriction. The AP also stated and analysis of Greenland Turbot harvest in the Bering Sea by both fixed gear and trawl gear looking for both spatial and temporal data. Motion passed 16-0

Staff Tasking Motion- Rockfish Program Regulatory Changes. The AP recommends to the Council to modify the Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish

Program. AP suggests a rewrite of the purpose and need statement. The AP wants and analysis of two Alternatives- Alt.1 Status Quo Alt. 2-Change the season start date, and modify the harvesting, processing, and cooperative holding caps. The AP also had 4 Options that should be analysis.

Option 1.- Change the Rockfish program start date to May 1 to April 1.

Option 2.- Eliminate the CV cooperative holding cap 30% assigned to the CV sector.

Option 3.- increase the processing cap to 35-40% of the CV quota share pool for Sablefish, cod, and rockfish.

Option 4.- Revise the vessel aggregated rockfish (POP, northern rockfish and dusty rockfish harvesting cap only POP harvests at 8% of the CV POP quota share pool.

This Motion passed 16-0

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. C-1 Council Motion Economic Data Report
2. C-2 BSAI Crab Specifications Norton Sound Red King Crab
3. C-3 Snow Crab Rebuilding Plan Review
4. D-1 AP Motion Allocation review of the Halibut Charter /Sport Charters Catch Share Plan for Areas 2-C Southeast- 3-A. Central Gulf.
5. D-2 AP Motion Greenland Turbot Fishing with Longline Pots
6. Staff Tasking Motion on Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Plan