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Date: 7-10-2023

To: City Manager Bil Homka, Clay Darnell, Marjorie Veeder, and Michelle Price

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for June 26, 2023, Harvest Data and NOAA Reports

Federal Water Groundfish Harvest 7-1-2023, 58' < Under Fishery State Water Sablefish and IFQ Halibut and Sablefish, for 7-10-23.

Activity is continuing to be strong in the community with the Pollock B season ongoing; fishing last week continued to be strong. The total groundfish harvest last week increased to 61,000MT (135 million lbs.) due to the Pollock fishery having another full week of production. The Pollock fleet harvested 53,866MT last week 118 million pounds. The Catcher Vessel fleet's lead the way last week with a Pollock harvest of 23,345MT (51,000 million lbs.)

The size of the Pollock continues to be good for the Pollock harvesters with fish sizes in the medium range of 550–650-gram range fish. We should see an increase in the next few weeks on Halibut and Sablefish landings as of now the landings are confidential coming to the local shore-plants. The crew changes and offloads by the Pacific Cod freezer longline fleet and the Amendment 80 Bottom trawl catcher processors as well will continue during the summer.

All crab BSAI fisheries are now closed. The North Peninsula Dungeness crab fishery opened on May 1st catch is small so far 133,000lbs. and the Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries re-opens on August 1st, 2023.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 7-1-2023: Overall Groundfish Harvest for the last week for the third full week of the B season 61,285MT (135.0 million pounds) 6,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest due decrease in Pollock harvest. The season totals are 1,008 MMT harvested (2.22 billion pounds) leaving 978,243MT (2.15 billion pounds) to harvest; 51% of the overall annual harvest of 1,986,285MMT (4.37 billion pounds) to harvest.

Pollock: 7-1-2023: Last week we had 53,866MT (118 million lbs.) The total B season harvest is 159,557MT (351 million lbs.) for all four harvesting sectors. For the seasonal harvest 709,232MT (1.56 billion pounds) leaving 555,268MT (1.22 billion pounds)

unharvested 54.5% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested. The B season harvest 159,557MT (351million lbs.) from 695,475MT leaving 535,936MT (1.18 billion lbs.) to harvest 22.8% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Inshore CV: The harvested last week was 23,345MT from the B season allocation which puts the B season allocation at 66,817MT harvested (147 million lbs.) The seasonal harvest is 309,296MT (681 million lbs.) the B season allocation is 311,465MT leaving 257,004MT (566 million lbs.) of B season to harvest, with 21% of the B allocation having been harvested.

At Sea Processors: The At Sea fleet harvested 22,457MT last week, the seasonal harvest is 276,449MT (609 million lbs.) the B season allocation is 249,172MT (549 million lbs.) leaving 176,591MT (389 million pounds) of the B Season allocation to harvest.30% of the B season harvest is completed.

Mothership Sector: The harvested last week was 2,543MT the season seasonal harvest is at 58,020MT (127 million pounds) the B season harvest allocation is 62,293MT leaving 55,240MT (121 million lbs.) to harvest 12% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: The harvested last week was 5,521MT the seasonal harvest is 65,467MT (144 million pounds). The B season allocation is 72,545MT (159 million lbs.) leaving 66,433MT (146 million lbs.) having been harvested 9% of the B season Pollock has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch 7-1-23: Last week's harvest was 119MT for the season 3,512MT leaving 18,788MT to harvest 65% the annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch 7-1-23: The bycatch total is 11,110 Chinook salmon fish taken as bycatch for the season. Chinook bycatch allocation is at 24% leaving 34,590 fish of the cap amount of 45,700 fish. The Chum salmon, the season total 1,302 fish last week.

Pacific Cod: 7-1-2023: the fishery pot gear fixed gear fisheries are wrapped up. The trawl harvest and freezer longline CPs have also slowed down. Last week's harvest was only 1,735MT (3.8 million pounds) including CDQ harvest. The A season harvest is at 90,443MT (199 million pounds) leaving 52,995MT to harvest (116.8 million pounds). including CDQ 67% of the Pacific Cod seasonal allocation of 135,354MT has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 1,475MT last week for the B season harvest of 28,750MT leaving the B season allocation at 22,867MT to harvest, 20% of the B season allocation has been harvested by this sector. The total A/B season catch is 35,707MT 61% of the seasonal harvest has been taken leaving 22,965 lbs. to harvest.

Pacific Cod Trawl: This fishery will be opened on January 20, 2023, with the A season allocation of 50,722MT. (111.9 million pounds) We had a harvest through July 1, 2023, last week 180MT. The Amendment 80 sector, 113MT At Sea 16MT and CV sector 51MT A/B season harvest stands at 34,363MT (75.7 million pounds) leaving 11,038MT (24.3 million pounds) of A/B season trawl cod to harvest 68% of the AB season allocation has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,336MT leaving 27MT cod allocation to harvest, 99% of the seasonal allocation was harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT was harvested last week of A season Cod, for the season 828MT. The A season remaining allocation is 95MT 90% of the A season allocation of 923MT have been harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 5,087MT leaving 5,047MT of B season allocation to harvest 50% of the A season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 27MT last week for the season 7,108MT from an allocation of 14,470MT leaving 7,195MT 50.0 % of the CDQ harvest have been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 748MT leaving 748MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 7-1-2023: The Amendment 80 sector fishing sector is slow with decreased catch of Perch/Rockfish, and Sole as it does during the summer. Last week's catch was 3,275MT (7.2 million pounds) a 5,500MT decrease over last week's harvest due to increase in Perch and Sole harvests. The total harvest stands 176,135MT (388 million pounds) of various species including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 65,093MT, Rock Sole 21,607MT Alaska Plaice, 7,921MT, Flathead Sole 5,897MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 3,352MT, Kamchatka Flounder 3,727MT other Flatfish 2,334MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 14,057MT Atka Mackerel 34,519MT, Octopus 105MT Skate 15,063MT Greenland Turbot, 606MT and Sablefish Trawl 1,854MT.

Halibut IFQ 7-10-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning, 1,426 landings for 6.27 million pounds. and leaving 11.5 million lbs. to harvest 35% of the fishery is complete. The harvesters have had better weather, but fishing is slow. The CDQ harvest is still confidential currently. The IFQ allocation is 17.2 million pounds. The CDQ allocation for the 6 CDQ groups is at 18 landings for 26,001 lbs. leaving 1.15 million pounds of Halibut to harvest 2% of the harvest has been taken. Landings of Halibut have been made in Unalaska, but the totals are still confidential. The leading port for Halibut landings is Homer with 1.25 million lbs. and Seward, 681,859lbs. Halibut ex-vessel prices for Halibut are in the \$5.50 to \$6.50 range depending on size.

Sablefish IFQ 7-10-2023: The Fishery opened on March 10th landings reported as of this morning show 1,101 landings for 22.03 million lbs. leaving 40.0 million pounds to harvest 36% of the allocation have been harvested. The Sablefish allocation for Alaska is 62.04 million pounds. The leading Port for Sablefish landings is Seward 3.90 million lbs. and Kodiak at 2.86 million lbs. Landings of Sablefish have been made in Unalaska, but the totals are still confidential. Sablefish prices range depending on size \$0.50-\$7.00 for large fish, we understand the fleet is harvesting many 1-2- and 2-3-pound fish which is driving down ex-vessel value.

ADFG Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish 7-10-23: as of this morning ninety -eight landing landings for 1.20million lbs. harvested, leaving 705,499lbs. to harvest, 63% from the allocation 1.9 million pounds has been harvested. There are seventeen vessels registered for this fishery.

North Peninsula Dungeness Crab 7-10-23: this fishery is just getting started there have been seventeen landings for 132,030lbs. from eight vessels.

Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery 7-10-23: This fishery opened on June 24,2023 at noon. The allocation is set at 4,322Short Tons (8.6 million lbs.) There have been two landings reported for under 500,000lbs. from the one vessel registered to fish. The actual catch amounts are still confidential. This fishery is managed out of the Sand Point ADFG office.

Misc. Items: I attended another Ad Hoc Crab Disaster \$191million dollar spend plan allocation meeting on Friday last week; to see if the various sectors could come to agreement on the various percentages for each sector; that has not been achieved. The communities are holding together at 7% of the 191 million (\$13.7 million dollars) off the top, and additional 1% of the top for Saint Paul Island since their economy has been devastated with the Snow Crab fishery closure and the closure of the communities only processing plant. The communities are sending individual letters as well as a joint communities signed letter this week affirming the communities' position to the State of Alaska ADFG.

As a side note the Bristol Bay Red Salmon fishery as of this morning has harvested 20.4 million fish x 5.3 lbs.=108 million pounds plus 7.5 million fish for escapement the projected commercial harvest is 37 million fish a little over halfway for the seasons harvest.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

- 1.Fishery Update Memo
- 2.Groundfish Harvest Data
- 3.NOAA Reports
- 4.ADFG Crab Disaster Letters