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**Date:** 4-21-2025

**To:** City Manager William Homka, Deputy City Manager Marjorie Veeder, Jim Sharpe, Kelly Tompkins, Karen Magdaong, Michelle Price, Mayor Vince Tutikaoff, and Unalaska City Council Members

**From:** Frank Kelty, Unalaska Fisheries Consultant

**Subject:** Fishery Update Memo for April 21, 2025, Groundfish Harvest 4-12-25, Aleutian Island Golden King Crab, Tanner Crab, Snow Crab, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish and State Water Pacific Cod 4-14-25

The Pollock A season is almost wrapped in Unalaska. The three Westward plants, and Unisea are done processing A Season Pollock. Trident Seafoods in Akutan may still be processing. The At Sea Catcher Processors have finished, and the Mothership sector will be wrapping up operations this week. The Pollock fleet for week ten of the season had a harvest of 21,406MT (47.1 million lbs.) a 12,000MT decrease from the previous week's harvest. 38,000MT. The catcher vessels sector that delivers to the shoreside plants lead the harvest last week with 17,362MT the Mothership sector harvested 4,000MT. The A season harvest is at 580,491MT harvested (1.27 billion lbs.). Leaving 23,493MT to harvest (51.7 million lbs.) 97% of Pollock A seasonal allocation of 598,000MT has been harvested.

With Pollock season completed, all the Bering Sea Crab fisheries were completed. It will be slow in the community; we still have about 4.0 million lbs. of State-water Pacific Cod to be harvested by the 58 foot and under pot boats. We also have landings of IFQ Sablefish and Halibut being fished but it is a bit early for this area. The Amendment 80-Bottom Trawl fleet, and the Freezer Longline Pacific Cod CPs making port call to offload their product.

The Pacific Cod totals week ending on 4-12-25 for the fixed gear, CDQ and trawl fleets had harvest 2,021MT (4.4 million lbs.) for the season 62,708MT (138 million lbs.) for the season fixed gear, CDQ, and trawl harvests still have 73,290MT to harvest (161 million lbs.) 44.4% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested, from a 2025 A/B season allocation of 141,000MT (312 million lbs.)

State Water Pacific Cod for 4-21-25 the 58' < pot cod vessels 484 landings for 38.7 million lbs. leaving 5.2 million lbs. to harvest 88% of the harvest is complete from the allocation of 44 million lbs.

The Amendment 80 Bottom Trawlers: for 4-12-25 the harvested last week was 8,646MT (19 million lbs.) for season 84,312MT (185.8 million lbs.).

Groundfish Harvest Totals: 4-12-2025: Last week's harvest was 33,625MT (74.1 million lbs.) a decrease of 10,000MT (22 million lbs.) from the previous weeks. The season harvest is 749,058MT (1.65 billion lbs.) leaving 1,237MMT (2.72 billion lbs.) to harvest 38% of the season allocation of 1.986MMT (4.3 billion lbs.) is complete.

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab, through 4-21-25: there have been 57 IFQ landings and 9 CDQ landings from the Eastern District and Western Districts combined. The percentage for this year's landings of IFQ and CDQ, combined with the exact amount, is confidential, the estimated amounts at slightly more than 3.7 million lbs. That leaves an estimated 0lbs. left to harvest from the Eastern District. The Western District allocation of 1.0 million lbs. has been harvested and that area is closed. The 4.8-million-pound IFQ and CDQ allocation, harvest is 100% complete. There was one Golden King Crab deliveries last week. There is currently no vessel still fishing in the Eastern District, the fishery is closed.

Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab as of 4-21-25 we have sixty -three Eastern District Tanner Crab landings in Unalaska, including CDQ 1,769,373 lbs. leaving 622lbs. still available in the Eastern District, 100% of the harvest is completed. In the Western District There have been one hundred-fourteen landings so far including CDQ from twelfth vessels for Western District Tanner Crab for 4,518,324million lbs. leaving of -- 18,324bs. to harvest 100% of the harvest has been completed. Total harvest for both East and West Districts is 6,287,588 million lbs. leaving 622 lbs. unharvested 100% of the harvest is complete. The Tanner Crab fishery closed on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Bering Sea Snow Crab: as of 4-21-25 there are twelve vessels registered to fish and on the grounds. This season we have had one hundred forty-five landings made into Unalaska plants for 4,729,521million lbs. including CDQ from the 4,700,000 million lbs. allocation, leaving 0lbs.to harvest 100% of the harvest is complete. The ninety-six percent split between North and South deliveries is North 1,576,000 million lbs., leaving 0 lbs.100% unharvested, South 1,792,440 million lbs. 0lbs. 100% harvested, and CDQ 888,446lbs. leaving -10,000lbs. 101% harvested. The Snow Crab fishery is now closed.

Halibut IFQ:4-21-25: The Halibut fishery opened on March 20<sup>th</sup> with an IFQ allocation of 13.15 million lbs. This morning's harvest data shows 280 landings for 1.35 million lbs. leaving 11.79 million lbs. to harvest 10% of the harvest is complete. The CDQ allocation is 900,000lbs. No landings have been made yet. Ports of Landing on Halibut, Homer is at 309,861lbs. followed by Petersburg at 240,991lbs.

Sablefish IFQ 4-21-25: The Sablefish IFQ fishery opened on March 20<sup>th</sup> with an allocation of 61million lbs. The harvest data through this morning show 243 landings for 5.8 million lbs. leaving 55.1 million lbs. to harvest 9% of the allocation has been harvested. Port of Landings, Seward, 968,081lbs, followed by Kodiak at 769,711lbs.

The Pollock A season: The Pollock fleet for week ten of the season had a harvest of 21,406MT (47.1 million lbs.) a 12,000MT decrease from the previous week's harvest. 38,000MT. The catcher vessels sector that delivers to the shoreside plants lead the harvest last week with 17,362MT the Mothership sector harvested 4,000MT. The A season harvest is at 580,491MT harvested (1.27 billion lbs.). Leaving 23,493MT to harvest (51.7 million lbs.) 97% of Pollock A seasonal allocation of 598,000MT has been harvested.

CV Shoreside 17,362MT (38.2 million lbs.) for season 252,317MT (556 million lbs.) leaving 18,398MT A season Pollock to harvest (40 million lbs.) 93% of the season A harvest is complete.

At Sea 0MT for season 212,667MT (468 million lbs.). leaving 3,905MT of season A Pollock to harvest (8.6 million lbs.) 98% of the season A harvest is complete.

Mothership 4,044MT (8.91 million lbs.) for season 52,997MT (116.8 million lbs.) leaving 1,147MT of season A Pollock to harvest (2.5 million lbs.) 98% of the season A harvest is complete.

CDQ 0MT for season 62,687MT (138.1 million lbs.) leaving 43MT of season A Pollock to harvest (94,772 lbs.) 100% of the season A harvest is complete.

Pollock Incidental Catch: Through 4-12-2025 the harvest was 1,311MT (2.8million lbs.) of Pollack came in as an incidental catch or which means Pollock was caught in the Pacific Cod and Flatfish fisheries. The season total Pollock as incidental catch is 14,504MT (31.9 million lbs.) 32% of the harvest is complete leaving 31,496MT (69 million lbs.) of incidental catch available.

Salmon Bycatch 4-12-25: Chinook last week 390 fish, the season total on Chinook bycatch has been high compared to last year is 13,929fish, 30% leaving 31,771 fish of the total bycatch of 45,700 fish. Chum salmon bycatch numbers are not available yet.

The Pacific Cod totals week ending on 4-12-25 for the fixed gear, CDQ and trawl fleets had harvest 2,021MT (4.4 million lbs.) for the season 62,708MT (138 million lbs.) for the season fixed gear, CDQ, and trawl harvests still have 73,2901MT to harvest (161 million lbs.) 44.4% of the A/B season allocation has been harvested, from a 2025 A/B season allocation of 141,000MT (312 million lbs.)

The breakdown by cod sectors for the week ending on April 12, 2025, is listed below.

The Hook and Line Catcher Processor was 1,018MT (2.2 million lbs.) for season 21,345MT (47.0 million lbs.) leaving 40,138MT to harvest (88 million lbs.) 35% harvested.

The Pot Cod 60' over fleet had harvested 0MT (0 million lbs.) total harvest is 5,711MT (12.5 million lbs.) leaving 4,894MT to harvest (10.7million lbs.) 54% harvested.

The Pot Cod 60' < under fleet was 0MT (0 lbs.) leaving 71MT (158,000lbs.) 98% to harvest.

Pot Cod Catcher Processor: 0MT harvested (454,024lbs) for the season 937MT (2.06million lbs.) leaving 957MT (2.1million lbs.) to harvest 49% of the allocation of 1,894MT has been harvested.

The Trawl sector had a harvest of 462MT (1.0 million lbs.) by sector At Sea 0MT (0 lbs.) Amendment 80, 220MT (484,880 lbs.) CV Sector 242MT (533,368 lbs.) for season 30,312MT (66.8 million lbs.) leaving 17,631MT (38.8million lbs.) to harvest, for the trawl sectors 62% of the harvest is complete from the 48,033MT (105.8 million lbs.) trawl allocation.

CDQ Harvest: 530MT (1.1 million lbs.) for season 6,260MT (13.7 million lbs.) leaving 8,964MT (19.7million lbs.) to harvest 42% of the harvest is complete.

State Water Pacific Cod for 4-21-25 the 58' < pot cod vessels 484 landings for 38.7 million lbs. leaving 5.2 million lbs. to harvest 88% of the harvest is complete from the allocation of 44 million lbs.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawlers: for 4-12-25 the harvested last week was 8,646MT (19 million lbs.) for season 84,312MT (185.8 million lbs.) The total species Perch Rockfish, 2,419MT Kamchatka Sole 61MT Other Flatfish 1,939MT Mackerel 25,644MT, Arrowtooth Flounder, 847MT Flathead Sole, 4,737MT Rock Sole, 18,594MT Yellowfin Sole 21,444MT Alaska Plaice 2,193MT Octopus, 237MT Greenland Turbot 4MT Skate 6,180MT Trawl Sablefish 13MT

Groundfish Harvest Totals: 4-12-2025: Last week's harvest was 33,625MT (74.1 million lbs.) a decrease of 10,000MT (22 million lbs.) from the previous weeks. The season harvest is 749,058MT (1.65 billion lbs.) leaving 1,237MMT (2.72 billion lbs.) to harvest 38% of the season allocation of 1.986MMT (4.3 billion lbs.) is complete.

Meetings Attended Last Week: On Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> I attended a Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation (BSFRF) Board of Directors meeting. After approving the minutes, we reviewed the March financials. The foundation has \$836,000 in reserves, we finally see some crab landing assessments from the fleet and processors coming for March at \$50,000 come in from Tanner Crab and Snow crab landings. The main purpose of this meeting was to approve the 2025-2026 budget at \$4.9 million. The budget for FY25/26 was more than double the FY23/24 budget due to the Federal Disaster Funds from the 21/22 Snow Crab and Red King Crab seasons being appropriated to the foundation, research dollars of \$14 million. The BSFRF has a four-year period to spend. The board has approved expanding the Opilio pot sampling project to include three vessels, two pot vessels and one trawler. We have two Clam Sled projects, one in the spring and one in the fall to video crab bottom habitat in the

Bristol Bay Red King Crab, and Tanner Crab areas. We may also supervise a St Matthew Blue King Crab survey for ADFG this summer, this survey is done once every three years and will be a pass through back to the foundation. We also hope to start a long-term project on Unobserved Fishing Mortality project on pot fishing. With doubling up research work that also increased the science team expenses, which increased by \$123,000. We will also spend \$200,000 on Crab satellite tags for the survey work this summer. The tentative budget has been approved we expect some minor changes to take place later. We expect the next three years' budget will also be in the \$4-5 million dollar range. Lastly the board was updated on policy level updates with the Pacific States Marine Fishery Commission that manages the distribution of the federal disaster funds which are moving forward, and we expect the first research distribution of research funding very soon. We also e=were updated on the upcoming NPFMC Crab Plan Team Meeting on Zoom only May 12-16, 2025, as well as the June NPFMC Meeting in Newport Oregon June 2-10, 2025. The Executive Director Scott Goodman is planning to attend.

Best Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fisheries Update Memo 4-21-25.
2. Harvest Data on Crab, State Water Cod, Halibut and Sablefish Species 4-21-25.
3. Groundfish Harvest Date 4-12-2025
4. NOAA Reports