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**Date:** November 2, 2020

**To:** Erin Reinders, City Manager, JR Pierson, Asst. Manager, Mayor Tutikoff, & Unalaska City Council Members

**Subject:** Harvest Updates on Federal Water Groundfish Harvests and State Water Crab, and IFQ Halibut/Sablefish Harvests

**Federal Water Groundfish Harvest catch as of 10-24-20, State Water Crab, Cod, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish, and State Water Black Cod 11-2-20.**

**Overall Groundfish Harvest:** The B season catch as of 10-24-2020 was 25,550MT (57million pounds) a 10,000MT increase in harvest from the previous week with most of that harvest 15,371MT being Pollock. The season totals are 1,818,978MMT (4.06 billion pounds) harvested leaving 174,071MT (388 million pounds) 91% of the overall annual harvest of 1.99MMT has been taken.

**Pollock Harvest:** the allocation is set at 1.4MMT (3.1billion pounds) with a 40% harvest for the A season 620,000MT and 60% harvest 840,000MT for the B season which opened on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Last week we saw the weekly harvest decrease from 26,711MT to 15,371MT a 11,000MT decrease from the previous week. The season total for this B season stands at 688,431MT a full 2.5 weeks behind the 2019 harvest level of 766,000MT during the same time frame. Many vessels have stopped fishing operations as fishing continues to be poor.

**Through October 24<sup>th</sup>: we still have 84,530MT of B season Pollock to harvest by the 4 harvesting sectors. The harvesters are not going harvest the total Pollock allocation. With only 1 week to go and only averaging 15-25,000MT per week. With 1 week of fishing left It looks to me that there will be 60,000MT of unharvested Pollock (134 million pounds).** It will be especially hard for the shoreside catcher vessels that are only at 93% of their B season allocation 28,000MT to harvest (62 million pounds) the At Sea Processors who are at 89% (31,215MT to harvest.(69 million pounds) to harvest and the Mothership Sector 4,304MT( 9.6 million pound) The CDQ sector has 20,088MT to harvest (44 million pounds) The Pollock A/B season total harvest stands at 1,244,293MMT (2.77 billion pounds) and 86% seasonal harvested leaving 84,530MT (188 million pounds) of Pollock B season to harvest. The four harvesting sectors harvest reports for last week are listed below.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 7,632MT last week, for the season 593,602MT the B season harvest stands at 318,224MT harvested leaving 28,923MT to harvest 93% of the B season has been harvested.

At Sea Processors: harvest 3,267MT last week, from their B season harvest; for the season 466,804MT of their annual harvest has been taken. The B season harvest is 243,521MT 89% of the B season allocation has been harvested leaving a B season amount of 31,215MT to harvest.

Mothership Sector: harvest last week was 2,459MT from their annual allocation is at 120,201MT the B season total is at 64,726MT leaving 4,304MT of B season allocation to harvest 95% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvest last week was 2,014MT for the season 124,312MT has been harvested. The B season allocation 59,445MT has been harvested leaving 20,088MT to harvest 75% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 649MT for the season 45,228MT leaving 2,225MT to harvest 95% of annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: Chinook bycatch stands at 30,795fish 50% allocation compared to 24,985 fish in 2019. Non-Chinook salmon 312,930 fish compared to 348,023 fish in 2019.

**Pacific Cod:** federal water fishery landings of Pacific Cod continues to be slow which is normal for this time of year. The harvest last week ending on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was 2,410MT including the CDQ harvest. The season harvest total for the A/B season is 125,067MT for all harvesting sectors ((279 million lbs.). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 24,851MT including CDQ (in pounds 55.5 million pounds) to harvest. The breakdown by harvesting sectors are listed below.

CV Pot/HL < 60ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 4,844MT leaving -37MT over their allocation of 4,807MT. 101% of the allocation has been harvested. This sector received a rollover from jig cod sector. The season reopened on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. This sector is awaiting another rollover later this fall.

C/P Pot CPs harvested 0MT last week of B season Cod for the season 2,050MT. The B season allocation, which opens on September 1, 2020 has 24MT left and NMFS has announced a closure for September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

CV Pot 60'+: harvested 0MT last week for the season 10,311MT. leaving 1,105MT of B season allocation to harvest 90% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Hook and Line C/Ps: harvested 1,884MT last week for the season 55,845MT from the A/B season allocation of 67,346MT 83% of the seasonal allocation. The B season

harvest is at 21,913MT leaving 11,501MT to harvest 66% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 33MT last week for the season 13,435MT from an allocation of 14,945MT leaving 3,049MT 84% of the CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Trawl: this fishery opened on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The harvest for last week was 280MT for the season and stands at 53,319MT (118.84 million pounds) from all three harvesting sectors, leaving 3,015MT (6.7 million pounds) of A/B/C season trawl cod to harvest. I believe some of this allocation will roll over to the 60' < fixed gear sector later this fall when trawling closes by regulation on November 1, 2020.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 10MT harvested from the jig allocation of 178MT leaving 168MT 6% of the allocation has been harvested. The jig allocation had 1,300 rollovers to the 60' < fixed sector last.

**Amendment 80 Fisheries:** opened on January 20<sup>th</sup>. the Amendment 80 sector for the week ending on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the total harvest stands at 312,006MT of various species, a harvest of 6,974MT occurred last week and decrease of 230MT from the previous weeks harvest. The Amendment 80 fleet focus have moved most of their operations back over to the Eastern Bering Sea working the Sole fisheries. The seasonal totals by species is as follows, Yellowfin Sole 125,581MT, Rock Sole, 25,671MT Alaska Plaice, 19,829MT, Flathead Sole 8,771MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 10,067MT, Kamchatka Flounder 7,267MT other Flatfish 4,057MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 34,427MT Atka Mackerel 52,610MT Octopus, 682MT Skate 16,448MT Greenland Turbot, 2,309MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,287MT

### **Halibut/ Sablefish IFQ Fisheries: 11-2-2020**

**Halibut:** the allocation is set at 16.079 million pounds for the season 3,023 landings have been made for 14.5 million pounds leaving 1.57 million lbs. to harvest 90% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested. Fishing continued to be good last week: the fleet harvested 300,000 lbs. last week. There have been Halibut landings in Unalaska, but the data is still confidential until more buyers purchase fish, traditionally we have landing in the 1.0-1.3 million-pound range for Unalaska. The CDQ harvest we had no landing posted by NMFS this week, the total in CDQ sector Area 4D which is NW of the Pribilof Islands 226 landings for lbs. for 909,740lbs leaving 121,060lbs still to harvest in 4-D 88% of the harvest has been taken in that area. The total CDQ harvest still to be harvested is at 1.03 million pounds. Halibut prices are in a slump, running in the \$3.00-\$4.25 per pound depending on the size and port of landing. Homer is the leading port on Halibut landings at 2.74 million pounds, Kodiak, 1.63 million pounds, and Seward 1.15 million pounds. The Halibut fishery closes on November 14, 2020 by regulation.

**Sablefish:** the allocation is set at 31.7 million lbs. for the season 1,796 landings for 20.7 million lbs. leaving 10.9 million lbs. 66% of the allocation has been harvested. The past weeks fishing decreased from last week with a harvest of 900,000lbs. Prices for Sablefish ex-vessel price splits are estimated at \$2.30 per pound for fish running in the 2- to 3-pound category, \$3.15 per pound for 3 - 4 pound fish, \$4.00 per pound for 4- to 5-pounders, \$5 per pound for 5- to 7s and \$7.50 per pound for 7-ups.. There have been landings made in Unalaska, at 2.25 million pounds. Sitka is the leading port on Sablefish landings at 3.5 million pounds, Kodiak at 3.3 million pounds followed by Seward at 3.29 million pounds. The fishery closes by regulation on November 14,2020.

### **State Water Fisheries 11-2-2020**

**Bristol Bay Red King Crab** opened at noon Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> the allocation is set at 2.6 million pounds including CDQ poundage. Currently ADFG has 30 vessels pre-registered to fish BBRKC. As of this morning there have been 129 landings for 2.55 million pounds including CDQ poundage, leaving 50,000 pounds including the remaining CDQ poundage 99% of the harvest is complete. The fishery was completed in two weeks. The catch per unit (pot) effort (CPUE) pot is not bad based observer reports CPUE of 20-22 crab per pot which is surprisingly good. The live weight average is 6.0 pounds which is surprising new shell crab ADFG had thought there was little recruitment coming into the fishery I expected 7.0-pound average old shell crab being delivered. This could be good news hope we have a survey next year. Opening price for Red King is \$9.00 per pound putting ex-vessel value at \$23.4 million but we expect that the ex-vessel price will go higher to the fleet with profit sharing agreements on sales price.

**Bering Sea Tanner Crab** opens 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 5 small landings made, the poundage amounts are confidential at this time.

**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. There have been 2 small landings the amounts are confidential currently.

#### **Dutch Harbor & Aleutian Islands Sub District Jig Cod 60ft < vessels:**

The State Water Dutch Harbor area Pacific Cod fishery for 58' < for jig vessels opens on May 1<sup>st</sup> for about million pounds 5 jig machines allowed per vessel. There have been a few small landings so far, there are 2 jig vessels registered to fish. The harvest amount is still confidential.

**State Water Sablefish (Black Cod):** last week there was no landing made. There are two vessels registered for the fishery they have made 43 landings last week the new numbers are as follows 391,554lbs. landed in Unalaska from a guideline harvest of 429,000 lbs. leaving 38,246lbs. left to harvest, 91% of the harvest is complete.

**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 26 landings from 2 vessels in the Eastern District; the catch poundage is confidential in that district but is estimated at 2.3-2.4 million pounds. Leaving 1.1 million pounds to harvest 70% of the allocation has been harvested. The Western District the catch information is as follows 11 landings from 3 vessels for 1.0 million pounds 34% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 1.9 million pounds to harvest.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments:

1. Report from NOAA Fisheries Seafood Bycatch Donations Relieves Hunger and Reduces Waste
2. NOAA Reports Take of a Second Short-tailed Albatross in the BSAI

**Dec 1-2** [IPHC Interim Meeting](#), Seattle, WA Teleconference

**Dec 2-10** [NPFMC](#), Anchorage, Alaska Teleconferenced

**Jan 25-29-21** [International Pacific Halibut Commission](#) annual meeting, Victoria, British Columbia. The commission is expected to set catch limits for 2021.

**Jan. 26- 28-21** Alaska Marine Science Symposium virtual event, Jan. 26-28. More information at [alaskamarinescience.org](http://alaskamarinescience.org).

**Feb. 1-9-21** North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting Portland, Oregon.

**March 5-10-21** Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting, March 5-10, Anchorage. The board will consider shellfish proposals around much of the state.