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**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 10-31-20, State Water Crab, Cod, IFQ Halibut, Sablefish, and State Water Black Cod 11-9-20.**

**Overall Groundfish Harvest:** The B season catch as of 10-31-2020 was 22,943MT (51million pounds) a 3,000MT decrease in harvest from the previous week with most of that harvest 12,897MT being Pollock. The season totals are 1,842,215MMT (4.11 billion pounds) harvested leaving 150,834MT (336 million pounds) 92% of the overall annual harvest of 1.99MM.

**Pollock Harvest:** the allocation is set at 1.42MMT (3.1billion pounds) with a 40% harvest for the A season 620,000MT and 60% of the harvest of 840,000MT for the B season which opened on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Last week we saw the weekly harvest decrease from 15,371MT to 12,896MT a 2,300MT decrease from the previous week. The season total for this B season stands at 702,107MT a full 2 weeks behind the 2019 harvest level of 766,641MT leaving 84,530MT unharvested there may be a few more tons coming in next week catch reports for the 1 day of fishing left before the November 1<sup>st</sup> trawl closure by regulation. Many vessels have stopped fishing operations long ago as fishing continued to be poor.

The amounts left unharvested by fishing sector is as follows: the shoreside catcher vessels left unharvested a B season allocation 22,000MT (49 million pounds) 95% of the B season harvest. The At Sea Processors who are at 29,905MT unharvested. (66 million pounds) 90% harvested. The Mothership Sector 2,110MT (4.7 million pound) 98% harvested. The CDQ sector has 16,751MT left unharvested (37 million pounds) 79% of the B season harvest. The Pollock A/B season total harvest stands at 1,257,189MMT (2.80billion pounds) and 94% seasonal harvested leaving 84,530MT (188 million pounds) of Pollock B season unharvested. At and ex-vessel price of \$0.12 almost 22 million dollars in lost ex vessel value. The four harvesting sectors harvest reports for last week are listed below.

Inshore CV: this sector harvested 5,699MT last week, for the season 599,620MT the B season harvest stands at 324,242MT harvested leaving 22,905MT to harvest 95% of the B season has been harvested.

At Sea Processors: harvest 1,666MT last week, from their B season harvest; for the season 468,469MT of their annual harvest has been taken. The B season harvest is 245,186MT 90% of the B season allocation has been harvested leaving a B season amount of 29,550MT to harvest.

Mothership Sector: harvest last week was 2,194MT from their annual allocation is at 122,395MT the B season total is at 66,920MT leaving 2,110MT of B season allocation to harvest 98% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

CDQ Sector: harvest last week was 3,337MT for the season 127,649MT has been harvested. The B season allocation 62,782MT has been harvested leaving 16,751MT to harvest 88% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pollock Incidental Catch: last week harvest was 647MT for the season 45,879MT leaving 1,574MT to harvest 97% of annual allocation has been harvested.

Salmon bycatch: Chinook bycatch stands at 32,019fish 53% allocation compared to 24,985 fish in 2019. Non-Chinook (Chum) salmon of 317,866 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 was 2,305MT including the CDQ harvest. The seasonal harvest totals for the A/B season is 127,372MT from all harvesting sectors ((284 million lbs.). The remaining Pacific Cod allocation is 13,789MT including CDQ (in pounds 30.8 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 2,037MT last week for the season 57,881MT from the A/B season allocation of 67,346MT 86% of the seasonal allocation. The B season

harvest is at 23,950MT leaving 9,465MT to harvest 73% of the B season allocation has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 47MT last week for the season 13,482MT from an allocation of 14,945MT leaving 3,002MT 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 220MT for the season and stands at 53,539MT (119.60 million pounds) from all three harvesting sectors, leaving 2,967MT (6.6 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 the total harvest stands at 312,006MT of various species including CDQ harvest. The harvest last week was 6,805MT a decrease of 700MT 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 126,826MT, Rock Sole, 25,709MT Alaska Plaice, 19,899MT, Flathead Sole 8,850MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 10,201MT, Kamchatka Flounder 7,277MT other Flatfish 4,112MT other species harvested this season including Perch, 35,843MT Atka Mackerel 55,863MT Octopus, 682MT Skate 16,849MT Greenland Turbot, 2,311MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,389MT

### **Halibut/ Sablefish IFQ Fisheries: 11-9-2020**

**Halibut:** the allocation is set at 16.079 million pounds for the season 3,073 landings have been made for 14.6 million pounds leaving 1.4 million lbs. to harvest 91% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested. Fishing was slow last week with just 100,000 lbs. harvested; this may be due to the season closing in 5 days. There have been Halibut landings in Unalaska, but the data is still confidential until more buyers purchase fish, traditionally we have landings in the 1.0-1.3 million-pound range for Unalaska. The CDQ harvest there were 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 2.77 million pounds, Kodiak, 1.66 million pounds, and Seward 1.18 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 1,853 landings for 21.6 million lbs. leaving 10.05 million lbs. 68% of the allocation has been harvested. The past weeks fishing decreased slightly from last week with a harvest of 800,000lbs. 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 2.3 million pounds. Kodiak at 3.65 million pounds followed by Sitka at 3.61 million pounds, and Seward at 3.49 million pounds. The fishery closes by regulation on November 14,2020.

### **State Water Fisheries 11-9-2020**

**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 144 landings for 2.56 million pounds including CDQ poundage, leaving 39,600 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 14 small landings made, for 173,122 lbs. leaving 1.94 million pounds fishing has been slow with a CPUE of 16 crab per pot some vessels are already dropping out.

**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 1 small landing the amounts are confidential currently.

**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 30 landings from 2 vessels in the Eastern District; the catch poundage is confidential in that district but is estimated at 2.5-2.6 million pounds. Leaving 900,000lbs. to harvest 75% 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 33% of the Western allocation has been taken, leaving 1.9 million pounds to harvest There were landings made last week from the Western District.

**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.

Regards

Frank V Kelty

Attachments:

1. Alaska Economic Trends Nov 2020 State of Alaska Dept of Labor
2. Report from NOAA Exchange of Flatfish reserves for Amendment 80 Allocations
3. NOAA Reallocates Atka Mackerel from Bering Sea and Aleutians Islands District Incidental Catch Allowance.

**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.

