

Frank Kelty
Fisheries Consultant
City of Unalaska

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To: City Manager William Homka, Deputy City Manager Marjorie Veeder, Patricia Soule, Karen Magdaong, Michelle Price, Mayor Vince Tutikaoff, and Unalaska City Council

From: Frank Kelty, Unalaska Fisheries Consultant

Subject: Fishery Update Memo for November 4, 2024, Groundfish Harvest Data 10-26-2024 State Water Pacific Cod, State Water Sablefish, Golden King Crab, Bristol Bay Red King Crab Tanner Crab, IFQ Halibut and Sablefish 11-4-2024

Fishing activity continues to be slow, as the groundfish fisheries are getting close to wrapping up of the year, the trawl sector closed on November 1, 2024. The Halibut IFQ Halibut and Sablefish IFQ both close on December 10, 2024. The Bering Sea Crab fisheries open at noon on Tuesday October 15th. The Bristol Bay Red King Crab 2.3 million lbs. is almost complete. There have been 120 landings for 2.26 million lbs. leaving 42,330 lbs. to harvest two vessels are doing a cleanup trip for that poundage. The Tanner Crab fishery has had just six landings for 117,123lbs all from the Eastern District leaving 1.59 million lbs. still to harvest. The Western District Tanner crab fishery has not started yet. ADFG has stated that the Red Crab Fishery had an exceptionally good CPUE 30 crab per pot, the crabs were mostly new clean shell crab, with a live weight of 6.7 lbs. average. The ex-vessel price for the harvesters is north of \$20 per pound. The Golden King Crab Fishery had no landings last week. The landings for IFQ and CDQ total of thirty-seven landings from the Eastern District, and Western Districts. The poundage amounts for this year's landings of IFQ and CDQ, combined, while the exact amounts are confidential, the estimated poundage is slightly more than 2.8 million lbs. That leaves an estimated 2.0 million lbs. left to harvest from the 4.8 million-pound IFQ and CDQ allocations.

The Pollock B season harvest last week 10-26-24 came in at 222MT (4.89 million lbs.) for the season the B season Pollock is at 680,018MT (1.499 billion lbs.) 103% of the B season harvest has been caught. The A/B season total harvest is at 1.225MMT (2.70 billion lbs.) 94.2% of the 1.30 MMT harvest (2.85 billion lbs.). Last week's harvest came from Catcher Vessel sector that delivers to the onshore plants 222MT (4.04 million lbs.) It looks like we have possible one catcher vessels still fishing for 570MT left to harvest in that CV sector's allocation. The A/B season leaves 37,670MT of Pollock unharvested (83.0 million lbs.) most of it from the At Sea Processor Factory Trawlers 35,508MT. The Pollock B fishery season closed on November 1, 2024.

The total Pacific Cod harvest for 10-26-24 came in at 1,185MT (2.6 million lbs.) for the season A/B is 117,936MT (259 million lbs.) 75.5% of the allocation of 155,833MT has been harvested leaving 37,897MT (83.5 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including the CDQ harvest allocation.

The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week 10-26-24 increased by 125MT to 8,856MT (19.2million lbs.). The total harvest stands 284,051(626 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 10-26-2024: The Groundfish harvest for the last week 10-26-24, was 10,879MT (23.9 million pounds) decrease of 2,000MT from the previous week harvest due to bottom fish harvest sectors decreased catch. The overall Groundfish harvest is at 1,680,374MMT (3.70 billion lbs.) leaving 310,171MT (683 million lbs.) 84% of the A/B harvest allocation is complete from 1,984,465MMT allocation (4.3 billion lbs.).

Bering Sea B Season Pollock 10-26-2024: The Pollock B season harvest for last week 10-26-24 came in at 222MT (4.89 million lbs.) for the season the B season Pollock is at 680,018MT (1.499 billion lbs.) 103% of the B season harvest has been caught. The A/B season total harvest is at 1,225MMT (2.70 billion lbs.) 94.2% of the 1.30 MMT harvest (2.85 billion lbs.). Last week's harvest came from Catcher Vessel sector that delivers to the onshore plants 222MT (4.04 million lbs.) It looks like we have possible one catcher vessels still fishing for 570MT left to harvest in the CV sector's allocation. The A/B season leaves 37,670MT of Pollock unharvested (83.0 million lbs.) most of it from the At Sea Processor Factory Trawlers 35,508MT. The Pollock B season fishery closed on November 1,2024

Inshore CV: the catcher vessels that deliver shoreside harvested 222MT (4.89million lbs.) last week, leaving 570MT (1.25 million lbs.) to harvest from the A/B season allocation 103% of the B season allocation has been harvested. Total A/B harvest is 565,270MT (1.24 billion lbs.) 100%. A/B Pollock season of 565,840MT has been harvested. The fishery closed on November 1,2024.

At Sea CP Fleet: the catcher processors harvested 0MT (661,120lbs.) last week, leaving 35,512MT (78.2 million lbs.) to harvest of the A/B season allocation. The B season allocation is 91% harvested. The total A/B Pollock harvest is 417,160MT (919.4 million lbs.) 92% A/B Pollock season of 452,672MT has been harvested. The fishery closed on November 1, 2024.

Mothership: this sector harvested 0 MT last week. Leaving 711MT (1.567 million lbs.) to harvest of the B season allocation of 62,532MT 100% of the B season allocation has been harvested. Total A/B harvest is 112,457MT (247.8million lbs.) 99% A/B Pollock season of 113,168MT has been harvested. The fishery closed on November 1,2024.

CDQ: this sector harvested 0MT last week. Leaving 87MT 72,399MT (191,748 lbs.) 100% of the B season allocation has been harvested. Total A/B harvest is 131,813MT

(290.5 million lbs.) 100%. A/B Pollock season of 131,900MT has been harvested. The fishery closed on November 1, 2024.

Pollock Incidental Catch 10-26-2024: the harvest last week was 402MT for season 44,435MT (97.9 million lbs.) leaving 5,813MT (12.8 million lbs.) to harvest 89% of the allocation has been harvested.

Salmon Bycatch 10-26-24: Chinook bycatch last week was eleven fish for a season total of 7,836 fish leaving 37,864 fish remaining 17% of the cap has been from the cap of 45,000 fish. Chum bycatch for the Pollock B season is 37,000 fish for the season this much lower than previous years on Chum salmon bycatch which in past 4-5 years ago were in 200,000 to 450,000 fish range.

Pacific Cod: 10-26-2024: The total Pacific Cod harvest for 10-26-24 came in at 1,185MT (2.6 million lbs.) for the season A/B is 117,936MT (259 million lbs.) 75.5% of the allocation of 155,833MT has been harvested leaving 37,897MT (83.5 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including the CDQ harvest allocation.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 846MT (1.86 million lbs.) last week for the season 56,576MT (124.6 million lbs.) Leaving the A/B season allocation 10,794MT (23.7 million lbs.) to harvest, 84% of the A/B season allocation of 67,370MT has been harvested by this sector.

Pacific Cod Trawl: The trawl fishery opened on January 20, 2024. With an A/B season allocation of 52,602MT (115.9 million pounds) We had a harvest of 195MT for last week (429,780lbs.) for the season 41,417MT (91.2 million lbs.) through October 26, 2024. The Amendment 80 sector 183MT At Sea 4MT and CV sector 8MT. (leaving 11,211MT (24.7 million lbs.) of A/B season cod to harvest for the season, 79.3% of the A/B season allocation of 52,602MT has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 38MT last week for the season 5,718MT (12.60million lbs.) leaving 1,165MT cod allocation to harvest, 83% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 0MT were harvested last week of A season Cod, for the season 0MT. The A season's remaining allocation is 2,075MT 0% of the A season allocation of 2,075MT has been harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 58MT last week for the season 5,718MT (12.6 million lbs.) leaving 6,719MT (14.8 million lbs.) of the season allocation has been harvested 42% of the A/B season allocation of 11,620MT has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 46MT (101,384lbs.) last week, for season 8,977MT (19.78million lbs.) from an A/B season allocation of 16,675MT leaving 7,601MT (16.75million lbs.) fifty-three. Eight percent of the A/B season CDQ harvest has been taken.

Pacific Cod Jig: 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 98MT leaving 98MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 10-26-2024. The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week 10-26-24 increased by 125MT to 8,856MT (19.2million lbs.). The total harvest stands 284,051(626 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species totals are as follows. Yellowfin Sole 73,852MT, Rock Sole 27,911MT Alaska Plaice, 9,830MT, Flathead Sole 11,718MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 9,460MT, Kamchatka Flounder 4,887MT other Flatfish 3,013MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 44,366MT Atka Mackerel 69,543MT, Octopus 241MT Skate 24,308MT Greenland Turbot, 764MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,158MT.

State Water Pacific Cod 60'< Pot Boats 11-4-2024: The state water Pacific Cod fishery has had 416 landings for 40.37 million lbs. leaving 4.05 million lbs. to harvest, 91% of the allocation has been harvested from 44.4 million lbs. There were two small landings that were made last week, we have a few vessels check into this fishery. The Pacific Cod State water fishery remains open possible into late December if there is fishing effort.

Halibut 11-4-24: The Halibut IFQ season opens on March 15, 2024, at noon, through 11-4-24 we have had 3,033 landings for landings for 13.4 million lbs. leaving 3.89 million lbs. to harvest; 78% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs. We have had 246 landings for 349,367lbs. leaving 824,633lbs. to harvest, 30% of the harvest of 1.17million lbs. completed one landing last week. Leading Port of Landings is Homer, AK at 3.346lbs. Kodiak, at 1.58 million lbs. Halibut landings have been made in Unalaska, but NOAA is keeping the data confidential until three buyers purchase Halibut.

Sablefish 11-4-24: The Sablefish IFQ fishery opens on March 15th through 11-4-24. We have had 1,745 Sablefish landings, 34.1 million lbs. leaving 26.6 million lbs. to harvest 56% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 6.89 million lbs. followed by Seward 5.54 million lbs. Sablefish landing have been made in Unalaska, but NOAA is keeping the data confidential until three buyers purchase Sablefish.

Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish 11-4-24: Aleutian Island State Sablefish fishery through 11-4-24 there are thirteen vessels fishing. They have made seventy-four landings for 717,827lbs. leaving 1.988 million lbs. to harvest from the 2.27 million lbs. allocation 27% of the harvest has been taken. There was one landing made last week.

North Alaska Peninsula Dungeness Crab Harvest 11-4-24: North Alaska Peninsula Dungeness Crab Harvest: through 10-26-24 we have seen fifty-seven landings from eleven vessels for 991,123lbs average weight per crab is 2.17 lbs. CPUE 8 crab per pot. There were no landings last week. The Dungeness season is closed for the rest of the year.

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab 11-4-24: Aleutian Island Golden King Crab, through 11-4-24 we have two cost recovery landing for ADFG the poundage amount is 167,000lbs with another 52,000lbs to be harvested both landings came from the Eastern District. There have also been three CDQ landings and 35 IFQ landings from the Eastern District, and Western Districts and three CDQ landings. The poundage for this year's landings of IFQ and CDQ, combined with the exact amount, is confidential, the estimated amounts our at slightly more than 2.8 million lbs. That leaves an estimated 2.0 million lbs. left to harvest from the 4.8-million-pound IFQ and CDQ allocation. There was no Golden King Crab landing last week.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab 11-4-24: As of this morning we have 114 IFQ landings and 6 CDQ Bristol Bay Red King Crab landings in Unalaska. The amounts as of this morning are 2.26 million lbs. leaving 42,330 lbs. to harvest 98% of the 2.3 million lbs. allocation has been harvested. ADFG has stated that the fleet has a high CPUE, and the crabs are exceptionally clean shell crab, the price to the harvesters is north of \$20 per pound, about one vessel still fishing the last 42,000lbs. of Bristol Bay Red King Crab.

Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab 11-4-24: We have six Eastern District Tanner Crab landings in Unalaska, for 117,123 lbs. leaving 1.59 million lbs. still available in the Eastern District. ADFG expects twenty vessels to fish for the Tanner allocation. There are no fishing vessels at the Western District Tanner allocation of 4.3 million lbs. currently.

Misc. Items: Last Wednesday I attended the Crab Framework Agreement Crab Coordination Committee meeting. We discussed a proposed Addendum to the existing Framework Agreement that was submitted on October 15th, 2024, to NOAA. This addendum is for only the 2024 -2025 Snow Crab season. The Addendum outlines the situation we are facing since there is no processing plant available to process the North Regions 1.6 million pounds of Snow Crab. The Framework agreement outlines the steps to be taken to execute an exemption contract that must be approved by all sectors, harvesters, processors, and communities that would allow for an exemption contract, for the processing of Northern region snow crab in a South Region community in Unalaska, Alaska. The Addendum also address compensation that would be allowed for St. Paul for the 2024-2025 Snow Crab season.

With the small Snow Crab allocation of 4.72 million pounds and the uncertainty of Snow Crab seasons in future years the addendum deletes compensatory crab landings as compensation for this season allow only monetary compensation for this year's fishery. It also changes the threshold level of 5.0 million pounds of Snow Crab in the Framework agreement, which is not an appropriate level for this season, to allow for compensation and have proposed to change the threshold level, to 4.72 million pounds this season Snow Crab allocation for the 2024-2025 season. We are now awaiting comments by other stakeholders' comments on the proposed addendum to the Framework agreement. The meeting adjourned after an hour and a half.

Best Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fisheries Update Memo
2. Harvest Data
3. NOAA Reports