

Frank Kelty
Fisheries Consultant
City of Unalaska

Date: 12-9-2024

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 30, 2024, Groundfish Harvest Data 11-30-2024 State Water Pacific Cod, State Water Sablefish, Golden King Crab, Bristol Bay Red King Crab Tanner Crab, IFQ Halibut, and Sablefish 12-9-2024

Fishing activity continues to be slow, as the groundfish fisheries are getting close to wrapping up for the year, the trawl Pollock and Pacific Cod sectors closed on November 1, 2024. Halibut IFQ Halibut and Sablefish IFQ both close on December 7, 2024. There is still a small amount Pacific Cod being harvested as well as some CDQ Yellowfin and Rock Sole. We also have the Bering Sea Tanner Crab and Aleutian Island Golden King Crab fisheries on going. Last week the groundfish harvest came in at only 5,021MT (11.06 million lbs.) 88% of the groundfish harvest is complete.

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab, through 12-9-24 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 42 IFQ landings and 8 CDQ from the Eastern District, and Western Districts. The poundage for this year's landings of IFQ and CDQ, combined with the exact amount, is confidential, the estimated amounts are at slightly more than 3.75 million lbs. That leaves an estimated 1.08 million lbs. left to harvest from the 4.8-million-pound IFQ and CDQ allocation, 78% of the harvest is completed. There were one Golden King Crab deliveries last week.

As of this morning we have 126 IFQ and CDQ landings at Bristol Bay Red King Crab landings in Unalaska. The amounts as of this morning are 2.31 million lbs. leaving - 1,941 lbs. over the harvest 100% of the 2.31 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 20,000lbs. of Bristol Bay Red King Crab. The fishery is now closed.

Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab as of 12-9-24 we have fifty-three Eastern District Tanner Crab landings in Unalaska, including CDQ 1,331,996 lbs. leaving 438,057 lbs. still available in the Eastern District 75% of the harvest is completed. In the Western District There has been six landings so far from three vessels for Western District

Tanner Crab for 191,000lbs leaving of 4.0 million lbs. to harvest 4% of the harvest has been completed.

The Pollock B season harvest last week 11-23 -24 came in at 0MT for the season for the B season Pollock is at 680,163MT (1.499 billion lbs.) 103% of the B season harvest has been caught and the season is closed. The A/B season total harvest is at 1,225MMT (2.70 billion lbs.) 94.4% 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 145MT (319,580lbs.) The A/B season leaves 37,525MT of Pollock unharvested (82.7 million lbs.) most of it from the At Sea Processor Factory Trawlers 35,508MT. The Pollock B season fishery closed on November 1,2024

The total Pacific Cod harvest for last week 11-30-24 came in at 1,144MT (2.52 million lbs.) for season A/B is 122,270MT (270.4 million lbs.) 79% of the allocation of 155,833MT has been harvested leaving 31,778MT (70.03 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including the CDQ harvest allocation.

The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week 11-30-24 decreased by 1,200MT to 2,977MT (6.5 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 308,911(680.8 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species totals are as follows.

The Halibut IFQ season opens on March 15, 2024, at noon, 12-9-24 we have had 3,198 landings for 13.99 million lbs. leaving 3.29 million lbs. to harvest; 81% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs. We have had 246 landings for 351,312lbs. leaving 822,688bs. to harvest, 30% of the harvest of 1.17million lbs. completed no landing were made last week. The leading Port of Landings is Homer, AK at 3.56million lbs. Kodiak, at 1.69 million lbs. Halibut landings have been made in Unalaska, but NOAA is keeping the data confidential until three buyers purchase Halibut. The Halibut season closed on December 7, 2024

The Sablefish IFQ fishery opens on March 15th through 12-2-24. We have had 1,865 Sablefish landings, 36.22 million lbs. leaving 24.57 million lbs. to harvest 60% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 7.4 million lbs. followed by Seward 5.99 million lbs. Sablefish landing have been made in Unalaska, we have finally received landing information 136 landings for 4.24 million lbs. landed in Unalaska that is 12% of 36 million lbs. of Sablefish landed this season statewide. The Sablefish season closed on December 7, 2024

Overall Groundfish Harvest 11-30-2024: The Groundfish harvest for the last week was 5,102MT (11.24 million pounds) increase of 100MT from the previous week harvest due to bottom fish harvest sectors increased catch. The overall Groundfish harvest is at 1,751,574MMT (3.86 billion lbs.) leaving 238,971MT (525 million lbs.) 88% of the A/B harvest allocation is complete from 1,990,545MMT allocation (4.38 billion lbs.).

Bering Sea B Season Pollock 11-30-2024: The Pollock B season harvest for last week 11-30-24 came in at 0MT the Pollock B season is closed. Pollock B season totals

are at 680,163MT (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.) 94.4% of the 1.30 MMT harvest (2.85 billion lbs.). The A/B season leaves 37,525MT of Pollock unharvested (82.7 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 0MT last week, leaving 426MT (938,904 lbs.) to harvest from the B season allocation 321,628MT (708 million lbs.) 103% of the B season allocation of 311,212MT has been harvested. Total A/B harvest is 565,414MT (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 11-30-2024: the harvest last week was 899MT for season 48,274MT (106 million lbs.) leaving 2,878MT (4.3million lbs.) to harvest 97% of the allocation has been harvested.

Salmon Bycatch 11-30-24: Chinook bycatch last week was forty-seven fish for a season total of 8,035 fish leaving 37,665 fish remaining 18% of the cap has been from the cap of 45,000 fish. Chum bycatch for the Pollock B season is 39,000 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: 11-30-2024: The total Pacific Cod harvest for last week came in at 1,144MT (2.52 million lbs.) for season A/B is 122,270MT (270.4 million lbs.) 79% of the allocation of 155,833MT has been harvested leaving 31,778MT (70.03 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including the CDQ harvest allocation.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 556MT (1.2 million lbs.) last week for season 60,648MT (133.6million lbs.) Leaving the A/B season allocation 7,322MT (16.1

million lbs.) to harvest, 89% 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 221MT for last week (487,084lbs.) for season 42,659MT (94.0 million lbs.) through November 30, 2024. The Amendment 80 sector 180MT At Sea 27MT and CV sector 14MT. (leaving 8,892MT (19.5 million lbs.) of A/B season cod to harvest for the season, 81% of the A/B season allocation of 52,602MT has been harvested.

CV Pot/HL < 60'ft: harvested 0MT last week for the season 5,719MT (12.60million lbs.) leaving 1,165MT cod allocation to harvest, 77% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested.

C/P Pot CPs 138MT were harvested last week of season B Cod, for the 411MT (905,844lbs) season. The A season's remaining allocation is 1,802MT (3.97million lbs.) (20% of the A/B season allocation of 2,075MT has been harvested.

Pot Cod 60'>: harvested 0MT last week for the season 5,719MT (12.6 million lbs.) leaving 6,120MT (13.4 million lbs.) of the season allocation has been harvested 44% of the A/B season allocation of 11,620MT has been harvested.

Pacific Cod CDQ: had a harvest of 411MT (905,844lbs.) last week, for season 10,207MT (22.4million lbs.) from an A/B season allocation of 16,675MT leaving 6,468MT (14.2million lbs.) 60% 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 11-30-2024. The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last week 11-30-24 decreased by 1,200MT to 2,977MT (6.5 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 308,911(680.8 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species totals are as follows. Yellowfin Sole 87,115MT, Rock Sole 29,404MT Alaska Plaice, 10,241MT, Flathead Sole 12,999MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 10,499MT, Kamchatka Flounder 5,163MT other Flatfish 3,110MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 47,080MT Atka Mackerel 71,753MT, Octopus 241MT Skate 26,241MT Greenland Turbot, 769MT and Sablefish Trawl 4,295MT.

State Water Pacific Cod 60'< Pot Boats 12-9-2024: 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 no landings made last week; we have two vessels checked into this fishery. The Pacific Cod State water fishery remains open until December 31st, 2024.

Halibut 12-9-24: The Halibut IFQ season opens on March 15, 2024, at noon, 12-9-24 we have had 3,198 landings for 13.99 million lbs. leaving 3.29 million lbs. to harvest;

81% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs. We have had 246 landings for 351,312lbs. leaving 822,688lbs. to harvest, 30% of the harvest of 1.17million lbs. completed no landing were made last week. The leading Port of Landings is Homer, AK at 3.56million lbs. Kodiak, at 1.69 million lbs. Halibut landings have been made in Unalaska, but NOAA is keeping the data confidential until three buyers purchase Halibut. The Halibut season closed on December 7, 2024

Sablefish 12-9-24: The Sablefish IFQ fishery opens on March 15th through 12-2-24. We have had 1,865 Sablefish landings, 36.22 million lbs. leaving 24.57 million lbs. to harvest 60% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 7.4 million lbs. followed by Seward 5.99 million lbs. Sablefish landing have been made in Unalaska, we have finally received landing information 136 landings for 4.24 million lbs. landed in Unalaska that is 12% of 36 million lbs. of Sablefish landed this season statewide. The Sablefish season closed on December 7, 2024

Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish 12-9-24: Aleutian Island State Sablefish fishery through 12-9-24 there are thirteen vessels fishing. They have made eighty-eight landings for 857,125lbs. leaving 1.84 million lbs. to harvest, from the 2.27 million lbs. allocation, 32% of the harvest is complete. There were no landings made last week. The season closed on December 7th, 2024.

Aleutian Island Golden King Crab 12-9-24: Aleutian Island Golden King Crab, through 11-25-24 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 42 IFQ landings and 8 CDQ from the Eastern District, and Western Districts. The poundage for this year's landings of IFQ and CDQ, combined with the exact amount, is confidential, the estimated amounts are at slightly more than 3.75 million lbs. That leaves an estimated 1.08 million lbs. left to harvest from the 4.8-million-pound IFQ and CDQ allocation, 78% of the harvest is completed. There were one Golden King Crab deliveries last week.

Bristol Bay Red King Crab 12-9-24: As of this morning we have 126 IFQ and CDQ landings at Bristol Bay Red King Crab landings in Unalaska. The amounts as of this morning are 2.31 million lbs. leaving -1,941 lbs. over the harvest 100% of the 2.31 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 20,000lbs. of Bristol Bay Red King Crab. The fishery is now closed.

Eastern Bering Sea Tanner Crab 12-9-24: We have fifty-three Eastern District Tanner Crab landings in Unalaska, including CDQ 1,331,996 lbs. leaving 438,057 lbs. still available in the Eastern District 75% of the harvest is completed. In the Western District There has been six landings so far from three vessels for Western District Tanner Crab for 191,000lbs leaving of 4.0 million lbs. to harvest 4% of the harvest has been completed.

Misc. Items

The NPFMC is still going on until Tuesday. They still have two large issues Program Review of the Amendment 80 Program and the review of IFQ Program and then Staff Tasking items to work through. I passed on Friday what the Council approved of on C-1 BSAI Groundfish. The BSAI Groundfish numbers look exceptionally good. Pollock was allocated a 6% increase of 75,000MT (164 million pounds) to 1,375MMT from the 2024 allocation of 1,300MMT. The shoreside allocation of the total is at 756,000MT Unalaska share is 64% of the shoreside allocation is 483,000MT (1.066 billion lbs.). Bering Sea Pacific Cod saw a 9% decline to 133,602MT down from 147,000MT in 2024. The Yellowfin Sole took a significant reduction of 60,000MT that reduction, allowed for the 2025 Pollock increase. The Yellowfin Sole allocation is still large at 135,000MT which should keep the Amendment 80 fleet going during the 2025 season. Their total harvest for this year is still at only 85,000MT with 3 weeks left in the season. The other species are all in the status quo levels or have slight increases for 2025 season; the specifications sheet is attached with this email. The C-1 Motion passed unanimously.

Some of the other important items the Council has addressed this week after the specifications for the BSAI and GOA. Were D-1 Climate Change taskforce recommendations, which included recommendations to climate forecasts with management advice, incorporate climate driven interactions and impacts using ecosystem indicators and models. The Council recommends the incorporation of dynamic management tools to increase in-season adaptation capacity. Consider informed biomass targets and limits and climate forecast informed harvest control rules. The Motion on D-1 passed unanimously.

D-2 BSAI Crab Arbitration issue was a hot button issue between harvesters and processors. The Council moved for another discussion or further analysis Alt 2. listed of four options for analysis 1. Remove the requirement that the arbitrator can only select a remedy proposed by one side.2. Allow parties to receive the arbitrator's written report and rational on his discission. 3.Remove requirement for a market report. 4. Remove the arbitration options for non-performance after contracts have been established on crab prices, delivery, and other terms. Option 3 states that IFQ and IPQ applications can be withdrawn in either 24 or 48 hours after the crab specifications TACs have been announced. This motion passed 10-1.

Best Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fisheries Update Memo 12-9-24.
2. Harvest Data
3. NOAA Reports
4. NPFMC December Meeting Motions
 - C-1 BSAI Groundfish Specifications
 - C-2 GOA Groundfish Specifications

- C-3 Norton Sound Red King Crab Specifications
 - C-4 Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures
 - D-1 Climate Change Planning
 - D-2 BSAI Crab Arbitration
 - D-3 BSAI Crab C-Shares Discussion Paper
5. 2025 Dutch Harbor Subdistrict State-Waters Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest
 6. 2025 Aleutian Island State-Water Pacific Cod Guideline Harvest Level
 7. 2025 Aleutian Islands State-Waters Sablefish 2025 Guideline Harvest Level
 8. 2024 Aleutian Islands State-Waters Sablefish Closure 12-7-2024
 9. 2024 Eastern Aleutian District Tanner Crab 2025 Fishery Closure 1-15-25