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**Date:** 5-13-2024

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

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

**Subject:** Fishery Update Memo for May 6, 2024, Groundfish Harvest Data 4-27-2024 Crab Harvest, State Water Pacific Cod, IFQ Halibut and Sablefish 5-6-2024

It continues to be slow in Unalaska it will continue that way for the next few weeks. The harvest for the last week groundfish harvest was 12,726MT (28 million pounds) 3,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest came mostly from the Amendment 80 bottom trawl harvest. The Pollock A season is completed no harvest in the last two weeks. It appears the 60' < under pot boat cod fishery is over, most of the vessels have left the fishery since the cod has dispersed after spawning, they still have 3.8 million pounds available to harvest from the 44-million-pound allocation if they so choose. We still have fifteen - seventeen Pacific Cod Freezer longline catcher processors finishing up the Pacific Cod A season, they still have 5,242 MT of A season cod to harvest. The overall cod harvest last week was 2,028MT (4.4 million lbs.) We also have 20-25 Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Catcher Processors working the Sole, Mackerel, and Pacific Ocean Perch fisheries they will also be doing crew changes every month or so they have huge allocation to work with.

The last week of May we will have the Pollock B season employees start arriving for the Unalaska and Akutan shore plants. The Pollock B season the quota is 718,000MT that includes 24,000MT of A season Pollock rollover to the B season (1.58 billion lbs.). Unalaska shore plants harvest amount is 206,000MT (454 million pounds) which is 64% of the shoreside Pollock B season allocation of 322,000MT.

Last week's Pollock harvest came in at zero. The Pollock A season totals 544,203MT equals (1.19 billion lbs.) This leaves 24,408MT (53.7 million lbs.) to harvest from the 568,611MT Pollock A season. This amount of unharvested Pollock A season fish will rollover to the Pollock B season allocation.

The total cod harvest last week was 2,028MT (4.46 million lbs.) for the A season harvest is 75,827MT (167 million lbs.) 45% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 89,831MT (197 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation.

The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last weeks decreased by 1,000MT to 9,273MT (20.4 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 108,300MT (238 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species.

The Halibut season open on March 15<sup>th</sup> at noon, so far 609 landing for landings for 3.22 million lbs. leaving 13.9 million lbs. to harvest; 18% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs.no landings reported yet. The leading Port of Landings is Homer, AK at 936,848lbs. followed by Juneau, at 338,178lbs.

The Sablefish fishery, there have been 537 Sablefish landings 11.6 million lbs. leaving 49.1 million lbs. to harvest 19% of the harvest is complete. The Ports of Landings, Kodiak 2.9 million lbs. followed by Seward 1.98 million lbs.

The Golden King Crab the fishery is completed the harvest for both the Eastern and Western Districts plus the CDQ harvest was 5,523,113 lbs. leaving 5,530lbs unharvested. The Tanner Crab fishery is complete the fishery is completed in both the Eastern and Western Districts the harvest including CDQ was 2,073,103 lbs. leaving, 8,000lbs unharvested.

**Overall Groundfish Harvest 5-4-2024:** The harvest for the last week was 12,726MT (28 million pounds) 3,000MT decrease over the previous week's harvest. The season totals are 757,814MT harvested (1.67 billion pounds) leaving 1,226,651MT (2.70 billion lbs.) to harvest; 38% of the overall annual harvest of 1,985,565MMT (4.3 billion pounds) has been completed.

**Bering Sea A Season Pollock 5-4-2024:** The Pollock fishery opened on January 20<sup>th</sup> the twelfth full week of Pollock A season is about done. Last week's Pollock harvest came in at 0 MT. The Pollock A season totals 544,604MT equals (1.19 billion lbs.) 95% of the A season is complete. This leaves 24,408MT (53.7 million lbs.) to harvest from the 568,611MT (1.2 billion lbs.) from the Pollock A season allocation. The remaining A season allocation may be fished before the Pollock B season start on June 10<sup>th</sup> or the unharvested amount will roll over into the B season allocation by harvesting sectors. The harvest by sectors for the A season is as follows Catcher Vessels Sector 243,787MT leaving 10,841MT to harvest 96% of the A season harvest is complete. At Sea Processors 191,399MT harvested leaving 12,303MT 94% of the A season is completed. Mothership Fleet 49,800MT leaving 1,126MT to harvest 98% of the A season is complete. CDQ Sector 59,217MT leaving 138MT to harvest 100% of the A season their harvest is complete.

**Inshore CV:** the catcher vessels that deliver shoreside harvest 0MT last week, for the season 243,787MT (537.3 million lbs.) leaving 10,841MT (23.8 million lbs.) of A season Pollock to harvest 95% of the A season has been harvested from 252,000MT allocation.

**At Sea CP:** the catcher processors harvested 0MT last week and have harvested 191,399MT (421 million lbs.) for the season, leaving 12,303MT (27.1 million lbs.) of A season Pollock to harvest 94% of the A season has been harvested.

**Mothership:** this sector harvested 0MT last week for the season 49,800MT (109 million lbs.) leaving 1,126MT (2.4 million lbs.) A season to harvest 98% of the A season has been harvested from 50,926MT.

**CDQ:** this sector harvested 0MT for the season 59,217MT (130.5 million lbs.) leaving 138MT (304,152lbs.) to harvest, 100% of the A season harvest of 58,300MT allocation.

**Pollock Incidental Catch 5-4-2024:** the harvest last week was 1,111MT for the season 28,8980MT (63.8 million lbs.) leaving 21,020MT (46.3 million lbs.) to harvest 58% of the allocation has been harvested.

**Salmon Bycatch 5-4-2024:** Chinook bycatch last week was zero fish for a season total of 5,160 fish leaving 40,540 fish remaining 11% of the cap has been from the cap of 45,000 fish. Chum bycatch reported last week, the amount is in the 914 fish for the season.

**Pacific Cod: 5-4-2024:** The total cod harvest last week was 2,028MT (4.46 million lbs.) for the A season is 75,827MT (167 million lbs.) 45% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 89,831MT (197 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation.

**Hook and Line C/Ps:** This sector harvested 1,195MT (2.6 million lbs.) last week for the season 29,117MT (64.1million lbs.) Leaving the A season allocation at 5,242MT (11.5 million lbs.) to harvest, 85% of the A season allocation of 34,359MT has been harvested by this sector.

**Pacific Cod Trawl:** The trawl fishery opened on January 20, 2024. With and A season allocation of 39,144MT. (86.2 million pounds) We had a harvest of 356MT for last week (784,614lbs.) for the season 31,886MT (70.2 million lbs.) through May 4, 2024. The Amendment 80 sector, 355MT At Sea 0MT and CV sector 1MT. (leaving 7,041MT (15.5 million lbs.) to harvest for the season, 79% of the A season allocation of 39,144MT has been harvested.

**CV Pot/HL < 60'ft:** harvested 0MT last week for the season 4,118MT (9.1 million lbs.) leaving -251MT cod allocation to harvest, 106% of the seasonal allocation has been harvested.

**C/P Pot CPs** 0MT was harvested last week of A season Cod, for the season 1,058MT. The A season remaining allocation is 1,058MT 0% of the A season allocation of 1,058MT has been harvested.

**Pot Cod 60’>:** harvested 0MT last week for the season 3,645MT (8.0 million lbs.) leaving 2,281MT (5.0 million lbs.) of A season allocation to harvest 62% of the A season allocation of 5,926MT has been harvested.

**Pacific Cod CDQ:** had a harvest of 460MT (1.01 million lbs.) last week, for the season 5,180MT (11.4 million lbs.) from an A season allocation of 7,949MT leaving 6,334MT (12.9 million lbs.) 65% of the A season CDQ harvest have been taken.

**Pacific Cod Jig:** 0MT harvested last week, for the season 0MT harvested from the jig allocation of 1,948MT leaving 1,948MT 0% of the allocation has been harvested.

**Amendment 80 Bottom Trawl Fishery 5-13-2024** The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last weeks decreased by 1,000MT to 9,273MT (20.4 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 108,300MT (238 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 28,879MT, Rock Sole 21,646MT Alaska Plaice, 5,711MT, Flathead Sole 8,395MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 496MT, Kamchatka Flounder 130MT other Flatfish 1,293MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 3,493MT Atka Mackerel 24,939MT, Octopus 122MT Skate 13,107MT Greenland Turbot, 13MT and Sablefish Trawl 76MT.

**State Water Pacific Cod 60’< Pot Boats 5-13-2024:** The state water fishery has had 415 landings for 40.5 million lbs. leaving 3.8 million lbs. to harvest, 91% of the allocation has been harvested from the 44.4 million lbs. There were no landings last week, an no vessels are currently fishing.

**Halibut IFQ 5-13-24:** the season open on March 15<sup>th</sup>. at noon, so far 609 landing for landings for 3.22 million lbs. leaving 13.9 million lbs. to harvest; 18% of the allocation has been harvested. The CDQ allocation is set at 1.17 million lbs.no landings reported yet. Leading Port of Landings is Homer, AK at 936,848lbs. followed by Juneau, at 338,178lbs.

**Sablefish IFQ 5-13-24:** there have been 537 Sablefish landings 11.6 million lbs. leaving 49.1 million lbs. to harvest 19% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 2.9 million lbs. followed by Seward 1.98 million lbs.

**Misc. Items:** The Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation had a special meeting to adopt the FY25 annual budget. We reviewed draft budget as it was amended from the first draft and approved a budget of \$2.93 million dollars with a deficient draw down from reserves of \$40,750. The week the NPFMC Crab Plan team will be meeting from Tuesday through Friday in Anchorage I will be attending via zoom. Also, on Tuesday we have a NPFMC 1–2-hour Climate Workshop premeeting to give the public information before the Climate Change workshop that will be held in Kodiak Alaska at the June NPFMC meeting the first week of June. On Thursday, the NPFMC SSC panel will be having a one-day meeting on the NPFMC BSAI Research Pories for the upcoming year. I will be attending by zoom.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

1. Fishery Update Memo
2. Harvest Data
3. NOAA Reports
4. NPFMC June Meeting Agenda