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Date: 6-2-2024

To: City Manager William Homka, Assistant 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 June 2,2024, Groundfish Harvest Data 5-25-2024
State Water Pacific Cod, IFQ Halibut and Sablefish 6-2-2024

I will be attending the NPFMC meeting in Kodiak starting on Monday June 3rd on Wednesday and Thursday we have a two-day special Climate Change Workshop that will be hosted by the Council and the regular meeting will reconvene on Friday through Tuesday of the following week.

It continues to be slow in Unalaska it will continue that way for another eight more days on June 10th the Pollock B season kicks off. The harvest for the last week was 9,592MT (21.1 million pounds) 200MT increase over the previous week's harvest came mostly from the Amendment 80 bottom trawl harvest. The Pollock A season is almost complete, with 24,000MT of A season Pollock still available (52 million lbs.) if someone has a market to sell too. We have no harvest in the last three 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 2,953 MT of A season cod to harvest. The overall cod harvest last week was 812MT (1.7 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.

Right after Memorial Day the Pollock B season employees will 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 with the Trident Akutan plant controlling the rest of the shore-side allocation of 116,000MT (255 million lbs.).

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 Pacific Cod harvest last week was 812MT (1.7 million lbs.) for the A season is 81,003MT (178 million lbs.) 49% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 84,586MT (186 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation.

The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last weeks increased by 3,000MT to 8,464MT (18.6 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 131,927MT (290 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species.

The Halibut season open on March 15th at noon, so far 775 landing for landings for 4.06 million lbs. leaving 13.2 million lbs. to harvest; 23% 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 1.18 million lbs. followed by Petersburg, at 439,009lbs.

The Sablefish fishery has seen 652 Sablefish landings for 14.2 million lbs. leaving 46.5 million lbs. to harvest 23% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 3.5 million lbs. followed by Seward 2.4 million lbs.

Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish fishery: There are eight vessels fishing they have made thirty landings for 297,191 lbs. leaving 2.4 million lbs. to harvest from the 2.7 million lbs. allocation 11% of the harvest has been taken.

Overall Groundfish Harvest 5-25-2024: The harvest for the last week was 9,592MT (21.1 million pounds) 200MT increase over the previous week's harvest. The season totals are 789,540MT harvested (1.74 billion pounds) leaving 1,194,925MT (2.63 billion lbs.) to harvest; 40% of the overall annual harvest of 1,984,465MMT (4.3 billion pounds) has been completed.

Bering Sea A Season Pollock 5-25-2024: The Pollock fishery opened on January 20th the fourteenth full week of Pollock A season is still open with 24,408MT available to harvest, but no one is fishing we may have some activity before the June 10th B season opening by Onshore Catcher Vessels and by the At Sea Processors do some scouting on where Pollock are located before the B Pollock season start. 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 10th 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 5-25-2024: the harvest last week was 57MT for the season 30,957MT (68.2 million lbs.) leaving 19,013MT (41.9 million lbs.) to harvest 62% of the allocation has been harvested.

Salmon Bycatch 5-25-2024: 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, was zero the amount is in the 914 fish for the season.

Pacific Cod: 5-25-2024: The total cod harvest last week was 812MT (1.7 million lbs.) for the A season is 81,003MT (178 million lbs.) 49% of the allocation of 165,658MT has been harvested leaving 84,586MT (186 million lbs.) of Pacific Cod to harvest including CDQ harvest allocation.

Hook and Line C/Ps: This sector harvested 276MT (608,304 lbs.) last week for the season 31,407MT (69.2million lbs.) Leaving the A season allocation at 2,952MT 6.5 million lbs.) to harvest, 91% 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 35MT for last week (771,140 lbs.) for the season 33,274MT (73.3 million lbs.) through May 25, 2024. The Amendment 80 sector, 34MT At Sea 0MT and CV sector 1MT. (leaving 5,688MT (12.53 million lbs.) to harvest for the season, 85% 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 501MT (1.1 million lbs.) last week, for the season 7,116MT (15.6 million lbs.) from an A season allocation of 7,949MT leaving 2,889MT (5.3 million lbs.) 89% 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 5-25-2024 The Amendment 80 bottom trawlers harvest last weeks increased by 3,000MT to 8,464MT (18.6 million lbs.). The total harvest stands 131,927MT (290 million lbs.) of various flatfish and other species. The seasonal harvest totals by species are as follows, Yellowfin Sole 39,623MT, Rock Sole 23,905MT Alaska Plaice, 6,218MT, Flathead Sole 8,496MT, Arrowtooth Flounder 609MT, Kamchatka Flounder 827MT other Flatfish 1,600MT other species harvested this season including Perch and Rockfish, 5,357MT Atka Mackerel 30,258MT, Octopus 129MT Skate 14,442MT Greenland Turbot, 109MT and Sablefish Trawl 374MT.

State Water Pacific Cod 60'< Pot Boats 6-2-2024: 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, and no vessels are currently fishing.

Halibut IFQ 6-2-24: the season open on March 15th at noon, so far 871 landing for landings for 4.5 million lbs. leaving 12.7 million lbs. to harvest; 26% 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 1.35 million lbs. followed by Petersburg, at 512,741lbs.

Sablefish IFQ 6-2-24: there have been 704 Sablefish landings 15.0 million lbs. leaving 45.7 million lbs. to harvest 25% of the harvest is complete. Ports of Landings, Kodiak 3.6 million lbs. followed by Seward 2.56 million lbs.

Aleutian Island State Water Sablefish 6-2-24: There are eight vessels fishing they have made thirty landings for 297,191 lbs. leaving 2.4 million lbs. to harvest from the 2.7 million lbs. allocation 11% of the harvest has been taken.

Misc. Items: No meetings last week. I will be in Kodiak, Alaska all next week attending the NPFMC meetings. Just before the Council convenes, we will be attending a two-day Climate Workshop that is a joint NOAA and NPFMC program. I am looking forward to seeing the information that will be provided.

Some of the key issues on the NPFMC agenda include C-2 setting the Overfishing Limit (OFL) and Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) for the August 1st Aleutian Island Golden King Crab opening, the State ADFG set the Total Allowable Catch amount after the OFL and ABC are set by NPFMC. C-3 is the Area 4 Halibut vessels use caps this document is up for initial review, as well as C-4 Small Sablefish Release program also up for initial review. D-1 is a work group report on Unobserved Fishing Mortality Workshop they are trying to produce a way to calculate unobserved mortality in the trawl fisheries. D-2 17-year Crab Rationalization Program Review. The Council will review the crab program and make recommendations on how to improve areas of the program. D-3 Is the Rockfish Program Review for the Gulf of Alaska. D-4 is a review of BSAI Pacific Cod Local Area Privilege Program (LAPP) for the 60ft > over Pot Cod crab vessels a LAPP program is a type of rationalization plan the would stop the race for fish in the Pot Cod fishery in the Bering Sea it has be delayed for also 5 years it's good to the Council taking it up again. D-5 is a review of Council five-year research priorities. Lastly are the Council Staff tasking motions at the end of the meeting.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

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