

AGENDA ITEM: D-1

DATE: July 24, 1980

SUBJECT: Domestic fisheries report by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Groundfish Fisheries

Southeastern Alaska

A. Black Cod

- 1) Catch 961,000 pounds (dressed wt) through May
- 2) Present status: effort increasing from previous months (approximately 40 vessels fishing) and continued low price (45 cents/lb dressed wt).

B. Groundfish

Little activity, 3-4 vessels involved in a jig fishery out of Sitka.

Western Gulf of Alaska

Little activity, small inshore fishery for black rock fish.

Bering Sea

Soviet and Korean joint venture operations presently underway. Approximately 10 domestic vessels are making weekly deliveries of 700 to 1000 mt.

Tanner Crab Fisheries

- A. Preliminary 1979-80 Tanner crab (Chionoecetes bairdi) harvest. All fisheries are closed.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Harvest In Pounds</u>
Southeastern (including Yakutat)	4,112,315
Prince William Sound	5,952,195
Cook Inlet	5,053,793
Kodiak	18,623,875
Chignik	3,620,985
South Peninsula	6,961,251
Dutch Harbor	886,487
Adak	337,297
Bering Sea	36,312,550

- B. The Bering Sea Tanner crab (C. opilio) fishery is open.

- 1) Catch through July 13 is 38.5 million pounds.
- 2) Currently 10 vessels are delivering crab to 2 processors. These processors intend to stop purchasing Tanner crab by August 1.

Troll Salmon

1) Chinook

The chinook season in outside waters opened on April 15.

Power and hand troll harvest as of June 21, 1980 was 103,000 chinook.

Estimated troll catch as of July 15 is 163,000 chinook.

Coho

The coho season opened on June 15.

The reported coho harvest as of July 15 is 53,000 but the actual harvest will be much higher when all fish tickets are compiled.

- 2) Emergency/Field Order closed troll salmon fishery for 10 days beginning July 15. Purpose of the closure is to allow more coho to move inshore.
- 3) Projections of the 1980 chinook catch is 270,000 (250,000 troll and 20,000 net fisheries) below the lower end of the OY range.

GROUND FISH
GULF OF ALASKA
1980 CUMULATIVE DOMESTIC CATCHES

Reporting Period: Nov. 1979 - Oct. 1980
Landings Thru May 31, 1980

<u>Species</u>	<u>DAH</u>	<u>Landings</u>	
		<u>Metric Tons</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Pollock	(21,310 mt)	2,030.2	4,476,000
Flounder	(3,180 mt)	480.3	1,059,000
Cod	(10,000 mt)	842.7	1,858,000
Pacific Ocean Perch Rockfish	(3,815 mt)	94.0	207,000
Sablefish	(6,480 mt)	436.1	961,000 (1)
Rattail	(1,332 mt)	0	0
Atka Mackerel	(1,440 mt)	1.7	4,000
Squid	(150 mt)	0	0
Idiot Rockfish	(6 mt)	0	0
Other	(1,560 mt)	74.2	164,000
Unspecified		461.9	1,018,000
TOTAL		4,421.2	9,747,000

(1) Dressed Weight

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Juneau, Alaska 99801
25 June 1980

GROUND FISH
BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
1980 CUMULATIVE DOMESTIC CATCHES

Reporting Period: Jan. 1980 - Dec. 1980
Landings Thru May 31, 1980

<u>Species</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Landings</u> <u>Metric Tons</u>
Pacific Cod	13,529,000	6,138.3
Yellowfin Sole	532,000	241.6
Other Flounders	300,000	136.3
Pollock	18,611,000	8,444.0
Pacific Ocean Perch	56,000	25.5
Other Rockfish	15,000	7.0
Sablefish	50,000	22.7
Atka Mackerel	455,000	206.5
Other	230,000	104.3
Unspecified	30,000	13.8
Total	33,809,000	15,340.0

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GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH - WESTERN
 DOMESTIC CATCHES - NOV 1979 thru OCT. 1980
 METRIC TONS

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr ^{1/}	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Catch To Date
Pollock DAH= 5,775	0	0	0	0	0	76.9	0.5						77.4
Cod DAH= 1,880	0	0	0	0	0	8.5	0						8.5
Flounder DAH= 700	0	0	0	0	0	8.3	0						8.3
Pacific Ocean Perch DAH= 345	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Other Rockfish DAH= 75.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Sablefish DAH= 270	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Atka Mackerel DAH= 290	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Squid DAH= 30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Rattails DAH= 33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Other DAH= 400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	93.7	0.5						94.2

^{1/} Domestic catches not landed in Alaska for November 1979 through April 1980 are included in the catch for April 1980.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 25 June 1980

^{2/} Dressed weight.

GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH - CENTRAL
DOMESTIC CATCHES - NOV. 1979 thru OCT. 1980
METRIC TONS

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr ^{1/}	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Catch To Date
Pollock DAH= 13,320	10.4	3.2	121.7	88.9	194.6	789.9	320.4						1,529.1
Cod DAH= 6,050	6.1	2.5	87.7	57.8	198.4	325.8	91.3						769.6
Flounder DAH= 1,120	2.5	5.1	3.7	16.5	15.9	142.3	140.9						326.9
Pacific Ocean Perch DAH= 1,225													
Other Rockfish DAH= 250	0	0	0	2.9	0	17.8	6.7						27.4
Sablefish ^{2/} DAH= 1,220	0	0.2	0.3	7.1	6.3	12.3	3.4						29.6
Atka Mackerel DAH= 1,080	0	0	0	0	0	1.7	0						1.7
Squid DAH= 60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Rattails DAH= 33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Other DAH= 620	4.9	10.5	3.3	2.1	2.9	33.2	7.0						27.4
Unspecified	0.7	0	102.8	128.5	70.9	8.4	0.2						311.5
Total	24.6	21.5	319.5	303.8	489.0	1,331.4	569.9						3,059.7

^{1/} Domestic catches not landed in Alaska for November 1979 through April 1980 are included in the catch for April 1980.

^{2/} Dressed weight

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
25 June 1980

GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH - EASTERN
DOMESTIC CATCHES - Nov. 1978 thru OCT. 1980
METRIC TONS

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Catch To Date
Pollock DAH= 2,215	0	0	1.6	249.6	172.6	0	0						423.8
Cod DAH= 2,070	1.6	0.6	T	6.6	32.7	7.1	16.0						64.6
Flounder DAH= 1,360	44.8	49.3	50.6	0.1	0.3	0	0						145.1
Pacific Ocean Perch DAH= 1,315.													
Other Rockfish DAH= 575	6.5	2.8	1.3	7.3	10.6	5.5	32.6						66.6
Sablefish 1/ DAH= 4,990	26.5	7.1	19.1	49.5	34.3	118.5	151.5						406.5
Atka Mackerel DAH=70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Squid DAH= 60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Rattails DAH= 1,266	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Other DAH= 540	0.4	0.5	0.4	2.2	3.4	0.2	3.2						10.3
Unspecified	25.4	30.9	4.9	51.2	37.8	0	0.2						150.4
Total	105.2	91.2	77.9	366.5	291.7	131.3	203.5						1,267.3

1/ Dressed weight

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
25 June 1980

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GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH - ALL AREAS
DOMESTIC CATCHES - NOV. 1979 thru OCT. 1980
Metric Tons

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr ^{1/}	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Catch To Date
Pollock DAH= 21,310	10.4	3.2	123.3	338.5	367.2	866.8	320.9						2,030.3
Cod DAH= 10,000	7.7	3.1	87.7	64.4	231.1	341.4	107.3						842.7
Flounder DAH= 3,180	47.3	54.4	54.3	16.6	16.2	150.6	140.9						480.3
Pacific Ocean Perch DAH= 2,915													
Other Rockfish DAH= 900	6.5	2.8	1.3	10.2	10.6	23.3	39.3						94.0
Sablefish ^{2/} DAH= 6,480	26.5	7.3	19.4	56.6	40.6	130.8	154.9						436.1
Atka Mackerel DAH= 1,440	0	0	0	0	0	1.7	0						1.7
Squid DAH= 150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Rattails DAH= 1,332	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Idiot Rockfish DAH= 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Other DAH= 1,560	5.3	11.0	3.7	4.3	6.3	33.4	10.2						74.2
Unspecified	26.1	30.9	107.7	179.7	108.7	8.4	0.4						461.9
Total	129.8	112.7	397.4	670.3	780.7	1,556.4	773.9						4,421.2

^{1/} Domestic catches not landed in Alaska for November 1979 through April 1980 are included in the catch for April 1980

^{2/} Dressed weight



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July 9, 1980

Mr. Robert McVey
Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 1668
Juneau, AK 99802

Dear Bob:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for spending time with me last week to discuss the situation regarding Bering Sea herring, yellowfin sole and other matters. I feel the discussions were useful. Hopefully they will provide some direction for resolving certain outstanding questions involving our joint operations in the Bering Sea.

On the issue of yellowfin sole I feel it is necessary for me to again state my concern, and that of our fishermen, that we may run out of yellowfin sole JVP and unused DAH before our fishery winds down in late September. You will recall that I first raised this issue in a letter to Harry Rietze dated 25 January 1980 and more recently (4th June) in my letters to Ron Berg and yourself. Let me again state the specifics and what we feel is a justified course of action.

As of this date, our fishermen have delivered in excess of 3000 MT of yellowfin sole. Fishing has been excellent and our fishermen have been on limits due in part to the unfortunate seizure of the Mys Prokofieva (with only two processors on the grounds we could only accept a maximum of 125 MT per day). With the release of the Mys Prokofieva, our processing capacity increased to about 200 MT per day under good conditions. On a couple of days we have received in excess of 200 MT. In short we have the capacity and intent backed up by performance to take a sizeable amount of yellowfin sole this year.

Of course, as we all know, one cannot accurately predict the size of any fishery, much less a new one such as this. Markets could fade or fishing could drop off. Nonetheless, given the

Mr. Robert McVey, Director
Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
July 9th, 1980
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above it seems to me that we should reach the 7900 MT DAH limit by mid to late August. At that point we would have to have additional DAH or Reserve available or this new U.S. fishery would have to be shutdown -- an unsatisfactory solution to say the least.

The best course of action would appear to be the reapportionment of the 7814 MT of unallocated TALFF into DAH and Reserve. Such an action would not cause any disruption of foreign fisheries or the necessity for the State Department to back out of any "contract commitments" with foreign nations. This yellowfin sole would still be available for reapportionment back to TALFF after September in case domestic fishermen did not need all that was set aside for them.

I would be pleased to make available to your staff any necessary data or projections that they might require to justify this reapportionment. Our performance to date, though, should be sufficient justification.

Sincerely,



Walter P. Pereyra
Vice President and General Manager
Marine Resources Company

WTP:hm

cc: Terry Leitzell
Jim Branson ✓
Morris Busby