



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
September 22, 1992

Fisheries managed under delegated authority to the State of Alaska since the last council meeting include crab, salmon and Demersal Shelf Rockfish.

**Bering Sea King and Tanner Crab Fisheries:** The Adak Brown King Crab season, which had opened on November 1, 1991, closed by regulation on August 15. A total harvest of 6.2 million pounds was harvested by 16 vessels.

The Norton Sound red king crab fishery opened on a preseason GHF of 300,000 pounds. The actual harvest was only 73,000 pounds. This was attributed to late break-up of ice, causing the crab to hold with the closed area, thus being unavailable for harvest.

The St. Matthews blue king crab season opened on September 4. A total of 174 vessels participated in a 60 hour fishery. A catch of 2.5 million pounds was harvested.

The Bristol Bay red king crab fishery is scheduled to open on November 1, with a preseason guideline of just over 10 million pounds. This is just over half of last season's harvest guideline.

**TROLL SALMON REPORT:** The fishery ended approximately 8,000 king salmon shy of the harvestable quota; this amount will be carried over to next years quota. The season break-down included: a winter harvest of 72,000 kings, and experimental fishery harvest of 11,500 kings, 72,000 kings taken during two short summer openings occurring on July 1-4 and August 23. Additionally, 28,000 fish were taken in the terminal hatchery harvests and hatchery access fisheries.

**DERMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH:** All three management areas along the outer coast of Southeast proper (east of 137 degrees) reopened to directed fishing on July 1, and closed July 29 when the directed fishing quotas were reached. The East Yakutat subdistrict, except for the Fairweather Grounds, remains open; but harvest and effort have been low.

We will not know until after the bycatch data from the September halibut opening has been entered whether there will be enough TAC to allow for the traditional October 1 reopening of the directed fishery in the Southeast outside subdistrict.