



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

June 11, 1996

Fisheries managed under delegated authority of the State of Alaska since the last council meeting include crab, salmon and demersal rockfish.

BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS KING AND TANNER CRAB FISHERIES: To date, 2.9 million pounds of brown king crab have been landed by 17 vessels participating in the fishery. The exvessel price of just over \$2.00/pound is considerably less than last year and is contributing to the reduced effort and catch of the 1995/96 fishery. The 1994/95 fishery produced a total catch of 6.4 million pounds harvested by 34 vessels and was valued at over \$20.3 million dollars to the fleet.

Three vessels have landed 135,013 pounds of brown king crab from the Pribilof district in the Bering Sea. Deep water king crab, *L. conesi*, have been landed incidental to the brown king crab fisheries in the Bering Sea and Adak fisheries, and to the deep water *C. tanneri* fishery in the Dutch Harbor area. Currently there is no directed fishery for the deep water king crab, and catch information is confidential.

SALMON TROLL FISHERY: The winter Chinook fishery closed April 14 with a preliminary harvest of 8,500 salmon. The spring fishery is currently open, and targets returning Alaska hatchery fish.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISHERIES: The Southeast lingcod fishery opened on May 1 with 240,000 pounds harvested to date. With smaller quotas and larger fishing effort this year, the fishery is closing earlier. The Fairweather grounds closed on June 2 and the remaining area in the EYKT closed on June 6, and the CSEO and NSEO are expected to close within the next 2 weeks. The earliest closure last year during the spring/summer season was mid-August. The Clarence Strait sablefish fishery opens for 48 hours on June 8 with a 500,000 pound quota.