September 19, 2017

In 2017, 264 vessels fished GOA IFQ sablefish, with 246 using hook-and-line gear (6,095 mt), 7 using pot gear (186 mt), and 11 using both gear types (510 mt with 83 from hook-and-line gear and 428 mt from pot). In 2016, 290 vessels reported GOA IFQ sablefish using hook-and-line gear. In 2017, 17 shoreside processors received the pot CV deliveries.

Pot effort was across the GOA, but mostly in area 630. Areas 620 and 630 are combined for confidentiality.

| Area | # of vessels | Sablefish (mt) |
|---------|--------------|----------------|
| 610 | 4 | 128 |
| 620/630 | 14 | 326 |
| 640 | 8 | 84 |
| 650 | 9 | 76 |
| Total | 18 | 613 |

For vessels that reported harvest of both sablefish and halibut, 12 of the 17 vessels retained 15.5 mt of halibut, ranging from 0.03 mt to 7.7 mt by vessel. By vessel, the percentage of retained halibut ranged from 0.20% to 43.3% of the sablefish catch, or 3% overall for vessels that reported both sablefish and halibut.

Seven vessels using pot gear for GOA IFQ sablefish had observer coverage. Coverage was in all areas except 620. An observer was on the vessels for 110 hauls with 107 sampled.

Twenty vessels have registered for and received 10,437 pot tags for GOA IFQ sablefish. September 7, 2017 was the last date tags were issued. This report is public and updated every day on the web site at:

IFQ Sablefish Pot Tag Registrations https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/permits-licenses

