



NOAA
FISHERIES

Sustainable
Fisheries Division
Alaska Region



B2 – NMFS Management Report

Glenn Merrill
SF ARA
Alaska Region
June 10, 2020

Rulemaking Updates

(Since February)

Final Rules

- 2020/2021 Final Harvest Specifications (BSAI and GOA) (3/9/2020 and 3/10/2020)
- 2020 Halibut Annual Management Measures (3/13/2020)
- IFQ Beneficiary and Medical Transfer Provisions (3/16/20)
- Amendment 119/107 Catcher Vessel Fixed Gear Rockfish Retention (3/23/2020)



Rulemaking Updates

(Since February)

Proposed Rules

- Amendment 109, GOA Pollock and Pacific cod Seasonal Allocation (EOC: 3/30/2020)
- Adjust the Observer Fee (EOC: 4/8/2020)
- CQE in Area 3A Fish-up provision (EOC: 5/14/2020)
- Amendment 121/110 Sculpins to the Ecosystem component (EOC: 5/26/2020)



Rulemaking Updates

(Since February)

Emergency Action Requests

- Revised Charter Halibut Management Measures – In Review at HQ
- Emergency Rule to Allow IFQ Temporary Transfers in 2020 – In review at HQ
- Emergency Rule to remove Halibut IFQ Vessel Use Caps in Area 4 – In preparation



Inseason Management report – BSAI

- Bering Sea pollock catch is at 99% of the A season TAC
 - In 2020 relative to 2019, total Chinook salmon PSC and rates are higher, and total Non-Chinook salmon PSC and rates are lower in the Bering Sea pollock fishery
- Pacific cod catch is at 89% of the A season TAC
- Flatfish catch is at 47% of the TAC
- Bering Sea trawl sablefish catch is 523 mt in 2020 relative to 65 mt in 2019



Inseason Management report – GOA

- Pollock – A and B seasons
 - Western GOA, Area 610 is at 54% of the TAC
 - Central GOA, Area 620 is at 104% and Area 630 is at 63% of the TAC
- Pacific cod – A season
 - Western GOA is at 1% of the TAC, Central GOA is at 36% of the TAC. Directed fishing is closed for all sectors.
- Chinook salmon PSC is 919 salmon higher in 2020 relative to 2019



Inseason Management Report – IFQ

IFQ Sablefish:

- Trips down 20% relative to 4 year average and 25% relative to 2019
- Catch down 11% relative to 4 year average and 14% relative to 2019
- Four year average: 708 trips, 4,060 mt
- 2019: 752 trips, 4,180 mt
- 2020: 567 trips, 3,607 mt

IFQ Halibut:

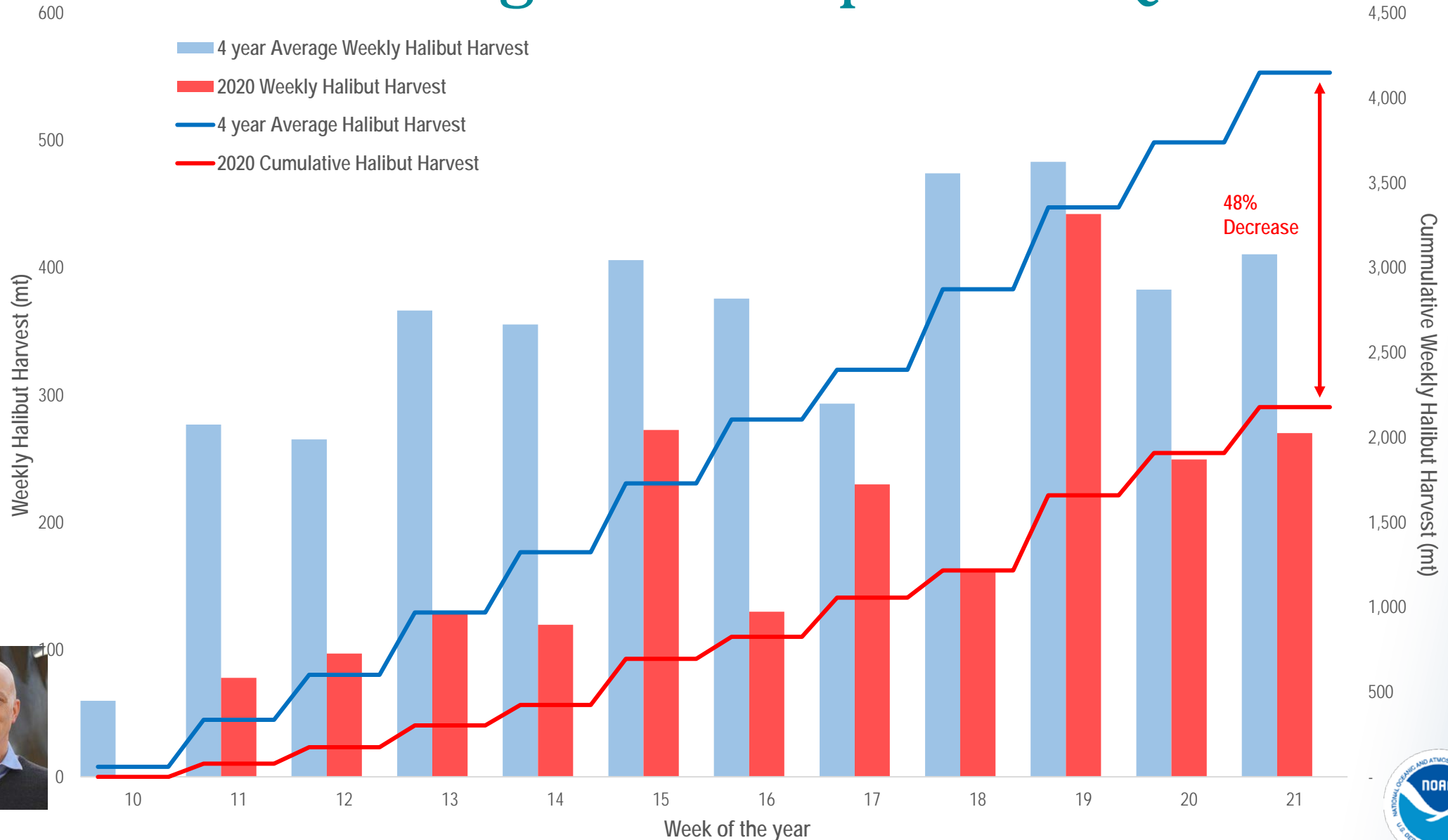
- Trips down 46% relative to 4 year average and 43% relative to 2019
- Catch down 48% relative to 4 year average and 47% relative to 2019
- Four year average: 1,091 trips, 3,820 mt
- 2019: 1,034 trips, 3,775 mt
- 2020: 587 trips, 1,990 mt



Inseason Management Report – IFQ Sablefish



Inseason Management Report – IFQ Halibut



Inseason Management report – Halibut PSC

| Area | 2020 Halibut Mortality | 2020 Groundfish | 2020 Rate | 2019 Halibut Mortality | 2019 Groundfish | 2019 Rate |
|-------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| BSAI | 893 | 974,189 | 0.09% | 1,468 | 1,011,678 | 0.15% |
| GOA | 452 | 81,037 | 0.56% | 419 | 104,006 | 0.40% |
| Total | 1,345 | 1,055,226 | 0.13% | 1,887 | 1,115,684 | 0.17% |



Sustainable Fisheries Staff Changes

- **Sally Bibb** retired as SF's Deputy ARA and Operations Branch Chief on 5/29/2020.
- **Anne Marie Eich** will continue to supervise the Ecosystem Branch and has been selected as SF's new Deputy ARA.
- **Josh Keaton** was promoted on May 11, 2020 to supervise SF's newly created Monitoring Branch.
- **Jennifer Watson** was promoted on May 11, 2020 to supervise SF's Operations Branch.
- **Abby Jahn** will join SF's Catch Shares Branch staff on July 6, 2020.
- **Kelly Cates** will join SF's Ecosystem Branch staff on July 6, 2020.
- **Amy Hadfield** joined SF as an Administrative Assistant on May 26, 2020



Inseason Adjustment Authority and Herring Bycatch Management

- **Please see B-2 Report for additional information**



Questions?

Glenn Merrill

Glenn.Merrill@noaa.gov



NOAA
FISHERIES