



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
JUNE 23, 1992

Fisheries under joint jurisdiction of State and Federal management, occurring since the April Council meeting include crab, salmon and Demersal Shelf Rockfish.

Bering Sea King and Tanner Crab Fisheries: The opilio fishery, which had began on January 15, closed April 22. The final catch tallied to 315.3 million pounds. Two hundred and fifty vessels made landings in the opilio fishery at an estimated ex-vessel value of \$157.7 million.

The Adak Brown king crab fishery began on November 1 and will close on August 15. Twenty-eight vessels registered for this fishery. Landings through June 14 are 4.2 million pounds valued at \$8.6 million.

The Bering Sea hair crab fishery began on January 1 and closed on June 4 due to molting crab. This fishery will re-open on October 1. Nine vessels have made landings of 209,000 pounds with an ex-vessel value of \$441,000.

Troll Salmon Report: The winter fishery took approximately 73,000 chinook salmon. This exceeded the previous winter high by about 13,000. This in part was due to an increase in effort as expressed in number of landings.

The first experimental fishery opened on May 18 in Carroll Inlet. It is open continuously until June 29. Experimental fisheries have occurred so far on May 26, 27, June 8,9,14,15. More experimental fisheries are scheduled in June. The Silver Bay and Mountain Point fisheries have had some extensions because of high proportion of hatchery catches.

The first hatchery access fishery occurred on June 1-3. There were only about 400 boats that fished and took only 10,000 chinook. About 21% were of Alaskan hatchery origin. A second hatchery access fishery is open from June 17 through June 19.

The summer chinook fishery is scheduled to open on July 1. The department will announce on June 25 the management method for the fishery. It will probably be open for a fixed number of days.

Demersal Shelf Rockfish: The DSR fishery is currently closed in all of the Southeast management areas and the Fairweather portion of the East Yakutat area. The summer season which allows for 15% of the annual harvest objective, is scheduled to open in the Southeast areas on July 1. For the East Yakutat area, determination of the total bycatch of DSR occurring during the sablefish and halibut openings must be made to ascertain if adequate TAC remains to reopen the directed fishery.