

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Donald Lane** <[donlane71@gmail.com](mailto:donlane71@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Mar 21, 2013 at 9:39 AM

Subject: Scallops

To: "Rep. Paul Seaton" <[Representative\\_Paul\\_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us)>

Hi Paul,

I applaud your efforts to force a public review of the Alaska Scallop fishery. In the 80's I was on the Homer Fish and Game Advisory Board and we worked hard to develop the Augustine Island Scallop fishery, specifically for smaller Coastal boats. 6' dredge, king crab by catch cap etc. It was viable and important fishery typically with off the dock sales. The scallop beds were repeatedly raided by the Large offshore scallopers with big dredges and this piracy resulted in a number of years of forced closures. After the F/V Big Ben (?) incident that forced an emergency closure to all Alaska Scallop, nearshore and offshore, the NPFMC was forced, mostly by hysteria, to create an all inclusive Scallop Management Plan. I testified a number of times at the NPFMC about the benefits and need to keep Cook Inlet out of the Plan. However, because the scallop beds were actually in Federal waters, my comments were ignored. I resent the way the Scallop Fishery has evolved. It is no longer a fishery that Homer has a sense of ownership and responsibility. The consolidation that has taken place has been troubling for me for years. The F/V Kilkenny still comes to Homer and sells scallops, because he has Homer connections and I appreciate that.

Please consider the following comments in your Scallop thoughts.

1. The NPFMC reacted and designed this program but it appears the problems have fallen in the State of Alaska lap.
2. The Owners of the Scallops permits clearly are not on the boats and I appreciate your efforts to shine a light on what the Scallop Fishery has become, and should have Constitutional review.
3. I believe the State is saddled with the financial responsibility for management, ie. I know the M/V Pandalus has spent a lot of time doing scallop surveys. How much has that cost and who is benefiting?
4. I noticed the Scallop permit owners (less than a handful) refer to all the jobs etc. etc. I am wondering if those are Alaskan jobs? I do not believe they import a lot of the crew from East Coast, not sure where the raw scallops end up for final processing. Much out of state I believe.

It is hard to get a sense of history after so many years but Homer once had a well managed local scallop fishery that was taken away. It has since been given to mostly corporate owners, the state seems to have management burden., I am not seeing where coastal Alaska has benefited

Again, thank you for shining a light on this debacle of management. What poor management can become after 25 years.

The Best. Don Lane.