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REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON HOUSE DISTRICT 30

Synopsis of Ownership and Control of Fishing Operations In The Alaska Weathervane Scallop Fishery

The scallop fishery occurs in both state and federal waters. As a result, there are two limited entry permit systems: one for state waters, and one for federal waters. Although there are two permit systems, the fishery is managed as a single unit. A federal fishery management plan delegates management authority to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Fishery rules, including guideline harvests and bycatch limits, apply to both state and federal waters.

In 2004, CFEC developed limited entry regulations for scallop permits in state waters. Nine independent boats had fishing histories that qualified them for permits. The CFEC regulations created a system that worked in concert with the federal limited entry program; each of the boats permitted by the state also held a federal limited entry permit. This allowed boats to easily fish back and forth in state and federal waters.

The question is then, nine years after the implementation of state limited entry, who controls the fishing activities of the original nine operations?

A CFEC report shows that a Washington Group of corporate partners controls five operations, and leases the harvest rights of a sixth vessel. Of the remaining three operations, only one is currently fishing the F/V Kilkenny. The other two fishing operations are controlled by EWT, LLC from New Bedford and the Wayward Wind corporation from Alaska. Neither of these two operations has been registered to fish for scallops since 2005.

The following provides a summary of who controls the fishing activities of the original nine qualified vessels, along with the current status of their original permit history:

Washington Group:

- 1) Former F/V Carolina Girl II; relinquished CFEC permit eligibility; federal permit held by the Washington Group
- 2) Former F/V Pursuit; relinquished CFEC permit in 2007; federal permit held by the Washington Group

- 3) F/V Carolina Boy; CFEC permit assigned to a vessel in Virginia; federal permit held by the Washington Group
- 4) F/V Ocean Hunter; CFEC permit and federal permit held by the Washington Group
- 5) F/V Provider; CFEC permit suspended (not named to a vessel) by a member of the Washington Group; federal permit held by the Washington Group.
- 6) F/V Forum Star; CFEC permit and federal permit held by Seattle corporations. Harvest rights are leased to the Washington Group. Last registered to fish in 2002.
- 7) Former F/V Arctic Storm; CFEC permit suspended (not named to a vessel) and federal permit held by a New Bedford corporation. Last registered to fish in 2005.
- 8) F/V Wayward Wind; CFEC permit and federal permit held by Alaska corporation. Last registered to fish in 2005.
- 9) F/V Kilkenny; CFEC permit and federal permit held by Alaska individual. Actively fishing