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Alaska State Legislature

Representative Carl E. Moses

CHAIRMAN
HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

VICE-CHAIRMAN
HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES



SESSION:
STATE CAPITAL BUILDING
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SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Joint Resolution 24

Relating to reduction of wanton waste in North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea fisheries

House Joint Resolution 24 addresses an issue of immediate concern to Alaska and its commercial fishing industry. In an August 1994 report prepared for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game by Pacific Associates, the wanton waste of fishery resources in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea was documented.

HJR 24 complements the efforts of Alaska's congressional delegation. Senator Frank Murkowski proposed a resolution to the United Nations General Assembly calling on all the nations of the world to address the issue of commercial bycatch and discards in 1995. The resolution puts the United Nations on record as believing the issue warrants serious attention in the international community and that a continued response is needed to ensure long-term sustainable development of fisheries.

Discards of either dead or live fishery resources occur in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea fisheries for three basis reasons: economics, management policies and fishing practices. Discards sometimes occur because of the economic loss associated with processing the entire harvest. When species of little or no value are harvested along with the target species, there is no real economic incentive to discourage discarding.

Management induced discards occur for several reasons. There are federal regulations that prohibit fishermen utilizing certain gear types from retaining certain species. The fact that the fish may be dead or alive does not matter. This is called *prohibited species* catch. Groundfish fisheries in the North Pacific are managed by an open-access method with species quotas. Fishermen are interested in targeting their particular species as rigorously as possible before the allotted quota is reached. This method also lends itself to waste through discards of non-target species.

ADAK • AKUTAN • AMCHITKA • ATKA • ATTU • BELKOFSKI • CHERNOFSKI • CHIGNIK • CHIGNIK LAGOON • CHIGNIK LAKE • COLD BAY • DUTCH HARBOR
EGEGIK • FALSE PASS • IGIUGIG • ILIAMNA • IVANOF BAY • KING COVE • KING SALMON • KOKHANOK • KOKHANOK BAY • LEVELOCK • NAKNEK
NELSON LAGOON • NEWHALEN • NIKOLSKI • NONDALTON • PEDRO BAY • PERRYVILLE • PILOT POINT • PORT ALSWORTH • PORT HEIDEN • PORT MOLLER
SAND POINT • SHEMA • SQUAW HARBOR • SOUTH NAKNEK • ST. GEORGE ISLAND • ST. PAUL ISLAND • UGASHIK • UNALASKA • UNGA

Fishing practices' discards may be the result of direct action by fishermen or through a combination of management requirements and fishing practices. Some fishermen "prospect" for a closed-fishery species while targeting another species. Because they will harvest prohibited species while doing this, there is mortality associated with the non-targeted species. Technical modifications to gear to make it "legal" (e.g., modifying on-bottom trawl gear to mid-water trawl) can cause increased bycatch mortality.

HJR 24 respectfully urges Congress to either amend the Magnuson Fishery Management and Conservation Act, or to enact other legislation, to address the waste of fishery resources. It also recommends harvest priority incentives for clean fishing practices to reduce wanton waste in the Bering Sea and North Pacific Ocean fisheries.

ALASKA SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 241847
ANCHORAGE, AK 99524

RECEIVED
FEB 08 1995
Ans'd.....

Dear Representative Austerman and Members of the Fisheries Committee

We were pleased to learn of House Joint Resolution 24 and want to extend our appreciation to the sponsors of HJR 24. This resolution echoes the feelings of responsible fishermen who detest the wanton waste of our fisheries resource by some of the fishers in the North Pacific and Bearing Sea fisheries. The current fisheries practices are unacceptable to say the least.

Although the general public is slowly being made painfully aware of the wasteful practices occurring off our shores, in front of the rule makers, their voices are most often muted by the special interests who handsomely profit from these practices. We applaud the Legislature's action in making its loud voice heard on this issue.

The Alaska Sportfishing Association, thanks you for acting on this critical issue.

Phil Cutler, President

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 24

Revision Date:	Dept. Affected: <u>Fish and Game</u>
Title: <u>Waste in Pacific and Bering Sea Fishery</u>	BRU: <u>CFMD</u>
Sponsor: <u>Representative Moses</u>	Component: <u>Fisheries Management</u>
Requester: <u>House Fisheries</u>	COMPONENT SERIAL NO. <u>1941</u>

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CONTRACTUAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUPPLIES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MISCELLANEOUS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY95) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: <u>Geron Bruce GB</u>	Phone: <u>465-6143</u>
Division: <u>Commissioner's Office</u>	Date: <u>4/27/95</u>
Approved by Commissioner: <u>Frank Rue Geron Bruce for</u>	Date: <u>4/27/95</u>
Agency: <u>Fish and Game</u>	

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For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Affected Agency: _____

Title: Relating to reduction of wanton waste in North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea fisheries. BRU: _____

Sponsor: Representative Moses Components: _____

Requestor: House Special Committee on Fisheries _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 2000	FY 2001
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0					

CAPITAL	0					
---------	---	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE	0					
---------	---	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund						
Federal Fund						
Other						
TOTAL	0					

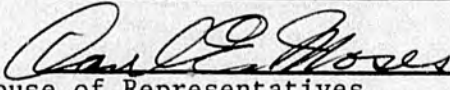
POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

Estimated FY 95 Impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

Prepared By: Cheryl Sutton, Legislative Aide Date: 2/7/95
Division: Legislative/House Rules Committee Phone: 465-6848

Approved By:  Date: 2/7/95
Agency: House of Representatives

DISTRIBUTION (BY PREPARER
LEGISLATIVE FINANCE
LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR

REQUESTOR
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
AGENCY(IES)

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24(FSH)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MOSES, Austerman, Finkelstein

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to reduction of wanton waste in North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea**
2 **fisheries.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **WHEREAS** more fish were discarded in the federally managed fisheries of the North
5 Pacific Ocean than were landed by American fishermen in the North Atlantic Ocean in 1992;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, in 1994, 25,881,596 kilograms of halibut and 1,866,272 kilograms of
8 herring were discarded by fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 1994, 15,459,253 crab were discarded by fisheries in the North Pacific
10 Ocean and the Bering Sea; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 1994, 195,609 salmon were harvested in groundfish fisheries of the
12 North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea; and

13 **WHEREAS** these discarded herring, crab, and salmon are resources managed by the
14 State of Alaska that were intercepted in offshore federal waters; and

15 **WHEREAS** these resources are the economic and cultural lifeblood for many Alaskans
16 who depend on the sea for their livelihoods and subsistence; and

1 **WHEREAS** marine wildlife species in Alaska marine waters that depend on fish for
2 food are faced with declining populations and a potential listing as endangered species; and

3 **WHEREAS** this continued wanton waste undermines any long-term management
4 strategy for sustained commercial, subsistence, and recreational fisheries, and places the rural
5 communities of Alaska at risk; and

6 **WHEREAS** efforts to implement severe penalties against vessels responsible for high
7 bycatch and discard rates have failed; and

8 **WHEREAS** minimizing the catch of undersized fish and reducing wanton waste will
9 conserve fisheries resources for present and future generations of subsistence users,
10 commercial and recreational fishermen, seafood industries, coastal communities, consumers,
11 and the nation; and

12 **WHEREAS** fisheries can technically or operationally reduce waste and the incidental
13 taking of nontarget species if given economic incentives or if appropriate regulatory measures
14 are applied;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the wanton waste now
16 occurring in federal fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea is of utmost
17 ecological, social, and economical importance; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the
19 Congress to amend the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, or to enact
20 other legislation, encompassing a broad range of measures to reduce wanton waste in North
21 Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea fisheries, including harvest priority incentives for clean fishing
22 practices and other management tools.

23 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President
24 of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker
25 of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore
26 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Bob Dole, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the
27 Honorable Ron Brown, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce; the Honorable
28 Richard B. Lauber, chair of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and to the
29 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the
30 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

NEWS



U.S. SENATOR

**FRANK
MURKOWSKI**

OF ALASKA

For Immediate Release
December 20, 1994

Contact: Chuck Kleeschulte or Cindi Bookout
O(202) 224-9306; H 301/283-4149 O 224-8767

**MURKOWSKI: U.N. APPROVES MURKOWSKI RESOLUTION; WILL
ADDRESS BYCATCH ISSUES IN FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

WASHINGTON -- The United Nations General Assembly has unanimously approved a United States resolution calling on all the nations of the world next year to take up the issue of commercial fisheries bycatch and discards.

The resolution, proposed by Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski, R, is designed bring international attention to the issue and build political support for ongoing efforts to address it. The resolution passed the U.N. as the body moves to wrap up its 49th General Assembly business prior to the Christmas holidays.

"This puts the issue of bycatch and discard out before the international community where it can no longer be ducked by those who would prefer to avoid talking about uncomfortable facts," said Murkowski. "We don't want to undermine the international efforts already underway, but we want the political side to realize what the conservation community already knows: this issue must be addressed head-on."

Murkowski, who is one of two delegates to the United Nations from the U.S. Congress for this 49th session of the General Assembly, presented an initial draft of the resolution to U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Madeleine Albright and asked for her rapid support during a meeting in New York Nov. 28.

Murkowski said the resolution was needed to ensure that the international community is fully aware of the bycatch and discard issue, which is of great concern to scientists around the world.

The United Nations Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development last week gave unanimous approval to the resolution calling on the international community to consider the issue of global fishery bycatch and discard during next year's fall session of the United Nations. By pressing for action in this year's session, Murkowski shaved

Murkowski: U.N. Adopts Bycatch Resolution**December 20, 1994**

as much as a year off the time when the full U.N. could take up the issue.

According to Murkowski, a recent report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, based in Rome, indicates that the total amount of fishery discards -- fish caught, but for various reasons not retained for processing -- is far larger than previously thought. The report estimates global discards at approximately 27 million metric tons per year. When added to global landings of 83 million metric tons, that means ocean harvesting may exceed the ocean's ability to produce a sustainable yield by ten million metric tons or more annually.

"This is extremely serious," said Murkowski. "The ocean is not limitless, and it is urgent that we undertake the research needed both to define the problem in accurate, scientific terms, and to make it possible to make better use of the resources we are harvesting. In a world where food is a major concern to millions of people and hundreds of nations, we cannot continue to harvest only the most profitable and throw away everything else. Even if only 25 percent of the discards are edible, that is still enough food to supply a quarter of the world's population with almost 50 protein-rich meals -- far in excess of what is currently available to many."

The resolution as approved notes that progress on bycatch and discard issues is already being made by a number of international organizations, but stresses that, "improvements in monitoring and assessing bycatch and discards and improving bycatch reduction techniques continue to be necessary."

The resolution puts the United Nations on record as believing the issue warrants serious attention in the international community, and that a continued response is needed to ensure long-term sustainable development of fisheries.

LEGI-SLATE Report for the 103rd Congress Wed, December 15, 1993 7:41pm (EST)
BILL TEXT Report for S.1756

As introduced in the Senate, November 20, 1993

S.1756 As introduced in the Senate, November 20, 1993

103d CONGRESS

1st Session

S. 1756

To encourage the optimum utilization of fisheries resources, to reduce waste
in commercial fish harvesting and processing, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

November 20 (legislative day, November 2), 1993

Mr. Murkowski introduced the following bill; which was read twice and
referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To encourage the optimum utilization of fisheries resources, to reduce waste
in commercial fish harvesting and processing, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Commercial Fisheries Waste Reduction Act of
1993".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that:

(1) Current commercial fisheries practices in the United States and
world wide contribute to a significant waste of edible food resources
which are harvested, but discarded without processing for human
consumption or other uses.

(2) Fish currently harvested but discarded without processing include
in some fisheries large numbers of juvenile fish which would have
significantly greater value both as an economic asset to the fishery and
to the maintenance of the species if they were allowed to reach maturity
before harvesting.

(3) Fish currently harvested but discarded without processing include

in some commercial fisheries significant numbers of adult fish or fish parts which could be processed for human consumption, but which are required to be discarded for various fisheries management purposes, or which are considered unsuitable for a particular market of immediate interest to the fishing vessel operator.

(4) Fish currently harvested but discarded without processing include significant numbers of fish of species for which there is presently no viable market, but which, if they remained unharvested, could form the basis for future fisheries as new markets and processing techniques are developed.

(5) There is cause for concern that current levels of mortalities among non-target fish species may have adverse environmental consequences.

(6) High discard levels, if concentrated geographically, may cause damage to the productivity of the resources using the ocean bottom and near-bottom areas.

(7) The current level of scientific knowledge is insufficient to determine if adverse impacts may result from the removal of nutrients presently returned to the ocean through the discard of non-target fish species and of unutilized portions of targeted species.

(8) It is in the national interest both environmentally and economically to minimize mortalities among non-target species taken incidentally to the various directed fisheries.

(9) It is in the national interest to encourage the utilization where practicable of all parts of fish harvested in directed fisheries for the species.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO MAGNUSON ACT.

The Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et. seq.) is amended--

(1) in subsection 1801(b)(4) by inserting "in a non-wasteful manner and" after "maintain,";

(2) in subsection 1801(b)(6) by inserting "in a non-wasteful manner" after "such development";

(3) in subsection 1802(21)(B) by inserting ", including efforts to limit mortality in non-target species for the purposes of resource conservation and food production" after "ecological factor";

(4) in section 1802 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(33) The term 'non-target species' means fish caught incidentally to fishing for a particular species or group of species and which may or may not be retained aboard the fishing vessel for subsequent processing and/or sale.";

(5) in section 1851(a)(1) by adding "and encourage the minimization of mortalities among non-target species" after "prevent overfishing";

(6) in section 1851(a)(5) by striking the word "promote" and inserting in its place the word "consider";

(7) in section 1851(a) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(8) Conservation and management measures shall encourage the non-wasteful taking of fishery resources, including the reduction of discards of fish and fish parts, and the minimization of mortalities among non-target species.";

(8) in section 1853(a) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (6) and renumbering the subsequent paragraphs accordingly; and by inserting the following new paragraphs:

"(4) assess and specify--

"(A) to the maximum extent practicable an estimate by numbers of fish or weight thereof of the extent of anticipated mortalities among non-target species taken incidentally to the fishery or fisheries for which the plan is prepared, and

"(B) to the maximum extent practicable, an estimate by numbers of fish or weight thereof of anticipated discard levels of fish and fish parts taken pursuant to the fishery, but not utilized;

"(5) contain a description of measures intended to reduce mortalities among non-target species taken incidentally to the fishery or fisheries for which the plan is prepared, and to encourage the use of target species in a manner which minimizes the discard of fish and fish parts"; and

(9) in section 1853 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(g) Required Amendment of Management Plans.--Each council shall--

"(1) within one year from the date of enactment of this subsection, submit to the Secretary such amendments for each management plan under its jurisdiction as are needed to comply with subsections (a)(4) and (5)

of this section; and

"(2) thereafter submit annually to the Secretary a report identifying any changes to the estimates and descriptions required in subsection (a) (4) and (5) and in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and providing an explanation of the cause or causes of such changes."

Press ENTER to return to MAIN MENU:

NPFMC studies programs aimed at reducing waste

By JOHN PFEIFER
Special to the Mirror

After years of struggling with the thorny issue of bycatch, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) last week ordered a study of two pilot programs designed to explore ways of reducing the amount of fish discarded in Alaskan waters.

Pressure has been increasing in recent years for the industry to do something about the problem.

National environmental groups have even gotten into the act, lobbying both the council and Congress to clamp down on waste.

"Many people in coastal communities throughout Alaska are alarmed and outraged by the figures for bycatch, up 50 percent from 1992 to 1993, to 740 million pounds," said Fran Bennis, of the Alaska Marine Conservation Council.

The NPFMC has already implemented at least one program designed to reduce bycatch. The Vessel Incentive Program (VIP), which began in 1991, was intended to punish vessels with the highest discard rates. However, enforcement problems slowed the program to a virtual halt.

As first envisioned, VIP was to have provided "real-time" punishment of fishermen with high discard rates by forcing them to sit out a portion of the season.

However, the program ran afoul of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees everyone the right to due process, or — in other words — the right to have their day in court.

Instead of assessing real-time penalties, NMFS was forced to prosecute violators. The first case didn't reach the courts until the summer of 1994.

Now, the council is focusing its attention on other approaches.

One is called "harvest priority." It is a program designed to

change fishermen's behavior before the season even begins.

A harvest priority program would encourage fishermen to reduce their catch of unwanted species by allowing those who met certain bycatch standards to participate in a reserve fishery, held after the regular season.

The trouble is, it may also have some of the same problems with due process that the VIP program did. Fishermen who are not rewarded with the chance to participate in a second season, might also want their day in court.

The other approach being examined by the council is called full retention/full utilization.

"It would require fishermen to retain at least a percentage of the unwanted species they catch. A certain portion of those fish would also have to be utilized, i.e., processed for human consumption."

During more than five hours of discussion, council members heard a wide range of ideas.

Environmental groups tended to favor harvest priority because it would deal with the problem up front, reducing the catch of unwanted species before it occurred.

They also said a harvest priority system would be less onerous to small-boat fishermen, who might have trouble complying with a full retention requirement.

Several crab fishermen who testified placed most of the blame on the trawl industry and said it was high time for them to clean up their act.

"Salmon fishermen are standing on the beach. One hundred thousand or 400,000 fish — I hear all kinds of numbers — are being thrown over the side as bycatch," said Nancy Hillstrand, co-owner of an Alaskan crab boat.

"Crab fishermen are standing on the beach. Twenty million

animals are being thrown overboard.

"What does this show to the rest of the world, when there's no fishing now on the Georges Banks, no fisheries on the North Sea, and down in Oregon and Washington they've been cut way back," she said.

"Full utilization, I don't think so. I think full utilization would just give them a license to continue this bycatch kill," Hillstrand said.

Tom Casey, who represents 13 crab fishermen, suggested the council could easily deal with the problem of discards — at least in the Pacific cod fishery — if it simply outlawed trawl gear.

Casey said the discard rate for trawlers targeting Pacific cod in the Gulf of Alaska is 18 percent. The discard rate for pot fishermen, however, is less than 2 percent.

"I want to convince you that codfish should not be caught with trawls," Casey said.

"They're too valuable. They're not pollock in disguise, they're king salmon in disguise. We could be the codfish capital of the world if we treated codfish better," Casey said.

Paul MacGregor, representing the American Factory Trawler Association, took issue with the repeated characterization of trawlers as bad guys.

"I think it's time for everybody to recognize that bycatch and discard is a prevalent and pervasive problem in every fishery under our jurisdiction, whether it be trawlers or pot fishermen or longliners," MacGregor said.

"All God's children got bycatch."

MacGregor also preferred a more market-driven approach. He suggested the council reserve a certain portion of the bycatch, or PSC, for industry pools. Those industry pools would be responsible for policing them-

selves, and could only continue fishing until they exhausted their supply of bycatch.

"Fishermen would be able to select whether they wanted to operate in the open access pool and be subject to the normal regulations, or they could select to fish in the industry pool and be subject to the internal rules that the industry group had adopted. You'd have a contractual arrangement between the fishermen in that pool," MacGregor said.

After listening to several hours of testimony from all corners of the fishing industry, the council decided to examine two pilot programs incorporating aspects of both harvest priority and full retention/utilization.

One program, proposed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), would zero in on the Bering Sea-Aleutian Island rock sole and mid-water pollock fisheries.

The other, a more specific plan recommended by Cold Sea International, Inc., deals with the rock sole fishery alone.

The rock sole fishery — primarily a roe fishery — is one of the "dirtiest" in Alaskan waters.

Data collected by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) during 1994, showed that trawlers fishing in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands retained just 31 percent of what they caught. The rest, almost 70 percent, was thrown back over the side.

The mid-water pollock fishery, on the other hand, is one of the cleanest. NMFS records show the trawl discard rate in that fishery to be less than 3 percent.

ADF&G's proposal assumes that some sort of retention and utilization standards would be set for both fisheries.

Those standards would either be adopted all at once, or phased in over a 3-year period. A cer-

tain percentage of the targeted bycatch would have to be processed, possibly into a form suitable for human consumption.

The proposal submitted by Cold Sea International is much more specific.

It outlines a plan that incorporates aspects of both the harvest priority system and full retention/utilization.

The Cold Sea program would divide the Bering Sea-Aleutian Island rock sole fishery into two seasons, one starting in January and the other in August.

A certain percentage of the Total Acceptable Catch (TAC) would be allocated for each season, as would a certain amount of the bycatch.

Fishermen would be required to retain a certain portion of their catch during both seasons.

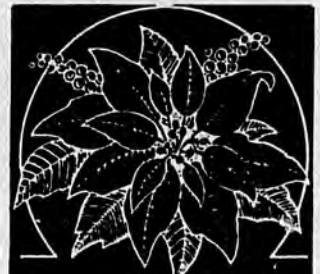
For discussion, Cold Sea suggests 60 percent retention during the "A" season and 75 percent retention during the "B" season.

Only those boats that met the retention standards during the "A" season would be rewarded by being allowed to fish during the "B" season.

NPFMC and NMFS staff will begin analyzing both the ADF&G and Cold Sea proposals during the next few months.

In April, they will report the results of their investigation to the council.

At that time, the council will decide which plan, or combination of plans, it wants to pursue.



New Holiday

FAX SHEET

TO: Amy
Fax #: 465-4956

FROM: Phyllis Furness
Phone #: 907-586-7228
Fax #: 907-586-7465

RE: 1994 bycatch of
prohibited species.

The halibut column is
in kilograms

The mortality column
is actual halibut
mortality in metric
tons. * dead halibut

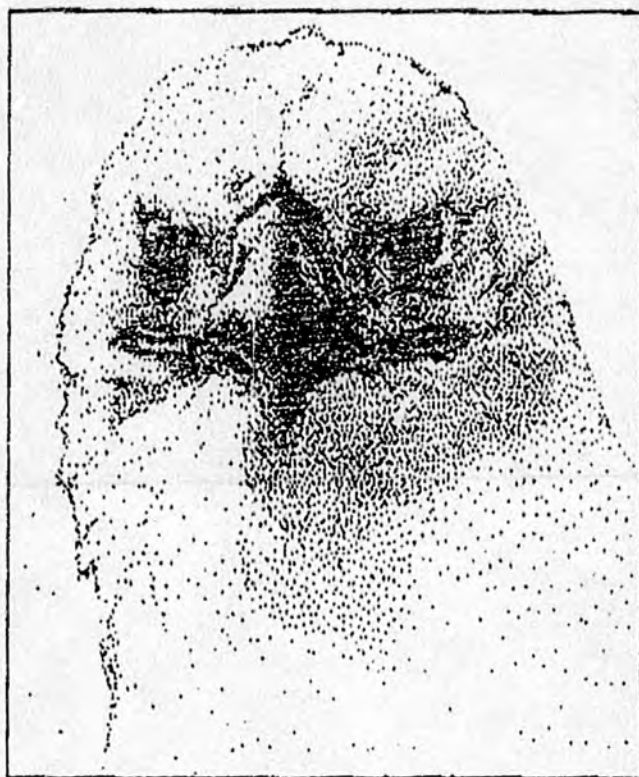
Herring is in kg

Crab includes:

Bairdi, red king,

Opilio tanner, oking (other king crab) These are 5

Salmon includes - chinook + other sal + are in #'s
This data comes from observer reports +
is organized by the Gulf of AK + Bering
Sea and Aleutian Islands.



1994 BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

Page: 1

HALIBUT	MORTALIT	BAIRDI	RED_KING	CHINOO	OTHER_SA	HERRING	OPILIO TA	OKING
14,057,939	4,919	2,544,982	281,023	44,544	96,470	1,765,220	12,482,127	77,138

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1994 GULF OF ALASKA

Page: 1

	HALIBUT	MORTALI	BAIRDI	RED_KING	CHINOO	OTHER_SA	HERRING	OPILJOTA	OKING
1	11,823,657	3,348	52,228	69	13,978	40,617	101,052	13,494	6,192