

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE/SUBJECT FILES 8672

3057 SCOMM 138: HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES 2005-2006

Testimony to Senate Resources Committee on CS SB 113

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on CS SB 113. My name is Dan Hull and I'm speaking on behalf of the Groundfish Division of CDFU.

We strongly support CS SB113 as the best approach to complement the Federal groundfish rationalization program being developed by the NPFMC. The alternatives, including the status quo, will not provide us with any protections when the groundfish fisheries are rationalized in Federal waters, nor will they provide the State with the best tools to manage our State groundfish fisheries into the future. If you look at the history of fisheries management systems, reducing efficiency through gear or time limits, or limiting entry to regulate the fisheries have all proven to be inadequate. They lead to "capital stuffing" and exacerbate the race for fish, along with associated bycatch, safety and market problems. There is no perfect solution; you have to use the best combination of management tools and methods available.

In addition to our support for the bill, we have three specific comments to make about it, and the accompanying MOU between the CFEC and the BOF:

1. It appears possible that through vessel ownership a processor may be granted dedicated access privileges (DAPs) established through the legislation. If that is the case, we would be opposed to any expansion of DAPs by processors beyond any initial allocations. Since DAPs are defined as another kind of limited entry tool in legislation, presumably the prohibition against processor ownership would disallow even an initial allocation to the processing sector. This point is not clear to us.
2. The bill must guard against excessive consolidation that would give any one sector or gear group excessive leverage over another, or that would disrupt the social and economic fabric of coastal communities. We highlight this issue because it is critical to the success of the DAPs, and not because the language of the bill falls short in this regard. It's something we ask that you keep in mind as the bill moves through the legislature.
3. We suggest that the MOU include language describing the process for re-issuing DAPs in a particular fishery once they expire. Presumably, DAPs granted in perpetuity would not pass legal muster, and so each DAP fishery must expire after a certain time period, and then go through a joint BOF and CFEC process to be re-established. Language describing this process would help confirm the intent of DAPs for the industry, the legislature, and the public.

Before I end my testimony I want say something about the BOF process that has culminated in this bill, because I sense from reports in the media and the Senate Resources Committee meeting of last week that there are concerns about the adequacy of that process. I think the BOF and it's Groundfish Rationalization Committee should be commended for their work, and from my perspective that work was conducted openly, constructively, and with appropriate public notice. Although I have not attended all of the BOF meetings on this, I have been aware of all of them, and all of the information and minutes from those meetings have been available to me for the past few years. I have

always been able to communicate with members of the Committee, the BOF, and staff from ADF&G and ADF&G Boards Support about groundfish rationalization.

Thank you.

From: Arni Thomson [accrabak@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2005 11:13 AM
To: Sen. Tom Wagoner; Sen. Ralph Seekins; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen. Ben Stevens; Sen. Gretchen Guess; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Bert Stedman
Cc: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Bill Thomas; Rep. John Harris; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Peggy Wilson; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Woodie Salmon; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch; Mark Vinsel; Jerry McCune; Joe Childers; Al Birch
Subject: ALASKA CRAB COALITION SUPPORT FOR SB 113

May 5, 2005

Honorable Senators and Representatives
 Alaska State Legislature

The Alaska Crab Coalition wishes to restate its support for passage of SB 113 as noted in the memorandum below of April 25th, 2005.

Best regards,
 Arni Thomson
 Executive Director

----- Original Message -----

From: Arni Thomson
To: Senator Thomas Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us ; Senator Ralph Seekins@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Senator Fred Dyson@legis.state.ak.us ; Senator Ben Stevens@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Senator Gretchen Guess@legis.state.ak.us ; Senator Kim Elton@legis.state.ak.us ; Senator Bert Stedman@legis.state.ak.us
Cc: Representative Gabrielle LeDoux@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Bill Thomas@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Representative John Harris@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Jim Elkins@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Representative Peggy Wilson@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Mary Kapsner@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Representative Woodie Salmon@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Ralph Samuels@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Representative Jay Ramras@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Carl Gatto@legis.state.ak.us ;
 Representative Kurt Olson@legis.state.ak.us ; Representative Harry Crawford@legis.state.ak.us ; Bruce Weyhrauch ; Mark Vinsel ; Jerry McCune ; Joe Childers ; Al Birch
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2005 1:59 PM
Subject: ALASKA CRAB COALITION SUPPORT FOR SB 113

Honorable Senators and Representatives
 Alaska State Legislature

The Alaska Crab Coalition (ACC) represents the owners and operators of Bering Crab boats from Washington and Alaska, a number of whom also fish for cod with pots in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska. The ACC has been involved for nineteen years in not only the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council process, but also the Alaska Board of Fisheries process in fisheries management and fisheries rationalization issues.

The ACC hereby endorses SB 113, "An Act relating to entry into and management of Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries," and authorizes fisheries that would be available for consideration of a "dedicated access privilege program." The ACC concurs with the findings and purpose that the legislation is needed for harvesters dependent upon Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries for a livelihood to meet the challenges of global market competition. The current forms of limited entry authorized by AS 16.43 may not be well-suited to promote the best interests of the State of Alaska in the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries.

The ACC is also aware that the Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council have worked strenuously over the past four to six years attempting to find solutions to state and federal waters jurisdictional issues and the "parallel fisheries" issues. These management entities need the DAP solutions embodied in SB 113 to resolve not only the allocative aspects of affected state and federal waters' fisheries, but the attendant biological and conservation issues. The SB 113 solutions

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will also set significant precedents and provide similar benefits for the State of Alaska, for the same reasons in the rationalization of non-pollock groundfish fisheries, including cod, in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Arni Thomson
Executive Director
Alaska Crab Coalition

cc: Mark Vinsel, Executive Director, UFA
Jerry McCune, UFA
Joe Childers, Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen
Al Birch, Executive Director, Alaska Draggers, Assn.

5/5/2005

Alaska Jig Fisherman's Association

May 5, 2005

Addressing the issue of SB 113

The Alaska jig fishermen have never asked to be opted out of SB113. We feel this is a divide and conquer tactic by proponents of this bill.

Alaska jig fishermen wish to be included in SB 113 and we will continue to take a firm stand for our rights.

The possibility of this bill passing leaves us no other option at this time.

Respectfully

Alaska Jig Fisherman's Association

Steve Mathieu Pres
Shawn Kosun Vice Pres.
Locke Finley Sec/Tres.
Shawn Dochterman Dir.
Chuck Thompson Dir.

From: Alaska Draggers Association [alaska@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2005 3:28 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Fish Managers Need the Tools Provided by SB113

Dear Representatives:

As we head into the final days of this Legislative Session, I want to first thank you for all your work on behalf of Alaskans, and especially Alaska's fishing families. We know it's not easy at times, but your efforts and decisions do make a difference and are appreciated.

On Friday, the House Special Fisheries Committee will hear comments on SB113. It is vital that this legislation is passed so that State fisheries managers have the tools they will need to make decisions and provide protections for near-shore fishermen when the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries are rationalized.

I have enclosed a copy of an Opinion Piece of mine that was in the Kodiak Daily Mirror. I would appreciate you reading it as it goes into better detail and explanation of the importance of SB 113--in particular the last several paragraphs of the letter.

Thanks again for all your hard work on behalf of Alaska's fishing families. Please do what you can to get SB 113 passed this session.

Sincerely,

Al Burch
and the 40+ members who own and fish family trawl vessels out of Kodiak

Letter to Editor from Al Burch

I have been around a while and have seen more than my share of battles in our Alaskan fisheries. You don't get a beard full of white hair and a head full of no hair by not being involved. Normally, when I see or read bilge water opinion pieces I chuckle at the attempt to mislead those who have to hear such garbage. I rely on the fact that most Alaskans have good judgment and are more than capable of knowing when they are being fed a line of baloney.

But when I read the latest attack on Senate Bill 113 and Senator Ben Stevens concocted by a guy named Taufen, I just couldn't let it go. This guy, who is from some unknown entity he calls "GROUNDWELL" from Seattle, has attacked the integrity of a lifelong Alaskan.

Ben Stevens--who having fished our most dangerous fishery--the Bering Sea Crab Fishery--and knows personally what it's like to make a living as a commercial fisherman, is now trying to use his experience and knowledge to solve some mighty difficult fishery management problems

I have known Ben Stevens his entire life. I watched him as many of us did, learn the commercial fishing industry from the ground up. We watched him work the deck of crab and salmon boats--beginning, as all of us did, by doing the grunt work greenhorns must do--to working his way through the engine room and ultimately to the wheelhouse.

Ben went on to become a leading skipper and has sailed virtually every mile of Alaska's coast on fish boats, tug boats and even hovercrafts! I bet Ben's squeezed more Alaskan sea water out of his socks than Taufen has ever seen.

Senator Ben Stevens was asked to sponsor SB 113 by those who manage our fisheries. The request came from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council,

representatives of the Alaska Board of Fisheries and representatives from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC).

Why? Because the ground fish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska are managed by the feds and the state. The feds are charged with fish from three to 200 miles and the state from zero to three miles. The federal managers are currently wrestling with solving difficult management problems that have resulted in small, fast derby-type fisheries that are difficult to operate in. As they wrestled with rationalizing the fishery the feds realized there are very few options for managing fisheries inside state waters. That's why SB113 is so important. It will allow state managers to create more options.

One of the big challenges with rationalizing any fishery is that fish travel—they swim back and forth between different jurisdictions at different times and under different conditions.

Ben Stevens was asked to help give the Board of Fish and the CFEC the necessary tools to solve these management problems in state waters.

That's what the bill does—period. The bill simply provides state managers with the tools necessary to get the job done.

SB 113 does not describe any type of management solution nor does it require any particular outcome. If the truth be known, Senator Stevens was asked by some to direct the Board and CFEC to solve the problems in all kinds of different ways depending on where they stood and how they might benefit from the changes.

He said, "NO!" to all of them. He said it is up to the Board and CFEC to make those decisions—that's what they were established for—to make tough decisions on the best way to manage state fisheries to the best result for all involved. Many people were disappointed, including those who Taufen claims influenced the bill.

The facts are that the Gulf fisheries have significant management problems; those charged with solving those problems asked for the tools needed to fix things. They asked the Legislator—a former fisherman—who has one of the best working understandings of our fisheries of anybody in the legislature. Ben Stevens agreed to give them the tools—and nothing more.

Let's not let ourselves be distracted by allegations from one side or another. Instead, let us focus on the things we can agree on—that the fisheries need help and that our fishermen need protection—and let's see if we can't get the fish managers the tools they need to make the changes necessary to accomplish both.

Al Burch

Fishing Vessel Dawn

Fishing Vessel Dusk

486-3910

From: Peter & Mary Ann [wildfins@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2005 4:07 PM
To: Kimberly Wallace
Cc: Rep. Bill Thomas
Subject: Re: SB 113-Comments and concerns

Hello,

Speaker Harris just referred Senate Bill 113 to the House Special Committee on Fisheries and House Finance.

When Representative LeDoux and Representative Thomas decide when the bill will be scheduled, an email will be sent out.

Best regards, Kim

Kimberly Wallace
Legislative & Fisheries Committee Aide
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux
District 36
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1121
Phone: 907.465.2487
Fax: 907.465.4956

Kim, Thanks for notice. I hope I am doing this right to get following input into fisheries committee.

Dear Reps. Le Doux and Thomas and Fisheries Committee members,
I am Peter Allan a twenty-five year Kodiak resident small boat fisherman who has been active in the state jig cod fishery for the last nine years .

While I am generally opposed to SB 113 due to the carte blanche undefined allocative powers it invests in the Board of Fish-CFEC I am particularly irate about and distressed that I and my fellow jig fishermen have been singularly defined out of the process whether good, bad, or ugly.

The jig fleet makes up approximately 35-40% of the groundfish fleet. The jig cod fishery is a very low volume, slowly prosecuted, environmentally benign (i.e. almost zero bycatch), product quality enhancing endeavor. There is absolutely no reason to throw us to the wolves while creating lucrative property rights and windfall wealth for the other gear types. The only reason I can think that Sen. Ben Stevens has written us out of the process is because many jig fishermen have been critical of SB 113 in the first place. This certainly appears to be legislation amended with a sense of spite and vengeance as opposed to forward thinking positive policy making. I sincerely hope that you members of the House have the gumption to stand up to this kind of bullying and that you will re-think this issue.

There has been much discussion about the need for entry level opportunity and I believe that true "entry" level fishing opportunity is important to the long term health of coastal communities. However, the "entry level " impacts should be shared by all gear groups either by by entry level opportunity into each or or even better by providing pooled pro rated quota from each gear type that is designated as " entry level " quota." Entry level" opportunity impacts should not just be shuffled off onto the gear group that is least able to afford it. Please do not make the jig fishery the dumping ground for any and all future groundfish effort. (Please note that for the last three years the average ex vessel / boat value of jig cod in the Kodiak area has ranged between \$10,000 -\$12,000. No one is getting rich at this.)

5/5/2005

In conclusion, I hope the Fisheries Committee will closely examine the possible negative effects/impacts of SB 113 on the coastal economies and that you will work to reverse the jig exemption that is currently written into the bill. Please do not exclude us from the "rationalization" process by legislative fiat. We should be entitled to the same Board of Fish-CFEC process as others if there is to be any pretense of fairness and uniform application under the law.

Thank you for your attention to this . Sincerely , Peter Allan

From: Tom Evich [tomevich@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2005 4:42 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. John Harris; Rep. Woodie Salmon; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Peggy Wilson; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Bill Thomas; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Cc: Joe Childers
Subject: Senate Bill 113

Dear Honorable Representative

I ask, plead with you to hear and then pass Senate Bill 113. I understand that time is running short for this session, but to be quite honest, time is running out for those of us that depend on Gulf Ground Fish to make a living. I own and operate a 58' trawler that has operated out of Sand Pt. last 25 years. I use to participate in the Salmon fishery but since that has collapsed I now depend on Cod and Pollock to support myself and my crew. Like Salmon, but for many different reasons, I am watching the Gulf Ground Fishery fail as I watched Salmon fail in the mid 1990s. We can correct these problems now, with no expense to the state! With this legislation we can continue the process that the N.P.M.C has begun. You cannot get into trouble with this bill, it is just the beginning of the public process. I appreciate your consideration.

Most Sincerely
Tom Evich
F/V Karen Evich

5/5/2005

Robert Martin
P.O. 3544
KODIAK, AK 99615

DEAR SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE,

IT APPEARS THE STATE WATERS JIG FLEET
HAS BEEN MISINTERPRETED ON THEIR STANCE OF SB113.

ALTHOUGH I DO NOT SUPPORT THE BILL AS
WRITTEN, IN NO WAY, DO I FEEL THE JIG FLEET
SHOULD BE EXCLUDED. HOW CAN YOU EXCLUDE THE
GEAR TYPE THAT ACTUALLY HAS THE MOST PARTICIPANTS.

AS AN OWNER/OPERATOR OF A VESSEL IN
THE STATE WATERS JIG FLEET, I HAVE AN OPEN MIND
TOWARD RATIONALIZATION AND PERSONALLY FEEL SOME
FORM OF LIMITATION IS NOT A BAD THING.

D.A.P. IS BAD!!

WITH THE DEDICATED ACCESS PROGRAM YOU
ARE ALLOWING ASSOCIATIONS OR COOPS (LARGER COMPANIES
AND PROCESSORS) TO ACCUMULATE FISHING RIGHTS.

IN THE EYES OF MANY INCLUDING MYSELF THIS
IS WRONG! IN NO TIME INDIVIDUAL FISHERMEN
WILL BE REPLACED BY LARGER COMPANIES AND PROCESSORS

It is becoming obvious to me the push for D.A.P. is coming from the "HARD Bottom Trawl Fleet," AND their ties to Large Processing Companies.

This Bill was not written with individual fishermen in mind it is written for the "Trawl Lobby". The big money!!

When I take step back, it is amazing that Elected officials for the people of Alaska could allocate such a resource to the "Dirtiest fishery" with the tons and tons of DEAD bycatch. A fishery that was the demise of the awesome Cod Stocks of the Atlantic. A fishery that is under constant environmental scrutiny, AND A fishery that's fleet is less than ONE third (59 in '04) than that of the Trawl Fleet alone (203 in '04)

It's no wonder why fishermen are becoming so PASSIONATE about this issue.

By excluding the TIE Fleet from SB113 you are removing the gear types with over 140 vessels, in the Kodiak District alone, the trawl fleet, 26 vessels. In stark contrast to the trawl fleet the TIE fleet has virtually Zero Bycatch Demoloss. What little bycatch is always returned alive. You are also removing a fishery with the highest quality product.

I believe the direction of rationalization should be the EXACT opposite of what it is today. We should focus on Cleaner Fisheries that contribute the most to the local economies.

If you could, for a moment, remove your self from the "Big money trawl lobby" how could you not agree.

I would support some form of Limited entry, but not that mentions, D.A.P's, Associations or Coops. Thank you for your time



Robert Martin F/V
Argonaut

5/5/05

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

RE: SB 113

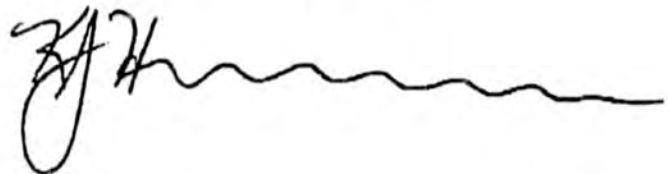
MY BIGGEST QUESTION IS, WHY
ARE THE JIG FISHERMEN EXCLUDED FROM
SB 113? WE ARE THE LARGEST GROUP
OF FISHERS THAT WILL BE DIRECTLY
IMPACTED BY THIS BILL AND WE NEED A
SEAT AT THE TABLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR
TIME.

KJ Herman

486 4211

Kjherman@hotmail.com

JIG FISHERMAN



**North Pacific Fisheries Association**

P.O. Box 796

Homer, Alaska 99603

April 18, 2005

Senator Ben Stevens
Senate Resources Committee

Dear Senator Stevens;

Please find the attached resolution in support of the Legislature's efforts to allow the Board of Fish and the CFEC to develop a dedicated access privilege system for the state groundfish fisheries.

Sincerely,

Buck Laukitis
President, NPFA
907-299-0112

cc: Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Tom Wagoner
Representative Paul Seaton

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
SUPPORTING A GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH RATIONALIZATION PLAN

A Resolution of the North Pacific Fisheries Association (NPFA) supporting a Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Rationalization plan that unlocks the value of our renewable resources, ensures competitive processing markets (and allows for reasonable economic growth) for Kenai Peninsula ports, and promotes conservation of our fishery resources:

Whereas, in 2002 Homer was the third most important fishery port in Alaska by value (eleventh in the nation)

Whereas, the combined value of Kenai Peninsula ports (\$82 million dollars) is second only to Dutch Harbor in 2002 for Alaska and the third highest by value in the nation

Whereas, the majority of NPFA's members who participate in the groundfish fisheries are fixed gear vessels (longliners and pot boats) who are generally small boat, independent family fishermen

Whereas, the majority of Homer's processing businesses are generally small entrepreneurial enterprises specializing in fresh high-valued products; and the strength of Homer's waterfront is the ability to innovate and meet changing market demands and consumer tastes for fishery products

Whereas, certain "processor provisions" and "community protection" measures (closed class of processors, linkages to processors, and regionalized landing requirements), which are stated goals of the GOA Rationalization Plan at the NPFMC, may advantage Kodiak and seriously curtail economic development of the GOA groundfish resources processed on the Kenai Peninsula

Whereas, NPFA previously passed a Resolution opposing processor quotas

Whereas, NPFA members include both long term participants who have made significant capital investments as well as new entrants to the groundfish fisheries in both state and federal waters

Whereas, rationalized fisheries generally slow down the race for fish, promote safety at sea, allow for more orderly management, and promote conservation benefits such as reduced bycatch and wastage

Whereas, NPFA supports the retention of bycaught halibut (only by longliners who own IFQs for halibut) in a rationalized winter cod fishery, as this would reduce wastage of halibut and would also bring high-valued halibut into port for the fresh market - effectively extending the halibut season

Whereas, NPFA supports measures in the GOA Rationalization Plan to include Prohibited Species Caps and/or trawl area closures to provide for the recovery of tanner and king crab and to reduce the bycatch of king salmon

Whereas, NPFA supports measures in the GOA Rationalization Plan to allow voluntary gear conversions so that trawlers would be allowed to fish cod with pots, as this measure could significantly reduce halibut bycatch and lessen adverse effects on marine habitat

Whereas, NPFA supports adequate fishery observer coverage (such as the fee based program being analyzed by the NPFMC) to insure that the conservation goals of the GOA rationalization program are being met

Whereas, NPFA generally supports maintaining an owner on board fleet of harvesters (while protecting existing business practices) where fishermen remain vitally connected to the waterfronts of our coastal communities

Whereas, NPFA supports balancing hired-skippers, permit holders and vessel owners interests in allocations of harvest shares based on their historical participation

Whereas, NPFA supports maintaining entry level opportunities for young fishermen in any rationalized fishery knowing that such opportunities may not be open access opportunities

Whereas, NPFA recognizes that the federal LLP does not control effort in state waters or the parallel fisheries and that compressed seasons present management complications, and the risk of over harvest increases

Whereas, NPFA supported the establishment of the state waters cod fishery in 1997

Whereas, NPFA members have been active participants in the Board of Fish Groundfish Task Force, and the members have conducted a thorough, expansive and informed inquiry into possible programs to successfully manage state water groundfish resources into the future

Whereas, NPFA recognizes that the Board of Fish and ADF&G must act proactively to prevent state water fishermen from being seriously disadvantaged by the pending Federal rationalization plan

Whereas, NPFA supports the state control of resource management inside three miles, but recognizes that a program that integrates to the extent possible program design, data collection, observers and management with the federal program may be in the best interest of fishermen and the state

Whereas, NPFA does not support hard on bottom trawling inside three miles

Whereas, NPFA recognizes that limited entry may not be the best means to control overcapitalization and enhance fishery product value or provide economic stability in the state water groundfish fisheries

Whereas, NPFA recognizes that the Board of Fish, ADF&G, and CFEC all have the state's best interest in mind and have proposed a new method (tool in the tool box) to attempt to craft a solution that best fits groundfish fishery management

AND NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Pacific Fishermen's Association supports options in the Gulf of Alaska Rationalization Plan that increase the value of our fisheries resources; and allows open deliveries without processor restrictions for the entire fixed gear catcher fleet, that provides opportunities for our small processors to purchase high quality groundfish; and furthermore if any regionalized landing requirements are imposed in the Plan that the Kenai Peninsula have reasonable opportunity to increase groundfish landings for economic development into the future;

AND FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that NPFA supports the Legislature, Board of Fish, ADF&G and CFEC in their attempt to develop a Dedicated Access Privilege system for the state groundfish fisheries.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the North Pacific Fisheries Association of Homer this 15th day of April, 2005.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Buck Laukitis", is written over a horizontal line.

Buck Laukitis
President, North Pacific Fisheries Association

**A**NEW FAXES
SB113**Legislature**

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Special Committee on Fish
committee name
committee on SB113 - Groundfish, dated 05-07-05
bill/subject

PLEASE SEE TESTIMONY
ATTACHED

Signed:

Shawn Dochterman

Testifier

Jig Permit Holder

Representing (Optional)

PO Box 3886

Address

486-8777

Phone No.

House Special Committee on Fisheries

May 6, 2005

Mr. & Mrs. Chairpersons,

I'm Shawn Dochtermann from Kodiak Island, representing my jig permit holder rights, I have fished statewide for 28 years and hold halibut IFQs, a Bristol Bay Drift Permit, and fish crab in the Bering Sea. I'm also on the board of directors at the Alaska Jig Association.

I've addressed this bill, SB113, with opposition since it was submitted in early March. After careful review of the Sponsor Statement and the bill I wrote a 3 page summary analysis of its flaws and it has been submitted with other testimonies. We in opposition of this bill have asked numerous pertinent questions about the Dedicated Access Privilege (DAP) program. But why is it that many of our significant questions asked have never been addressed? Any responses to our questions that have been answered have been elusive. There is no true direction indicating what the bill will actually do, except create a new program that impinges on many fishermen's rights to equal access.

The Memorandum (MOU) that was produced for the April 25, 2005 Senate Resource Committee meeting by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) is only agency drafted, not a legal document that is proof of DAPs constitutionality. The Dept. of Law would need to produce the legal document, which assume that DAPs could be legal.

This bill uses the word allocation, and then in other context say it's not a resource allocation. So which one is it? The sponsor of this bill just wants you to pass this bill without it being fully examined. Instead of looking at this bill with a telescope, shouldn't it be inspected with a microscope?

Now I ask you, will this bill be in the best interest of the State, it's communities, its businesses, its fishermen, and its citizens? Can you the representatives say that you reasonably understand this bill? What might be the consequences of this bill? How can we know this without an Economic Impact Statement, if it will affect our economy adversely? If you don't fully understand this bill then how could you vote anything but NO?

We have time to work on a democratic rationalization, and we can start right after this session is finished. What is the hurry to push this bill through? Since Former-Governor Jay Hammond has weighed in on this issue, shouldn't we be examining this bill further than this committee? The economic stability of the State of Alaska is dependent on the protection of its natural resources. Therefore, this bill must next be referred to the House Resources Committee.

I encourage you to review my senate testimonies that I have provided. I would also appreciate if all you would take great care in reviewing this bill from stem to stern. I hope all of the members of the House Special Committee on Fisheries would contact me at anytime in the future.

In closing, if a CFEC commissioner writes an editorial with reference to this bill and has it printed in a newspaper, and signs it with their state credentials: Isn't this a conflict of interest?

Thank you for you time that you've given us to speak,

Shawn C. Dochtermann

Kodiak, AK
907-486-8777 home
253-905-8777 cellular
drdrmann@hotmail.com



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Special Fisheries
committee name
committee on SB113-Groundfish, dated 5-6-05
bill/subject

PLEASE SEE TESTIMONY
ATTACHED

Signed: Locke Finley
Testifier
Self
Representing (Optional)
PO Box 3849
Address
487-9791
Phone No.

~~REDACTED~~
dear fish committee

my name is Locke Finley i've been involved in fishing most of my life. also im sect/ treasurer of the alaska jig association.

I feel that sb113 would give too much power to the processors, if they got ownership of the daps they could begin to sell halibut bycatch and thus marginalize the value of ifq halibut shares, and exvessel value.

Also fishermen would not be able to market their own fish.

The rationale given for rationalization is that currently the fishery is unsafe, thats not true for the fixed gear group. We dont risk life and limb for the fish currently. the fixed gear group has the highest quality product, caught in the most ecologically friendly manner, with the least bycatch and zero mortality rate of that bycatch. You cant say that about trawling. Indeed we should keep fixed gear fishing going because with environmental concerns growing the trawl fishing may be cut back and we could use fixed gear to harvest in their place.

In the jig sector we have 144 registered vessels and we are catching the cod at a rate of 200 to 800 thousand pounds a week. we are in an open access fishery any one can buy a jig license for 60.00 a year and go fishing. that was a good way to get the fishery going, but now its time to limit entry and mabe catch rates too in order to equalize oportunity amongst the fleet. We have the tools to tailor the fishery to the greatest good for the greatest number of people so dont rationalize us. that would just cause a lot of consolidation and major loss of jobs.

One final thought, Aquaculture is a loathsom Idea to begin with, forcing nature to perform to our standards and upsetting the life cycles of various ocean habitats, im refering to the feeding of fish in pens, and those fish contaminating an area of the sea. Could rationalization asist the aquaculture movement?

So i ask you to examin this bill in the light of just who is benifiting, is it in the best intrest of the state? If not lets table the thing, hold public hearings and let us be the stewards of this great state instead of the usurpers of it.

~~REDACTED~~
Locke Finley

Sect. Treasurer
Alaska Jig Assoc

Box 3849
Kodiak AK 99615

H FSH, 5-6-05, SB-113

My name is Alan Parks I live in Homer with my wife and 5 year old daughter.

My comments represent my own views and do not represent any other individuals or organizations.

I have been involved in harvesting Alaska's fishery resources for over 30 years. My sole income is derived from harvesting and promoting sustainable community based fisheries.

I am a member of North Pacific Fisheries Association for the past 20 years.

I am a stakeholder of state groundfish resources and have a huge stake in the future of Alaska fisheries.

I oppose SB 113 because it hurts fishermen, processors and coastal communities.

I have faxed to you a petition of over 25 Homer fisherman who also oppose SB113.

I have many concerns about SB113 but I will limit my comments to two areas:

- 1.) The fish processing sector and,
- 2.) fishery resource allocation policy in the State of Alaska,

The fish processing sector.

SB 113 is a consolidation bill and will result in less processing jobs, less workers hours, and the closing of some processing plants.

SB 113 will give processors a incentive to ship Alaska resources to other places for primary and value added processing.

Some groundfish resources will be frozen in blocks and shipped to areas of the nation and to foreign country's where labor is cheaper.

Already we are seeing Alaska Pink Salmon being shipped to Thailand for processing, Alaska Sea Urchins are being shipped to Mexico, and Alaska Halibut are being shipped to Canada.

All these practices are happening today and will only increase under SB113 because co-ops will be formed and linked to a specific processor, and that processor will make the business decision to schedule deliveries to minimize labor, and will plan to ship multiple deliveries to destinations where primary and value added processing can occur with cheaper labor. In competitive markets, we expect the processor to work to maximize his profit, and that's why we look to you - the legislature - to protect Alaskan jobs and the working waterfront.

SB 113 reflects what's commonly referred to as "out sourcing" - and it means fewer jobs for Alaskans and reduced tax revenues for local communities already struggling under the weight of the recent cuts to revenue sharing.

Fishery resource allocation policy in the State of Alaska,

SB 113 proposes drastic changes to Alaska's policy.

SB113 will change the way communities interact with each other.

SB113 will change the way communities will interact with state government.

The whole basis of SB 113 is how the State and Federal government will interact with each other.

SB 113 will change how state commerce will be conducted between communities.

SB 113 will reduce the Governor's ability to manage through his administration the policies of the State of Alaska and his ability to prevent federal preemption.

It is very important - in fact it is imperative - that the Alaska State Legislature establish clear policies for Alaska and how communities will interact with each other, and establish clear policies for interaction between State and federal Governments. SB 113 proposes drastic changes to Alaska's policy.

I am very concerned that SB 113 is not being heard by other committees.

I appreciate the work of the Fisheries committee but feel that the sweeping policy changes that SB 113 will enact and the impacts it will have to Communities, State commerce and state government that other committees should hear SB113

SB 113 proposes sweeping changes to Alaska's policy on who has access to fishery resources, yet it provides little guidance on how to implement them.

If you want some good guidance, take a look at the Limited Entry Act - it contains strong policy on fishery resource allocation that has served the state well since 1974.

SB 113 is fundamentally at odds with current state fisheries policy because it allows people who are not actually fishing to benefit from the fishery. As a result, it will create absentee ownership and make share croppers of working Alaskans.

SB113 will allow the BOF to allocate Alaska fishery resource to "associations" based on some initial criteria, but the bill says nothing about who may eventually buy, sell, or lease these allocations. Who will end up owning Alaska Resources? Some people say that it will be a "dedicated access privilege" that it will not be a permanent allocation. But the bill does not spell that out clearly enough.

There is just too much work that needs to be done to this bill before it becomes a piece of good legislation.

I recommend that you let SB113 take a rest for this year, let the stakeholders come to an agreement on some of the more controversial elements, and produce a bill that reflects Alaska's strong fishing heritage and protects Alaska jobs and coastal communities.

End

Alan Parks
65055 Neely, Level Ave
Homer, AK 99603
anparks@xyz-net
907-235-5680

Friday, May 06, 2005

Senate Bill 113 creates ownership and claim over our State's fisheries resources.

It allocates or provides privileged and unequal access.

SB113 authorizes allocations of fisheries resources to CO-OPs (see: BOF findings and further charge to steering... page 2 paragraphs 1 & 5)

It promotes economics through disenfranchisement.

SB113 falls short of treating State and Federal Fishers equally. Unjustly overburdening State Fishers.

It does not exclude processor quota shares

It does link State CO-Ops to Federal CO-Ops with optional processor linkage

SB113 does not require participation, and therefore does not ensure a solution equitably for State Fishers.

SB113 creates an authority beyond what is constitutionally sound.

It does not reflect the best interests of the greater majority of Fishers

SB113 compromises the integrity of Coastal Communities and the secondary economic benefit to local business through viable small boat operations.

It does not mandate or fund local public process

SB113 alludes to inclusive access, but fails to address viability of threshold issuants.

Julie Kavanaugh
PO Box 3890
Kodiak AK 99615

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Julie Kavanaugh', is written over the typed name and address.

Kodiak Alaska 99615
Box 3108
Harvey E. Goodell III

through Goodell III

Thank you

I believe if you pass this bill it will open a Pandora's box to absentee control of state fisheries resources and be very detrimental to the economic vitality of our coastal communities.

A limited entry card allows a person to fish. It keeps people attached to the water. I don't see where a dedicated access privilege does that.

My name is Harvey Goodell and I am a 25 year resident of Kodiak, Alaska. I have fished shrimp, king, tanner and dangerous crab, halibut, black cod, gray cod, pollock and herring and salmon over the past 24 years. I am opposed to SB 113. I believe SB 113 is not in the best interest of Alaskan coastal communities or the state of Alaska. SB 113 is about paving the way for Gulf Rationalization in federal waters. SB 113 is about giving away a state resource to a handful of people creating privatization consolidation and job loss among skippers crew and all the cannery workers. PLEASE do not give in to AS state legislators. What a few want in federal waters. pressure from

Fisheries Committee Members

Rep LeDoux
Rep Thompson

ALASKA

SIGNATURE

*Faxed
testimony
SB 113*

SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2487
Fax (907) 465-4956

INTERIM ADDRESS
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-8872
Fax (907) 486-5264

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

Facsimile Transmittal

To: _____ Amy Randolph /House Records_____

From: _____ Kimberly Wallace/Fisheries Committee Aide_____

Date: _____ May 6, 2005_____

Re: _____ Public Testimony/SB 113_____ Pages: _____ 17 + Cover_____

CC: _____

☐ Urgent

☐ For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply

☐ Please Recycle

ON SB 113

①

MY NAME IS ALEXUS KWACHKA. I
WON FV ND POINT AND HOLD
3 LIMITED ENTRY PERMITS FOR
SALMON, HERRING, CRAB. I'VE BEEN
FISHING OUT OF KODIAK FOR 18
YEARS & GREW UP IN FAIRBANKS.
I ALSO RUN THE FV MAJOR
FOR WALTER SARGENT WHOM I
HAVE FISHED WITH AND FOR, FOR
5 YEARS. ON THE MAJOR, I FISH
FOR P. COD, HALIBUT & SABLEFISH.

I AM A WORKING FISHERMAN

I'M NOT A LOBBYIST OR A POLITICIAN.
AND I'M NOT GOOD @ THIS STUFF.
I'M ALSO NOT FOR SB 113 "

THIS BILL WILL NOT BE GOOD FOR THE
WORKING FISHERMEN OF COASTAL
ALASKA.

PROBNETS OF THIS BILL WILL CLAMOR
THIS WILL CREATE MORE JOB &
MORE STABILITY.

MY QUESTION IS HOW WILL GIVING
OWNERSHIP RIGHTS & THE ABILITY
TO CREATE CO OPS MAKE MORE
JOBS?

(2)

OWNERSHIP OF A RESOURCE WILL
ENABLE CONSOLIDATION WHICH
MEANS LESS JOBS TO THE FISHING
SECTOR.

COOPS MEANS LESS COMPETITION AND
LEADS TO CONSOLIDATION OF THE
PROCESSOR SECTOR.

THIS MEANS LESS JOBS FOR THE
PROCESSOR WORKERS. WHEN FISHERIES
ARE SLOWED DOWN, OVERTIME
NO LONGER IS NEEDED.

WORKERS WORK MORE HOURS FOR
THE SAME MONEY.

I VIEW THIS AS WAL MARTING OUR
FISHERIES.

I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT LIMITED
ENTRY. EVERY SALMON PERMIT
ACROSS THE STATE IS ON THE RISE
READING A RECENT TRADE MAGAZINE
I SAW 17 BRISTOL BAY BOATS RECENTLY
SOLD ON THE GSI WEB SITE. (SP)

THIS LOOKS LIKE OPTIMISM TO ME.
I ALSO SAW ICICLE SEAFOODS
BOUGHT WOODBINE CANNERY.

(3)

THIS IS REALLY GOOD NEWS
FOR BRISTOL BAY.

3/4 YEARS AGO WHEN SALMON WAS
IN THE GUTTER WHERE WOULD
WE BE TODAY IF THE LEGISLATURE
HAD STEPPED IN & ALLOWED
COOPS & GAVE OUT ALLOCATIONS.
SURE WOULDN'T BE SEEING THIS
EXCITEMENT THAT WE'RE SEEING
TODAY.

LOOK EVERYBODY MORE PEOPLE
WORKING, NO OWNERSHIP HERE
JUST LIMITED ENTRY.

IF THE BILL IS TO MOVE FORWARD
I HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS.

① 100% OWNER ON BOARD
IF YOU'RE GIVEN A RIGHT YOU MUST
PULL ON A PAIR OF RUBBER BOOTS!

② LEGISLATIVE REVIEW
IN THE BEGINNING & @ ANY SUNSETS

③ STRIKE LINES

SECTION 1 - 12, 13, 14, 15

SECTION 2 - 3, 4, 5, 6 & 33, 34, 35, 36

④ I'm VEZY GLAD THIS IS BEFORE THE FISHERIES, I ALSO FEEL SINCE IT IS A RESOURCE ISSUE IT SHOULD ALSO BE VISITED BY THE RESOURCE AS WELL. MY VIEW ON THIS IS MORE IS BETTER SINCE IT IS SUCH A LARGE POLICY CHANGE.

⑤ PLEASE DON'T MAKE THE GUYS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD CHAIN BARE THE BURDEN OF A LEGAL CHALLENGE.

THANK YOU.

ALEXUS KWACHKA
326 COPE ST
KODIAK ALASKA 99615
907-486-5558
ISLAND1@PTIACASKA.NET

 5.6.05

MAY 06, 2005 08:29

9072862330

Page 2

May 6, 2005

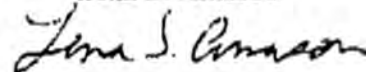
To: The House Committee on Fisheries:

My name is Lena Amason, I currently live in the Kodiak Island village of Old Harbor in Gabrielle LeDoux's constituency. I grew up in a commercial fishing family in the village of Port Lions on the North end of Kodiak. I put myself through college, coming home to fish every summer. Fishing has been and continues to be the primary source of income for the family I was raised in, and the new family I have started. I am against SB-113. It will further diminish the numbers of people able to make a living in the village by denying equal access to the resource.

For myself and many of those I grew up with, commercial fishing is the work that we know. It is what has supported us both financially and socially. It is the work that we first learned from our families and what we all tell stories about. It is the meaningful work that keeps us connected. Fishing is not just a job to us, it is our way of life.

Many of us are third, even fourth generation fishing families. However, in the past ten years, there has been a steep decline in the numbers of young people able to make a living based on fishing. In the village of Old Harbor, there is only one man under the age of 40 who is running his own commercial fishing operation. If something doesn't happen in favor of small traditional fishing operations, our livelihood will be taken away from us and families like ours. Young people will continue to move out of the villages to look for other work, which they may have no cultural connection to. Commercial fishing, the invaluable cultural and financial base of Alaska's coastal communities will be adversely affected if not destroyed by bills such as SB-113.

Lena S. Amason



Box 33

Old Harbor, Ak 99643

(907)286-2330

MAY 06, 2005 08:29

9072862330

Page 3

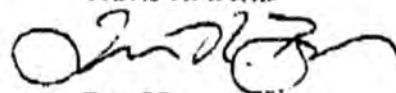
May 5, 2005

To: The House Committee on Fisheries:

My name is Travis Berns, I am from the Kodiak Island village of Old Harbor in Gabrielle LeDoux's constituency. I am a commercial fisherman and have always supported myself as such. I oppose SB-113. It will eliminate opportunities for young fishermen like me, and limit my ability to support myself and my family. I will not have a solid catch history because I had to choose between fisheries. I chose to fish crab for its higher value, thus costing me valuable delivery history for groundfish. I will not qualify for much if any quota. This will cost residents on the coast jobs and fewer jobs means fewer people in villages. This bill is a threat to Alaska's coastal communities and I urge it's opposition.

I also support state's rights. I do not believe the state should blindly follow what Federal managers want, without close examination of its possible effects on those who depend on equal access as guaranteed by the state constitution.

Travis R. Berns



Box 33

Old Harbor, Ak 99643

(907)286-2330

House Rep Ledoux & Fishery Resource
matre Committee

Hello my name is Diane Van Matre. I am a long time Kodiak resident and I am here to speak against Senate Bill 113. My husband and I just purchased a small vessel this last year and we plan to fish. We have two sons that will be fishing with us. Soon we will only be able to fish in our State waters as Federal rationalization will have allocated all of our Federal fish to those who had history. In other words, due to Federal allocation I will no longer have access to the bulk of fish that would have fed my family and put my sons through College.

Senate Bill 113 intends to allocate our State waters fish, the bulk of these allocations will be given to those with history. I have no history so how are we going to be able to support our family. I can't fish federal and am now going to be limited in our State waters. Any loss of fishing capacity will be detrimental to my family. The costs to fish have risen greatly over the last year and many smaller fishermen are barely making expenses. We cannot afford to have our fishing minimized.

According to our State Constitution the fish with-in State waters belongs to all the residents of Alaska. That means that is my fish out there and I should have access to fish them. With Senate Bill 113 many of these allocations will go to out of State recipients. This is wrong and we cannot let that happen. I cannot believe that we would allow someone who does not even live here take hold of our fish, fish that is here to sustain our families and our communities. I am asking you to protect our resources by voting no to Senate Bill 113 and to any future bill that allows our fishing resource's to be allocated. Thank you.

5/6/05 Diane Van Matre

May 6, 2005

TO: State Legislature, House Special Committee on Fisheries
RE: SB 113

Good morning Ms LeDoux and members of the House Special Committee on Fisheries.

My name is Chris Holland, my husband and I own and operate the 72 ft F/V Point Omega. We are long time Alaskans, we live and work out of Kodiak and our children and our grandchildren live here.

I appeal to you today to step back from this bill and let us work as Alaskans to find a way to manage State Water fisheries with out bringing all this baggage along.

I am surprised at the BOF and the CFEC for finding themselves above the State Supreme Court in the matter of Co-ops as they have recently done on the Chignik issue. I don't believe that managers should be above the law and until they realize that, maybe it isn't a good idea to give them even more power over the lives of working Alaskans. There are decisions made by managers that affect the future way of life for whole communities, we have seen how well co-oping helps to keep coastal communities healthy, the people in Chignik seem to have moved since they don't need to be there to still be fishermen under the Co-op system. I think you would find it interesting to read the article "Chignik Co-op Trying to Resurface" an article paid for by John Jones in the May 4, 2005 Kodiak Daily Mirror, it sums up the frustration of fishermen trying to make an honest living against the better judgment of some guy in an office who gets to make the rules.

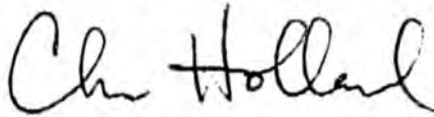
This bill (SB 113) is a way to reallocate the fisheries in Alaska's State waters. The people who have been making their livings on the sea know that it can be a fine line between making a success of fishing and being marginalized. We feel that it is unconstitutional to decide who should be able to make a living on the sea and who should not and this is what giving out Dedicated Access privileges in state waters will do. Those who are the loudest who are able to go to meetings and pay for lobbyists will be able to affect the out come of this for all who participate in these fisheries. People like us will end up not being able to support the crew we traditionally have and we will be forced into co-ops to make it feasible to fish the much reduced harvest we are allowed. The co-ops with trawlers will get the opportunity to have their cake and eat it too...they will have Federal IFQ and associated bycatch and then State DAP and they will be able to happily rape the resource while they sit in Oregon or Arizona and sell off their vessels and sell out their crews. I guess I forgot to mention how frustrated I am that I have realized this bill will make it possible

to allocate (by the DAP for Dummies method) fish from State waters to harvesters who are 60% from other states. People who don't live here and don't own homes and school their children and pay for services in Alaska's coastal communities.

We are unhappy with SB 113 for lots of reasons and one that we get shut out on all the time is the fact that we were fishing a federal season under a federal TAC (total allowable catch) and now that rationalization is a popular concept the State of Alaska is trying to take our history from that Federal season because it is inside 3 nm. We feel this is wrong and there are other approaches to this problem that will not leave us as pioneers in the pot cod fishery dependent on the whim of State managers who have in the past shown bias against boats over 58ft. I believe that the State of Alaska wants to be fair to her people and that there is a way for the state to still get the percentage of the quota they want with out singling out the history of people who have spent their lives working for it. There are only so many fish, divide it up like a pie and then let the allocation process begin after they figure the percentage.

Please kill this bill, if you can't see your way to doing that then at least hold it over so that some more thought can be focused on its repercussions. Many lives of people in coastal communities will be forever changed by your decision.

Thank you for your consideration.



Chris Holland
F/V Point Omega
PO Box 608
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Testimony of Robin Clark - Kodiak LIO SB113

Page 1

05-06-05

Good Morning, my name is Robin Clark and I am testifying on behalf of myself and my husband. All of our income for our family of 6 comes from fishing. We've both been members of the Kodiak community ~~and~~ as well as the fishing community for over 20 years. As members of both of these communities we are strongly opposed to Senate B.11 113.

My husband Mike has significant history in the state and federal Pacific cod fisheries, but as an operator only. This bill infringes on his constitutional right to retain the ability to fish in an equal access fishery. The state has historically given the right to fish to the operator of the vessel who is legally licensed to harvest a species in the State of Alaska. With the passage of SB113, our income will be compromised once again, as with the federal IFQ system, where skippers and crew have seen significant reductions in their wages. Control to the access to the fish, means control of everything, including wages paid out.

This bill is purported to be of economic value to its coastal communities... but we don't see it that way. Hundreds of small businesses will be removed from the fishery through marginalization and consolidation. ~~As to increasing the efficiencies of the fisheries which has also been listed as a benefit under SB 113, we disagree here also.~~

Testimony of Robin Clark - Kodiak LIO SB113 page 2

We see Senate Bill 113 and the DAP program will fatally undermine the coastal communities economic stability. Our towns need a diverse fleet that has equal access. A dual system of equal and history based fisheries will not work. The imbalance will compromise those not protected, they will be forced out or forced to join in.

Our fishermen deserve to be recognized. We do not see how this ~~will~~ Bill will benefit us or how we will be able to maintain our past and current income level. I can't help but look back at the IFQ system and its devastation effects on our family. My husband crewed halibut for years and was involved in many 70,000-90,000 pound trips. He stayed on deck too long and we received no IFQ's for our own 36' vessel. The last open access halibut opening we took home \$20,000 and then we out of the fishery unless we wanted to buy back in. A small family fishing operation is like a ~~deck~~ house of cards ~ and losing the halibut card was one of the main reasons for the failure of our operations. With our halibut income gone we have turned to cod which now accounts for well over 1/2 our income. Sadly I've realized lately that everytime the board of fish or the state turns its eye to a fishery we're involved in, it's almost always a direct threat to our family, our livelihood and our community. Thank you for your time.

DAP for Dummies

4/1/05
Julie Kavanaugh
referred to this in
her testimony

Hi All,

Some people have expressed the opinion to me that SB 113 and the DAPs that are proposed are not as good as other types of quota shares and that they would rather wait and get a federal quota share of some sort.

In some cases DAPs are perceived to be some sort of fancy Limited Entry Permit, that the BOF can revoke at any time, and therefore not worth anything.

SB 113 does a pretty poor job of explaining what DAPs are and that's too bad. The following is an attempt to answer some of these questions.

What exactly is a DAP and how are they supposed to work?

- The American Fisheries Act (AFA) is a DAP program and so is the halibut and sablefish IFQ program. DAP means a Dedicated Access Privilege.
 - Dedicated means that it is specifically identified and reserved.
 - Access refers to access to harvest a fishery resource
 - Privilege means that it is something less than private property.
- DAPs are intended to address many of the bad things associated with over capitalization and the "race for fish", and to improve the overall management of our fisheries.
- DAPs have evolved over time.
 - Limited Entry Permits are DAPs that just limit the total number of boats.
 - Limited Entry led to "capital stuffing".
 - Boats get ever more efficient at catching.
 -
- IFQs emerged as the preferred DAP for halibut/sablefish.
 - IFQs limit output from a fishery not input to a fishery
 - IFQs manage the total catch of a single species.
 - IFQs are not well suited for fisheries that catch and need to account for multiple species.
 - Accounting for all the fish that is caught instead of just one species will get to be more and more of a burden in the future.
- The American Fisheries Act (AFA) allows cooperatives to form.
 - Cooperatives get an allocation of fish that corresponds to the total of the individual catch histories of the co-op members.
 - Co-operatives allow harvesters to pool their aggregate harvest quota including:
 - Target species
 - Bycatch
 - Prohibited Species Catch (PSC)

~~Participants~~

- Under AFA fishermen have a Fishing History Assignment (FHA)
 - Co-operative allocations are equal to the total of the FHAs held by Co-op members.
 - FHAs are fully transferable
 - An FHA holder who chooses not to join a co-op can only fish in Open Access.
- SB 113 is a bill that requests authority for the Board of Fish (BOF) and the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) to design and implement a DAP that meets Alaska Constitutional requirements.
 - DAPs created by SB 113 would look a lot like AFA.
 - Harvesters would receive an assignment of their fishing history (FHA).
 - The BOF would entertain co-op proposals from interested harvesters.
 - If the proposals meet the criteria established jointly by the BOF and CFEC, the harvesters would receive an allocation of quota to their cooperative. Just like AFA.
 - If FHA holders elect not to co-op they fish in Open Access.
 - FHAs are transferable however the criteria for forming SB 113 style DAPs may subject to modification by the BOF from time to time.

As always call with questions.

Joe

Submitted
in person - Juneau, Alaska
3:06 pm

May 5, 2005

Charles Piedra
619 w. 11th St.
Juneau AK 99801
And
272 Salmon Way
Pelican AK 99832
F/V MRS MAC

To whom it may concern,

As a resident Alaska Fisherman and permit holder in the Gulf of Alaska Ground fishery I want to be on record strongly opposing Senate bill 113. As a small boat fisherman 41 feet overall I feel I will lose my Ground fish permit if this bill is passed. I have held this permit since 1978 and believe I may have had the very first permit that was issued for this fishery in Alaska. I also have a salmon power troll permit and some Halibut IFQ. I also hold a Grandfather permit to fish in Glacier Bay Park. I had planned the use or sell the permit, as part of my retirement plans however if this bill passes I more than likely will lose my permit and realize nothing.

Sincerely, Charles Piedra

Charles Piedra

United Fishermen of Alaska



Fax

To: Kim Wallace

From: Mark Vinsel

(907) 463-2545 FAX

Fax:

Pages: Cover +

Phone:

Date:

Re: SB 113 letter

cc: Chey Sutton

☐ Urgent

☐ For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply

☐ Please Recycle

*This Letter was apparently not transmitted
over with the Bill SB 113*

Respecting Alaska's largest private sector employer!

211 Fourth Street, Ste 110
Juneau, AK 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 FAX



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
www.ufa-fish.org

March 14, 2005

Senator Tom Wagoner, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (Mail Stop 3100)
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Wagoner,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) supports passage of Senate Bill 113 relating to entry into and management of Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries (SB 113). UFA includes members and member associations with extensive involvement in Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries. UFA members and member associations have been actively engaged on this issue in the regulatory processes at the Board of Fisheries (BOF) and at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) for many years. This bill has the unanimous support of the BOF and NPFMC and agency support from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) and Department of Fish and Game (ADFG).

SB 113 seeks to authorize the BOF and CFEC to develop a new management program for Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries called Dedicated Access Privileges (DAP).

The Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries are very complicated fisheries, with multiple gear types catching multiple species of fish. There are two groundfish fisheries conducted in State waters, a directed State managed Pacific Cod fishery, and a Parallel fishery that catches fish from a federal allocation. In addition, fish stocks commonly wander back and forth, in and out of State and federal waters. GOA groundfish fisheries today face rapidly increasing environmental pressure and decreasing economic efficiencies. Sustainable GOA groundfish fisheries are essential to the well being of coastal Alaska and to the overall fishing industry. Anticipated rationalization of federally managed GOA groundfish fisheries will likely increase fishing pressure inside State water and exacerbate economic and environmental problems. To do nothing is not likely to preserve the status quo of state managed groundfish fisheries.

Limited Entry may be inadequate to address the complications of GOA groundfish, and the impacts to state fisheries from changes in the federal management. In part because these fisheries are managed under a quota system already, DAPs may be appropriate.

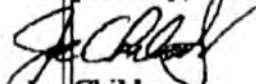
DAP program development will seek to recognize and reflect historic participation in GOA groundfish fisheries and to promote the best interests of the State of Alaska and its participants in state water groundfish fisheries.

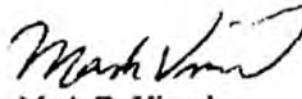
No future DAP program elements are established in SB 113. The bill does not pre-suppose any outcome from the development of DAP programs. Any potential future DAP programs will follow additional extensive public process at the BOF and CFEC. UFA notes its longstanding opposition to processor quota shares and acknowledges that SB 113 does not move the CFEC or BOF towards allocation of processing privileges.

UFA supports the BOF and CFEC processes, and believes that they are the proper authority and can provide essential public participatory process to develop new management programs.

UFA recognizes that our fisheries need to be as economically efficient and possible and as environmentally responsive as possible. We support the prompt passage of SB 113 to initiate the necessary process to address this issue of widespread concern and impact.

Respectfully,


Joe Childers
Vice President


Mark D. Vinsel
Executive Director