

SCOMM

48:28



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries


Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone:
(907) 465-4924

MEMORANDUM

January 22, 1985

TO: House Resources Committee
Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Representative Richard Shultz
Co-Chairs

FROM: Special Committee on Fisheries
Representative Peter Goll
Chairman 

SUBJECT: HJR 8/Effect of Incidental Catch Allocations

Information supplied by federal fisheries agencies should be carefully considered during committee discussions regarding HJR 8. Examination of the enclosed statistics reveals that the amount of sablefish for incidental catches of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska by joint venture fisheries will vary by as much as 1.3 million pounds, depending upon the mechanism selected for determining the allocations.

The National Marine Fisheries Service staff says that joint venture operations will take place in 1985 only in the Western and Central regulatory areas of the Gulf.

According to an analysis by the NPFMC staff, the "observed bycatch rate" for the types of joint ventures planned in the Gulf during 1985 would result in the need for setting aside 1,057 metric tons of sablefish. If the sablefish incidental catch allocation is set at 10% of the Optimum Yield for the two regulatory areas, joint venture operations would be allowed to catch 473 metric tons of sablefish.

Based upon this information, it is suggested that the following amendment be made to HJR 8:

- (1) Insert the following language on line 7, page 2, after the words "...fish fishery":

", and set aside reserves to allow incidental catch of sablefish based on 10 percent of the Optimum Yield for the Western and Central regulatory areas"

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

411 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99510



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563
FTS 271-4064

December 28, 1984

Robert D. Alverton
Fishing Vessel Owners' Assn.
Building C-3, Room 232
Fishermen's Terminal
Seattle, Washington 98119

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of December 13, 1984. As requested, I have enclosed a copy of the bycatch data that I used during the December Council meeting. In addition to bycatch rates for sablefish, the worksheets also include bycatch rates and amounts for POP, Atka mackerel and other rockfish.

Table 1 shows the "Final JVP" estimates that were adopted by the Council. These JVP estimates were used to calculate expected bycatches by joint ventures in 1985. As you are well aware, as a result of the U.S.-Japan Industry meetings, the 1985 JVP needs are now considered lower than estimated during the Council meeting.

Table 2 provides my JV bycatch estimates for the Western Regulatory Area. You will note that a bycatch rate is provided for incidental species. These rates were obtained from the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center's observer program and reflect "observed bycatch rates" during 1984. The data base used to calculate these rates were examined to eliminate data where there appeared to be targeted fishing on these species. However, it must be assumed that the resulting bycatch rates probably include some targeting that we were not able to eliminate due to the resolution of the data base.

These bycatch rates observed during 1984 were then applied to our estimated 1985 JVP. The calculation (bycatch rate x estimated JVP) provides a bycatch amount that would be required to harvest the JVP. This same procedure was used for the Central Regulatory Area (see Table 3).

You also asked where the 1,000 mt of sablefish bycatch came from. As you will recall, during the Council meeting, I was asked what the estimated bycatch needs would be for sablefish during 1985. I answered that my calculations showed that 339 mt and 731 mt would be needed in the Western and Central Areas respectively. John Peterson noted that the total sablefish bycatch would be about 1,000 mt or approximately 10% of the sablefish OY for the Gulf of Alaska. This is how the 1,000 mt number was generated.

Since the Council meeting I have made several observations which you may find of interest. First, given that the Japanese JVP is lower than originally anticipated, the total JVP for the Western and/or Central areas is

31D/II

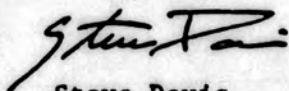
By catch of Halibut is approx 10-15%
ALL FISHERIES WILL STOP WHEN B.C. OY IS CALGHT
JITH N/A - DWP/ATK

Robert D. Alverson
December 28, 1984
Page 2

subsequently lower. It is also likely that a 70,000 mt Polish JV for pollock will not materialize. With a lower JVP, bycatch needs will be smaller. Second, with the Council's "10% Rule" for JV bycatch, where a maximum limit of 10% of the sablefish OY is set aside for JV bycatch purposes, it is clear that given my calculated bycatch amounts, there could be severe limitations on JVs. In the case of the Shelikof Strait pollock fishery, I see no problem with trawlers taking the entire JVP. The observed bycatch rates for this fishery are very low. However, trawlers fishing for flounder, Atka mackerel or cod could find themselves approaching the bycatch limit before their JVP goal is reached. These vessels will have to clean up their operation or cease fishing. Examining the potential bycatch ceilings for sablefish, POP and other rockfish using the 10% rate, it is clear that sablefish will be the limiting species to joint ventures.

If you have any additional questions on my calculations, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Steve Davis
Plan Coordinator

Enclosures

1985 Final JVP Estimates

1. Western Area

all bottom trawl	Pacific cod	= 7,327	(from Permit Review Committee)
	Atka mackerel	= 4,678	(increased by Council; permit review estimates all in W. area)
	Flounder	= 102	(600 mt total Gulfwide; 1984 proportion of total joint venture flounder catch was 17% in W. area, 83% in Central)

Total Western JVP = 12,107 mt

2. Central Area

mid water trawl	Pollock	= 263,925	(90% of the 1984 pollock harvest was taken by this gear in Shelikof Strait 90% of 1985 pollock JVP = 263,925)
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Total mid water trawl JVP 263,925

bottom trawl	Pollock	= 29,325	(10% 1985 pollock JVP)
	Pacific cod	= 10,073	(from Permit Review Committee)
	Flounder	= 498	(83% 1985 flounder JVP)

Total bottom trawl JVP 39,896

Note: JVP for thornyhead, squid and other species is viewed as a bycatch to the targetted species identified above. Therefore, inclusion of the JVP estimates is not necessary when calculating the JVP base for use in determining bycatch amounts of fully-utilized species.

Gulf of Alaska - Western Regulatory Area

Proposed JV Bycatch Rates and Amounts for 1985

Given: Western area bottom trawl JVP = 12,107 mt Pacific cod = 7,327
Atka mackerel = 4,678
est. flounder = 102

Incidental species:

1667 T.	Sablefish	bycatch rate = 2.8%	bycatch amount = 339 mt	167 T.
	POPC	bycatch rate = 0.6%	bycatch amount = 73 mt	
	Atka mackerel	bycatch rate = 6.4%	bycatch amount = 775 mt	
	Other rockfish	bycatch rate = 0.5%	bycatch amount = 261 mt	

Given: Western area mid-water trawl JVP = ?

Incidental species:

Sablefish	bycatch rate =	bycatch amount =
POPC	bycatch rate =	bycatch amount =
Atka mackerel	bycatch rate =	bycatch amount =

Western area JVP breakdown by gear for 1984.

100% JVP harvested by bottom trawl.

0% JVP harvested by mid-water trawl.

3060 DY

Gulf of Alaska - Central Regulatory Area
Proposed JV Bycatch Rates and Amounts for 1985

306 TONS
MAR BYCATCH
with 10% limit

Central 90% Pollock JVP = 263,925 mt
Given: Central area mid-water trawl JVP = 263,925 mt

Incidental species:

Sablefish	bycatch rate = 0.005%	bycatch amount = 13 mt
POPc	bycatch rate = 0.02%	bycatch amount = 53 mt
Atka mackerel	bycatch rate = 0.002%	bycatch amount = 5 mt

Given: Central area bottom-trawl JVP = 39,896 mt → 10% pollock = 29,325
Pacific cod = 10,073
est. flounder = 498

LAST year

Incidental species:

Sablefish	bycatch rate = 1.8%	bycatch amount = 718 -
POPc	bycatch rate = 0.2%	bycatch amount = 80
Atka mackerel	bycatch rate = 0.7%	bycatch amount = 279
Other rockfish	bycatch rate = 0.3%	bycatch amount = 120

Total Central Area bycatch amounts:

Sablefish	= 731 mt
POPc	= 133 mt
Atka mackerel	= 284 mt
Other rockfish	= 120 mt

Central area JVP breakdown by gear for 1984.

10% pollock JVP harvested by bottom trawl.

90% pollock JVP harvested by mid-water trawl.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries

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Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone:
(907) 465-4924

M E M O R A N D U M

January 16, 1985

TO: House Resources Committee
Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Representative Richard Shultz
Co-Chairs

FROM: Special Committee on Fisheries
Representative Peter Goll
Chairman

SUBJECT: HJR 8

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter Goll", written in dark ink.

After reviewing HJR 8 and discussing the matter with interested members of the Special Committee on Fisheries, it is suggested that the following amendments be made to address the concerns of Kodiak-based fishermen.

- (1) Insert the following language on line 7, page 2, after the words "...fish fishery":

" , and set aside reserves to allow incidental catch of sablefish based on actual needs rather than Optimum Yield"

DISCUSSION--This amendment is designed to allow the continuation of the joint venture fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska without cutting back on the amount of sablefish available for harvest by Alaska's longline fleet. All parties agree that the 10 percent figure is too high.

- (2) Delete the following language on line 10, page 2:

[ALASKA]

DISCUSSION--Under the MFCMA, no distinction may be made between U.S. fishermen on the basis of residency in individual states.

Alaska State Legislature



Speaker of the House of Representatives

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3720

Official Business

To: Reps. Herrmann and Schultz
House Resource Committee

Fr: Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Speaker

Dt: 1/15/85

Re: HJR 8

My intent on this resolution is to have it through both houses in time for the February 8th Meeting of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

Longliners in Sitka, and the rest of state have shown they can harvest the entire OY of sablefish (black cod). They are quite concerned about a 10% allocation to Joint Venture by-catch. A method of allowing by-catch not tied to the OY is highly desirable.

Another area of concern is pot fishing. Pots lost off Cape Edgecumbe are fishing to this day, damaging longline gear and automatically depleting the sablefish stocks.

Both of these areas need to be handled by the N.P.F.M.C. on an emergency basis. This can be done under section 304(e) 16 USC 1855 by requesting the Secretary of Commerce to "promulgate emergency regulatory action." Without quick action it will be six months before the issue will make it through the process. In that time pot fishermen can enter the fishery, making it difficult to later remove them. The term hook-and-line can be substituted for longline fishing, if you feel pot fisherman could claim to be longliners by attaching pots instead of hooks.

The council should also take action to rescind their December vote on the 10% allocation.

Background material is attached: the N.P.F.M.C.'s December newsletter, a very good letter-to-the-editor from a Sitka longliner, and data sheets from the N.P.F.M.C.

Ron Hegge of the Alaska Longline Fishermans Association (ALFA) should be added to your contact list. ALFA will be interested in commenting on HJR 8 and other fishing measures which come before your committee. I will let you know if other Sitkans show an interest as well.

Alaska State Legislature



Speaker of the House of Representatives

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3720

Official Business

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rep. Peter Goll, Chair
Special Committee on Fisheries

FROM: Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Speaker

DATE: January 14, 1985

RE: HJR 8

Please ask your committee to review informally HJR 8, relating to the allocation of Gulf of Alaska sablefish harvest by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and to provide your recommendations, comments, amendments, etc., to the Resources Committee at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

Rep.
Gall

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman
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Anchorage, Alaska 99510



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and SSC Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson
Executive Director

DATE: January 8, 1985

SUBJECT: Council Mailing

I hope the holidays treated all of you well. In any case, a belated Merry Christmas from all of the staff and our best wishes for the New Year. We took it on a pretty slow bill Christmas week, but everyone is hitting it hard in the new year. It's already beginning to look like the Council may be favored with that old Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times" for 1985. Of course, we have since 1976 so we should be getting quite practiced by now.

There have been a number of developments since the last Council meeting, not all of which I have been able to send to you or cover until this mailing.

February Agenda

The February agenda gets longer almost daily. The Council will start its meeting at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, meet with the Board on Wednesday, and try to conclude their meeting on Thursday. If things get really tight, and I think they will, that would give us Friday to finish our business and still let people get out both north and south that afternoon. That will allow the SSC and AP to meet on Monday and, if they wish, the Council Subcommittee on plan objectives.

While we will not have to spend a great deal of time with the Board on deciding how many salmon can be taken in 1985, there does promise to be a great deal of discussion and testimony on when during the year those salmon should be taken. We should plan on a full day together. They may wish to discuss some groundfish matters, such as rockfish off Southeast Alaska, but we don't have a clear fix on that yet.

We can expect a great deal of public testimony on the longline-only proposal for sablefish, perhaps most of one day. Adjusting DAHs for the Gulf and deciding whether or not there should be some TALFF in that area is also going to take time and probably a lot of public testimony. Discussion and completion of our December move toward establishing bycatch limits for the trawl fisheries for such species as sablefish is also going to take a

considerable amount of time. Much of the work that was done in December establishing estimates for DAP and JVP has to be repeated in February because of the changes in estimates as a result of the industry negotiations.

I'd suggest you plan on getting to Sitka by noon Tuesday and hold your return reservations for Friday.

The AP and SSC will start at 1:00 p.m. on Monday.

We need your advice on this draft Agenda - it will have to go out by the 16th.

U.S.-Japan Industry Agreement

All of the Council members received copies of the agreement between the U.S. and Japanese industry groups made in Seattle on December 9-11. Council members teleconferenced on December 20 to discuss a response to that agreement, particularly as it related to the verbal commitment of the U.S. industry to ask the Council to open the Gulf to the Japanese for 15,000 tons of Pacific cod and 50,000 tons of Alaska pollock, contingent on the Japanese submitting proposals to the Council that would guarantee their fisheries for those species would be relatively free of bycatch valuable to the American fishermen.

During the teleconference you decided that industry requests to implement the agreement could not be considered except in a regular open Council meeting and remained silent on the question of opening the Gulf to foreign fishing and changes in the DAH for Bering Sea. Individual expressions by Council members allowed the Regional Director to get some feeling for how Secretarial action addressing some of those items might be received by the Council.

The members agreed that the Chairman should write a letter to Mr. Imanaga telling him that the Council would consider the industry agreement at the February meeting (Attachment 1). The Japanese had been expressing great concern through cables and verbal messages about getting immediate action from the Council on industry proposals. It was hoped that the letter to Imanaga would encourage them to continue normal operations and implementation of their agreement with U.S. industry. We have since received a response from Mr. Imanaga (Attachment 2).

On January 1 the State Department (cable, Attachment 2A) released approximately half of the TALFF the Council had identified as being available in the Bering Sea, some 233,500 tons. Of that, approximately 167,000 tons went to the Japanese, 42,000 tons to Korean, 11,600 tons to the Soviet Union, 7,500 tons to Poland, and 600 tons to Portugal. I understand that the Regional Director has about finished an emergency amendment to the Gulf plan that would allow the catch of 4,500 tons of Pacific cod with associated bycatch by foreign longliners. It's expected that emergency amendment would be expedited and at least a portion of that amount would probably be caught before the Council meets in February.

We have received supporting letters for the industry agreement from Oscar Dyson (Attachment 3), Hugh Reilly (Attachment 4), Dave Harville (Attachment 5), and Al Burch (Attachment 6). We also received one from Wally Pereyra of ProFish about the closure of the Gulf by the Council (Attachment 7), a letter from the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urging

full domestic utilization of the groundfish resources (Attachment 8), and a letter from Steve Hughes on behalf of the Midwater Trawl Association urging a lesser allocation to the Soviets than they had asked for at the December meeting (Attachment 9).

10% Sablefish Bycatch Allocation for Joint Venture Trawlers

There is a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding about the motion made by Rudy Petersen and adopted by the Council at the December meeting that put a ceiling on the joint venture trawl catch of sablefish at 10% of the OY in the Gulf of Alaska. I have discussed that motion with Rudy and the Council's action with several other Council members. It is clear that their understanding of the action does differ from the exact wording of the motion. It was intended to set a ceiling on the bycatch of sablefish by joint venture trawlers of 10% of the sablefish OY by regulatory area, i.e., 10% of the OY for the Central Area, 10% of the OY for the Western Area, etc. and that where there were no joint ventures conducted, as is the case in the Eastern Regulatory Area, there would be no need to reduce the sablefish OY for joint venture bycatch. In any case, it's clear that the action has confused a number of people and it needs to be clarified. We will put it on the agenda for the February meeting.

Directed Sablefish Fishery for Longliners Only

There continues to be a very strong push for immediate action by the Council to make the sablefish fishery a longline-only fishery, i.e., excluding all other forms of gear from the directed fishery for sablefish. ALFA has submitted a letter asking that an emergency amendment to make the sablefish fishery a longline-only fishery for the Eastern Regulatory Area be put on the Council agenda for February. The Interim Action Committee teleconferenced on January 3 to discuss action on that request and recommended that it be placed on the agenda so that there would be a forum for discussion and action if the Council wishes. We have asked ALFA to submit their arguments and any material they have supporting the proposal early enough so that it can be reviewed by the SSC at the Sitka meeting before it comes to the Council. Discussion and action will be confined to the Eastern Regulatory area, from Dixon Entrance to 147°W longitude.

A letter from Mr. Svensson supporting a longline-only fishery is Attachment 10, the ALFA request is Attachment 11, and a proposal for a sablefish management plan from Al Kapp is Attachment 12.

Halibut Update

Planning for the halibut roundtables is proceeding. We have asked NMFS for programmatic monies to supplement our administrative budget for this project and hope to have a report for you at the February meeting on progress. The roundtables are going to take some time to put together if they're to be done properly, we need to spend more time discussing when and where they should be held. The coverage should be thorough and outside of the busy fishing season. It may not be possible to do an adequate job until next fall.

Attachment 13 is a letter from Blake Kinnear on the halibut issue.

Council Funding

After again discussing programmatic funding with the SSC chairman, we sent the Council's request for FY/85 to Bob McVey on December 12 (Attachment 14). The total was for \$240,000 with funding for the halibut management options workshops as first priority. On December 21 we sent a letter to Bill Gordon on our problems with our administrative budget. We pointed out that the Council needs an additional \$80,000 to carry out its programs for the remainder of FY/85 but that if the programmatic funds for the halibut management options workshops were available it would reduce the requirement for additional administrative funding, since some of that programmatic money would be used for existing staff salary (Attachment 15). The Regional Director endorsed the Council request (Attachment 16) in a later letter to Bill Gordon.

We've also received a copy of a letter from the New England Council to Bill Gordon on priorities between programmatic and administrative funding (Attachment 17).

U.S.-Canada Negotiations

I'm sure that you are all aware that the U.S.-Canada talks reached a successful semi-conclusion. Harold Lokken participated in those discussions as the Council representative. Attachment 18 is a copy of his report and a memo from Jim Glock laying out the details that will most directly affect the Council at the February meeting.

Reorganizing the Advisory Panel

The existing Advisory Panel went out of business on December 31. The Council had asked the Council AP Nominating Committee to meet and make recommendations on members for the reorganized AP so they could be appointed in time for the February meeting. The Committee teleconferenced on December 31 and concluded that it was going to be difficult to appoint a new Advisory Panel in time for the February meeting, that the list of candidates available was not adequate to offer a full selection for the Council and that final decisions should be made by the full Council. While that might conceivably be done by teleconferencing, it would be better for the Council to do it in closed session in Sitka.

In a teleconference January 8, the Council decided to ask the 1984 Advisory Panel to serve for one more meeting. They were not at all comfortable with covering the complex and contentious Sitka agenda without the advice and counsel of the AP.

Incidental Salmon in the Trawl Fisheries

Attachment 19 is the first two pages of the NMFS observer report for November. The tables and statistics are available if you want them. You'll note that the incidental catch of salmon in both the Bering Sea and in the Gulf of Alaska is quite high, high enough so that it deserves careful investigation and probably some action by the Council. I have put Jim Glock to work on analyzing the catch and developing recommendations for the groundfish teams that might help them in their study of this problem.

Bird Problems

Attachment 20 is an article from the Anchorage Daily News outlining the reproductive failure of two species of birds on the Pribilofs this year. There is some concern expressed in the article that fishing may be reducing the food supply in the Bering Sea enough to cause this phenomena. While I know of no factual basis for that supposition, it is something that we need to track carefully to see if we can avoid having it become a cause celebre.

Action by the Japanese on Violations by their Squid Fleet

At the September Council meeting the Coast Guard law enforcement report noted that they had found a number of Japanese squid vessels fishing in areas closed to them by Japanese regulation. That information was sent to the Japanese government, they have investigated and taken action on some that they concluded were in fact in violation. They are described in a letter from the Japanese Fishery Agency (Attachment 21).

Analysis of Pacific Ocean Perch Populations and the Effect of Rebuilding Them

Attachment 22 is the analysis of Pacific ocean perch and associated rockfish requested of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center last year. It's very comprehensive and greatly extends our understanding of Pacific ocean perch population dynamics and the economics of trying to rebuild this resource. Copies of this document were limited, so if you would like a copy and did not receive one in this packet, please call the Council office.

Miscellaneous Items

Attachment 23 is a letter from Randy Ackerman on the problems he's had with competition from foreign trawlers north of Unimak Pass.

Attachment 24 is a memo from Bill Aron outlining an offer that Iceland has made to do some capelin research off Alaska.

Attachment 25 is the last issue of Atkinson's Newsletter and Attachments 26 and 27 are the last two Council Memorandum.

Happy Reading.

Attachments



Official Business

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House of Representatives

Special Committee on Fisheries

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Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone:
(907) 465-4924

MEMORANDUM

January 16, 1985

TO: Representative Ben Grussendorf
Speaker
Alaska House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Peter *Peter*
Chairman
Special Committee on Fisheries

SUBJECT: HJR 8

After reviewing HJR 8 and discussing the matter with interested members of the Special Committee on Fisheries, I would respectfully recommend the following changes to address the concerns of Kodiak-based fishermen.

- (1) Insert the following language on line 7, page 2, after the words "...fish fishery":

" , and set aside reserves to allow incidental catch of sablefish based on actual needs rather than Optimum Yield"

DISCUSSION--This amendment is designed to allow the continuation of the joint venture fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska without cutting back on the amount of sablefish available for harvest by Alaska's longline fleet. All parties agree that the 10 percent figure is too high.

- (2) Delete the following language on line 10, page 2:

[ALASKA]

DISCUSSION--Under the MFCMA, no distinction may be made between U.S. fishermen on the basis of residency in individual states.

Representative Ben Grussendorf

Page 2

January 15, 1985

- (3) Insert the following language on line 11, page 2, after the words "...in the Gulf of Alaska":

"east of 147° West."

DISCUSSION--This amendment is aimed at establishing an exclusive longline fishery in those areas traditionally fished by the longline fleet without displacing other gear types dependent upon the resource.

Rep. Thompson:

Here are the two amendments suggested by Grussendorf's staffer that should take care of your concerns with the present language in HJR 8. This language is rough and must be refined before actually being introduced as amendments, but the general thrust will remain the same.

(1) The following language would be added to the first resolved clause after the words ."Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery,...:

"...and set aside reserves to allow incidental catch of sablefish based on actual needs rather than Optimum Yield;"

(2) The following language would be added to the second resolve clause after the words..."sablefish fishery in the Gulf of Alaska.."

"...east of 147 degrees."
140

This language will be refined; consider it only as a rough draft.

Rodger Painter

Roger
file with the bill

*See me please
to take files*

Introduced: 1/14/85
Referred: Resources

BY GRUSSENDORF, DUNCAN, M.M. MILLER,
TAYLOR, GOLL AND CATO

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the allocation of Gulf of

6

Alaska sablefish harvest by the North

7

Pacific Fishery Management Council.

8

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

9

WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on December 8,

10

1984, voted to allocate 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the

11

Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery to incidental catch by joint venture

12

fishermen; and

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WHEREAS joint venture operations in the Gulf of Alaska have expanded

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dramatically in recent years; and

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WHEREAS continued expansion of joint venture participation with for-

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ign processors in the Gulf of Alaska will diminish the tonnage of fish

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landed in Alaska and jeopardize the survival of small business commercial

18

fishermen in Alaska; and

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WHEREAS use of longline gear in catching sablefish is ecologically

20

sound; and

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WHEREAS Alaska longline fishermen have the capacity to harvest, and

22

United States processors have the capacity to process, the entire allowable

23

catch of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska; and

24

WHEREAS the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act estab-

25

lishes a priority for United States fishermen delivering to United States

26

processors; and

27

WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, in allocating

28

fishing privileges among fishermen and among gear types, is directed by

29

management plan guidelines to consider such relevant factors as the

1 economic and social consequences of the allocation scheme and the depen-
2 dence on the fishery by present participants and coastal communities;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the North Pacific
4 Fishery Management Council is respectfully requested to rescind its action
5 allowing joint venture fishermen an incidental catch of sablefish equal to
6 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska ground-
7 fish fishery; and be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is
9 respectfully requested to take action at its February 1985 meeting to grant
10 Alaska longline fishermen exclusive fishing rights in the sablefish fishery
11 in the Gulf of Alaska.

12 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
13 Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
14 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; to the
15 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-
16 tives; to the Honorable John B. Breaux, chairman, Subcommittee on Fisheries
17 and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, House Committee on Merchant
18 Marine and Fisheries; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
19 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
20 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; to the Honorable Malcolm
21 Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; and Mr. James Campbell, chairman, North
22 Pacific Fishery Management Council.

DISTRICT 27:
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CHIGNIK LAGOON
CHIGNIK LAKE
CHINIAK
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KARLUK
KODIAK
LARSEN BAY
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OUZINKIE
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PORT LIONS
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Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives

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(LIO)(907) 486-8116

January 19, 1985

To: Representative Ben Grussendorf, Speaker
Alaska House of Representatives

From: Representative Dave Thompson

Re: HJR #8

After much discussion with all interested parties, I would respectfully recommend the following additional change to the above referenced Resolution.

(3) Insert the following language on line 11, Page Two (2),

" in the Eastern regulatory area of the Gulf of Alaska, from Dixon entrance to a West longitude determined by the NPFMC."

I believe this substitution will satisfy the concerns of all parties, including the Kodiak-based fleet.

Thank you for your consideration of my suggestion.

Original sponsors: Grussendorf, Duncan,
M.M.Miller, et al

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IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8 (Resources)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Relating to the allocation of Gulf of
Alaska sablefish harvest by the North
Pacific Fishery Management Council.

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

WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on December 8,
1984, voted to allocate 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the
Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery to incidental catch by joint venture
fishermen; and

WHEREAS joint venture operations in the Gulf of Alaska have expanded
dramatically in recent years; and

WHEREAS continued expansion of joint venture participation with for-
eign processors in the Gulf of Alaska should be accommodated by the North
Pacific Fishery Management Council in such a manner as to enhance, and not
restrict, development of the domestic fishery; and

WHEREAS use of longline gear in catching sablefish is ecologically
sound; and

WHEREAS Alaska longline fishermen have the capacity to harvest, and
United States processors have the capacity to process, the entire allowable
catch of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act estab-
lishes a priority for United States fishermen delivering to United States
processors; and

WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, in allocating
fishing privileges among fishermen and among gear types, is directed by
management plan guidelines to consider such relevant factors as the

1 economic and social consequences of the allocation scheme and the depen-
2 dence on the fishery by present participants and coastal communities;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the North Pacific
4 Fishery Management Council is respectfully requested to rescind its action
5 allowing joint venture fishermen an incidental catch of sablefish equal to
6 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska ground-
7 fish fishery, and set aside ~~reserves~~ ^{in U.S. Reg. area} to allow incidental catch of sablefish
8 based on actual needs rather than optimum yield; and be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is
10 respectfully requested to take action at its February 1985 meeting to grant
11 longline fishermen exclusive fishing rights in the sablefish fishery in the
12 Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska, from Dixon Entrance to a
13 west longitude determined by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

14 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
15 Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
16 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; to the
17 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-
18 tives; to the Honorable John B. Breaux, chairman, Subcommittee on Fisheries
19 and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, House Committee on Merchant
20 Marine and Fisheries; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
21 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
22 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; to the Honorable Malcolm
23 Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; and Mr. James Campbell, chairman, North
24 Pacific Fishery Management Council.
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TABLE 1
GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH
1985 OYS, DAPS, JVPS, AND TALFF (MT)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>1985 OY</u>	<u>1985^{1/} DAP</u>	<u>1985^{2/} JVP</u>	<u>Reserves^{3/}</u>	<u>TALFF</u>
Pollock	Western/Central	305,000	9,371	293,250	61,000	0
	Eastern ^{4/}	16,600	2	0	3,320	0
Pacific cod ^{4/}	W	16,560	2,460	7,327	3,312	0
	C	33,540	8,624	10,073	6,708	0 4,500
	E	9,900	766	0	1,980	0
Flounders ^{4/}	W	10,400	400	102	2,080	0
	C	14,700	1,781	498	2,940	0
	E	8,400	627	0	1,680	0
Pacific ocean perch	W	1,302	1,302 ^{5/}	0	260	0
	C	3,906	3,906 ^{5/}	0	781	0
	E	875	875 ^{5/}	0	175	0
Sablefish	W	1,670	1,670 ^{5/}	0	334	0
	C	3,060	3,060 ^{5/}	0	612	0
	W. Yakutat	1,680	1,680 ^{5/}	0	336	0
	E. Yakutat	1,135	1,135	0	0	0
	S.E. Outside	1,435	1,435	0	0	0
Atka Mackerel	W	4,678	0	4,678	936	0
	C	bc	0	0	0	0
	E	bc	0	0	0	0
Rockfish	Gulfwide	5,000	4,600	0	1,000	0
Thornyhead ^{4/}	GW	3,750	0	10	750	0
Squid ^{4/}	GW	5,000	0	10	1,000	0
Other Species ^{4/}	GW	<u>22,430</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1,400</u>	<u>4,486</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL		471,021	43,763	317,348	93,690	0

bc = bycatch amounts only.

1/ Estimates determined by NMFS Industry survey.

2/ Estimates determined by joint venture permit applications.

3/ Reserves = 20% OY.

4/ OY = DAH not to exceed stated OY for each species.

5/ DAP estimates have been reduced to equal OY.

Fig. For
Steve Davis

Pollock JVP incorporated in agreement
Other TALFF's are arithmetic splits
Pacific Cod JH allocation of 15,000 mt
Can come from W+C (with

Fishery Management Operations Division
NMFS, Alaska Region
Juneau, Alaska
December 19, 1984

RECEIVED DEC 26 1984

GULF OF ALASKA
Groundfish Apportionments (mt), 1985

Species	Area	OY	DAP	JVP	Reserve	TALFF
Pollock	W/C	305000	9371	203250	61000	31379
	E	16600	2	0	3320	13278
Pacific cod	W	16560	2460	7327	3312	3461
	C	33540	8624	10073	6708	8133
	E	9900	766	0	1980	7134
Flounders	W	10400	400	102	2080	7818
	C	14700	1781	498	2740	9481
	E	8400	627	0	1680	6093
POP	W	1302	1302	0	0	0
	C	3906	3906	0	0	0
	E	875	875	0	0	0
Sablefish	W	1670	1670	0	0	0
	C	3060	3060	0	0	0
	W.YK	1680	1680	0	0	0
	E.YK	1135	1135	0	0	0
	SE	1435	1435	0	0	0
Atka mackerel	W	4678	30	3692	836 736	100 for bycatch
	C	100	30	30	20	20
	E	10	6	0	2	2
Rockfish	G-W	5000	4000	0	1000	0
Thornyhead	G-W	3750	0	10	750	2990
Squid	G-W	5000	0	10	1000	3990
Other sp	G-W	22435	69	1400	4487	16479
W/C total		305000	9371	203250	61000	31379
Western total		34610	5882	11121	6228	11379
Central total		85306	17401	10601	9668	17636
Eastern total		40035	6526	0	6982	26527
G-W total		36185	4069	1420	7237	23459
TOTAL		471136	43249	226392	91115	110380

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor: The following letter was sent to Gov. Bill Sheffield.

Dear Governor: Thank you for personally reading this letter. I'm writing in regard to recent action by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Serious errors were made by the Council in their December meeting in Anchorage.

I have been a fisherman here in Sitka and gulf-wide for thirteen years. Being born and raised in Sitka and now having four children, I'm naturally very concerned with maintaining the quality lifestyle that exists. Unfortunately, a situation has developed that will definitely, unquestionably result in the destruction of the small and medium boat longline fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. These developments are upon us now and we have little to no time to act to ensure that we don't allow an irreversible situation to get established and out of control.

The NPFMC is responsible for making tremendously important decisions in the course of maintaining our fisheries. In doing this they are required to adhere to strict guidelines including those set forth in the Magnuson Act and the National Register. They have not done this.

At the December meetings in Anchorage they blatantly ignored these guidelines more than once.

In 1982, the NPFMC agreed to adopt an amendment proposed by Alaska Longline Fisherman's Association of Sitka. Formal presentation was made at the meeting by then executive director of ALFA, Greg Baker, and president Orrie Bell. This was accompanied by testimony by numerous fishermen. The purpose of the amendment (Amendment 12) was to ban the use of pot longline and trawl gear for black cod in the eastern Gulf of Alaska, so essentially, the eastern Gulf would be a hook and line sanctuary. Much testimony was given to support the amendment after which Mr. Jim Branson of the Council staff made the public comment that "this was one of the best presentations made by any fishermen's organizations we've seen; everyone's impressed, this thing should fly through." Well, it flew to Juneau and sat on someone's desk for a year and a half. Then, in June of 1985 we got a hold of a letter written by the same Mr. Branson to the Council members recommending throwing it out for lack of substance, not enough evidence of gear conflicts, etc. Then began the process of trying to find out who to believe.

The danger we face with pot gear and trawl gear is that both types have already damaged traditional fishing grounds in their own way.

Pot boats lose gear regularly and render otherwise productive grounds totally useless for our relatively light hook and line gear. The lost pots also continue to fish. It takes a large boat to

fish pots. One estimate was that eight to ten large pot boats would, with gear loss and the amount of gear they can lay out, pretty much take over the black cod fishery of southeast Alaska alone. I believe that is not an exaggeration by any means.

The fishable ground for black cod is a strip that runs along the continental shelf. There is not much actual fishable ground to begin with. The same sets would be used by both fisheries. Pot fishing and hook and line fishing don't co-habitate. Gear conflicts are already well-documented in southeast Alaska. I am among the fishermen who have lost valuable hook and line gear to lost pot gear.

The other menace on the horizon is the trawl fleet. Admission of trawl effort to continue in the Gulf of Alaska means the end of small and medium boat hook and line fisheries i.e. black cod, halibut, rockfish, etc. The stocks simply won't support it. Certain trawlers might try to tell you differently, but they don't live here, don't care about our area and communities, and traditionally don't give a damn about the stocks anywhere.

We are currently harvesting the quota of black cod in southeast Alaska and in the central Gulf with hook and line gear. Southeast area longliners have already taken voluntary reductions in their black cod OY. There simply is no room for more effort; especially of the magnitude we would see without this amendment in place. So what did our Council do? The totally disregarded the guidelines of the National Standard concerning gear loss, social and economic ramifications and denied our request. Their next bit of business was to give the trawlers their request of an emergency allocation of 10 percent of the OY for the Gulf of Alaska rather than allowing for a reasonable by-catch. In other words, the allocation granted by our Council is to come out of quotas that are currently being harvested by local hook and line fleets. This appears to be a direct violation of the Magnuson Act.

The NPFMC members who voted against Amendment 12 heard our representative speaking to them, but they weren't listening. It's almost embarrassing to have such an important entity in our industry mishandling its responsibility to such a degree.

We have been told that we'll be on the agenda in February when the Council meets in Sitka. The unanimous feeling in the longline fleet is that if we don't protect this resource now, we're out of business. We are a traditional established fishery producing a superior quality product and supporting shore based processors. We are literally fighting for our existence. We need your help in protecting a

established fishery producing a superior quality product and supporting shore based processors. We are literally fighting for our existence. We need your help in protecting a livelihood that is vital to the economics of many Alaska communities and to thousands of individual Alaskans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Greg Cushing

Conservative Control

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — An undistributed letter from Sen. Jim Helms proposing that conservatives buy CBS stock and end what it can biased news reporting has "hit a nerve," the North Carolina Republic says.

In an interview Thursday on ABC "Nightline," Helms said his office had reported a number of calls on the letter.

Helms and supporters told the Securities and Exchange Commission in documents filed Thursday that they were not seeking proxies from CBS stockholders in an attempt to take over CBS, but held open the possibility of making such an attempt later.

Once the group has persuaded enough people to buy CBS stock, "they intend to request a meeting with the company to obtain management's views concerning their proposal that the company end its liberal bias in news reporting and editorial policies," the documents said.

Edward J. Atorino, a stock analyst specializing in media companies for Smith Barney in New York, said it would be virtually impossible for such a takeover move to succeed.

Kennedy Clashes with South Africa

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy issued a sharply worded rebuttal after South Africa's foreign minister said Kennedy should be more concerned with the plight of American blacks than with South Africa's racial policies.

The Massachusetts Democrat, visiting South Africa at the invitation of Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, released a statement defending the status of blacks in America after Foreign Minister R.F. Botha criticized him Thursday in a statement broadcast on South African television.

The senator accused Botha of making an "untrue attack on the United States" when Botha said the death rate for American black children was twice that of whites, and the black poverty rate was three times higher.

Botha said Kennedy should stay out of South African affairs and be more

To Improve

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Complaints

Merchants and property owners die. throw down some sidewalk. is that

Sablefish decision hurts Alaskans

Dear Editor:

Saturday, December 8th, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Anchorage took a couple of actions against the people of the State of Alaska. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council decided that fishermen delivering to foreign processors would be allowed to take 10 percent of the allowable catch of sablefish (blackcod) in the Gulf of Alaska. This, even though sablefish is fully utilized in the Eastern and Central Gulf of Alaska (Dixon Entrance to past the south tip of Kodiak Island) by American fishermen delivering to Alaskan ports.

The sad part is that two "Alaskans" voted with the outsiders. The "Alaskans" being James Campbell and Sarah Hempill. In fact, James Campbell, as chairman, railroaded the fish away from Alaskan ports. Oh yes, I almost forgot Bob McVey, a federal Alaskan who voted with the outside interests. In other action, or inaction, the council voted not to make sablefish an exclusive hook and line fishery in the Gulf of Alaska as halibut is.

Sablefish brings millions of dollars into Alaska. It is responsible for over a thousand people working in the State of Alaska. It is one of the most Alaskan fisheries. Eighty percent of the sablefish fishermen are Alaskan residents as compared with less than 50 percent in the Bristol Bay fishery and less than 50 percent of the Southeast seiners.


As an Alaskan, and as an Alaskan fisherman from the largest Alaskan blackcod port — Sitka — I am deeply disturbed by the North Pacific Fishery Council's decisions. I and other Alaskan fishermen contend they violated the National Standards as set up by the Magnuson Act — the 200 mile limit. I hope they will see the error of their ways when they meet in Sitka in February.

I would like to thank representative Ben Grussendorf, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Governor Sheffield and his aids for their support of the Alaskan sablefish fisherman and processors at the meetings in Anchorage.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Mayo
F/V Oceanus
Independent Fishermen of Alaska
244 Kogwonton
Sitka, 99635

File

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OF <u>Rep Thompson</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONED		
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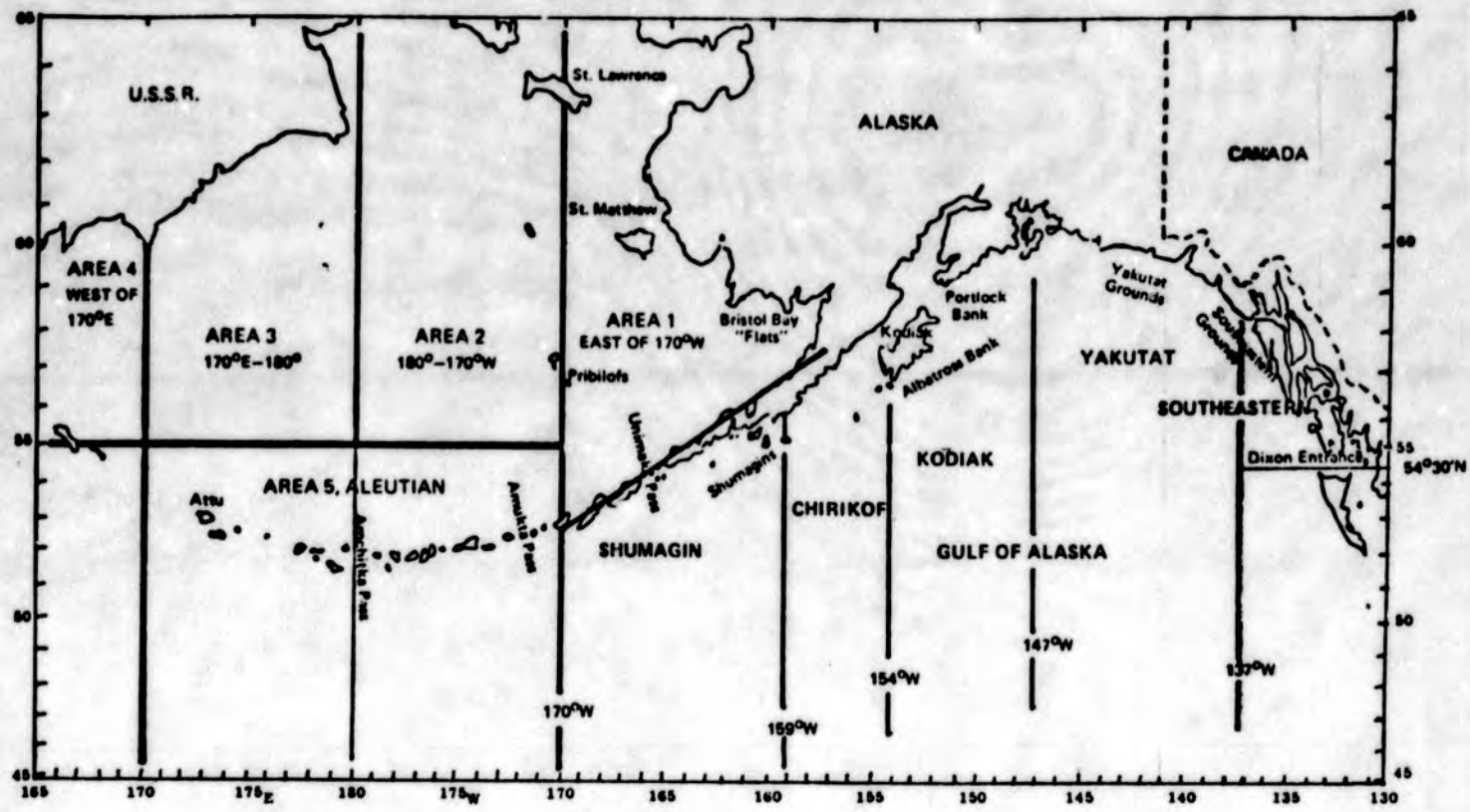


Figure 1A. International North Pacific Fisheries Commission Statistical Areas

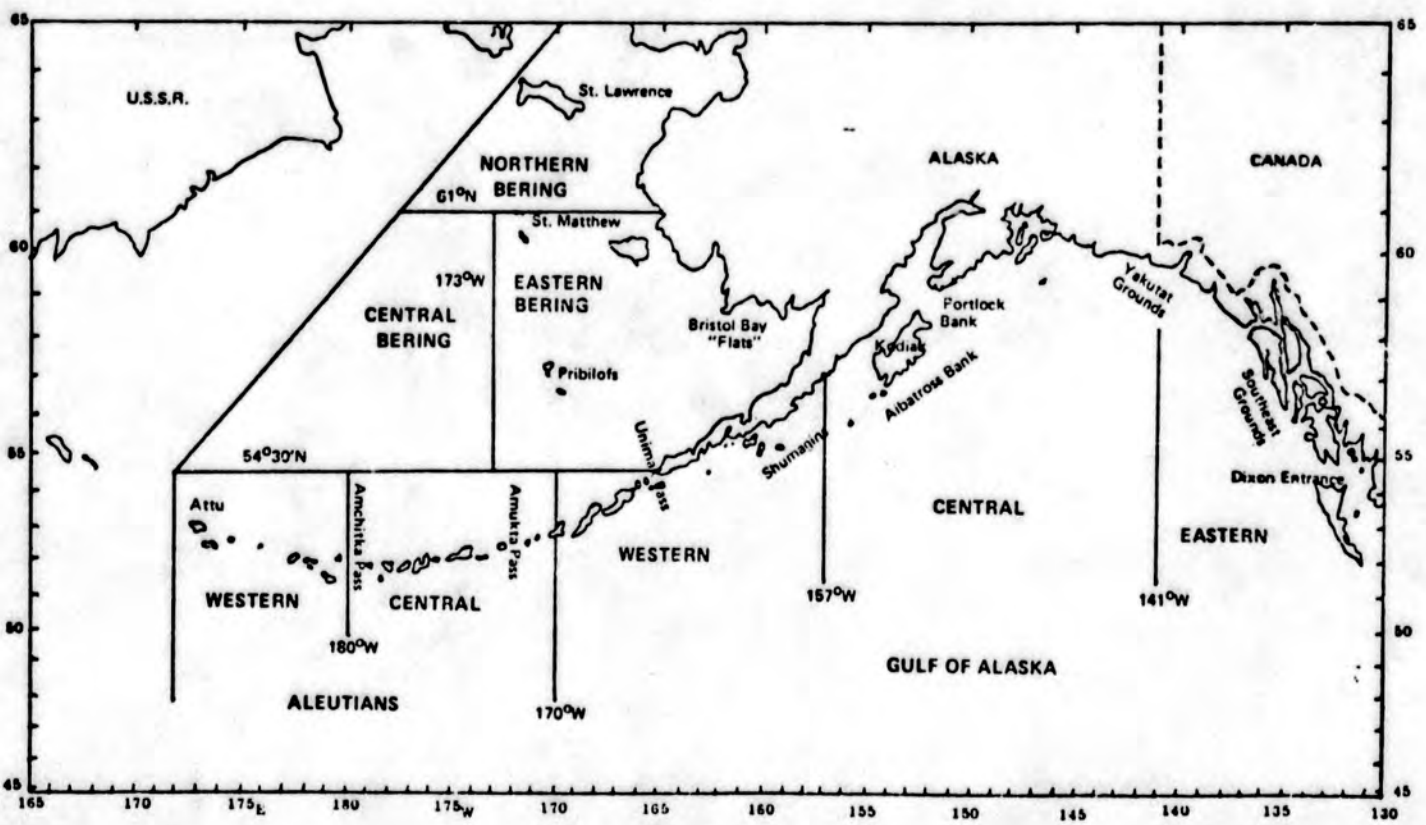


Figure 1B. North Pacific Fisheries Management Council Statistical Areas

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1/11/85 ✓

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY GRUSSENDORF

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO.

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the allocation of Gulf of
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14 dramatically in recent years; and

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17 landed in Alaska and jeopardize the survival of small business commercial
18 fishermen in Alaska; and

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20 sound; and

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28 fishing privileges among fishermen and among gear types, is directed by
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8 FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is
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10 Alaska longline fishermen exclusive fishing rights in the sablefish fishery
11 in the Gulf of Alaska.

12 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
13 Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
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