

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson *Glenn*
Executive Director

DATE: January 30, 1985

SUBJECT: Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery Management Plan

ACTION REQUIRED

1. Overview of Council actions in December.
2. Results of U.S./Japan industry agreement.
3. Current status of Gulf of Alaska Fisheries.
4. Review JVP requests and recommendations from the Permit Review Committee.
5. Establish policy on bycatch of fully-utilized species.
6. Reaffirm or revise December JVP and TALFF recommendations.

BACKGROUND

1. Overview of Council actions in December.

In December the Council approved final estimates of EY, OY, DAP and JVP for 1985, and eliminated TALFF for Pacific cod, flounders, thornyhead rockfish, squid and other species to reduce bycatches of fully-utilized species. There was no pollock TALFF since DAP and JVP offset OY. Table 1 summarizes 1985 OY, DAP, JVP and TALFF [see D-2(a)(1)].

The Council also directed that joint ventures be allowed only bycatch amounts of sablefish, Pacific ocean perch, rockfish and Central Area Atka mackerel.

2. Results of U.S./Japan industry agreement.

During December 9-12, 1984, U.S. and Japan fishing industry representatives met to discuss mutual cooperation in fisheries development and trade during 1985, including the major issues of Japanese purchases of joint venture and processed groundfish from U.S. industry and directed fishing allocations for Japan. The agreement signed by both delegations is under permit review, C-5(a). Among other things, the agreement says that in return for U.S. industry effort to reopen the Gulf to foreign fishing, the Japanese will purchase 120,000 mt pollock in Shelikof Strait joint ventures, 140,000 mt of U.S. harvested and processed pollock of which at least 35,000 mt will be delivered in 1985, and 5,000 mt (processed weight) of other U.S. harvested and processed products. The purchases identified in this agreement affect the Council's December action on DAP and JVP estimates. Potential TALFFs also change. Public comments on the agreement have been sent to you in recent Council mailings. Additional comments are included as items D-2(a)(2-7).

3. Current status of Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries.

On January 24 a directed foreign allocation of 4,500 mt Pacific cod was given to the Japanese longline fleet as a result of U.S. industry promoting the industry agreement and the likelihood that the Council would reevaluate its JVP estimates and TALFF action at this meeting. Item D-2(a)(8) shows the initial cod allocation plus allocated bycatches. No other countries have been allocated fish in the Gulf.

4. Review JVP requests and recommendations of the Permit Review Committee.

Based on the industry-to-industry agreement and new JVP requests, the Permit Review Committee will meet and provide new JVP estimates which will be critical in determining potential U.S. and foreign harvests during 1985 and estimating bycatches of fully-utilized species. Worksheets will be available for your notes and calculations.

5. Establish policy on bycatch of fully-utilized species.

In December the Council wrestled with the issues of zero-JVP and zero-TALFF. The zero-JVP problem, where DAP equals or exceeds OY and leaves nothing for bycatch in other fisheries, was addressed by allocating up to 10% of the fully-utilized species OY for bycatch to U.S. trawlers participating in joint ventures. These fish could not be sold to foreign processors and would be returned to the American fishermen for discard or processing shoreside as DAP.

The zero-TALFF problem, where there are no fish to accommodate foreign bycatch, was handled by eliminating foreign fisheries from the Gulf of Alaska.

The Council needs to review its policy with regard to bycatch of fully-utilized species. A separate agenda item has been prepared to help guide the Council through this subject [Item D-2(b)].

6. Reaffirm or revise December JVP and TALFF recommendations.

At this point, the Council should be in a position to make a decision with regard to the following items:

1. Finalize 1985 DAP and JVP estimates.
2. Establish a policy on bycatch of fully-utilized species for trawlers participating in both domestic and joint venture operations. Should the bycatch be counted? Subtracted from OY or EY?
3. How should Council bycatch policy be implemented? Permit restrictions? Plan amendments?
4. Given the industry-to-industry agreement and the issue of bycatch of fully-utilized species, should there be a TALFF in the Gulf of Alaska during 1985? If so, how do you want to accommodate bycatch needs?

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
	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.

RECEIVED JAN 29 1985

AGENDA D-2(a)(2)
FEB 1985

LAW OFFICES

KELLY & PATTERSON

PAUL D. KELLY
JOHN B. PATTERSON

January 29, 1985

Jim H. Branson,
Executor Director
North Pacific Fishery
Management Council
411 West Fourth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

HAND DELIVERED

ACTION	ROUTE TO	INITIAL
	Exec. Dir. 880 H STREET	
	Deputy Dir. SUITE 201	
	Admin. Off. ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501	
	(907) 338-6777	
	Exec. Sec.	
	Staff Asst. 1	
	Staff Asst. 2	
	Staff Asst. 3	
	Exec. Sec.	
	Sec. EPAC	
	Sec. Typist	

Re: Meeting of January 25, 1985, with Representatives
from Norton Sound and Bristol Bay

Dear Jim:

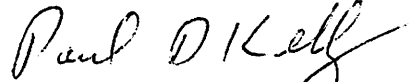
Regarding the above noted meeting, I am writing to thank you for spending the time with William Nicholson, John Jemewouk, Craig Willoya, Roy Otton, Joe McGill, and myself. As we discussed, it is important to us for whatever action the Council takes in the future with regard to foreign fishing allocations, that the contributions of the North Pacific Longline Gillnet Association (NPL) be taken into account when allocation requests are considered. Specifically, the NPL has been the single most important agent for the development of a commercial herring fishery for the local Bristol Bay fishermen and for the development of a salmon fishery for villagers of Golovin, Elim, and Koyuk. Over 550 families in Bristol Bay and more than 150 families in Norton Sound have members participating as fishermen or crewmembers in these joint ventures. It is our hope that the NPL will have a continuing presence so that they can provide us with the necessary assistance.

One question you touched on at our meeting regarded the minimum amount of fish required to sustain the NPL in its U.S. operations. In looking through my notes from prior meetings, it is my understanding that the NPL makes two trips to Alaska each year. In order for the NPL activities to be financially feasible, each trip requires that 25,000 tons of fish be harvested, for a total of 50,000 tons of cod fish each year. As I understand it, their request is that 35,000 tons of cod be allocated in the Bering Sea and 15,000 tons of cod be allocated in the Gulf of Alaska.

January 29, 1985
Mr. Jim Branson
Page Two

If I can be of any further assistance or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Paul D. Kelly

PDK:pj
cc: William H. Nicholson
John Jemewouk

IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF U. S. FISHERIES IN THE AREA. ALTHOUGH HE GAVE ASSURANCES THAT GOJ APPRECIATED THE INTERIM NATURE OF THE CURRENT ALLOCATION LEVELS, HE ALSO WORRIED ABOUT THE DAMAGE THAT WOULD RESULT TO BOTH THE JAPANESE & U.S. FISHING INDUSTRIES IF PRESENT LEVELS WERE NOT RAISED, AND IF THE GULF OF ALASKA (GOA) AREA AND THE 20 MILE CLOSURE IN THE ALEUTIAN AREA WERE NOT APPROVED FOR FOREIGN FISHING AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE NPFMC. TANABE SAID GOJ CONCERNS WOULD BE REPRESENTED TO THE USG IN AN OFFICIAL NOTE VERBALE RESPONDING TO THE USG ANNOUNCEMENT OF INITIAL ALLOCATIONS IN THE AREA (REFTELS). HOWEVER, SINCE FAJ HAS HEARD REPORTS THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE NPFMC MAY CONSIDER IT "DIFFICULT" TO MAKE CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND FISHING AREAS AT THE FEBRUARY NPFMC MEETING AND BECAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN SOME SUGGESTIONS THAT CHANGES COULD NOT BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOJ REQUESTS, HE ASKED THAT THE FOLLOWING GOJ CONCERNS BE COMMUNICATED TO USG AND MEMBERS OF THE NPFMC FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION:

- CONTINUATION OF THE ZERO TALFF LEVELS IN THE GOA WOULD HURT THE AMERICAN INDUSTRY AS WELL AS JAPANESE OPERATIONS BECAUSE IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR JAPANESE COMPANIES TO JUSTIFY A CONTINUATION OF JOINT VENTURE PURCHASES, RESEARCH PROJECTS, ETC. AT PAST LEVELS.

- INCREASED ALLOCATIONS ARE JUSTIFIED BECAUSE JAPAN HAS PLAYED THE LEADING ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF U.S. FISHING IN NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN WATERS. HE MENTIONED THE ADDITIONAL FISH . AVAILABLE FOR THE TOTAL ALLOWABLE LEVEL OF FOREIGN FISHING (TALFF) AS A RESULT OF THE INDUSTRY-TO-INDUSTRY DISCUSSIONS IN SEATTLE IN DECEMBER AND SAID THAT JAPAN'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING OVER-THE-SIDE JOINT VENTURE FISHERIES WITH U. S. FISHERMEN WARRANTED A FULL ALLOTMENT OF ANY INCREASES TO GOJ.

- THE TALFF FOR PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH, ATKA MACKEREL, SABLEFISH AND OTHER ROCKFISH THAT ARE HARVESTED INCIDENTALLY TO THE PRIMARY TARGET SPECIES OF POLLOCK, COD AND FLOUNDER . NEEDS TO BE RAISED TO PERMIT A CONTINUATION OF JAPANESE FISHING OPERATIONS. IN PARTICULAR, HE NOTED THAT THE CURRENT LEVELS WILL RESULT IN FISHING CLOSURES BEFORE THE TALFF AMOUNTS FOR THE TARGET SPECIES ARE ACHIEVED.

- THE JAPANESE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN WORKING ON METHODS AND MEANS OF REDUCING THE INCIDENTAL CATCHES OF PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH, ATKA MACKEREL, SABLEFISH AND

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RUWMDMA/NMFS JUNEAU ALASKA
RHWIHHHA/NMFS NW REGION SEATTLE WA
BT
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DEPT FOR OES/OFA/OPA, EAP/J
USDOC FOR NOAA/NMFS PASS TO F/M321
NMFS FOR DIRECTORS

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, JA
SUBJECT: FAJ REQUEST TO NPFMC AND USG TO INCREASE

OTHER ROCKFISH SO JAPANESE VESSELS COULD RECEIVE PERMISSION TO FISH IN THE 20 MILE BAND OF WATERS ADJACENT TO THE ALEUTIANS THAT WAS CLOSED IN RESPONSE TO THE NPFMC'S DECEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS. TANABE SAID THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED OF JAPAN'S SMALLER

TRAWLER VESSELS (UP TO 500 TONS GT) DEPEND ON THIS AREA AND THE INDUSTRY WOULD PRESENT THE NPFMC WITH DETAILS OF PLANS TO REDUCE INCIDENTAL CATCHES. HE HOPED THAT THE U. S. SIDE WOULD APPRECIATE THE SPECIFIC EFFORTS THAT WILL BE PROPOSED AT THE NPFMC'S FEBRUARY MEETING SO FISHING COULD BE CONTINUED.

3. TANABE ADMITTED THAT, IN THE PAST, GOJ HAS EXPRESSED CONCERNS OVER DECREASING ALLOCATIONS TO THE USG BUT THAT THE LEVELS INVOLVED NOW REPRESENT A CRITICAL SITUATION FOR THE JAPANESE FISHING INDUSTRY. HE HOPED THAT ADEQUATE LEVELS OF ALLOCATIONS COULD BE APPROVED ASSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE MUTUAL BENEFITS TO THE FISHING INDUSTRIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

4. THE REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE TOLD TANABE THAT THE FAJ CONCERNS HE ARTICULATED WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO THE USG WITH A REQUEST FOR FURTHER DISTRIBUTION TO MEMBERS OF THE NPFMC.
ACTION REQUEST TO F/NWR: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THIS CABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE NPFMC IN WASHINGTON AND OREGON; F/AKR: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THIS CABLE TO THE MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE NPFMC IN ALASKA.

MANSFIELD
BT
#1568

RECEIVED JAN 31 1985

DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

DISTRICT OFFICES

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2331 RAYBURN BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

FEDERAL BUILDING AND
U.S. COURT HOUSE

701 C STREET, BOX 3
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99513
TELEPHONE 907/271-5978

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

January 17, 1985

ACTION	ROUTE TO	INITIALS
	Dir.	
	Deputy Dir.	
	Admin. Off.	
	Exec. Sec.	
	Staff Asst. 1	
	Staff Asst. 2	
	Staff Asst. 3	
	Staff Asst. 4	
	Staff Asst. 5	
	Spec. Asst.	
	Spec. Asst.	

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KENAI, ALASKA 99611

Box 177
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615

501 FEDERAL BUILDING
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99902

Mr. William Gordon
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Adm.
Washington, D.C. 20235

Dear Bill:

It has come to my attention that the Department of State has allocated 4500 metric tons of cod in the Gulf of Alaska to the Japanese for use by the longline fleet. This allocation was made based on a recommendation received from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

As you know, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council at its December meeting requested NMFS to implement an emergency regulation setting optimum yield equal to domestic harvest levels of cod in the Gulf. Subsequently, negotiations between representatives of certain segments of the U.S. and Japanese fishing industries resulted in an agreement calling for increased Japanese purchases of whole and processed fish. As a result, some Alaskan and Pacific Northwest fishing industry members have urged the Council to change its recommendation on cod. Other Alaskan fishermen and processors have continued to support the original Council recommendation. Further, those Alaskan fishermen who have conducted internal water joint ventures with the Japanese longline fleet have consistently supported allowing a small Japanese harvest of cod in the Gulf. However, the Council will not formally meet to reconsider its recommendations until February.

Based on information that my staff received from NMFS personnel in Alaska and Washington, D.C., I understand that an informal telephone conference was held by Council members in December to discuss the cod issue. The telephone conference resulted in a majority of the Council members agreeing that there was no objection to allocating a small amount of cod to Japan so that longline fishing could be conducted prior to the scheduled February Council meeting. The agreement was based on the results of the negotiations

held between U.S. and Japanese industry members and on the cooperation demonstrated by the Japanese longline fleet. The draft regulation allowing the allocation to be made was prepared by the NMFS Alaska Region office and included statements discussing the Council telephone conversation and the lack of objections from a majority of the Council members. However, NMFS' recommendation to the Department of State contained no reference to the informal Council action.

Because of the sensitivity of this issue, I want to know if the above-mentioned chronology of events is correct. Did NMFS act only after receiving no objection from a majority of the Council members, or was the action taken in direct contravention of Council recommendations? NMFS has frequently been accused of overruling Council actions. If that is the case in this instance, the fishing industry and the Congress should be told. If not, then Alaskan fishermen should be made aware of the Council's actions so that they can be taken into account prior to the next Council meeting.

I would appreciate receiving an answer to this request before the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meets on February 5, 1985. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



DON YOUNG

Congressman for all Alaska

DY:rhm

January 29, 1985

RECEIVED JAN 31 1985

Mr. James O. Campbell
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
P.O. Box 103136
Anchorage, AK 99510

Re: U.S. - Japan Industry Agreement

Dear Mr. Campbell:

The undersigned are the owners and/or skippers of ten American trawl vessels currently operating in the Nippon Suisan/Universal joint venture pollock fishery in Shelikof Strait. Many of us participated in the industry meetings with the Japanese in December. We feel that the agreement which resulted will produce major benefits for the entire U.S. fishing industry if the commitments made on both sides are kept.

The Japanese have committed to significant increases in their purchases of U.S. groundfish for 1985. In return we also made certain commitments. We ask the North Pacific Council to support the agreement by taking the following actions to fulfill the U.S. commitments:

1. Set DAH and TALFF based on the figures contained in the industry agreement and on a realistic appraisal of potential U.S. harvest in 1985. If this is done, substantial TALFFs will exist in both the Bering Sea and the Gulf.
2. Re-open the Gulf of Alaska to foreign trawling. Surpluses in excess of U.S. harvesting needs exist for pollock, flounder, Pacific cod and several other species in the Gulf.
3. Re-open the areas within 20 miles of the Aleutians to foreign trawling.

Incidental catch problems in the foreign fisheries should be dealt with by setting reasonable incidental catch allowances that still allow the target fisheries to go forward.

Continuation of our joint venture is contingent upon action by the Council which will ensure support in Japan for continuation and expansion of the Japanese joint ventures. Accordingly, we urge the Council to take positive action on our requests.

Harold Engeset
F/V Silver Sea

Wilhelm Jensen
F/V U.S. Dominator

Brian C. Stutz
F/V Peggy Jo

[Signature]
F/V American Eagle

[Signature]
F/V Starward

Gunner Helusa
F/V Gun Mar

Frank B. Bohannon
F/V Neahkanie

Ken Hall JC Robson
F/V Progress

Jim Conroy for Eric W. Pedersen Jr.
F/V Vesteraaler

C.K. Swanson
F/V Starfish

Jim Branson
January 31, 1985
Page Two


The Japanese industry has suggested certain time - area - depth closures and gear restrictions which they feel would minimize by-catch while still allowing directed fisheries by their fleets on available surpluses. These recommendations should immediately be given serious consideration by the Council, the SSC and the AP as well as proposals put forth by the North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association and others. The by-catch issue certainly would appear to be an area where some type of cost - benefit analysis would be appropriate. An outright ban on foreign fishing in this case is neither appropriate nor a solution to this problem.

We are also concerned that the inflated estimates of DAH generated for the Council's consideration at the December Council meeting resulted in an underestimate of available TALFF in all areas of the North Pacific, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. This obviously produced an underestimate of the potential loss in fishing opportunities to the foreign fleets by the closures of the Gulf and Aleutians, which in turn may have improperly influenced the Council's decision on these issues. We would hope that revised DAH estimates would be available for February's Council meeting so that TALFF figures could be appropriately revised and allocations made consistent with the "fish and chips" policy.

In summary we feel that so long as TALFF is available it is inappropriate to close large fishing areas such as the Gulf of Alaska and Aleutian Islands to foreign fishing. More creative solutions such as reasonable time - area and gear restrictions, together with by-catch limitations that take into consideration the relative abundances and probabilities of capture of target and non-target species would be more appropriate. Furthermore the Council should reaffirm that available TALFF be allocated in accordance with our "fish and chips" policy and released in a timely manner.

In light of new scientific information available we respectfully request that the Council reconsider the above decisions taken at the December Council meeting in a spirit of fairness and reasonableness and with due consideration for the MFCMA and its operating provisions.

Sincerely,


Walter T. Pereyra
President, ProFish International
Managing Partner, F/V Barbara Lee
& F/V Emerald Sea

WTP/lc

cc: William Gordon
Robert McVey
Edward E. Wolfe

COMMENTS ON THE GROUND FISH ISSUES

Jan. 22, 1985

BY THE JAPAN DEEP SEA TRAWLERS ASSOCIATION
AND THE HOKUTEN TREAWLERS ASSOCIATION

We are always eager for the stable fishing relationship and mutual cooperation between Japan and the United States. On this principle, we came to the agreement with the U.S. representatives on the cooperation issues including the over-the-side sale joint venture, in the Japan-U.S. Industry to Industry meeting held in December last year. The following are the prerequisites of the Agreement which is clearly described on the Memorandum of the Agreement.

Both sides agreed that the 1985 memorandum would be based on these premises:

1. That the U.S. delegation would assist in securing a reasonable TALFF for bottomfish species where a surplus exists. Domestic harvest for 1985 should be estimated on the basis of a realistic evaluation of potential domestic catch. Uncertainty with respect to the possibility of a higher domestic catch is adequately accounted for by the reserve system.
2. That the U.S. delegation would assist in securing an allocation to Japan in 1985 that will be consistent with its historic percentage and be released fully and in a timely manner. Releases of unutilized reserves, DAP and JVP to TALFF should also be made on a fully and timely basis. The Japanese delegation based its position on anticipated allocations to Japan of approximately 300,000 MT of bottomfish for the North Pacific and Bering Sea during 1985.

3. That the U.S. delegation would assist in securing by-catch restrictions at a reasonable level based on the Japanese plan for conducting the fishery in a manner that will reduce by-catch to the lowest practical level. The Japanese delegation repeatedly expressed concern with respect to the serious damage which would be caused by the recent proposal to close the Gulf of Alaska to all foreign fishing and the area within twenty (20) miles of the Aleutian Islands to foreign trawling. The U.S. delegation expressed understanding of the serious difficulties which would be caused by closure of these areas to foreign fishing and indicated that it would try to cooperate to keep these areas open.

For the realization of these prerequisites, we feel that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in February is extremely important. We have received the Letter from the chairman Cambell mentioning that "the US/Japan Accord will be fully and positively considered in the February meeting of the Council."

Accordingly, we are expecting that the council will make the reasonable decision in the February meeting. We strongly hope that you understand the importance of the development of mutually cooperative fishery relationship between Japan and the United States, and make the decision on the specific issues which are described on the attached paper in the February Council Meeting and that the approximately 900,000 T of the fishing allocation to Japan will be assured accordingly.

APPENDIX

1. Review of Pollock DAH in the Bering Sea.

According to the Industry-to-Industry Agreement, 560,000t of Pollock JVP should be decreased to 310,000t, and also DAP should be changed from 200,000t to 35,000t. Consequently, DAP, JVP and other amount of Pollock which were decided by Regional Council in December Meeting, should be revised as follows.

	TAC	DAP	JVP	Reserve	TALFF
pollock	1,200,000	46,680	381,850	180,000	591,470

According to the implementation of the full fishing allocation to Japan, we request to give the appropriate consideration on the approval of the necessary incidental catch of POP, sablefish and atka mackerel.

2. Reopening of the Gulf of Alaska

- 1) TALFF of those species which has the surplus in the result of calculation "OY-DAH", such as pacific cod, flounders, thorneyhead and squid, should be provided. The result of our trial calculation is shown below.

The Species Which has the Surplus in the Calculation of OY - (DAH + Reserve)

		OY	DAP	JVP	Reserve (20% of of OY)	Estimated TALFF
pacific	W	16,560	2,460	7,327	3,312	3,461
cod	C	33,540	8,624	10,073	6,708	8,135
	E	9,900	766	0	1,980	7,154
Flounders	W	10,400	400	102	2,080	7,818
	C	14,700	1,781	498	2,940	9,481
	E	8,400	627	0	1,680	6,093
Thorny-head	GW	3,750	0	10	750	2,990
Squid	GW	5,000	0	10	1,000	3,990

2) As far as pollock in the Central and Western area is concerned, the part of the assessment of JVP which has the connection with Japan, should be revised from 140,000t to 120,000t. At the same time, 70,000t of joint venture with the Poles which is for no permit applications should be deleted. The result after the revision is as appropriated as well.

	OY	DAP	JVP
Pollock (Central+ Western)	305,000	9,371	203,250

We have got the support of the U.S. representatives in the Japan-U.S. Industry-to-Industry Meeting, for the assurance of 50,000t of pollock allocation to Japan. We request the Regional Council to take the procedure in order to make it possible.

- 3) POP, sablefish, atka mackerel and, rockfish are the zero - TALFF species. However, we feel it proper to treat these species as PSC with limited catch for the incidental catch. Also in order to keep the minimum incidental catch of these species, we suggest to operate with pelagic gear all the year round in the area where it is deeper than 300 m, in the Central and Western area.

3. Reopening of the 20 Miles Area of the Aleutian Area.

We would like to request the cancellation of the closure of foreign trawl fishing within the 20 miles in the Aleutian Area. Only the small amount of incidental catch is permitted for the PUP, sablefish and atka mackerel in the Aleutian Area. The Japanese fishing vessels are operating in that area making the maximum effort in order to keep the minimum incidental catch, therefore there is no need of setting the wide-ranged area closure. We have submitted the next proposal to the NMFS, Washington D.C. and Juneau Office, for keeping the lowest incidental catch. Additionally, we are prepared to voluntarily stop operating within the 20 miles of the East of longitude 176 degree in the Aleutian Area.

During
Jan - May

West

PROPOSAL FOR REDUCTION OF INCIDENTAL CATCHES
OF
POP, SABLEFISH AND ATKA MACKEREL
IN
THE ALEUTIAN AREA

1. Japanese fishing vessels will operate in locations where bycatch is low.
2. If bycatch increases, Japanese fishing vessels will move their operations to another location.
3. All Japanese small trawlers will use a new net design which is intended to reduce bycatch of sablefish and POP.
4. Where possible, Japanese small trawlers will pre-tow an area with an open cod end to scare away more active species such as sablefish and POP. Thereafter, the Japanese small trawlers will tow with closed cod end to catch less active flatfish.
5. All foreign vessels operating in the Aleutian area should be subject to a reasonable bycatch limitation with respect to POP, sablefish and Atka mackerel. If the limit for any nation is exceeded by the fishing vessels of that nation, then the area within 20 miles of the Aleutian Islands will be closed.
6. POP, sablefish and Atka mackerel should be treated as prohibited species in the Aleutian area. No retention of these species should be allowed.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION
 NMFS, Alaska Region
 Juneau, Alaska
 January 28, 1985

Species	INITIAL FOREIGN ALLOCATIONS (mt)			TALFF	UNAL TALFF
		JAPAN	COUNTRY		
Pollock	W/C	73		31379	31306
	E	0		13278	13278
Pacific cod	W	3000		3461	461
	C	1500		8135	6635
	E	0		7154	7154
Flounders	W	30		7818	7788
	C	17		9481	9464
	E	0		6093	6093
Atka mackerel	W	1		100	99
	C	1		20	19
	E	0		2	2
Thornyhead	G-W	3		750	747
Squid	G-W	1		1000	999
Other sp	G-W	78		4487	4409
		-----		-----	-----
W/C total		73		31379	31306
Western total		3031		11379	8348
Central total		1518		17636	16118
Eastern total		0		26527	26527
G-W total		82		6237	6195
TOTAL		4704		93158	88454

PSC LIMITS

			TOTAL AVAILABLE
POP	W	3	15
	C	2	
Sablefish	W	42	210
	C	21	
Rockfish	W	2	8
	C	1	

Submitted during public testimony.

1984
Sitka Sablefish (Black Cod)
Economic Study

<u>Landings</u> ¹	<u>Average Price</u>	<u>Gross Sales</u>	<u>3% Fish Tax</u>
4,000,000 lb.	0.70/lb.	\$2,800,000	\$84,000

Potential Wages Available from Sablefish Deliveries

<u>Sales</u>	<u>Crew Share</u> ³	<u>Wages</u>	
2,800,000	55%	\$1,540,000	Crew Wages
	<i>68% w</i>	560,000	Processing Wages
		2,100,000	Total Wages Available Equals 2 1/2% of Sitka's Total Wages

Sablefish Fishing Expenses and Local Tax Received to Sitka

<u>Expense</u>	<u>\$Dollar Value per Trip</u> ³	<u>Trips</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Sales Tax</u>	<u>Tax</u>
Fuel	600	221	\$132,600	4%	\$ 5,304
Food	700	221	154,700	4%	6,188
Bait & Ice	1000	221	221,000	4%	8,840
Gear	300	221	66,300	4%	2,652
Misc.	500	221	110,500	4%	4,420
			<u>\$685,100</u>		<u>\$27,404</u>
			Fish Tax to Sitka		<u>\$28,000</u>
			Total Taxes to Sitka from Sablefish Fishing		\$55,400

Sablefish Sales \$2,800,000
Total Fish Sales \$23,000,000

Sablefish equals 12% of total fish sales to Sitka.

Sitka is in the top 20 fishing ports in the United States.

Sablefish Landings Some Other Alaska Ports.

Kodiak 3,394,160 lb.
Seward 2,500,000 lb.

¹ From Alaska, Dept. of Fish and Game

² From Sitka Economic Base Study 1984. Total Sitka Wages is \$83.7 million

³ The average wage per settlement from 6 Sitka fishing vessels

8 Dec. 1984, Michael J. Mayo

1984
Economic Value of Sablefish (Blackcod) to
Alaska, Local Communities and Fisherman

DISTRICT	ROUND WT.		DRESSED WT.	VALUE	FISH TAX
	MT	LBS	LBS	(\$.70/lb)	3%
<u>Eastern Gulf:</u>					
Southeast and East Yakutat	2,900	6,391,600	4,474,120	\$3,131,884	\$ 93,957
Chatham Strait	859	1,893,236	1,325,265	927,686	27,831
Clarence Strait & Dixon Entrance	147	323,988	226,792	158,854	4,763
West Yakutat	<u>1,507</u>	<u>3,321,428</u>	<u>2,324,999</u>	<u>1,627,500</u>	<u>48,825</u>
	5,413	11,930,252	8,351,176	\$5,845,924	\$175,376
<u>Central Gulf:</u>	<u>3,101</u>	<u>6,834,604</u>	<u>4,784,223</u>	<u>3,348,956</u>	<u>100,469</u>
	8,514	18,764,856	13,135,399	\$9,194,880	\$275,845
Less: Fish Delivered Outside Alaska					
Central Gulf	11				
Eastern Gulf	92				
	<u>(103)</u>	<u>(227,012)</u>	<u>(158,908)</u>	<u>(111,236)</u>	<u>(3,337)</u>
TOTAL RESOURCE AND VALUE TO STATE OF ALASKA	<u>8,411</u>	<u>18,537,844</u>	<u>12,976,491</u>	<u>\$9,083,644</u>	<u>\$272,508</u>

98% Done in STATE

From Alaska Department of Fish and Game

6 Dec. 1984, Michael J Mayo

TO: SITKA FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: ALASKA LONGLINE FISHERMAN'S ASSOC.
INDEPENDENT FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

DATE: 12/11/84

The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council in their December meeting in Anchorage made a decision that deeply concerns most Alaskan longliners. They voted to allocate 10% of allowable sablefish harvest quotas to Joint Venture fishing operations. These Joint Ventures benefit only a few large State-side and Alaskan trawlers and foreign processing interests.

We find this decision especially hard to swallow in view of the fact that:

1. The Foreign longline fleet was removed mostly by the efforts of U.S. Longline Fisherman's organizations. This was accomplished in full only last year and U.S. longliners were easily able to harvest the full quotas in short order.
2. This action was in our opinion a direct violation of the Magnuson Act which gives domestic harvesting and processing operations first priority over foreign and joint-venture operations.
3. This action was taken without due process and call for public testimony.

Also of concern to us is the fact that the Council failed to act on a proposed amendment to their groundfish plan which would have made all or part of the waters contiguous to Alaska an exclusive hook and line fishery for sablefish. Failure to act on this could mean a heavy influx of catcher - processor boats using trawl gear or pots and could mean elimination of longlining for sablefish as a viable fishery, and a virtual end to shore-based processing of sablefish.

Attached are two sheets which outline the importance of sablefish to the economy of Alaska and Sitka in particular. Not included on the sheets is the approximately 20¢/lb. contribution to overhead and margin that filters through the economy of Sitka. This in itself equaled approximately \$800,000 in 1984.

We hope that you will see fit to respond to this grave threat through your channels.

Thank you

February 1, 1985

Jim Campbell
North Pacific Fisheries Management
Council
P.O. Box 3136DT
333 W. 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Since it is impossible for me to personally be in Sitka for this meeting, this letter is the best possible solution.

My name is Bernie Burkholder. I am the Owner/Operator of 66' Catcher/Processor Dominion. We are fishing for true cod, black cod, perch and pollock in the Gulf of Alaska. The gear type currently being used is trawl, due to the efficiency and excellent quality of product caught. I have derived over 50% of my income from long lining since 1978, and feel that I can speak from experience when the two gear types are compared. That experience with these two gear types is what many people here at this meeting lack.

First, and foremost I am against any form of gear restriction for black cod. There is no historical record for it, no biological reason for it, nor any practical reason for it. Exclusive long line proponents argue, that they produce a higher quality fish and harvest specific sizes of black cod (mostly large) while pot and drag fish are lower in quality and we take mainly the smaller fish. This is, in fact, untrue and quite the opposite is true.

The quality of my trawl product is excellent, it is alive when it is brought aboard because of short towing times and with mesh size variations in my cod end a uniform size of black cod can be selected from. If long liners harvest only the large fish, then why are there so many different grades and prices being paid? Pot fishing is also selective for size and mainly fresher fish that is alive when brought aboard.

Fish are never more than 90 minutes old coming aboard my vessel due to the limited trawl times. They are always alive pre-bleeding. Unless long line technology has advanced dramatically, this possibility never exists with long lining, but rather the fish are often dead or totally exhausted from fighting hook, which makes bleeding inefficient.

February 1, 1985

Page two

Biochemical tissue reactions in this type of fish also effect quality in a negative manner. Rough weather only adds to these quality problems and any long liner who has fished has hauled back after a blow to pick through dead fish with bleached gill plates and sour odor. I can comfortably say that I have yet had to face these problems aboard the Dominion while trawling.

To remove black cod as a marketable product for my business would have negative effects as we plan to harvest and market this fish. Financially, we have made substancial commitments in processing equipment, packaging and marketing to utilize this once under utilized resource.

The truth is, there is a place and an advantage to all the gear types. They coexist together in all other areas of the fishing world and there is little reason, other than ignorance and greed that they can not coexist here.

Bernie Burkholder

Bernie Burkholder
Dominion Fisheries, Inc.
P.O. Box 4124
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

cc: All Council Members

604
1985 DAP, JVP WORKSHEET

<u>Species</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>OY</u>	<u>DAP</u>	<u>JVP</u>	<u>Annual Remainder</u>	<u>Reserves</u>	<u>Initial Remainder</u>
Pollock	W/C	305,000	44,371 9,371	212,500 218,600	48,129	61,000	0
	E	16,600	2	0	16,598	3,320	13,278
Pacific cod	W	16,560	2,460	3,209	10,891	3,312	7,579
	C	33,540	8,624	4,431	20,485	6,708	13,777
	E	9,900	766	---	9,134	1,980	7,154
Flounders	W	10,400	400	922	9,078	2,080	6,998
	C	14,700	1,781	3,468	9,451	2,940	6,511
	E	8,400	627	---	7,773	1,680	6,093
POP	W	1,302	1,302	0	0	260	0
	C	3,906	3,906	0	0	781	0
	E	875	875	0	0	175	0
Sablefish	W	1,670	1,670	0	0	334	0
	C	3,060	3,060	0	0	612	0
	W. Yakutat	1,680	1,680	0	0	336	0
	E. Yakutat	1,135	1,135	0	0	0	0
	S.E. Outside	1,435	1,435	0	0	0	0
Atka mackerel	W	4,678	0	4,678	0	936	0
	C/E	bycatch only					
Rockfish	Gulfwide	5,000	4,600	0	0	1,000	0
Thornyhead	Gulfwide	3,750	0	10	3,740	750	2,990
Squid	Gulfwide	5,000	0	10	4,990	1,000	3,990
Other species	Gulfwide	22,430	69	1,400	20,961	4,486	16,475

31D/HH

161,230

84,845

(137,346)

TABLE 2. 1985 EY (ABC) and OY values of fully-utilized species, with estimates of directed and incidental removals by fishery (mt).

Fully-Utilized Sp.	Area	EY(ABC)	Directed Fishery				Incidental Bycatch			Total Harvest
			OY	DAP	JVP	TALFF	DAP Trawl	JVP Trawl	Foreign	
Sablefish	W	2,225	1,670	1,459-1,670	0	0	0-211	245	100-154	2,015-2,280
	C	4,075	3,060	2,831-3,060	0	0	0-299	545	68-268	3,673-4,102
	W.Yak.	2,240	1,680	1,680	0	0	---	N/A	N/A	1,680
	E.Yak.	1,135-1,510	1,135	1,135	0	0	---	N/A	N/A	1,135
	S.E.	1,290-2,580	1,435	1,435	0	0	---	N/A	N/A	1,435
POP	W	1,736	1,302	1,257-1,302	0	0	45	53	27-32	1,382-1,432
	C	5,208	3,906	3,880-3,906	0	0	26	98	18-52	4,022-4,082
	E	4,530	875	875	0	0	---	N/A	N/A	875
Rockfish	W	?			0	0	38	44	13	
	C	?	5,000	4,600	0	0	38	89	12-16	4,834-4,838
	E	?	Gulfwide	Gulfwide	0	0	---	N/A	N/A	Gulfwide
A. Mackerel	W	?	4,678	0	4,678	0	N/A	N/A	---	4,678
	C	?	bc	0	0	0	89	212	26	327
	E	?	bc	0	0	0	---	---	N/A	---

GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH

Fri 9:30am

1985 OYs, DAPs, JVPs and TALFF (mt)

Final Adopted

Species	Area	OY	DAP	JVP	Reserves	TALFF
Pollock	W/C	305,000	44,371	212,500	23,129	25,000 ^{1/}
	E	16,600	13,280	0	3,320	0
Pacific cod	W	16,560	2,539	3,209	3,312	7,500 ^{2/}
	C	33,540	19,901	4,431	6,708	2,500 ^{2/}
	E	9,900	7,920	---	1,980	0
Flounders	W	10,400	7,398	922	2,080	bc ^{3/}
	C	14,700	8,292	3,468	2,940	bc ^{3/}
	E	8,400	6,720	---	1,680	0
POP	W	1,302	1,302	0	2600	0
	C	3,906	3,906	0	7810	0
	E	875	875	0	1750	0
Sablefish	W	1,670	1,670	0	3340	0
	C	3,060	3,060	0	6120	0
	W. Yakutat	1,680	1,680	0	3360	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	bc ^{3/}
	C/E	bycatch only				
Rockfish	Gulfwide	5,000	5,000	0	1,0000	bc ^{3/} 0
Thornyhead	Gulfwide	3,750	2,990	10	750	bc ^{3/}
Squid	Gulfwide	5,000	3,990	10	1,000	bc ^{3/}
Other species	Gulfwide	22,430	16,544	1,400	4,486	bc ^{3/}

1/ TALFF to be allowed to Japan surimi trawlers; reserves to be released to Japan if not needed by DAH.

2/ TALFF to be taken by Japan longliners, fishing within 150 f.

3/ Incidental catches to be determined by NMFS in support of Japanese pollock and Pacific cod fisheries.