



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
*P.O. Box 21668*  
*Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668*

March 24, 2023

Mr. David Witherell, Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
1007 West Third, Suite 400  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Witherell:

We have approved Amendment 122 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Management Area (RIN 0648-BL08).

This action creates a limited access privilege program—the Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Program (PCTC Program)—in the BSAI Pacific cod trawl fishery and allocates harvest quota to participants based on their history in the fishery. This action allocates quota share (QS) to groundfish License Limitation Program (LLP) license holders based on the harvest of BSAI Pacific cod during qualifying years. The PCTC Program allocates QS to a processor permit holder based on processing history during the qualifying years. QS allocated under this program yields an exclusive harvest privilege to members of a PCTC Program cooperative. This action is intended to improve the prosecution of the fishery by promoting safety and stability in the harvesting and processing sectors, increasing the value of the fishery, minimizing bycatch to the extent practicable, providing for the sustained participation of fishery dependent communities, and ensuring the sustainability and viability of the Pacific cod resource in the BSAI. A final rule to implement Amendment 122 will follow at a later date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan M. Kurland".

Jonathan M. Kurland  
Regional Administrator