

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
STATUS REPORT ON JOINT VENTURES OFF ALASKA FOR 1987

The total joint venture catch off Alaska through September 12 as reported by NMFS was 1,308,216 mt, which included the following species harvests, mainly from the Bering Sea and Aleutians:

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Catch (mt)</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Pollock | 1,000,219 |
| Pacific cod | 54,928 |
| Flatfish | 35,764 |
| Yellowfin sole | 182,612 |
| Others | <u>34,693</u> |
| TOTAL | 1,308,216 |

This year's catch to date exceeds the 1,025,735 mt and 789,832 mt joint venture catches reported at the September Council meetings in 1986 and 1985, respectively. Joint venture activity picked up in February with 92 U.S. trawlers making deliveries. The maximum number of trawlers increased to 110 in early June and then declined with the pollock closure on June 6 and the yellowfin sole closure June 29. Fishing for Atka mackerel, other flatfish, Pacific cod, and Aleutian pollock continued through early August with additional harvests of a few thousand tons of each of those species. Most of the joint venture companies are participating in this fall's pollock fishery.

Number of U.S. Trawlers Making Joint Venture Deliveries

| Year | Month | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1984 | 24 | 56 | 50 | 42 | 32 | 63 | 66 | 57 | 57 | 21 | 14 | 4 |
| 1985 | 11 | 61 | 79 | 78 | 73 | 87 | 92 | 96 | 85 | 50 | 20 | 6 |
| 1986 | 3 | 64 | 79 | 92 | 88 | 95 | 99 | 102 | 92 | 78 | 28 | 11 |
| 1987 | 52 | 92 | 101 | 108 | 97 | 110 | 82 | 32 | 28 | | | |

JOINT VENTURE STATUS FOR 1987

| | 1987 Request (mt) | Catch To Date (mt) | % | Species |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| <u>JAPAN</u> | | | | |
| Whitney Fidalgo: Ohtori | 44,300 | 31,480 | 71 | pollock |
| Westward Trawlers: Taiyo, Esahi, Hokkaido, Kanefuji ^{1/} , Ohura ^{1/} | 325,335 | 240,000 | 74 | pollock |
| Kodiak Western Trawl: Kanai | 6,963 | 2600 ^{0*} | 0 | -- |
| Alyeska Ocean: Hoko | 57,100 | 54,299 | 95 | pollock |
| Peter Pan: Kaiyo, Nansei, Nichiro, Shinnichi, Kanefuji, Ohura | 50,769 | 38,357 | 76 | pollock, flounders |
| Northern Deep Sea Fish.: Nissui | 388,709 | 326,335 | 84 | pollock, flounders |
| Profish: Anyo, Fukushin, Kanari, Kato Marue, Matsubun, Watarai, Yoshida | 36,460 | 12,185 | 33 | pollock |
| Undecided: Hokuten Association | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| Pac. Coop.: Japan Longliners | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| TOTAL | 916,636 | 702,656 <u>+ 2,600</u> | 77 | |
| <u>KOREA</u> | | | | |
| Cal-Alaska: Mar. Enterprise | 10,040 | 5,792 ^{NO CHANGE} | 58 | -- |
| Alaska JV Fisheries: Samho, Taewoong, Nambug, Daerim | 195,000 | 102,245 | 52 | pollock, sole, cod |
| Profish: Korea Wonyang, Dongbang, Dongwon, Namyang, Namyangsa, Sajo, Silla | 352,900 | 200,500 | 57 | pollock |
| JV Fisheries: Oyang | 46,800 | 32,300 | 69 | pollock |
| Arctic Venture Fish: Transocean | 13,000 | 5,760* | 44 | pollock |
| Dona JV Fish: Hansung | 65,000 | 31,930 | 49 | pollock |
| Alaska Surimi Products/Korea Wonyang | 80,000 | 29,869 | 37 | pollock |
| TOTAL | 762,740 | 408,396 | 53 | |
| <u>USSR</u> | | | | |
| Marine Resources | 200,000 | 147,700 | 74 | cod, pollock, flounders |
| <u>POLAND</u> | | | | |
| Alaska Pacific: Dalmor | 15,000 | 882 | 6 | pollock |
| Profish: Gryf | 15,000 | 5,000 | 33 | -- |
| Quest: Odra | 6,000 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| TOTAL | 36,000 ^{2/} | 5,882 | 16 | |
| <u>CHINA</u> | | | | |
| North Pacific Int. | 37,000 | 15,872 | 43 | pollock |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1,998,876 | 1,280,506 | 64 | |

* No new report available.

^{1/} Cooperative with Peter Pan Seafoods.

^{2/} Poland originally requested 82,500 mt.

HOKO FISHING CO., LTD.

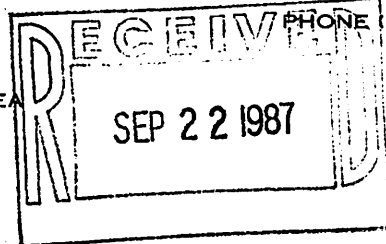
1111 THIRD AVENUE • SUITE 2885

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

PHONE (206) 624-5551

TELEX NO.
32-8836 HOKO CO. SEA

TELEFAX: (206) 628-8955



September 18, 1987

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Post Office Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Final Report - 1987 Hoko-Alyeska Ocean Joint Pollock
Fishery: Bering Sea/Aleutian Areas

Dear sirs:

For reference of the members of the Council, we are pleased to provide the following summary of our 1987 United States-Japan joint fishery for Alaska pollock. So far as we can determine at the present time, this is the final report for our Bering Sea pollock fisheries for 1987.

Japanese Company
Hoko Fishing Company
No. 2-4, 1-chome, Tsukiji
Tokyo, Japan

Name and Size of the Processing Vessels:
Chikubu Maru (February 1 to April 28)

111 meters
5,460 gross tons

Tsuda Maru (February 15 to June 11)

111 meters
4,317 gross tons

American Company
Alyeska Ocean, Inc.
816 Fourth Street
Anacortes, Washington 98221

Name and Size of the Fishing Vessels

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| M/V Andrew McGee (Feb. 1 to June 11) | 198 gross tons |
| M/V Aldebaran (Feb. 1 to June 6) | 195 gross tons |
| M/V Alyeska (Feb. 6 to June 11) | 198 gross tons |
| M/V Arcturus (April 1 to June 11) | 198 gross tons |

Beginning Date of Fishing (GMT)

February 1, 1987

End of Fishing (GMT)

June 11, 1987

Type of Gear

Mid-water trawl only

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------|----------|
| Areas of Fishing | | | |
| Area 51 | | 177 days | |
| Area 52 | | 25 days | |
| Aleutians | | 4 days | |
| Total, Operating Days by Area | | <u>206 days</u> | 206 days |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Operating Days | | | |
| Fishing Days | Chikubu Maru | 82 days | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 113 days | |
| | Sub-total | <u>195 days</u> | 195 days |
| Cargo Transfer | Chikubu Maru | 5 days | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 4 days | |
| | Sub-total | <u>9 days</u> | 9 days |
| Other (Area change) | Tsuda Maru | 2 days | |
| | Sub-total | <u>2 days</u> | 2 days |
| Total Operating Days | | | <u>206 days</u> |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Composition of Catch | | | |
| Alaska Pollock | Chikubu Maru | 22,030.618 mt | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 31,272.654 mt | |
| | Sub-total | <u>53,303.272 mt</u> | 53,303.272 mt |
| Pacific Cod | Chikubu Maru | 127.946 mt | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 198.549 mt | |
| | Sub-total | <u>326.495 mt</u> | 326.495 mt |
| Other | Chikubu Maru | 3.772 mt | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 4.200 mt | |
| | Sub-total | <u>7.972 mt</u> | 7.972 mt |
| Total | Chikubu Maru | 22,162.336 mt | |
| | Tsuda Maru | 31,475.403 mt | |
| | | <u>53,637.739 mt</u> | 53,637.739 mt |

Average Catch/Fishing Day (Feb. 1-June 11) 275.1 mt/day

Unless there is another significant release of pollock allocation for the Bering Sea, this will be the final report of our 1987 Hoko-Alyeska Ocean joint fishing operations for pollock, confined entirely to the Bering Sea. Two processing vessels were used during most of the season: The Chikubu Maru from February 1 thru April 28; the Tsuda Maru from February 15 through June 11. The number of trawlers was increased from the three used during the first two months of the fishery to four beginning on the first of April, and reduced again to three when the fleet moved to the Aleutians for a brief exploratory fishery.

The average catch per fishing day decreased from the 290.3 mt/day obtained in February to 269.3 mt/day for March thru May 10, then increased to 278.7 mt/day for the remainder of the season. Fishing was particularly good just before the premature closure in June. About 300 salmon were taken this year in the fishery while the catch of the other prohibited species was negligible.

As in the previous years, our operations continue to be conducted in a spirit of close cooperation between Hoko and Alyeska Ocean, with two representatives from Alyeska Ocean aboard each of the processing vessels to assure a regular and adequate supply of fish during the fishing season.

Sincerely yours,



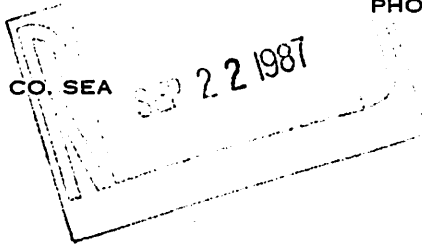
Clinton E. Atkinson
Consultant and Advisor
Hoko Fishing Company

Hokopr87.2

HOKO FISHING CO., LTD.

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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101
PHONE (206) 624-5551

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32-8836 HOKO CO. SEA



TELEFAX: (206) 628-8955

September 18, 1987

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Post Office Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Final Report - 1987 Hoko-Alyeska Ocean Joint Yellowfin
Sole Fishery: Bering Sea Area

Dear sirs:

For reference of the members of the Council, we are pleased to provide the following summary of our 1987 United States-Japan joint fishery for yellowfin sole.

Japanese Company
Hoko Fishing Company
No. 2-4, 1-chome, Tsukiji
Tokyo, Japan

Name and Size of the Processing Vessel:
Tsuda Maru

111 meters
4,317 gross tons

American Company
Alyeska Ocean, Inc.
816 Fourth Street
Anacortes, Washington 98221

Name and Size of the Fishing Vessels
M/V Alyeska

198 gross tons

Beginning Date of Fishing (GMT)

June 13, 1987

End of Fishing (GMT)

June 29, 1987

Type of Gear

Bottom trawl only

Area of Fishing

Area 51

Operating Days

Fishing Days

15 days

Cargo Transfer

0 days

Other (running time)

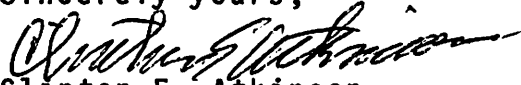
2 days

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Composition of Catch | | |
| Yellowfin Sole | 417.007 mt | |
| Other Flounders | 122.558 mt | |
| Alaska Pollock | 72.212 mt | |
| Pacific Cod | 57.344 mt | |
| Other | negligible | |
| Total | | 637.121 mt |
| Average Catch/Fishing Day | | 27.7 mt/day |

As can be seen from the above statistics, the 1987 Hoko-Alyeska Ocean joint fisheries for yellowfin sole in the Bering Sea was extremely poor and was discontinued after 16 days of fishing. For comparison, the average catch per fishing day for yellowfin sole in 1986 was 77.0 mt/day compared with only 27.7 mt/day in 1987.

As in the previous years, our operations continue to be conducted in a spirit of close cooperation between Hoko and Alyeska Ocean, with two representatives from Alyeska Ocean aboard each of the processing vessels to assure a regular and adequate supply of fish during the fishing season.

Sincerely yours,


Clinton E. Atkinson
Consultant and Advisor
Hoko Fishing Company

Hokoprys.918



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20235

RECEIVED
SEP 21 1987

| DATE | ACTION | ROUTE TO | INITIAL |
|-------------|--------|---------------|---------|
| SEP 15 1987 | | Asst. Dir. | J |
| | | Deputy Dir. | |
| | | Admin. Off. | |
| | | Exec. Sec. | |
| | | Chief Asst. 1 | |
| | | Staff Asst. 2 | |
| | | Staff Asst. 3 | |
| | | Economist | |
| | | Sec./Bkkr. | |
| | | Sec./Typist | |

Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-6025

Dear Ted,

Thank you for your letter regarding the impact of fishing for yellowfin sole in the eastern Bering Sea on the herring fishery.

The U.S. fishermen participating in the joint venture fishery for yellowfin sole were conducting harvesting under the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. The joint venture fisheries were apportioned 181,900 metric tons of yellowfin sole. The directed fishery was closed on June 29 because the yellowfin sole apportionment was achieved. A directed joint venture fishery for other flatfishes (e.g., flathead sole, rock sole) is continuing north of 61 degrees N. latitude (i.e., north of Bristol Bay).

The determination of appropriate management measures for the conduct of domestic and foreign fishing in the exclusive economic zone of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands area is the primary responsibility of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. The Council continues to address the complex issues of achieving the optimum yield of groundfish while minimizing the impact of such harvest on traditional fisheries for non-groundfish species (e.g., salmon, herring). I am sending a copy of Mr. Heyono's letter and his suggestion to the Council for its consideration.

Sincerely,

WSE/Bill Evans

William E. Evans
Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

cc: F/MB1⁽⁴⁾, F/CM2⁽²⁾, GCF, LA5-F(2), LA, F/AKR, NPFMC, F/CM
NMFS:F/CM2:DJLeedy:673-5272:9/11/87:jac (d) (381) (D38)
Revised:DLeedy:9/14/87:jac (f)
CONTROL NO. NMFS 381



NMFS
Flem

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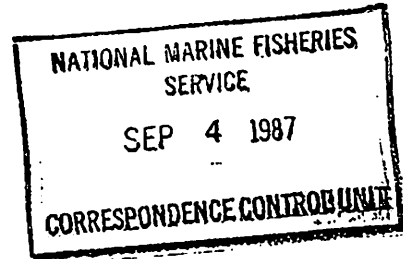
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025

August 26, 1987

FRANCIS J. SULLIVAN, STAFF DIRECTOR
J. KEITH KENNEDY, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable William E. Evans
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20235



Dear Bill:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which Robert Heyano of the Nushagak Fish and Game Committee sent to NMFS. I would appreciate your comments on the suggestions which Mr. Heyano has made concerning possible remedies to limit the impact of the sole fishery on herring and salmon stocks in Bristol Bay.

With best wishes,

Cordially,
Ted Stevens

TED STEVENS

Enclosure

3011
1987 AUG 24 AM 8:57

August 18, 1987

National Marine Fisheries Service
Sheffield House
Box 2340
Juneau, Ak. 99801

Dear Sir:

There was much discussion at our meeting yesterday concerning the large yellow fin sole fishery that operated in the near shore waters of Bristol Bay this spring and summer. Many concerns were expressed that this large scale operation might adversely affect the existing herring and salmon fisheries. As I'm sure you know, the sockeye salmon resource in Bristol Bay is the largest in the world and the fishery has operated successfully since the 1800's. In addition, large numbers of king, chum, pink, and coho salmon are common in the near shore areas as adults and juveniles. The Togiak herring fishery is the largest in Alaska and at times, rivals the British Columbia stocks as the largest in the Pacific. The value of the combined salmon and herring production in Bristol Bay has exceeded \$1 billion in some seasons.

With these tremendous resources present along the coastline throughout the spring and summer, the local fishermen are very concerned that the huge trawler fleet will jeopardize the health and viability of the other fisheries. To our knowledge, the joint venture fishery on yellow fin sole is a long established one, but has never operated as close to the shore as it did in 1987. From the data received from your agency, it would appear that a small quantity of herring and salmon were caught and a large number of halibut as well. In 1987 the halibut commission refused the local fishermen an allocation of halibut for a small experimental fishery because Bristol Bay is considered a nursery area, and yet the bycatch in the joint venture harvested over 100,000. If the herring and salmon numbers that you have provided us are correct, little harm was done this season, but the impact on developing herring fry and juvenile salmon cannot even be guessed.

The area to the East of Togiak is the primary migration path for migrating spent (post-spawning) herring and literally dozens of draggers and processors were operating there at the time when these fish were moving through the area. It is inconceivable that all of the bilge pumping, trash, pollution problems, and processing noise had no effect, even if it cannot be measured.

We are very concerned and feel strongly that it is not "responsible management" to jeopardize long established valuable fisheries to potential destruction by this huge dragging operation. We respectfully request that your agency critically review this fishery before the next season and carefully consider

its potential adverse impact on Bristol Bay. At the very least, please consider the establishment of a corridor along the coastline where no dragging will occur. We offer these suggestions: From April 15th to September 15, from mean high water to 12 miles offshore, from Cape Newenham to Cape Menshikof the waters shall be closed to all trawling. We feel that this will impose no great hardship on the joint venture fisheries, but may well protect the people and resources of Bristol Bay from irrevocable harm. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Robert Heyano

Robert Heyano for
Nushagak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Box 230
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

cc: Governor Steve Cowper
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Alaska Board of Fisheries
Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Senator Fred Zharoff
Senator Ted Stevens
Representative Don Young
Senator Frank Murkowski
N/K Advisory Committee
Iliamna Advisory Committee
Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee
Togiak Advisory Committee
Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee
AIFMA - Mitch Kink
WACMA - Harvey Salmuelsen
Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
Bristol Bay Herring Marketing Coop.