

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP  
FROM: § Jim H. Branson *CEP*  
Executive Director  
DATE: March 24, 1983  
SUBJECT: Joint Venture Operations

*ACTION REQUIRED*

*Informational report by Hugh Reilly, President of Westward Trawlers.*

BACKGROUND

In the Gulf of Alaska, joint ventures harvested 83,706 mt of pollock and 396 mt of other species through March 12, 1983. Almost 3,000 mt of yellowfin sole was taken from the Bering Sea by March 23. General summaries are given below.

1. Marine Resources Company - U.S.S.R.  
(1983 request: 104,000 mt)

The yellowfin sole operation began on February 15 and has taken about 3,000 mt using two processors and four catcher vessels in the Cape Sarichef area north of Unimak Pass. Operations are scheduled to increase on April 15.

2. Universal Seafoods/Nippon Suisan  
(1983 request: 60,000 mt)

The first half of this joint venture began on January 22 and ran until March 23 with a total catch of 33,000 mt pollock from Shelikof Straits. It's been a very productive operation using six U.S. trawlers and three Japanese motherships. Operations will commence in the Bering Sea sometime between June 1 and July 1.

3. Westward Trawlers/Taiyo Fishery Company  
(1983 request: 45,000 mt)

Operations commenced in Shelikof Straits with one processor and four catcher-boats on February 1 and were joined by an additional processor and three more catchers on February 8. Production rates have been 475-500 mt/day, dependent primarily on processing capacity. The catch by March 9 was over 16,000 mt, essentially all pollock. Hugh Reilly, President of Westward Trawlers, Inc., will give a brief report at this Council meeting.

4. Jeff Hendricks and Associates/Hoko Fishing Company

(1983 request: 26,000 mt)

This operation will commence on April 6 fishing pollock in the Unimak Pass area. Plans are to fish for 102 days with a target of 26,000 mt pollock using four U.S. trawlers.

5. Peter Pan Seafoods/Nichiro Gyogyo

(1983 request: 11,600 mt)

Operations commenced on January 24 in Shelikof Straits and will end about April 1. An additional 1,600 mt of pollock was requested beyond the initial request for 10,000 mt. About 9,200 mt, mainly pollock, was caught by March 19 using two catchers delivering to one processor. Operations of both processor and catcher vessels have gone extremely smoothly.

6. Whitney-Fidalgo Seafoods/Kyokuyo

(1983 request: 20,000 mt)

Operations commenced in Shelikof Straits on February 23 and ended on March 15. Two catchers working with one processor delivered 11,324 mt of mainly pollock.

7. Fish Producers Associates/Korea Wonyang Fisheries

(1983 request: 32,000 mt)

Operations commenced on February 12 in Shelikof Straits. To date about 20,000 mt of pollock have been taken using 4-5 Korean processors and 7-8 U.S. trawlers sometimes augmented by 7-8 additional trawlers from other operations. Operations have run smoothly with catches of 1,000-1,200 mt/day. The joint venture will wind up about April 4th. FPA is very interested in having Alaskan trawlers over 100' in length work for their operations.

8. J.V. Fisheries, Ltd/North Pacific Joint Fishing Committee (ROK)

(1983 request: 18,000 mt)

Operations began on February 23 in the Shelikof Straits and will probably end by March 29. Six U.S. trawlers delivering to three processors caught about 15,500 mt of pollock by March 24.

9. North Pacific Corporation/Marine Enterprise Company (ROK)

(1983 request: 8,600 mt)

Operations began in Shelikof Straits on March 2. Projected catch for March is 1,500 mt of pollock using one mothership, one U.S. trawler and another trawler as necessary.

10. Alaska Contact/Highly Enterprise Corp. (Taiwan)

(1983 request: 4,000 mt)

Not operating yet.

11. West German Joint Venture

(1983 request: 8,360 mt)

Not operating yet. The BUSSE is in dry dock in Germany for overhaul. Nordstern is now buying pollock from the Golden Alaska.

# CITY OF AKUTAN

P.O. Box 557  
Dutch Harbor, Ak. 99692  
Phone (907) 698-2228



Anchorage Office  
308 G Street, Suite 311  
Anchorage, Ak. 99501  
Phone: (907) 279-9245

April 1, 1983

Testimony before the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

Good Morning, Mr Chairman and members of the council. My name is Nancy Gross. I am the City Administrator for the City of Akutan. I would like to speak briefly about the impact of Trident Seafoods on the city government and the community. Since the city incorporated it has been dependent on the sales tax on fish for its locally generated revenue. In 1980 almost fifty four million pounds of crab were processed in Akutan Harbor by nine companies using fourteen processing vessels. This resulted in over \$186,000 in taxes paid to the city. In addition to this, of course, tax was also paid to the state on raw fish. In 1981, six companies using eight vessels processed less than 40 million pounds of crab, cod, herring, halibut, and octopus. The revenue to the city was just over \$117,000, a substantial reduction from the year before. But 1982 was the real disaster. Again six companies processed but at only six facilities. The total revenue to the city was \$76,695.38. I was at the presentation earlier in the week when the possibility of not opening the Dutch Harbor King Crab season at all in 1983 was discussed.

For the current fiscal year which began last July 1, we budgeted \$125,000 in sales tax revenue, but revised it down to \$75,000 when we saw what happened with the King Crab season. In the first half of the year,

Page 2

Testimony before the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

however, the revenues actually were only \$24,000. If this trend continues, we will have to cut out our second public safety officer, and possibly reduce the hours of operation of our new clinic and recreation center. These services are supported through locally generated revenue.

In January 1983 two of our longer term processors took their vessels out of Akutan leaving three operating processors and one in bankruptcy. One of the remaining processors will be leaving in April for the salmon season. ~~for~~ We hope they will be back in the fall.

Trident Seafoods, at this point, is the bright spot in our sky. The firm has made a very substantial investment in our community and also contributes to the community in a material way.

As an aside, at this point the State of Alaska has almost all of its eggs in the oil basket. Historically, the fishing industry has been a mainstay of our economy, and has provided employment to a large number of people. Fish are here today, and can be here tomorrow, as opposed to oil which, if used today won't be here tomorrow.

Trident Seafoods is pioneering a new fishery and taking the risk that goes with being a pioneer. We would hope that the State of Alaska would do everything in its power to assist in the development of that fishery.

The City of Akutan supports Trident's request for a meeting with the Portuguese government to secure firm markets for Alaskan product.

If you have any quesitons, I would try to answer them. Thank you.

*Nancy Gross*