## MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, AP and SSC Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson

Executive Direct

DATE: September 13, 1984

SUBJECT: Halibut Fishery Management

## ACTION REQUIRED

Review methods for achieving management goals and decide a course of action.

#### BACKGROUND

When the Council adopted the current halibut management goals in December 1983 it directed the staff to prepare material on methods (other than a moratorium on new entry) for achieving those goals. In fulfillment of this task, the report, "The North Pacific Halibut Fishery: Options for Realization of Management Goals," was mailed to the Council, SSC and AP on August 15, 1984. That report is intended as a brief on the management options available to the Council that will achieve its goals for the fishery. At this meeting the Council is to review that report and decide whether to act only as advisors to the International Pacific Halibut Commission or take an active management role in the halibut fishery.

If the Council decides to only act as advisors to the IPHC, then it may wish to rescind the management goals it adopted last December. Arguably, adoption of these goals expressed the Council's intent to direct the course of the fishery. If halibut management goals are retained while the Council acts only in an advisory capacity, it may be open to the charge that it is neglecting the management duty it assumed when it adopted the goals.

Should the Council decide to take an active management role in the halibut fishery, it could, at this meeting, select the management options it wishes to consider for implementation and then appoint a subcommittee of Council members to work with the staff in preparing material on these options. The subcommittee could also review the halibut management goals to determine whether any changes are necessary in light of subsequent Council action on comprehensive fishery management goals. After the background material is drafted by the subcommittee and staff, it could be released for public review to solicit written comment. The background material and written comment would then be available to the Council for its action at its December meeting.

I move that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council exercise its option to implement regulation in the North Pacific halibut fishery in accordance with Sec. 5(c) of the North Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 and that the Council staff and a special Council subcommittee prepare material on the following management options in the North Pacific Halibut Fishery to be presented to the Council at its December, 1984 meeting

1. Exclusive Area Registration;

2. One day openings in each IPHC

License limitation;

Share-quotas.

9/27/84 John Harville

Proposed expansion and clarification of Halibut Goal #5 (of p. 34 of "Options" document.)

## Present wording:

5. Provide high quality fresh, frozen or preserved halibut to the consumer throughout the year.

Suggested change to make explicit the need for longer seasons, and to indicate purposes:

5. Extend the length of the halibut season to make available high quality fresh and frozen halibut to the consumer over as long a period as practicable and thereby maximize the economic return to the fishing industry and to maritime communities.

AGENDA	ITEM	C-1	
R			•

# ROLL CALL TALLY

		YES	$\overline{\text{NO}}$
	CAMPBELL		
	COLLINSWORTH		
2	DONALDSON/MACE		
	HEMPHILL		
	MCVEY		
	MITCHELL		
	PETERSEN, R.		
	PETERSON, J.		
	STEPHAN	* a.s	
	WILKERSON/DIDONATO		
m	WINTHER		
	MOTION Ralibut mant		
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	carried 9-2		

7 St. Paul

St. George

# Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association, Inc.

1689 C Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Phone (907) 276-2700

Atka o o on

Unalaska VNikolski

False Pass
Belkofski Ring Cove

Nelson Lagoon

September 20, 1984

James H. Branson, Executive Director North Pacific Fishery Management Council 333 West 4th Avenue, Suite 32 Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Mr. Branson:

The Atka Fishermen's Association (AFA) and the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association (A/PIA) are requesting that the following regulatory recommendations be considered by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council at the September 25 - 28, 1984 Council Meeting:

- That an exclusive three mile limit area off the shores of Atka Island be reserved for the commercial and subsistence halibut fishery of the Atka Fishermen's Association and/or other residents of Atka Island.
- 2. That a minimum 500,000 pound commercial halibut fishery quota per season be allocated to the three mile fishery area to be reserved for the Atka Fishermen's Association or other Atka Island residents; and that the fishery be conducted on a day on-day off basis until the 500,000 pound quota is reached.
- 3. That commercial halibut fishery permits within the Atka Island three mile limit area, be issued only to members of the Atka Fishermen's Association and/or other residents of Atka Island.

In addition to the above recommendations, the AFA and the A/PIA are requesting that the Council at its September 25 - 28 meeting, discuss the feasibility of the commercial halibut fishery being managed here in Alaska: a) either by a statewide agency other than the International Pacific Halibut Commission; or b) through a specifically Alaskan component of the NPHC which would be more responsive to the needs and concerns of Alaskan commercial halibut fishermen, including Alaskan Native Fishermen.

Mr. James H. Branson Page 2 September 20, 1984

Thank you for your attention to our proposals and request.

Sincerely,

Mike Swetzof

Mike Swetzof, Director

Atka Fishermen's Association

John Purcell, Director

Community Services Department

Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association

JP/lp

C-1 SUPPLEMENTAL SEPTEMBER 1984

SUMMARY OF 1984 Halibut Fishery August 30, 1984

Regulatory Area		0pen	Closing Date	Days	1984 Catch	Quota	Remaining Catch Limit	Next Opening
2A	3 periods	5/21	Aug. 2	35	375,000	300,000	None	None
2B	2 periods	4/24	June 2	22	8,900,000	9,000,000	100,000	None
2C	1 period	5/22	May 25	3	5,900,000	5,700,000	None	None
3A	2 periods	5/21	Aug. 21	5(4+1)	19,600,000	18,000,000	None	None
3B	3 periods	5/21	Sept. 19	6	2,800,000	7,000,000	4,200,000	9/18-9/19
4A	2 periods	5/21	June 21	7(4+3)	1,100,000	1,200,000	100,000	None
4B	3 periods	5/21	Aug. 9	14(4+3+7)	1,100,000	1,000,000	None	None
4C	33 periods	5/21	July 25	33	523,000	400,000	None	None
4D	2 periods	5/21	June 28	14(4+10)	390,000	400,000	10,000	None
4E		5/21			33,000	50,000	17,000	As Scheduled

SOURCE: IPHC

Halibut Catch - Sept. 1, 1984

Regulatory Area	1984 Quota	1984 Catch	Remaining Catch Limit	Next Opening
2A	200,000	275 000		
ZA	300,000	375,000	None	None
2B	9,000,000	8,900,000	100,000	None
2C	5,700,000	5,900,000	None	None
3A	18,000,000	19,600,000	None	None
3B	7,000,000	2,800,000	4,200,000	9/18-9/19
4A	1,200,000	1,100,000	100,000	None
4B	1,000,000	1,100,000	None	None
4C	400,000	523,000	None	None
4D	400,000	390,000	10,000	None
<b>4</b> E	50,000	33,000	17,000	As scheduled

1984 HALLBUT EISHING SEASONS

Regulatory Area	Fishing Period	Opening Date	Date	Number of Days - 1984	Number of Days - 1983
2A	i	May 21	June 2	12	
	2	June 21	July 3	12	
	3	July 22	August 2	11	
			•	35	26
28	1	April 24	May 6	12	
	2	May 23	June 2	10	
				22	24
2C	1	May 22	May 25	3	5
3A	1	May 21	May 25	4	
	2	August 20	August 21	1	
		-	•	5	7
38	1	May 21	May 25	4	
	2	August 20	August 21	1	
	3	September 18		1	
		•	•	6.	10
4A	1	May 21	May 25	4	
	2	June 18	June 21	3	
				7	15
48	1	May 21	May 25	4	
	2	June 18	June 21	3	
	3	August 2	August 9	_2	
		-	•	14	29
4C	1	May 21	July 25	33	32
40	1	May 21	May 25	4	
	2	June 18	June 28	10	
				14	21
4E	-	May 21	?		32*

\*Area 4E was part of Area 4C in 1983.

## IPHC 1984 HALIBUT VESSEL NET WEIGHT CLASS TALLY

## ALASKA

## COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

	•	NUMBER OF VESSELS	BY CAPTAINS RES	SIDENCE			
NET WEIGHT CLASS	ALASKA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	WASHINGTON	OREGON	CALIFORNIA	OTHER	TOTAL
UNKNOWN	417	o	10	0	0	1	428
1 - 4	1713	. 0	25	6	2	2	1748
5 - 19	1403	•	140	16	3	7	1569
20 - 39	370	o	117	9	4	0	500
40 - 59	80	o	29	4	0	0	113
60 +	81	o	15	5	1	O	102
and the section was two first dist		appropriet state data data					
TOTAL	4064	O	336	40	10	10	4460

## IPHC 1984 HALIBUT VESSEL NET WEIGHT CLASS TALLY

#### ALASKA

## SPORT ACTIVITY

			NUMBER OF VESSELS	BY CAPTAINS RES	IDENCE			
NET WE	GHT CLASS	ALASKA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	WASHINGTON	OREGON	CALIFORNIA	OTHER	TOTAL
UNI	NOWN	103	o	2	o	o	1	106
1	- 4	210	. 0	1	• 1	0	0	212
5	- 19	132	O	4	o	o	o	136
20	- 39	38	o	0	0	o	o	38
40	- 59	7	0	1	o	0	o	В
60	+	1	o	o	o	o	0	1
то	TAL	491	o	8	1	0	1	501

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#### IPHC 1984 HALIBUT VESSEL NET WEIGHT CLASS TALLY

#### UNITED STATES & CANADA

## ALL ACTIVITY TYPES

## NUMBER OF VESSELS BY CAPTAINS RESIDENCE

NET WEIGHT CLASS	ALASKA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	WASHINGTON	OREGON	CALIFORNIA	OTHER	TOTAL
UNKNOWN	482	13	64	67	5	2	633
1 - 4	1813	10	107	72	4	5	2011
5 - 19	1469	263	320	280	23	8	2363
20 - 39	392	40	145	47	11	o	635
40 - 59	84	14	31	9	0	o	138
60 +	82	4	16	6	1	0	109
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TOTAL	4322	344	<b>683</b>	481	44	15	5889