



ph: 206.284.2522

fax: 206.284.2902

2303 West Commodore Way, Suite 202, Seattle, WA 98199

AGENDA C-2
Supplemental
FEBRUARY 2011

January 25th, 2011

Chairman Eric A Olson
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Chairman Olsen,

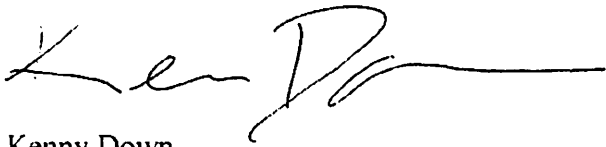
I hope the Council family is well and that your new year is off to a good start. On behalf of all of the Freezer Longline Coalitions members I look forward to extending a warm welcome next week to my home town here in Seattle.

As you may recall, at the October 2010 council meeting during agenda item C-6, final action on arrowtooth flounder MRA's, I brought forward concerns in public testimony about the Amendment 80 (A-80) trawl fleet's substantial increase in catch in the AI and BS Greenland turbot fishery after A-80 was implemented in 2008. As I pointed out in my testimony, substantiated by documentation handed in during my comments, the BS and AI turbot quotas have been quite small and our fleet has several members, and many crew positions that rely on this resource each year as part-and-parcel of their yearly income. In fact the hook-and-line fleet took a large majority of the AI and BS turbot catch each year from 1995-2007. The first year of A-80 implementation in 2008 saw a steep increase in effort by the A-80 fleet in both the AI and BS turbot fishery that has our members deeply concerned.

After our testimony before the Council in October, the Freezer Longline Coalition (FLC) was encouraged to try and find an equitable solution to the turbot fishery concerns through negotiations in good faith with representatives of the A-80 fleet. These negotiations are ongoing and this letter is intended as an update to the NPFMC on the progress of the negotiations.

After the October Council meeting the hope of the FLC was to have an offer in the works by the following December 2010 meeting and avoid taking valuable time away from a very full NPFMC 2011 agenda. The two groups have met several times culminating with the FLC's making an offer on November 23rd, 2010 for a "BS and AI turbot fixed gear / trawl split". The offer was based on historical catch in the BS and AI from 2001-2007 (pre-A-80 implementation) and was received by representatives of the A-80 fleet. At the December Council meeting the FLC agreed with the A-80 representatives to allow more time for a response and agreed the A-80 group was negotiating in good faith. It was our expressed desire at that time to have a framework agreement in the works ahead of the February meeting. The FLC members are disheartened by a lack of substantive response to our offer after two months. The two groups will be meeting on this issue at the February 2011 meeting and our hope remains that we resolve this issue without involving the Council at this time. however I am writing this letter to advise you that we have nothing close to an agreement to date.

If we are unable to resolve this issue we will be left with no other choice than to request the Councils attention on this matter at the April 2011 meeting in Anchorage. Clearly the best time to have settled this would have been at A-80 analysis and final action when many species were allocated as A-80 species and sideboards were set for A-80 based on history. That ship has clearly sailed but the core issue remains the same, it is our hope that the Council revisits this in the very near future if the FLC and A-80 groups are not able to come to a full and complete solution on their own.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenny Down', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kenny Down
Executive Director
Freezer Longline Coalition

Cc: Chris Oliver, Executive Director

PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: C-2(a) Am 80 WCA SIDEBARDS

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:
1	Jason Anderson/Lori Swanson	AKSC/GFF
2	Brian Robinson	Fishermen's First
3	Bob Krueger	Whitefish Trawler Assoc.
4	Julie Brumby	A&DB
5	Todd Loomis	Cascade Fishing
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: C-2 (b) GRS Program

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:
1	Jon Warrenchuk	Oceana
2	Jason Anderson	AKSC
3	Todd Loomis	Cascade Fishing, Inc
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person " to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: C-2(c) Unspecified Reserves

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:
1	Lori Swanson / Jason Anderson	AK GFF/AKSC
2	Jon Warschick	Oceanic
3	Todd Loomis	Cascade Fishing, Inc
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.