

29<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801



Dan Hull, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4th, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

April 15, 2015

Re: Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Halibut Bycatch Reduction

Dear Chairman Hull,

As members of the Alaska Legislature with constituencies that include fishermen and families who depend on soundly managed halibut stocks for their wellbeing, we urge the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to take action as soon as possible to lower halibut bycatch limits in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI). Specifically, we ask that the Council adopt a regulation change this June to reduce halibut bycatch limits by 50 percent.

Over the past decade, more than 62 million pounds of halibut has been caught, killed, and discarded as bycatch in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands. During the same period, landings of halibut as the target species have declined from an already alarmingly small 52 percent of the total removals to only 34 percent of removals.

This startling dynamic, in an ever worsening state, has continued for too long.

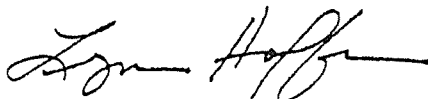
In 2014, the BSAI trawl fisheries killed and discarded seven times more individual halibut than the directed fishery in the same region landed. This bycatch total was overwhelmingly comprised of juveniles, weighing less than five pounds on average and well below the level of maturity necessary ever to have reproduced. In tagging studies conducted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, 70 to 90 percent of halibut tagged in the Bering Sea were recovered in the Gulf of Alaska. Hence, the waste allowed in the BSAI is adversely affecting halibut users far beyond the Bering Sea.

The impacts on Alaskans have been considerable. Conservation measures implemented over the past 15 years to address declining halibut stocks have fallen disproportionately on the backs of halibut fishers all over the state. While the bycatch limit for the BSAI trawl fleet has hardly changed in decades, catch limits for Individual Fishing Quota owners have been cut by 70 percent, and charter fleet harvests have been reduced by 50 percent in some waters.

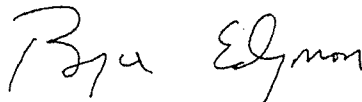
(Page 2 of 2: Coastal Legislators to NPFMC RE: BSAI Halibut Bycatch 4/15/15.)

We urge the NPFMC to carefully consider the effects of halibut bycatch on all Alaskan coastal communities and in June make a 50 percent reduction in bycatch limits in the BSAI to ensure that the directed halibut fisheries across Alaskan waters remain viable.

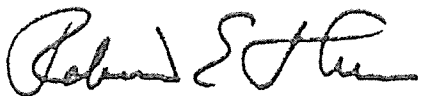
Sincerely,



Senator Lyman Hoffman  
Senate District S



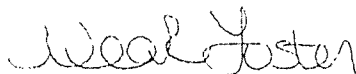
Representative Bryce Edgmon  
House District 37



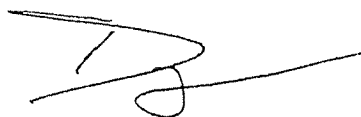
Representative Bob Herron  
House District 38



Senator Donny Olson  
Senate District T



Representative Neal Foster  
House District 39




Senator Dennis Egan  
Senate District Q



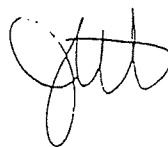
Representative Cathy Munoz  
House District 34



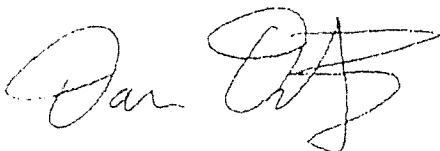
Senator Peter Micciche  
Senate District O



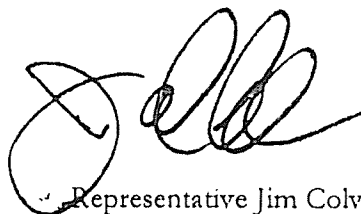
Representative Paul Seaton  
House District 31



Representative Johnathan Kreiss-Tomkins  
House District 35



Representative Dan Ortiz  
House District 36



Representative Jim Colver  
House District 9

P.O. Box 921033  
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692



Phone (907) 581-4955  
Fax (907) 581-1447

April 24, 2015

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull:

My name is Kenneth Reeves and I am the owner of Aleutian Biological Services located in Dutch Harbor, Alaska. My company has been providing drug and alcohol testing services for the fishing industry since 1996. For the past nineteen years I have had the opportunity to build a successful business located in Dutch Harbor – Alaska. Aleutian Biological Services is currently working with many different fishing companies that responsibly fish in the waters of the Bering Sea - Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska. I value each and every one of my customers, as they are an integral part to my company's long term viability.

I understand that in June 2015, the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council is considering cutting the halibut bycatch quota for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to long line vessels.

As a small business owner, I receive business from both the Amendment 80 fleet and the long line fleet. I respectfully ask that the economic impact of the reallocation be heavily considered. Additionally I ask that the impact related to the reduction of the Amendment 80's bycatch be weighed against the economic benefit to the long line fleet as it relates to support industries such as myself.

Thank you for your time addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Reeves  
Owner, Aleutian Biological Services

Cc: Senator Lisa Murkowski: ephraim\_froehlich@murkowski.senate.gov  
Senator Dan Sullivan: erik\_elam@sullivan.senate.gov  
Congressman Don Young: bonnie.bruce@mail.house.gov

# DANTRAWL INC.

---

1121 NW 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Seattle, Washington 98107

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Ben Langholt and I represent Dantrawl, Inc. We provide fishing gear and equipment to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world operating in a multitude of fisheries and utilizing a diverse set of gear types. We greatly value all of our customers and are actively engaged in helping them to succeed in their various fisheries.

It is our understanding that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels (vessels which are also part of our customer base.) I humbly request that you give careful consideration to the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to our business and others when making this decision

Although it is difficult to completely quantify the overall economic impact of the Amendment 80 fleet on the Alaskan and Washington communities, I can attest to the fact that their contributions to our business are immense.

The fleet represents a significant portion of our revenue stream which in turn maintains gainful employment for our personnel, contributes to the continued employment of other members of our local community and that of communities in many countries around the world. Their revenues also contribute to ongoing innovation in trawl gear design and testing which enhances our ability to continue to make improvements in our harvesting efficiency and bycatch reduction.

Reallocating the prohibited species cap puts our business, our employee's welfare and our ongoing research and development in jeopardy.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. It is our belief that the council has the capacity to find other, real, solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 fleet that will not adversely impact the fleet and the businesses and communities they contribute to.

Your thoughtful consideration on this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely

Ben Langholt  
General Manager

**Veda Webb. DBA: Bering Sea Office and Electronics**

516 Salmon Way

Dutch Harbor, AK 99692

TEL: 907-581-2070

**To: Mr. Dan Hull, Chairman**

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 West 4th, Suite 306

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

04/23/2015

Dear Chairman Hull,

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

My name is Veda Webb and I represent Bering Sea Office and Electronics. Located in the Port of Dutch Harbor, Alaska. We provide much needed supplies, electronics and office supplies to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Alaska & Washington maritime community. Please balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

Veda Webb

Owner: Bering Sea Office and Electronics.



*Alaska Ship Supply*  
A DIVISION OF WESTERN PIONEER, INC.

April 22, 2015

Dan Hull, Chairman

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 West 4th, Suite 306

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull:

My name is Larry Soriano, President of Alaska Ship Supply based in Seattle, doing business in Dutch Harbor, Alaska. Our company provides a variety of goods and services to the various Bering Sea fishing fleets, which includes factory trawlers, catcher boats, longliners, Amendment 80 boats, and crabbers. We provide groceries, fresh produce, work clothing, hardware and marine supplies year-round. We value all of our customers and work hard to help them succeed in their very challenging business.

I have heard that during June meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will consider cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. This does not seem fair. I encourage you to consider other alternatives in the halibut by catch allocation.

Amendment 80 fishing boats are an integral part of our Alaska Ship Supply customer base. Please try to balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations. Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

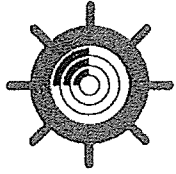
Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Soriano, PhD

President

Alaska Ship Supply

*Dutch Harbor • Captains Bay • Aleutian Commercial Company*



**NPFVOA Vessel Safety Program**  
*A Leader in Maritime Safety Since 1985*

Mr. Dan Hull, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Karen Conrad and I represent the North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association. We provide safety training to fishing vessel crews in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our clients and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Alaska and Washington maritime community. When making this decision, please understand that it does not just affect the fishing company, it affects jobs of thousands of people, the crews, company employees, vendors and even small non-profit companies like us. Please balance the needs of all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

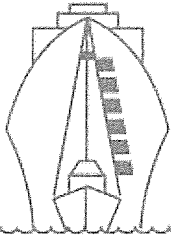
Karen Conrad  
Executive Director  
NPFVOA Vessel Safety Program

cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Rick Larsen  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

---

**North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association**

1900 W. Emerson, Suite 101, Fishermen's Terminal, Seattle, WA 98119  
Telephone (206) 285-3383 Fax (206) 286-9332  
Internet: [www.npfvoa.org](http://www.npfvoa.org) Email: [info@npfvoa.org](mailto:info@npfvoa.org)



# LUNDE MARINE ELECTRONICS, INC.

5415 24th Avenue N.W. | Seattle, Washington 98107 | 800.275.3820

SEATTLE  
206.789.3011  
Fax: 206.782.3188

TACOMA  
253.627.6968

DUTCH HARBOR, AK  
907.581.1498  
Fax: 907.581.1402

April 21, 2015

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI HALIBUT PSC LIMIT REDUCTIONS

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Tor Tollessen and I am the President and owner of Lunde Marine Electronics, Inc. located at 5415 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Seattle, Washington 98107 with offices and repair shops in Tacoma, Washington and Dutch Harbor, Alaska. The company was started in 1976 during a significant build and rebuild phase for king crab vessels and later the building and rebuilding of trawlers, factory trawlers, freezer longliners and catcher-processors sustained our business.

As the new-build business diminished, we had to adjust from selling and installing electronic packages on new vessels to service, repair and retrofit of older vessels. We had to commit money and resources to train and educate our technicians to meet FCC and NMEA standards.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision. Even one month of extra downtime for that fleet will affect the ability of our company to operate at current levels and could affect the long term viability of our company.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Alaska maritime community. Please balance the needs of all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tor Tollessen', written in a cursive style.

Tor Tollessen

cc: Senator Lisa Murkowski – [Ephraim\\_froehlich@murkowski.senate.gov](mailto:Ephraim_froehlich@murkowski.senate.gov)  
Senator Dan Sullivan – [erik\\_elam@sullivan.senate.gov](mailto:erik_elam@sullivan.senate.gov)  
Congressman Dan Young – [bonnie.bruce@mail.house.gov](mailto:bonnie.bruce@mail.house.gov)



**A Resolution requesting that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council take action to reduce the quantity of halibut bycatch in the Bering Sea Aleutian Island fisheries by setting new bycatch limits which lower halibut Prohibited Species Catch caps by 50% of the current limits.**

**WHEREAS**, coastal communities in Alaska depend on Alaska's halibut resource for sustenance, recreation, cultural traditions, and livelihood; and

**WHEREAS**, the halibut fishery is of critical importance to the state, providing significant income to the state and its residents through commercial and charter fisheries; and

**WHEREAS**, the halibut stock and fishery are in a critical state after a continuous stock decline over the last decade; and

**WHEREAS**, the commercial catch limits for halibut in the Central Bering Sea were reduced by 68% in the last decade in order to conserve halibut stocks; and

**WHEREAS**, halibut bycatch limits for trawl fisheries operating in the Bering Sea, currently set at more than 7 million pounds, have not been significantly reduced for 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, BSAI trawl fisheries caught and killed 7 times more fish than the directed fishery landed in the BSAI in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, historical tagging studies indicate that halibut spending the first few years of their lives in the Bering Sea can and do end up in virtually any regulatory area; and

**WHEREAS**, halibut play a key role in the economies throughout Alaska, therefore stock health and catch limit cuts have and will continue to have dramatic effects on our fisheries, businesses, economies and communities that depend on the halibut resource; and

**WHEREAS**, every pound of halibut caught as bycatch results in a direct loss of yield and spawning biomass of the North Pacific halibut resource; and

**WHEREAS**, the Magnuson-Stevens Act requires under National Standard 9 that bycatch be reduced; and

**WHEREAS**, National Standard 8 requires councils provide for the sustained participation of fishery dependent communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Homer Area Alaska Department of Fish and Game Advisory Committee requests immediate action by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to reduce halibut bycatch in the Bering Sea Aleutian Island trawl fisheries by not less than 50%; and

**To improve the observer program and increase coverage until 100% of the catch may be observed.**

Dave Lyon  
Homer AC Chair



RECEIVED  
APR 22 2015

Dear Chairman Hall,

My name is Steve Thirkildsen, I'm a second generation fisherman along with my two brothers. I have fished halibut for 28 years. My father retired fished for 40 years. Knowing that fishing you take the good, with the bad, great prices and poor prices, low when you can and bucket down on the lean years, time having to bucket down the last five years do to the lower quotas. Wages are down 50%. My son is wanting to follow in his grandfathers foot steps, but I am sending him in a different direction. My main point to him, there is not a profittable way to make a good living to start a family. The halibut quotas keep lowering with no end and the Drawl fleet in the Bering Sea have Bycatch amounts far exceeding the allowed quotas for our longline boats which is a crime.

Steve Thirkildsen

STEVE THIRKILDSEN  
431 222nd ST SW  
Bethel, WA. 98021

RECEIVED  
APR 22 2015

Dear Chairman Hull

My name is Adam Westfall, I am a third generation fisherman. I am not only writing for myself, but for the ~~future~~ next after me I have been a part of the decrease for the past five years. My income has dropped 50% due to the decline in halibut stock.

I am for conservation, but everybody needs to be on the same page. Its not ~~the~~ <sup>right</sup> that the trawl fishery is killing more halibut than what the IFQ fisherman is allowed to harvest. there needs to be a change its 2015 IF we dont act quickly and drop the halibut PSC by 50% all will be lost. So please dont wait we all know ~~to~~ what happen to the east coast ~~fisheries~~ the waited and ~~now~~ now have nothing fisheries

Adam Westfall  
28120 Redondo Beach DE  
#207 Des Moines WA 98198

**Subject:** Halibut PSc limit reductions  
**From:** "Clay Peil" <clay@thebuyingnetwork.com>  
**Date:** 4/8/2015 4:31 PM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>  
**CC:** <shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov>, <nicole\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov>, <matt.bormet@mail.house.gov>

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2015

Mr. Hull,

I am the owner of a business named The Buying Network, Inc. in Seattle. My name is Clay Peil and I'm the founder of the business that was started in 1999 to support the north pacific fishing fleets. The Amendment 80 vessels are a very important part of our business. We supply a wide selection of products to this fleet including factory cleaning chemicals, general consumables, packaging materials, specialized chemistry for the engine rooms, etc. Everything we sell is based on consumption and when less fishing days happen, it is immediately felt by our company.

I started in the support of fishing vessels in 1989 and was hooked. It laid the ground for me starting a business and employing people in the Seattle area. I have seen many different plans related to fishing quotas over the years and some are carefully thought out and others, well not sure what happens behind closed doors, but they look fishy.

I became aware of the halibut reduction plan through media outlets and our industry. Additionally I've read a few blogs about it, and nothing makes sense on this plan to me. I'm no expert in the science behind these decisions, but do know politics seem to always get involved.

If this plan goes through as it could, it will greatly impact my business. Our average salary for the crew of seven is just under \$50,000 per year, plus all the benefits like retirement, medical, Etc. So this isn't McDonalds pay. We are interviewing for a new position at this time and adding another great paying job in the NW. I'm trying to hold on and not hire this additional person due to this upcoming decision, but hate to see a qualified person just get a job outside the industry to "just make ends meet". So I will probably end up hiring, then having to fire this person if the plan is executed in the extreme as it could. I will feel horrible if this is what has to happen, I hope not. I will also most likely need to reduce another position to make up for income losses. Unfortunately, the weak link (under performing) person will be let go and the slack made up by others.

These layoffs will hurt me for years to come with the increase in unemployment insurance we have to pay to the State of Washington.

Small business employees half of the works force, but never have a voice and end up with the brunt of the decisions made by policy makers. I tell my friends, don't start a business, everyone is out to make you fail. I hope you read this and take heart to we are real people and our livelihood is in your hands.

So any decision to just move quota around to make some lobby group happy, will cost my company enough to kill a couple jobs. Please make sound scientific policy, not political quota decisions and let me continue to battle tomorrow to keep jobs or to grow them.

Clay Peil  
The Buying Network, Inc.  
Purchasing Solutions for your Business  
206-764-5560 Fax 206-764-5779 [www.BuyingNetwork.com](http://www.BuyingNetwork.com)

Mr. Dan Hull

Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306

Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

[Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2015

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Steve C Shellhorn and I represent American Diagnostics Seattle. We provide drug and alcohol testing services to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

One point is the continued economy of the Pacific NW in particular, as we provide services that provide jobs to members and support to their families. Cutting these benefits will have a detriment to all companies and families in the general area. We worry about the long-term viability of the fishing companies we provide services for.

This proposed action does not address a fishery conservation issue. By taking away the halibut to companies that we provide services for, it places a hardship on them and giving those fish to longtime vessels, resulting in less fish for the companies we provide services for. Operating margins would be placed at a point that they could no longer fish their vessels.

Our family-owned company would be affected by these actions to reduce our income and being able to satisfy the needs of the fisheries in our areas – drug, alcohol and background check services.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs of all our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

American Diagnostics Seattle 650 S. Orcas St, Suite 125 Seattle, WA 98108 PH: 206-762-4456



Mr. Dan Hull

Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

[Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC limit reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Steve Cromwell and I am vice president at Rena International. We provide packaging, fishing equipment and longline systems to fishing vessels both in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed. A vibrant fishing industry is key to our business.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

- 1) As mentioned, the Amendment 80 fleet value, protein CPUE and personnel all dwarfs the small longliner fleet.
- 2) The halibut fleet is a local stakeholder in a larger complex system. Many of the fishermen have other capacities in other fisheries. An arbitrary transfer of quota becomes a cost shifting mentality that is systemically detrimental to overall fisheries policy.
- 3) Finding balance in all the stakeholder nuances is key for a comprehensive policy. Engaging a relatively high value Amendment 80 fleet with small boat / local community effort for halibut catch is better than pitting stakeholders against each other on a line item of fisheries policy. There are significant factors in whales and climate shift as well as previous catch baselines that are also in need of more study. And the research money will not come from shutting down one fishery at the expense of another.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs of our fisherpeople and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by Amendment 80 fleet without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely; Steve Cromwell

4241 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave West - Seattle Washington 98199 USA - Telephone 206.284.7871 - Facsimile 206.284.9810



422 S Forest St, Seattle, WA 98134  
Phone: 206.623.8750 Fax: 206.623.2091

[www.pcg.com](http://www.pcg.com)

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2015

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

*Re: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions*

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Tom Gallagher and I represent Performance Contracting, Inc. We provide insulation, abatement and scaffold services to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

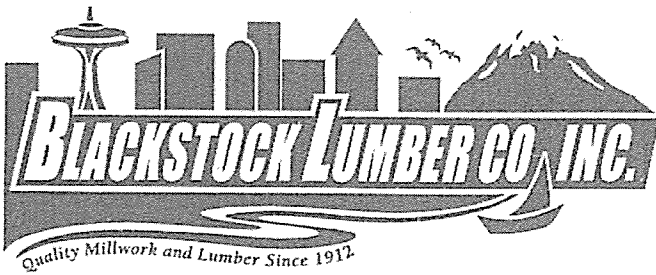
Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs of all our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their options.

Sincerely,

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

Tom Gallagher  
Division Manager  
Performance Contracting, Inc.

Cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Rick Larsen  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene



1039 ELLIOTT AVENUE WEST, SEATTLE, WA 98119  
Phone (206) 284-1313 • Fax (206) 281-0062  
Accounting Fax (206) 285-2798

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2015

April 10, 2015

Mr. Dan Hull, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

My name is J. Scott Blackstock and I am the owner of C. Blackstock Lumber Company Inc. We provide building and hardware materials to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs of all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

J. Scott Blackstock  
Owner

cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Rick Larson  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

Premium grade softwood and hardwood lumber • Mouldings • Custom Doors  
• On site millwork facility • Custom profile set-up •



Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Gary Beardsley and I represent Harware Specialty Company Inc.. We provide electrical and hardware goods to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We care for our customers and work very hard make their businesses succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I would encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

We have suffered a large business loss from the fishing cut backs in the 90s along with many other local suppliers resulting in our own cut backs.

Amendment 80 fishermen are essential to our Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs of our fishermen and develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly cutting their operations

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Beardsley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

**Subject:** BSIA Halibut PSC Limit Reductions**From:** Bob Conley <bob@imagesourceteam.com>**Date:** 4/16/2015 2:09 PM**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>**CC:** "shawnbills@murray.senate.gov" <shawnbills@murray.senate.gov>,  
"nicoloeteutschel@cantwell.senate.gov" <nicoloeteutschel@cantwell.senate.gov>,  
"annasperling@murray.senate.gov" <annasperling@murray.senate.gov>, "matt.bormet@mail.house.gov"<matt.bormet@mail.house.gov>, "jordan.evich@mail.house.gov" <jordan.evich@mail.house.gov>,  
"ben.barasky@mail.house.gov" <ben.barasky@mail.house.gov>, "tracyb@usseafoods.net"<tracyb@usseafoods.net>, "corine@oceanpeaceinc.com" <corine@oceanpeaceinc.com>,  
"kuri@fishermensfinest.com" <kuri@fishermensfinest.com><tracyb@usseafoods.net>, "corine@oceanpeaceinc.com" <corine@oceanpeaceinc.com>,  
"kuri@fishermensfinest.com" <kuri@fishermensfinest.com><tracyb@usseafoods.net>, "corine@oceanpeaceinc.com" <corine@oceanpeaceinc.com>,  
"kuri@fishermensfinest.com" <kuri@fishermensfinest.com><tracyb@usseafoods.net>, "corine@oceanpeaceinc.com" <corine@oceanpeaceinc.com>,  
"kuri@fishermensfinest.com" <kuri@fishermensfinest.com>

Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Subject: BSIA Halibut PSC limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Robert Conley and I represent Image Source. We provide apparel and safety gear to fishing Vessels in the North Pacific. We work very closely with Ocean Peace, Fishermen's finest, among others.

Please do not cut the Halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector.

Please balance the needs of all our commercial fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.


Sincerely,

**Bob Conley****Senior Account Executive** 425.898.2990

C. 425-830-5020 | F.425-747-2505

[Bob@imagesourceteam.com](mailto:Bob@imagesourceteam.com)

Member NW Fisheries Assoc., NW salmon canners

Product search [www.imagesourceteam.com](http://www.imagesourceteam.com)image  Source  
ImageSource.comWEEKLY PRIZES  
SWAG IDEAS  
NEW PRODUCTS 

**Subject:** Please read  
**From:** Wayne Myers <wmyers@myersfab.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 6:42 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is WAYNE MYERS, I live in Oregon (in the winter), and Alaska ( in the summer) and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I am a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

The keeping of Halibut has been cut down to the recreational fishermen so that we can only keep 1 fish 29" or less, and 1 other fish, per day, we cannot fish on Thursdays, and can only keep 5 fish per year. This really limits the amount of fish I can provide for my family. I cannot afford to fly the whole family to Alaska and get them license, tags and pay for charters to get the fish that we consume each year.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans and other non resident anglers you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Myers  
Eugene, Oregon  
Soldotna, Alaska



Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:Npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

On behalf of my company Greenline Fishing Gear, who produces selectivity devices to the A80 fleet, I'm very concerned for my 5 employees, to understand that in the June meeting, North Pacific Fishery Management Council are considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that to another fleet of vessels.

Being part of the operation in this fleet for over 20 years, I have seen firsthand, how changes have made this fleet front runner on forward thinking in gear improvements, sustainability and used good steward ship as the driver.

Just to mention some of them:

- First demersal fishery to use pelagic doors, to reduce bottom contact, and fuel consumption, there now has spread out worldwide.
- First demersal fishery to use elevated sweeps, to reduce bottom contact by 90%, now also used in Canada, Greenland and Netherlands
- Front runner in developments of excluders, a sorting device to reduce unwanted species (Halibut, crab, Skates ect), also spreading around now in Europe, based on knowhow from the A80 fleet.
- First flatfish fishery in the world to be MSC approved
- All old fishing gear is brought back to the lower 48<sup>th</sup> and recycled, and no ghost gear is left behind.

No other fishery in USA has ever been recognized for as many improvements from other fishing communities around the world. It would be a shame to cripple the A80 fleet, and their operation with proposed cut in Halibut quota.

With the above in mind, I hope you will consider this, when making up you decision, in balancing the recourses between the different fleets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karsten Hjelm".

Karsten Hjelm  
Greenline Fishing Gear

CC: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Rick Larsen  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

**Subject:** Bering Sea Halibut bycatch  
**From:** <matt@fishwhittier.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 11:03 PM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Matt Kopec and I am both a recreational and commercial user of halibut.

I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

Allowing halibut to be wasted in current quantities and especially at current biomass levels is inexcusable. Failing to act at this time is a blatant disregard of your management responsibilities. For a long time, Alaskans believed that our halibut stock was the "best managed fishery in the world". Lately, we are learning that is not true. Many businesses statewide are hurting because of low halibut biomass. You can work to solve this problem. I urge you to make large cuts in bycatch, to increase observer coverage, to utilize the best available technology and science for bycatch management, and to find a permanent solution this problem. We have seen this scenario play out in numerous fisheries throughout the world. Please be a council known for sustaining our fisheries, not scuttling them.

Thank you for your time.

Matt Kopec

**Subject:** C2 Bering sea trawler bycatch  
**From:** "Steve Parizek" <steve@cranesrest.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 10:06 PM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Gentlemen-

Please conserve our halibut resources in the Bering sea. I would like to see a drastic reduction in the trawler bycatch, which will enhance the overall health of all of our fisheries. A very effective method of observation with limited funding would be to make mandatory a camera on the decks of trawlers.

Mr. Dan Hull

Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 West 4th, Suite 306

Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Pat Morgan and I represent Morgan Street Builders. We provide carpentry / Joiner work to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

We provide 20 employees with real living wage jobs that are so hard to come by. We rely on the annual Repair and Maintenance of the Amendment 80 sector vessels for our livelihood.

Morgan Street Builders also purchases goods and services in the Seattle area to maintain these vessels spending more than 500k annually to help support Lumber Yards like Compton and Crosscut, Hardware stores like Fisheries Supply and Sea Mar, Tacoma Screw and Builders Hardware to name a few.

In short we would like your decision to reallocate the Halibut to other sectors to be broad in scope and take into consideration all of the intertwined relationships that will certainly be effected.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

Pat Morgan

Owner at Morgan Street Builders Inc.

cc: Senator Patty Murray - shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov and anna\_sperling@murray.senate.gov



April 24, 2015

Mr. Dan Hull, Chairman

North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4th, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

[npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Dan Oliver and I am the President of Nor'Eastern Trawl Systems (dba. NET Systems Inc.) located on Bainbridge Island, Washington. We provide commercial fishing nets and equipment to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

Our company provides employment to 60 people here in Washington State. Any impact to the Amendment 80 sector will have an immediate effect on our business and our ability to maintain our position. The Amendment 80 sector is our single largest market for fishing nets and related equipment.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Alaska & Washington maritime community. Please balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel J. Oliver".

Daniel J. Oliver

President



cc: Senator Patty Murray - [shawn\\_bills@murray.senate.gov](mailto:shawn_bills@murray.senate.gov)  
Senator Patty Murray - [anna\\_sperling@murray.senate.gov](mailto:anna_sperling@murray.senate.gov)  
Senator Maria Cantwell - [nicole\\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:nicole_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov)  
Congressman Rick Larsen - [Matt.Bornet@mail.house.gov](mailto:Matt.Bornet@mail.house.gov)  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler - [Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov)  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene - [ben.barasky@mail.house.gov](mailto:ben.barasky@mail.house.gov)  
Congressman Derek Kilmer, - [andrea.roper@mail.house.gov](mailto:andrea.roper@mail.house.gov)

**Subject:** BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

**From:** Ben Beecroft <Ben.Beecroft@certifiedlabs.com>

**Date:** 4/26/2015 1:36 PM

**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

**CC:** "shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov" <shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov>,  
"anna\_sperling@murray.senate.gov" <anna\_sperling@murray.senate.gov>,  
"nicole\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov" <nicole\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov>,  
"Matt.Bormet@mail.house.gov" <Matt.Bormet@mail.house.gov>, "Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov" <Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov>, "ben.barasky@mail.house.gov" <ben.barasky@mail.house.gov>

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4th, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is Ben Beecroft, and I represent Certified Laboratories. We provide lubricants and chemicals to fishing vessels in the North Pacific and around the world. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community. Please balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessel without significantly curtailing their operations. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ben Beecroft

Certified Labs

Seattle, Wa

[www.certifiedlabs.com](http://www.certifiedlabs.com)

[Ben.Beecroft@certifiedlabs.com](mailto:Ben.Beecroft@certifiedlabs.com)


Mr. Hall  
N.P.F.M.C.  
605 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 306  
Anchorage AK 99501-2252

Re. Bering Sea Halibut PSC

Dear Mr. Hall,

I'm writing today to ask  
you to support the 50%  
reduction of halibut PSC.

We talk about a sustainable  
fishery and without a reduction  
and increased observer coverage  
these things won't be possible.

Thank you  


Walter McQuillen DSFU  
442 Cass St  
Port Townsend WA 98368

**Subject:** BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions  
**From:** "John Porter" <johnwilliamporter@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 11:19 AM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>  
**CC:** <shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov>, <shawn\_bills@murray.senate.gov>, <nicole\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov>, <Matt.Bormet@mail.house.gov>, <Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov>, <ben.barasky@mail.house.gov>

Mr. Dan Hull  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4th, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252  
[npfmc.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.comments@noaa.gov)

Subject: BSAI Halibut PSC Limit Reductions

Dear Chairman Hull,

My name is John Porter and I am the owner of DataHarvest Systems. My company provides Fish Management software and IT support to fishing vessels in the North Pacific. We value all of our customers and try very hard to help them succeed.

I understand that in June the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering cutting the halibut prohibited species cap for the Amendment 80 sector and would reallocate that halibut to another fleet of vessels. I encourage you to consider the value of the Amendment 80 fleet to my business and others when making this decision.

*My company provides fish management software to the Amendment 80 vessels operating in the North Pacific and Bering Sea. This software is needed to effectively manage and track Groundfish allocations. We also provide IT support to some of these vessels.*

*Supporting the Amendment 80 fleet in this way is the greatest part of the DataHarvest Systems business model. An economic "pull back" from Amendment 80 companies could be devastating to DataHarvest Systems and prevent me from hiring/keeping employees.*

Amendment 80 fishermen are an integral part of the Puget Sound maritime community and economy. Please balance the needs all of our fishermen and strive to develop solutions that can be achieved by the Amendment 80 vessels without significantly curtailing their operations.

Sincerely,  
John Porter  
(Owner)  
DataHarvest Systems  
[johnwilliamporter@gmail.com](mailto:johnwilliamporter@gmail.com)

cc: Senator Patty Murray - [shawn\\_bills@murray.senate.gov](mailto:shawn_bills@murray.senate.gov) and [shawn\\_bills@murray.senate.gov](mailto:shawn_bills@murray.senate.gov)  
Senator Maria Cantwell - [nicole\\_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:nicole_teutschel@cantwell.senate.gov)  
Congressman Rick Larsen - [Matt.Bormet@mail.house.gov](mailto:Matt.Bormet@mail.house.gov)  
Congresswoman Jamie Herrera Beutler - [Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jordan.Evich@mail.house.gov)  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene - [ben.barasky@mail.house.gov](mailto:ben.barasky@mail.house.gov)

**Subject:** RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** David Silva <davinak@acsalaska.net>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 6:43 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

Around the world, the by catch of prize fish from commercial fishing as a whole has gotten way out of hand for the "greater take" of lesser fish to be sold for profit. In this day in age, with science, education, and technology at it's highest level worldwide, why does it still have to come down to the almighty dollar even when a known resource is suffering?

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
David Silva  
32 year resident of the Kenai Peninsula Alaska.

**Subject:** Halibut trawl by-catch Final Action  
**From:** Jim Dettling <jrddiver@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 4:52 PM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is James Dettling, MD, I live Las Vegas, NV and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the unacceptably high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of juvenile halibut from ever leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas in the Pacific. This by catch practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities in Alaska and fishing communities throughout the west coast of the U.S. will suffer. The future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource for the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve this valuable resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not acceptable, fair or equitable. Trawler By Catch in the Bering Sea needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans and fishermen throughout Alaska and the Pacific coast that you care about their communities and this resource. I respectfully request that you take significant action to reduce the Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for all and protects millions of juvenile halibut from being unnecessarily caught and discarded. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

James Dettling, MD

**Subject:** By-catch

**From:** "Goulet, Branden (PURCELL)" <Branden.Goulet@bp.com>

**Date:** 4/26/2015 4:42 PM

**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is \_Branden Goulet\_\_\_\_\_, I live \_\_Anchorage, ak\_\_\_\_\_ and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Branden Goulet

**Subject:** C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** "Verdun Noel" <vnoel@northwestel.net>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 3:45 PM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Verdun Noel, I live Whitehorse, Yukon and every year I charter 7-10 times a year to fish recreationally in Alaska for halibut and other species.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans and visiting Canadians that spend thousands of dollars as a tourist on these charters that you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Verdun Noel



**Subject:** Halibut bycatch  
**From:** Alan Sloka <asloka6@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 1:38 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Alan Sloka, I live in San Antonio, TX and I have fished (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut, for the last 15 years.

As a recreational fisherman, I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced but then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans and recreational fishermen you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Alan Sloka  
26626 Virgo Ln  
San Antonio, TX 78260

**Subject:** Bering Sea Halibut By Catch  
**From:** John Abel <blazenabel@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 1:07 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,

John Abel  
Kodiak, AK

**Subject:** Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** hope Roberts <hope.lorena@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 11:53 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

--

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Hope Upicksoun, I live In Anchorage and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Hope Upicksoun

*Hope Roberts*  
*message number 907-322-5439*

**Subject:** Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** Charles Upicksoun <cpupicksoun@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 11:18 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Charles Upicksoun, I live in Anchorage and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Charles Upicksoun

**Subject:** Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** "Erik Vaaler" <vaaler@earthlink.net>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 10:15 AM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Erik Vaaler. I live in Redwood City, CA. I have been fishing recreationally in Alaska for halibut for the last 17 years.

I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by-catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By-catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans and the many thousands of visiting fishermen that you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Erik Vaaler  
650-814-6557  
vaaler@earthlink.net

**Subject:** halibut by catch  
**From:** "Alaska Shrimp Pots" <akshrimppots@mtaonline.net>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 9:47 AM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is \_\_Steve Kalek\_\_(F/V Deception\_\_\_\_\_), I live \_in  
Palmer\_\_\_\_\_ and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Steve Kalek F/V Deception

**Subject:** C2-Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final Action  
**From:** Lost Creek Company <lostcreek@ak.net>  
**Date:** 4/26/2015 8:39 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Attn: Dan Hull, Chairman  
RE: C2-Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final Action

Dear Mr. Hull and Council members:

My name is Michael Strahan. My wife and I have lived in Anchorage since 1985, and have enjoyed sport fishing for pacific halibut on many occasions. In addition, we own a large commercial website, the [Alaska Outdoors Supersite](#) which provides information to Alaskans and visitors about hunting and fishing in this great state. We are the largest such gathering place on the Internet, and are in our 19th year. In 2012, our site saw 9.6 million visitors, a significant number of those are people interested in halibut fishing. This is evidenced by our Saltwater Fishing Forum, which sees a huge amount of traffic on our site. We are not an anti-commercial fishing organization, and we welcome both commercial and sport fishermen on our site and in our discussion forums. While I cannot speak on behalf of our entire community, I can tell you that there is great concern in both the commercial and the sport fishery about the health of our halibut stocks, and a general recognition that something must be done.

Having access to these fish is one of the unique and incredible things about living in Alaska. As you know, in recent years our halibut stocks have declined significantly, and measures have been taken to restore our halibut population to healthy levels.

We are very concerned about the very high level of halibut bycatch in the Bering Sea, described in your Final Action Item C2- Bering Sea Halibut PSC. As you are aware, the commercial fishery has killed and discarded an unconscionable number of tons of healthy halibut over the years. We can no longer afford these significant losses, nor can we ask most users to reduce their catch of halibut, while continuing to allow the trawl fleet to reap the benefits of liberal halibut bycatch numbers. All users must bear the burden of this downturn in our halibut stocks.

As you are aware, the Bering Sea is the origin point for many halibut that move out of that immediate area to populate areas of interest to local villages and to sport fishermen. Killing these fish incidentally is a luxury we can no longer afford.

Collectively, we are all stewards of this earth, and are responsible to pass it on to the next generations in good condition. We need to take action today in order to ensure healthy halibut stocks tomorrow. Please demonstrate to our fellow Alaskans and to our guests that you care about our communities and about the resource, by taking significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch. Please show us that you will no longer allow this precious resource to be discarded in our oceans as waste.

Best regards,

Michael Strahan

**Subject:** Bering sea halibut

**From:** Gareth Byers <alaskabyers@gmail.com>

**Date:** 4/26/2015 8:04 AM

**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Hi, my name is Gareth Byers. I live in Sterling Alaska. I fish halibut out of Homer and Seward in my own boat recreationally. I have been in Alaska for almost 15 years now and have seen the halibut fishing decline dramatically. I have seen the charter fleet and the commercial fleet take serious hits in how they operate due to declining numbers of halibut. Our whole economy here on the Kenai Peninsula relies heavily on fishing, both sport and commercial. I have seen the impact that the changes to these two sectors of our fishing community have produced. All for the profit of a few trawl boats and their owners in the Bering sea. They are not Alaskans and are not concerned about Alaskans or the effect that their actions have on our economy. All they are concerned about is turning huge profits for themselves which is no problem as long as it is done responsibly. However, there is no way "responsibly" includes the wanton waste of millions of halibut and king salmon. If we as Alaskans waste even a small part of the fish or game we take recreationally, we face huge fines and even jail time. Please take the time to consider in your decision on this matter that there are more people out there than just the trawl fleet. And please show that you will stand up for decency and responsibility instead of pandering to the money of the trawl fleet owners.

Thank you so much for your consideration on this matter.

Gareth Byers



**Subject:** Halibut  
**From:** Scott Egger <rscottegger@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** 4/25/2015 9:08 PM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Scott Egger. I live in Ninilchik, Alaska and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
R. Scott Egger

Sent from my smarter than me iPhone

**Subject:** C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final Action  
**From:** Jon <scribere.iussit.amor@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/25/2015 8:34 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attn: Dan Hull, Chairman

Dear Sir,

As an Alaska resident and recreational fisherman, I am extremely concerned about the unacceptable level of halibut by-catch in the Bering Sea, as described in Final Action Item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

The Bering serves as a critical nursery ground for juvenile halibut. Those halibut subsequently distribute throughout the North Pacific. Currently, trawl by-catch is devastating halibut stocks in the Bering and having a tremendous negative impact throughout the range.

Trawl by-catch in the Bering must be curtailed immediately. Alaska fishermen and communities are already suffering due to halibut stock declines. The health of the stock and the future of halibut fishing throughout the North Pacific will be further threatened unless the industrial trawl fleet is reigned in. The wasteful practices of this fleet present an unacceptable threat to North Pacific halibut stocks, and those of us who depend on this important resource. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to willfully sacrifice the welfare of the majority users, and the resource itself, for the benefit of a small group of wasteful and destructive factory trawlers. This situation is unacceptable and untenable. By-catch must be dramatically reduced immediately, for the health of the halibut resource as well as the people and communities who depend on it.

Please show you care about Alaska communities and the health of the North Pacific halibut resource. Take meaningful action to significantly reduce if not eliminate Bering Sea trawl fleet halibut by-catch. Stop the waste and destruction of this most critical resource.

Sincerely,

J. Gregg  
Fairbanks AK

**Subject:** Stop the halibut bycatch in the Bearing Sea  
**From:** Kgg55308 <kgg55308@aol.com>  
**Date:** 4/25/2015 8:02 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

My name is Kevin Gross I live Minnesota and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Gross

**Subject:** Halibut Trawl By-Catch  
**From:** Jeff Lykken <lykkenjeff@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/25/2015 5:54 PM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Jeff Lykken, and I live in Washington state. I have been a commercial and recreational fisherman all my life. For the last 10 years I fish have fished recreationally in Alaska for halibut.

As a fisherman, and someone that strongly believes in maintaining our fisheries resources, I am very concerned about the high level of by-catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by-catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By-catch needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please demonstrate you care about the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea by-catch of halibut to a level that helps protect the resource, provides opportunity for the rest of us, and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Lykken, PE

**Subject:** Halibut troll by catch  
**From:** Jim <jimrbboats@aol.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 7:54 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is James Mickel, I live in Beavercreek Oregon, and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
James Mickel

RB Boats

Beavercreek OR

503-632-8800

**Subject:** NPFMC Halibut  
**From:** "Rick" <Rick@peopleG2.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 8:18 AM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Richard Dyer, I live in Orange County ,California and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,

Rick Dyer  
VP of Strategic Development  
d: (714) 988-3592  
m: (800) 630-2880 x232  
[rick@peopleg2.com](mailto:rick@peopleg2.com)



**Subject:** Alaskan Halibut Fishing Rights!!  
**From:** Vince Saint <saint.v@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 8:11 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Attention: **Dan Hull**, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Vince Saint and I live in San Diego, CA and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut. I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded. This unfortunate situation may lead to the eventual decline of the halibut fishery as well as the tourism and job market that support it. Take action now!!!

Sincerely,

Vince Saint

**Subject:** C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** Mike Outterson <moutterson@gci.net>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 8:04 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Eugene Outterson, I live in Wasilla, Alaska and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Eugene Outterson



**Subject:** Hearings  
**From:** Floyd Hutchens <FHutchens@pennglobal.biz>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:06 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

**Attention Dan Hull**, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
My name is Floyd Hutchens, I live in Eagle, Idaho; and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

Having fished commercially in Alaska for 25 years I am well aware of the delicate balance in the halibut biomass as well as high disregard to the indiscriminate bycatch by the Bering Sea trawl fleet. The impact to the TAC of the other Halibut fisheries as well as the detrimental impact on the future of all Halibut fisheries makes putting stringent limits on the trawl fleet imperative. Preserving now for the well being of the future fisheries takes fortitude. Please do not let short term profits outweigh the long term health of this valuable resource.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to benefit a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,

Floyd Hutchens

**Subject:** Bering sea halibut  
**From:** Dan Suprak <nidan99518@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:09 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is \_\_\_Dan Suprak\_\_\_\_\_, I live \_\_\_Wasilla, Alaska\_\_\_\_\_ and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Dan Suprak

**Subject:** RE: C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** "Doug Huvar" <dhuvar@gci.net>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 11:44 AM  
**To:** <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Doug Huvar, I live at 8435 Jupiter Drive, Anchorage, Alaska, and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas. This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut for being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Doug Huvar

**Subject:** C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** Chris Culver <culver21@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:17 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

My name is Chris Culver, I live in San Diego, CA. and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

--

Sincerely,

Chris Culver  
Culver Management Group Inc.  
CA Lic # 01874699  
Office: (760) 745-0811  
Direct: (858) 354-9562  
Fax: (760) 745-5476

**Subject:** C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action  
**From:** Brian Rapf <brian.rapf@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:20 AM  
**To:** npfmc.comments@noaa.gov

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

Hi Dan,

My name is Brian Rapf and I live in Malibu, California and have been fishing recreationally all my life. My best memories came from fishing with family and friends in Mexico, California and Alaska. The fishing is not as good as it once was, and I think its very important do what we can to maintain sustainable fisheries, and set examples to the rest of the world how to properly manage fisheries. I fish recreationally in Alaska for halibut, and will be there this July.

I, as a recreational fisherman, am very concerned about the high level of bycatch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Brian

Brian Rapf  
310.600.3144  
[brian.rapf@gmail.com](mailto:brian.rapf@gmail.com)  
BRE: 01893721

Pritchett Rapf Realtors  
23732 Malibu Road  
Malibu CA 90265

**Subject:** C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final Action  
**From:** Randy Moseman <rlmoseman@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:41 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>  
**CC:** rick willis <rwillis33@hotmail.com>, ronnie moseman <elkhunters173@bresnan.net>, Brad Prindle <bjprindle74@gmail.com>, Linda <lmbrooks40@hotmail.com>, jessica willis <jwillis33@hotmail.com>, Mark Adams <mark.adams@rossbar.com>, Ryan Vidic <ryan33vidic@outlook.com>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Randy Moseman, I live in Anchorage, Alaska and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,  
Randal A. Moseman

**Subject:** Halibut Fishery in Alaska  
**From:** Dan Kirby Jr. <kirbmeisterr@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:43 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

### North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: **Dan Hull**, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Dan Kirby, I live in San Diego, CA and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the Pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,

Dan Kirby

San Diego, CA

**Subject:** C2-Bering Sea Halibut PS Final Action  
**From:** Bob Machale <bobmachale@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:45 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: **Dan Hull**, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Robert Machale, I live in San Diego County and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl bycatch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource in order to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. Bycatch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the halibut resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea bycatch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects the millions of juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Sincerely,

Robert Machale



**Subject:** RE: C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final Action  
**From:** Linda Moseman <lmbrooks40@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/27/2015 9:54 AM  
**To:** "npfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <npfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attention: Dan Hull, Chairman

RE: C2 – Bering Sea Halibut PSC Final action

My name is Linda Moseman, I live in Anchorage, Alaska and I fish (recreationally) in Alaska for halibut.

I as a recreational fisherman and I am very concerned about the high level of by catch of Halibut in the Bering Sea as described in your Final action item C2 - Bering Sea Halibut PSC.

We know that the Bering Sea has a huge population of juvenile halibut and that those halibut migrate from the Bering Sea to other areas throughout the range of the pacific halibut. Right now the trawl by catch is preventing millions of halibut from leaving the Bering Sea and repopulating other areas.

This practice must be curtailed immediately or rural communities will suffer and the future of halibut fishing all over the Pacific will continue to be threatened. These are unacceptable risks to most of the users of this iconic resource to the benefit of a small number of trawl vessel owners and crews. It is one thing to ask all users to conserve a resource, but it is quite another all together to ask most users to sacrifice and conserve the resource to benefit of a specific group of large factory trawlers. That is what is happening and it is not fair or equitable. By Catch not only needs to be reduced and then linked to abundance, so all users can share in the sacrifice and in the benefits of a healthy resource.

Please show Alaskans you care about the communities and the resource and take significant action to reduce Bering Sea By Catch of halibut to a level that provides opportunity for the rest of us and protects millions juvenile halibut from being caught and discarded.

Thanks,  
Linda Moseman