George C-2 Hutchings

Americans for Equal Access would like to formally petition the North Pacific Fisheries management council to re visit the comprehensive economic data collective committee appointed to action in December of 2007 updated in 2009. AFEA would like to see emphasis place on developing E.D.R report for the pros and cons of the Gulf of Alaska rockfish program.

Thank you Americans for Equal access President George Hutchings

Appointed: 3/07 Becca Robbins Gisclair

> John Gruver Karl Haflinger Jennifer Hooper

Stephanie Madsen (Co-chair)

Eric Olson (Co-chair)

Paul Peyton Mike Smith

Staff: Diana Stram

Vincent Webster (BOF)

## Comprehensive Economic Data Collection Committee

Appointed: 12/07 Bruce Berg Updated: 2/09 Michael Catsi Dave Colpo Paula Cullenberg

Staff: Sam Cunningham John Henderschedt (Chair) **Brett Reasor** Glenn Reed Ed Richardson Mike Szymanski Gale Vick

## **Charter Management Implementation Committee**

Appointed: 6/11 Staff: Jane DiCosimo	Seth Bone Ed Dersham (Chair) Ken Dole Daniel Donich Kent Huff	Stan Malcolm Andy Mezirow Richard Yamada Steve Zernia
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## **Crab Interim Action Committee**

[Required under BSAI Crab FMP]

Jim Balsiger, NMFS Cora Campbell, ADF&G Phil Anderson, WDF

## **Ecosystem Committee**

Updated: 10/07	Jim Ayers	Jon Kurland
	Dave Benton	Stephanie Madsen
Status: Active	Doug DeMaster	Tim Towarak
	Dave Fluharty	Bill Tweit (Chair)
Staff: Diana Evans	John Iani	

AFEA motion to address trawl by catch in gulf of Alaska

We at AFEA, ask the council to include in the considerations of said solutions for central gulf trawl by catch the approach of the proven gulf of Alaska rockfish program.

This program has been in effect since 2007. It has a proven record of drastically reducing by catch of PSC in the rock fish fishery and bringing stability to both. Vessels, Processers, Crews and Communities. It may need to be tweaked to meet all the goals and objectives outlined in states newest motion, council discussion paper that was released in March of 2014.

However we believe the program (rockfish) has the best potential of bringing about the ways and means for trawlers to reduce by catch of PSC and help reduce the discards of other non- target species while engaging in the trawl fisheries, bring stability to fishery, community, combat consolidation, allow for new entry.

The state of Alaska should be able to allow this same program to run in the parallel state water fisheries, as it would mainly only effect Pollock trawl fisheries, as most of cod is non pelagic and illegal in most state waters.

the united states of America citizen would continue to have ownership, there would be no false wealth created by quota that may go down in the future such as what has happened in the ifq fishery as well as scallops, crab.

I would like to say that we could simply remove the name rockfish, replace it with Pollock, cod and dust it off and give trawlers the tools that they need. The trawlers voluntarily are operating in a system very close to the rock fish program now in the Pollock fishery. The main difference instead of history to a lot quota it is based on capacity, PSC quota is then allotted per number of total pounds vessel has been allotted. The only limit on who can participate is the right licensing, as of this time there are no state water vessels whom don't have LLPS or federal fish permits participating, however if a vessel so desired to enter the fishery this way he would not be excluded in the voluntary catch share program.

In a history based program you may need to set aside quota each year for new entry, if that quota is not taken by new entry vessels then it could be released in the 4th quarter to qualifying vessels. Also it goes without saying 100% observer requirement would be required to participate in both federal or state areas in said trawl fisheries

Vessels would not be able to sell their shares as they do not own them vessels whom do not fish their own quota would be able to lease them to the other vessels in their coops.

I realize this is different from our original IBQ only, plan ,as well as the plan we asked you to consider in June 2013 reason being we saw that it was not accomplishable standing alone as a PSC quota, without the TAC as well as the secondary targets quota there is still a huge discard of fish in non-target species. If the secondary's are not added.

There would be no need of redistribution of wealth thru a CFA program, or highly disliked processer shares. Thru coops the processor and all local communities would be protected.

I realize industry workshop plan is very close to this but there are huge differences. If the idea we have put forward is considered in the solutions, options for this discussion paper we would then ad what we feel is needed to make this a doable program. We believe this approach is the commonsense solution as it has a proven record.

Thank you sincerely AFEA President George Hutchings