

Thursday, November 04, 2010

Dear Council Members,

My name is Brent Paylor and I am a commercial fisherman. I started fishing at the age of 17 onboard the Arctic Trawler in 1983. I worked very hard and by 1991 was operating the Seattle Enterprise a 270 foot Pollock Factory Trawler. I have since operated three Factory Trawlers and today am the Captain of the Island Enterprise, a 304 foot vessel, which also targets Pollock.

I am not as salty as some of the old guard, but 20 yrs of chasing Pollock on Factory Trawlers certainly warrants a voice in this process and I thank all of you for taking the time to listen to what I have to say.

THE POLLOCK FISHERY IS ON ITS KNEES.

I have listened to Dr. Ianelli on numerous occasions as well as his predecessors. I do not have a Phd but I do understand the majority of the science that goes into the model. I find it extremely complicated, but trust that our science community at NMFS has learned from the failures in other fisheries around the world.

The model that is being used to calculate the Pollock biomass is an amazing mathematical feat; taking in to count many factors such as backscatter, spawning biomass and other variables, however, it does not factor in common sense nor does it have the ability to listen to the fisherman, the people who spend half of their lives trying to locate schools of Pollock.

I find it extremely risky and dangerous for the council to authorize a dramatic increase in the quota based on the 2006 yr class. I would hope that your common sense would prevail. Lets wait for some more data to come back before we jump the gun, the stakes are too high. Let's see if the 2008 yr class materializes. What is the hurry?

Some of my colleagues that work for other companies will tell you that the fish are plentiful, that the stocks are improving. That the council should ratchet up the quota, this is not their sentiment on the fishing grounds. They are being short sighted and driven by their balance sheets and debt.

In closing I would ask that you factor in common sense to the matrix and that you really take a long hard look at what is at stake here. If the science is inaccurate and the stocks are still declining, the next few years could be the final dagger. If the science is accurate then we will be able to capitalize on your good judgment for yrs to come.

Thank You



PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: _____

C-7(a) BSAT Catch Specifications

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:
1	Kenny Down	PZZ
2	Stephanie Macken	NPA / UCB
3	Lori Swanson	GFF
4	Todd Loomis	Cascade Fishing
5	Mark Gleason	Ocean Peace
6	Susan Robinson	fishermen's forest
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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