

Oystein Lone
Owner/Operator
F/V Pacific Sounder
F/V Confidence

January 28, 2022

Mr. Simon Kinneen, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
1007 West Third, Suite 400
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Chairman and members of the council,
My name is Oystein Lone and I am an active owner/captain in the Bering Sea crab fishing industry. I began fishing in 1983 and have been actively fishing since that time. I purchased my first crab vessel, the Pacific Sounder in 2011 and the Confidence in 2022

With the downturn and shutdown of Bering Sea crab, the cod fishing 60 ft and over has become more and more important for our survival until crab stocks return to a healthy level.

that being said i have a real problem with our B season being cut in half and moved out to the Aleutian Islands where we can't fish any of this quota, but other sectors can take advantage of this. While we are sidelined and other sectors catch our cod, this is totally unfair. I have put out some recommendations at last meetings and that was for our quota to just be added to our A season where we open May 1st and fish our B season then. Reason i set May 1st is most of us tender for salmon in June July and August so we would not be able to fish during that time, and tendering for salmon is vital for our survival as well. I understand there is an issue with the steeler Sea lions that prevent us from fishing in May from what i hear.

that being said maybe the solution is to get a working group together and find a solution on this before our next B season of cod. if we don't do anything we will suffer same disaster as last year.
regards, Oystein Lone