



Chairman Simon Kinneen
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

November 12, 2020

Dear Chairman Kinneen,

The Ounalashka Corporation submits this letter in strong support of UNFA's efforts at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to preserve our community's small boat fishing opportunity in Bering Sea cod fisheries.

The Ounalashka Corporation is the Alaska Native Village Corporation for Unalaska established under The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1973. Our mission is to provide opportunities for our shareholders, thereby strengthening Unangan culture. Fishing, especially cod fishing, is and has been core to Unangan culture. Our people have been fishing Bering Sea cod for thousands of years.

We understand the Council is currently considering changes to the BGSAL Pacific cod Trawl CV management program, and these changes will impact other fishing sectors, including Unalaska's small local boats that represent the continuation of our people's rich history of harvesting cod in these waters. We are concerned about the future of Unalaska's small boat fleet that has in recent years suffered a loss of viable fishery access in the Under 60 sector that equates to a loss of culture and opportunity to make a living in Unalaska.

We strongly support UNFA's request to the Council to include analysis of a community allocation as a community protection measure in the BSAI Trawl CV LAP Program. We appreciated the Council's serious consideration of this request given the many challenges and uncertainties facing local vessels today. We envision a future for our community that includes opportunity for our residents to become cod fishermen, and we recognize the essential role the Council plays in helping to create that future.

We thank the Council for their continued efforts in ensuring sustainable fisheries and communities in the Bering Sea, especially in these unprecedented times.

Thank you again for your time and efforts on this issue.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salts, Chief Executive Officer
The Ounalashka Corporation



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