PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: D3 AI Community

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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Ac	

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.

D3 ACDC Dec. 2019 meeting

Outlines of a "Political Settlement" of A113 Case

The Commissioner's letter of June 7th to ACDC stated:

"It is clear that enactment of <u>federal legislation is the only method currently available</u> to ensure that Aleutian Islands trawl catcher vessels, processing plants, and communities have an opportunity to sustain participation in the Pacific cod fishery until regulations can be developed by the NPFMC and implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service."

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The Plaintiffs want continued prioritization of a comprehensive rationalization of the BSAI CV trawl cod fishery. The Plaintiffs maintain that Aleutian Island community and shorebased processing issues are best addressed in the comprehensive package.

Under the status quo it is likely that the A season CV trawl cod apportionment will be taken entirely in the BS, before the AI CV trawl fishery gets underway in mid-February. A complete preemption of the AI shorebased participation in the CV trawl cod fishery is inconsistent with the many statements made by Council members over the last several meetings.

The Plaintiffs maintain that 5,000 mt set-aside is un-acceptable given the reduced the BSAI CV trawl sector cod allocation for 2020 and the projection for 2021.

There was an expectation that a stand down of the BS fleet could be organized to prevent a complete preemption of the AI CV trawl cod fishery, voluntarily setting aside some amount between 0 and 5000 mt. No one believes that is possible at this point.

ACDC has sought temporary interim relief in the form of reinstatement of the regulations by the court for the 2020 season coupled with expedited analysis of a new analysis of alternatives based on the A113 structure, or through legislation which would sunset upon implementation of new regulations by NMFS.

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The Quid Pro Quo

A political settlement to cover the interim would clear the path to focus staff time on a comprehensive approach to BSAI cod issues, it requires the Plaintiffs' support of either legislation or relief from the vacatur of 113, or some combination thereof. It also requires that GHAS agrees to a 'Reverse Stand Down' under which they would cease buying CV trawl A season cod at some amount less than 5000 tons (referenced to the changes in the combined BSAI ITACs).