

STATE OF ALASKA

Agenda Item #7, Dec. 1977
JAY S. HAMMORD, GOVERNOR

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION

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November 22, 1977

Mr. Harold Lokken, Chairman
c/o Jim Branson, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management
Council
P.O. Box 3136 DT
Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Harold:

Please advise the members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, its Scientific and Statistical Committee, and its Advisory Panel that the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission is preparing a set of revisions to Alaska's limited entry law for introduction shortly after the State Legislature convenes in January of 1978.

The purpose of these amendments is to provide greater flexibility in the State statutes for devising the most appropriate limited entry systems for fisheries such as shellfish that may require a significantly different approach than that used with the salmon and herring fisheries currently under entry limitation. Action by the 1978 session of the Alaska Legislature is necessary so that the State may be able to provide the most timely and effective response to indicate needs for entry limitation.

The Commission believes that this legislation is also necessary to coordinate our efforts more effectively with any by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to limit entry in fisheries occurring primarily in the Fishery Conservation Zone. We want to be certain that the State is in a position to act in a timely manner so that single, integrated limited entry systems may be developed in partnership with the Federal government. In addition, fisheries under state jurisdiction such as the salmon hand troll fishery may contain unique characteristics that call for the use of limited entry methods different from those possible with the present law.

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The Commission has contacted a number of organizations and individuals in order to draw upon a broad base of knowledge in formulating limited entry options. We would appreciate whatever degree of participation, formal or informal, might be appropriate by the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee, the Advisory Panel, or individual members, in bringing the widest range of experience and expertise to bear on this project.

Generally, we are seeking, as soon as possible, a preliminary statement of what are believed to be relevant considerations and relationships that we should be aware of while drafting. We plan to circulate a draft or drafts back for review and comment as time allows.

Specifically, we have requested thoughts and comments on any of the following, along with other related issues that come to mind:

- Permits to vessels
- Permits for multiple areas
- Permits for multiple species
- Ways to allow or encourage diversification
- Restrictions on permits (transferable or not; certain areas, species; only to another vessel of the same size, etc.)
- Ranking standards to determine who receives a permit, or who receives what kind of permit (number of landings, pounds landed, value of catch, areas fished, vessel length, capability of diversification, investment participation, etc.)
- Treatment of vessels under construction
- Effect on participants in the Vessel Capital Construction Fund
- Provisions to handle significant long-term changes in a fishery or complex of fisheries (technological innovations, stock size(s), economics, etc.)

The Commission looks forward to working jointly with the Council in the development of management plans wherever our


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participation is appropriate, whether on matters of limited entry or in other areas where we have data and expertise deriving from our work in limited entry.

Sincerely,



Allan Adasiak
Chairman