



F31/DL

NOV 23 1977

Mr. Neil Sandvik
Deep Sea Fishermen's Union
of the Pacific
5215 Ballard Avenue, N.W.
Seattle, Washington 98107

Dear Mr. Sandvik:

This is in response to your telegram of November 15, 1977, to Secretary Kreps concerning the possibility of access by Japanese longliners to an area (157°W to 163°W shallower than 500 meters) in the Gulf of Alaska.

The "decision" to which you refer is a proposal contained in the fishery management plan prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery. This plan is now under review by the Department of Commerce as required by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

Thank you for taking the time to express your concern. We will consider your comment in reviewing the plan.

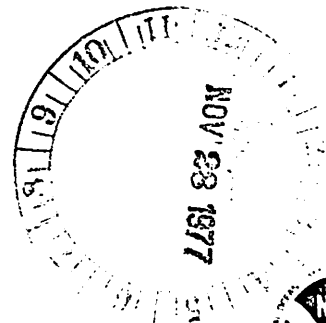
Sincerely,

for David H. Wallace
Acting Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

cc: A, Ax2, Secy, GC, ExSec(2), F, F3(2), F31(2), Fx31
FAK and NPFMC w/incoming

F31:NMFS:DLEEDY:47454:11/21/77:bv

CONTROL NO: 172782



NPFMC

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PMS SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, JUANITA KREPS

WASHINGTON DC 20235

WE ARE EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED AT THE DECISION TO ALLOW JAPANESE
LONGLINES UNLIMITED ACCESS TO FISHING COD FROM 157 DEGREES WEST TO
163 SHALLOWER THAN 500 METERS WE WOULD HOPE THAT THIS DECISION CAN
BE CHANGED TO ALLOW AT LEAST A CLOSURE DURING THE HALIBUT SEASON
DEEP SEA FISHERMANS UNION OF THE PACIFIC, NEIL SANDVIK

NNNN

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

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