

HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH IFQ PROGRAM  
AMENDMENT PROPOSAL  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Fax: (907) 271-2817

Name of Proposer: Michael Douville Date: 3/31/06  
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Brief Statement of Proposal:

To allow for the use of pots in the Gulf of Alaska southeast sablefish/blackcod fishery.

Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?):

Provide fishermen an alternative type of gear to longline.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?):

This proposal can address several problems which the Council is working on:

- a) sea bird by-catch
- b) interaction with whales

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses?):

There will be no negative impact on anyone. As an allowable gear type, fishermen could chose to use pots, but would not be required to invest, if they are happy with long line gear.

However, the use of pots could lead to a decline in bird by-catch, including albatross, and a decrease in fishing gear/whale activity. By catch of rock fish would also be reduced, less bait and man hours to catch the same amount of fish

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem?

It is an excellent solution, because it provides a gear alternate opportunity for fishermen, and can lead to reductions in by-catch or unwanted marine mammal interaction.

The use of bird deterrent lines are cumbersome and unnecessary for many areas in Southeast Alaska. Research has demonstrated that whales will continue to take fish from longline gear.

Supportive Data and Other Information (What data are available and where can they be found?):

List of supportive data will follow

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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# PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: D-1(c) Research Priorities

	<b>NAME (PLEASE PRINT)</b>	<b>TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:</b>
1	Michelle Ridgway	AK Deep Ocean Science Institute
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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 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.