

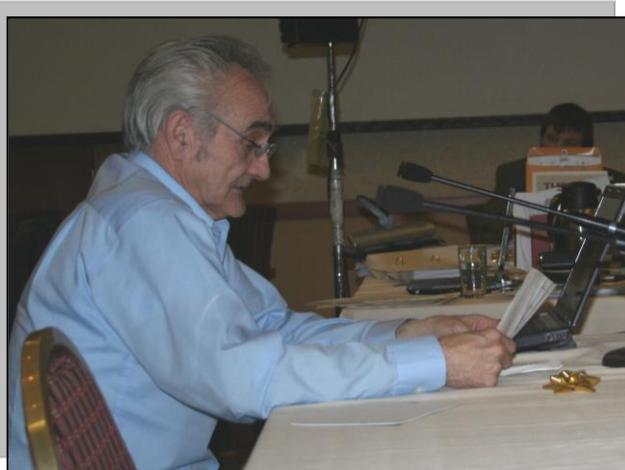


Fish News

Dec. 11, 2009

NPFMC Hears Testimony on P. Cod Sector Split Motion

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council listened to testimony on the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod sector allocation motion this week (Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009). Testimony wrapped up this morning (Friday, Dec. 11, 2009). Several fishermen, elected officials and administrators representing the Aleutians East Borough and its communities testified in front of the council on the sector split motion. They include AEB Mayor Stanley Mack, Dick Jacobsen of Sand Point, Raymond Nutt of Sand Point, Robin Larsen of Sand Point and King Cove City Administrator Gary Hennigh.



AEB Mayor Stanley Mack requested that the council provide the maximum allocation of Pacific cod to sectors that deliver fish to local communities and support the economies of fishing communities.

The proposal would divide P. cod among the different sectors, which include pot boats, trawlers, jiggers and longliners, to provide some stability to the participants.

AEB Mayor Mack told the council that if the council decides to allocate a large percentage of the P. cod total allowable catch to at-sea processing

sectors, the Borough's communities don't stand a chance.

“The fish caught and processed at-sea provide few or no opportunities for local fishermen or processing workers,” said Mayor Mack. “They produce no local tax revenue for our Borough. The Aleutians East Borough is asking for what is fair and equitable.”

Mayor Mack told the council that the AEB Assembly recently passed a resolution calling for the maximum allocation of P. cod to sectors that deliver fish to local communities that employ local residents and support the economies of fishing communities.

“We believe this would meet the social objectives of the fishery management plan by providing economically viable fisheries for the well-being of our fishing-dependent communities,” Mack continued.

The Mayor also said if the council should decide to allow mothership operations, the Borough believes they should be limited to operations inside municipal boundaries, at no more than three locations in a calendar year and there should be a cap of the Total Allowable Catch. He said if the council should decide to allocate P. cod strictly on the basis of historical catch, the AEB requests that as much of the harvester allocation as possible be made available in the “A” season and as much of the catch processor allocation as possible should be deferred to the “B” season.

Sand Point fishermen Dick Jacobsen testified that the AEB communities are struggling, and school enrollment is declining. He asked the council to take the coastal communities

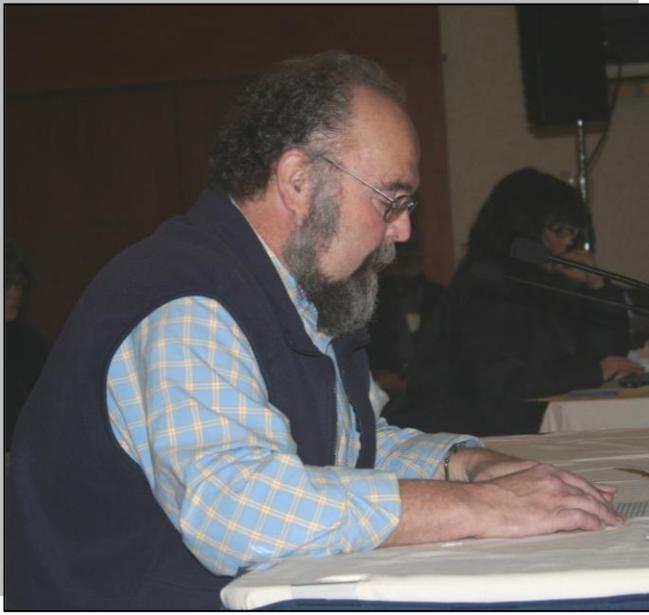


Sand Point fisherman Raymond Nutt encouraged the council to make a decision that's fair to pot fishermen.

into consideration when they make their decision on the sector allocation motion.

Sand Point fisherman Raymond Nutt told the council that there are about 12 pot boats in the community that take part in the fishery. He asked the council to look at the numbers and make it fair for pot fishermen during their deliberations.

Kenneth Mack, a pot cod fisherman from King Cove, asked the council to consider the most recent catch history years. In written testimony, he said he believes the 60/40 A & B season split is the best way to go.



King Cove City Administrator Gary Hennigh urged the council to be fair to King Cove and all of its local P. cod sectors.

King Cove City Administrator Gary Hennigh encouraged the council to be fair to King Cove and all of its local P. cod (pot and trawl) sectors. He also requested that the council provide the maximum P. cod allocation possible to the local vessels and sectors which deliver fish to Peter Pan Seafoods and provide employment to local residents. Furthermore, Hennigh asked the council to balance this allocation decision by keeping the economic sustainability of King Cove as a key component in its decisions.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is scheduled to take final action on the P. cod sector allocation motion this weekend. *Fish News* will provide details next week.

IPHC Staff Releases Preliminary Catch Limit Recommendations for 2010

This week, the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) staff released its catch limit recommendations for 2010. The overall limit of 48.7 million pounds is 10 percent lower than the 2009 limit. Area 3B is down 9.2 percent from the previous year. Area 2C (Southeast Alaska) could be gearing up for a 26 percent reduction. If the commission moves forward with the staff recommendations, it will be the second year in a row that the total has been whittled down by ten percent.

Regulatory Area	2009 Fishery Catch Limit	2010 IPHC Recommended Catch Fishery Limit
Area 2A	0.95	0.76

Area 2B	7.63	6.59
Area 2C	5.02	3.71
Area 3A	21.70	19.99
Area 3B	10.90	9.90
Area 4A	2.55	2.33
Area 4B	1.87	2.16
Area 4CDE	3.46	3.25
Total	54.08	48.70

The IPHC Commissioners and advisors will hear public and industry views on these recommendations during the IPHC Annual Meeting (January 26 - 29, 2010) in Seattle.

[Read more: IPHC Staff Preliminary Catch Limit Recommendations - 2010](#)

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