November 7, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

I am just reading about your bottom fishing ban in the Monterey Herald this morning. As a seafood consumer, friend of the ocean and those who make their livelihood from the ocean waters, I am compelled to write and express my disdain for your policies. I believe you are completely wrong in recommending the closure of the bottom fishing season with all the implications for people who depend on the sea for their food and income. To close, even for a short time, such an important resource to our nation is profoundly foolish and shortsighted.

When you close the seasons as you often recommend, it puts an extreme hardship on businesses and their employees. I for one will recommend to the National Marine Fisheries Service that they deny your request for the ban. I pray that many other citizens will join in recommending to the NMFS that they overrule your foolish ideas.

Sincerely Yours,

Christopher A. George
March 26, 2004

Dr. Don McIssac, Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Re: Agenda item C.10

Dear Don:

The staff of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) would like to offer its support for the adoption and use of selective flatfish trawls. These types of trawls have been designed to reduce the bycatch of certain rockfish species during flatfish fishing, but have also shown promising results in reducing halibut bycatch. Research by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on selective flatfish trawls has demonstrated significant reductions in bycatch of Pacific halibut: 29% lower on the shelf and 46% on the slope, while having only small impact on the target catch. Reductions in halibut bycatch will result in higher catch limits for treaty and nontreaty commercial halibut fishermen, and recreational halibut anglers. For these reasons, we encourage the Council to consider this type of trawl as it refines management measures for 2005 and beyond.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Bruce M. Leaman
Executive Director

cc: IPHC Commissioners
To: Fish & Game Commission  
Date: April 4, 2004
Subject: Rock Cod closure on the Central Coast, and Shoreline fisherman

While living in California for the past twenty-nine years, I have been a sport fisherman along the California central coast shoreline. I am having a hard time believing that your judgment is clear and that you understand this type of fishing. Closing Rock Cod fishing from the shore should have not been included in the new rules.

First let me say, the only time a person can safely fish along the Pacific Ocean shoreline (off the rocks) is when the swell permits it. For me, this means a four-foot swell or smaller, and this only occurs occasionally in the year. Anything bigger makes fishing difficult and unsafe. The swell size dictates fishing along the shoreline. During the winter months like December, January, February, plus the other weeks, and days of the year when the swells are too big making it too rough for fishing should be counted as the only closure time for shoreline fishing persons.

Working five days a week limits my fishing to weekends; that is, if the swell permits it, there can’t be very many of us doing this kind of fishing so there is little impact on fish.

My true experience as a shoreline fishing person gets only one or two fish, if they’re lucky in a few hours of fishing, and many times goes home without any fish at all. There are miles and miles of inaccessible shoreline by foot. In spring commercial fishermen in skiffs using long lines, and drop lines take all the adult fish in these areas by the summer.

As we know the commercial sport fishing boat owners lobby at F&G Commission meetings. They dictate to the F&G Department, and influence the months of closure that best suit them because of their business of sport fishing, and whale watching trips. When Party boats fish they catch their limits, and unfortunately kill unwanted small fish.

We don’t care about what the commercial sport fishing boat owners want or the months they chose for the closure, but they effect all of us that fish, and we also have rights. They would like to get all of us in their boats fishing. I have been fishing for the past fifty-five years, and don’t have the luxury of possessing a fishing boat.

The closure of shoreline fishing will not significantly affect Rock Cod numbers or reproduction rates. The F&G Department has taken away our rock cod fishing experience. Now we can’t fish for four months a year. I paid for a yearly fishing license, not eight months. In summer all the shoreline fish have been taken by commercial means.

We would like the Commission to allow shoreline Rock Cod fishing to continue as it did in past years. Give us back our fishing rights at the shoreline because it will not hurt the Rock Cod fish population. A man should be able to fish, and enjoy eating fresh food; besides that, fishing is good for our mental health. Please respond to this letter.

Respectfully,  
April 5, 04
Jim Lambert, 2098 Paralta Ave., Seaside Ca. 93955, Phone # 831-656-7745
To: Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Subject: Rock Cod closure on the Central Coast, and Shoreline fishing person.

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Respectfully, Name:  
Address: 2070 Military Ave, Seaside, CA  
Date: 4/10/04
To: Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Subject: Rock Cod closure on the Central Coast, and Shoreline fishing person.

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Respectfully, Name: [Signature]  
Address: 269 Reservation Rd, #207, Marina, Ca.  
Date: 4-7-04  
Zip: 93933
To: Fish & Game Commission  
Subject: Rock Cod closure on the Central Coast, and Shoreline fishing person.

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Respectfully, Name: BILL HANCOCK  
Address: 2075 MIRAMAR, CA, 93550  
Date: 4-6-04
To: Pacific Fishery Management Council
Subject: Rock Cod closure on the Central Coast, and Shoreline fishing person.

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Respectfully, Name: [Signature]
Address: 2055 Military St, CA 93453
Date: 4/6/04
To: Pacific Fishery Management Council
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Respectfully,

Name: Kurt Burghardt
Address: 1577 Funston Ave
Date: 4/19/09

CA 93950