June 3, 2010

Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place
Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384
David Ortmann, Chairman

Re: Agenda Item E.3 "HMS FMP management measures"

Dear Chairman Ortmann and Council members,

The Westport Charterboat Association represents approximately 30 charter vessels operating out of Westport, Washington. About 20 of these vessels engage in multiple-day trips for Albacore Tuna annually, July through mid-October. Albacore fishing comprises a substantial portion of the annual incomes of most of those vessels.

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Council that although we are not at this time ready to take a position on the specifics of an Albacore trip limit proposal being made by WDFW, however, we are in support of the process itself and will work with the Department for the duration of the management cycle.

Respectfully yours,

Westport Charterboat Association Board of Directors
Steve Westrick, President

Cc Linda Buell, HMSAS
Doug Fricke, HMSAS