

April 2010

Pacific Fishery Management Council Members

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200

Portland, Oregon 97220

In regards to: 2010 SALMON MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Dear Council Members,

I humbly request, or make a motion, to allow all West Coast Salmon Trollers to regain fishing for 3 major key reasons.

1. **Support sustainable fishing**- Salmon trolling is a sustainable fishing "gear type" and it should be clear that these fisheries do NOT pose a threat to the stocks of any salmon species, and theirfor should be allowed "full (open) access" to all salmon species with no boundaries or closers all up & down the coast equally. Fishermen should be allowed to move freely with the fish. This will also keep vessels spread out, as to fish close to their home ports and avoid going over MSY. I ask the council to request to the NMFS for grants to be given, ASAP, to the different salmon troll associations for undergoing MSC (or the equivalent of) certification as to show scientific proof of this already well known fact of sustainability.
2. **Obtaining true (real) MSY**- To acquire true MSY, the "S" in "MSY" must represent a fishery using a sustainable "gear type" such as trolling. MSY will then become the maximum vessels, or hooks, in any given area where there is fish. For example 12 vessels tacking (taking fish) in a given area, yielding 50 fish per vessel, per day. The following day 12 more vessels move into the given area and the catch rate drops to 10 fish per vessel per day. The "code of conduct" will then come into play and excess vessels will move out of the area to look for a more productive area. If only 4 boats stayed in the given area, the next day's yield (MSY) may go up to 100 fish per vessel per day. Please keep in mind, if the fish feel too much pressure, they simply stop biting, move off, or get smart. There is never overfishing in a sustainable fishery. Always fish on the sounder when vessels move off.
3. **Collecting complete and accurate data for stock assessments**- without a sustainable fishery in practice, we cannot conduct a true assessment on stocks. Incomplete data, or

simulated moduals coming from other unsustainable means such as reports from trawl vessels may help assessments, but the closest "true" data will only come from the most sustainable "gear type". There must be little to no disguards. Nothing dead goes overboard. This too is a golden rule, "law of the sea", or code of conduct, if you did not know. With 100% input & no waist or unaccountability, we should have accurate, up to date data for assessments.

In conclusion, only healthy stocks will be harvested. If the stocks are not healthy, it is not because of "overfishing" by trollers. It would be from mismanagement, or some other source. I humbly request the council to ask the NMFS to reword there salmon stock classification to reflect this. Salmon can no way be overfished if fishing is not in effect.

Please let our salmon trollers bring fresh, "wild caught", salmon back to our coast, creating jobs and helping our economy, instead of costing more tax payer money we don't have. Let us fish sustainably & responsibly.

Thank you for your time & consideration,

Sincerely, John Harder (John-boy)

F/v "Ocean Joy"

California sustainable tuna fisherman

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