

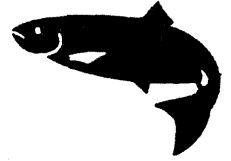
HUMBOLDT FISHERMEN'S MARKETING ASSOCIATION, INC.



(707) 443-0537

216 H Street
Eureka, California 95501

FAX (707) 443-1724



April 12, 2000

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Chairman Lone,

Our organization, Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association (HFMA) recently received notice that the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team is holding a video conference on the west coast. This notice along with other sporadic information which our membership has accessed has prompted this letter. Please be advised that our port has a long history in the Albacore Tuna fishery. Many, if not most, of our 100 vessel membership are traditional participants in the California coastal tuna fishery.

Although we recognize that the team is just gathering information at this time, we are deeply concerned that our fishermen may not be included in this planning effort. In addition, there are rumors circulating that the PFMC and the National Marine Fisheries Service are considering control dates for past Albacore landings that *do not* reflect historical participation or regional economic importance. Even though this management plan is in its infancy, there are several points that need to be emphasized.

Any fishery management plan proposal should include input from traditional albacore fishermen....the people who fish for tuna from smaller boats when the fish venture into the near shore 10-100 mile zone.

Because of the special economic importance to individual fishermen and rural coastal communities, meetings and/or hearings should be held in areas where affected parties can attend. With a fishery as significant as Albacore, locations such as Portland, Long Beach and Seattle are not adequate. Expanded outreach and public participation is most certainly appropriate and warranted.

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Please keep these comments in mind as you explore this management plan.

We appreciate your time and look forward to our participation.

Sincerely,



Paul Pellegrini,
President
Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association

cc: Congressman Mike Thompson
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
CA Senator Wes Chesbro
Assemblywoman Virginia Strom Martin
Robert Hight, CA Dept. of Fish & Game

PP/jl pfmc4-00

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2000

FILE
EMM.COM

PFGC

42 Maple Av.
Hillsdale, NJ 07642
7 May, 2000

The Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S.W. 5th Av.
Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the barbaric practices involved in the killing and maiming of sharks, whether for sport, shark fin soup or other food, etc.. I am against the killing or harming of any animal for any reason and I would like to ask you to do whatever it takes to help these particular creatures at this time. Also, I would like to send copies of this letter to any other similar organization to yours (for instance, is there an Atlantic Ocean counterpart?) and to any politician in this country or in other countries who are in a position to help, I would appreciate it if you could provide any names or addresses in this regard. Thanks very much!

Sincerely,

Pamela Fletcher Sturt

Pamela Fletcher Sturt
42 Maple Av.
Hillsdale, NJ 07642

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

CHAIRMAN
Jim Lone

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Donald O. McIsaac

Telephone: (503) 326-6352
Fax: (503) 326-6831
www.pcouncil.org

May 17, 2000

Ms. Pamela Fletcher Sturt
42 Maple Avenue
Hillsdale, NJ 07642

Dear Ms. Fletcher Sturt:

Thank you for your letter dated May 7, 2000 regarding sharks. I will make sure the members of the Pacific Fishery Management Council receive a copy. Public input is a very important part of the Regional Council decision-making process. This process, which was established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provides a unique opportunity for individuals like you to have a voice in the management of our nation's fishery resources.

In your letter you requested information about other fishery-related organizations. I suggest the best place to start would be with the National Marine Fisheries Service (also known as NMFS, which is part of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration or NOAA). NMFS is the federal agency charged with conservation and management of the living marine resources of the United States. If you have access to the Internet via the "world wide web," I suggest you visit the NMFS website at:

[<http://www.nmfs.gov/>]

The NMFS website contains a wealth of general information and a good bit of material specifically about sharks. This website also contains links to each of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils:

[<http://www.nmfs.gov/councils/>]

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can contact NMFS at this address:

Ms. Penelope Dalton, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
NOAA Fisheries Headquarters
1315 East-West Highway SSMC3
Silver Spring, MD 20910

For Congressional information about sharks and other fishes, I suggest you visit both of these websites.

The U.S. Senate Commerce Committee, Subcommittee for Oceans and Fisheries:

[<http://www.senate.gov/~commerce/issues/ocfish.htm>]

Ms. Pamela Fletcher Sturt
May 17, 2000
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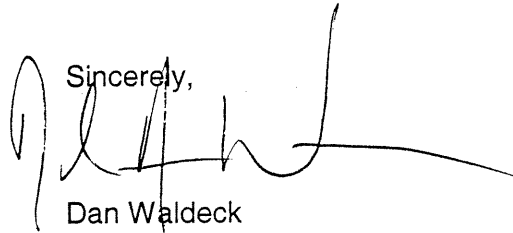
The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries
Conservation, Wildlife & Oceans:

[<http://www.house.gov/resources/fisheries/>]

If you do not have access to the Internet, I suggest you contact your local Congressional
representatives, they are usually listed in the telephone book.

Thank you again for your letter. I hope the information I have provided will be helpful for
learning more about our nation's living marine resources and how you can be a part of the
management process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Waldeck', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan Waldeck
Fishery Management Analyst

DAW:rdh

**International Underwater Spearfishing Association
Post Office Box 1533
Beverly Hills, Ca. 90213**

June 3, 2000

Mr. Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave. #224
Portland, OR 97201

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JUN 05 2000

PFMC

Regards: Spearfishing, Method of Take

Dear Mr. McIsaac:

Since the inception of spearfishing in California in the 1930's, freedive spearfishers have targeted not only the local reef species, but pelagic species such as white sea bass, yellowtail, barracuda, bonito, etc. For many years "bluewater" spearfishing consisted of freedivers (breathhold spearfishers) pursuing these coastal migratory species.

Within the past twenty years, with equipment improvement and modification, divers have learned to build and rig spearguns allowing them to stalk, spear and land species never before considered possible. Bluewater diving has now extended truly into bluewater in the pursuit of the tunas. To date, in California, bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna and albacore have all been taken by the method of spearfishing. This is not a common occurrence nor an easy task, but one which has evolved over the years and is now one of the more eagerly pursued facets by spearfishers.

Now that the Pacific Fishery Management Council is in the process of rewriting its Fishery Management Plan, I want to point out to the Council and make it aware that freedive spearfishers are a part of the fishing community which pursues these highly migratory species (HMS). So when regulations to implement the Pacific Fishery Management Plan are finalized, it is important to this community that freedive spearfishing by the method of muscle powered spearguns is included as a means of take for these highly migratory species. Southern California and southern California's freedive

spearfishers have been on the cutting edge of this activity and it is important that they not be excluded by accidental omission

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Locky Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Locky Brown
Director

CC: Peter Flournoy
Michael Domeier
Donald Hansen
Steve Crooke
Jim Lone
Robert Fletcher
Marija Vojkovich