

Exhibit G.3
Public Comment
September 2000

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AUG 3 2000

PFMC

Kenyon Hensel
871 Elk Valley rd
Crescent City CA.
95531
707 465 6857

To Bill Robinson, National Marine Fishery Service,

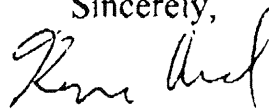
I am writing this letter to request an Exempted Fishing Permit to land Yellowtail rockfish in excess of my open access monthly allotment of 100lbs. I would like to be able to land up to 1000lbs during the monthly periods of September and October. I would be carrying a fish and game biologist who would document my total catch to collect data on the effectiveness of my vertical hook and line gear to avoid canary rockfish. I would discontinue my fishing effort when my limit of 50lbs of canary rockfish for the month was caught, or when I land 1000lbs of yellowtail rockfish for the month. Under no circumstances would I discard any catch to continue this study.

The yellowtail I catch above my limit, I need to retain to cover the costs of running the greater distances to conduct this study. If I catch these fish only to hand them over to the state fisheries, I would not be able to put out the time or money in fuel to make these observations. If the Council is serious about getting fishermen to help gather data, or even to help quantify science, then the council needs to commit its self to helping the fishermen to do so. It is not a great precedent to set to allow me to land a single metric ton of fish, when I am offering to increase science and contribute to the diversity of the fisheries.

If my period quotas were not cut so severely, I would be able to offer this service free, as I routinely caught the blues and widows that live with the yellowtails in the deeper water. I am offering to use my other species in conjunction with this study, so that I can retain all the fish I catch in this effort.

I hope the council and N.M.F.S. will consider this proposal during the September meeting. I am sorry that the time is short for these important decisions, but my time on the water is diminishing as I try to find some way to stay in this business. I hope to make some contribution to the fisheries if I can. I just need a little timely help from the council to do so.

Sincerely,



Kenyon Hensel

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AUG 8 2000

PFMC

Kenyon Hensel
871 Elk Valley rd
Crescent City, CA.
95531

To The P.F.M.C.,

As I stated at the last council meeting, we few fisherman who have fished through the 94 formation of the fixed gear and closed access hook and line sectors with vertical fishing gear, were exempted from the license process. We who are still fishing need a permit and fish quota that reflects our unique fishing method.

This year's reallocation of near shore fish to redirect the long line fleet into the near shore fishery is leaving a large portion of fish species that are found in the upper water column uncaught. These black and blue, widow, and yellowtail rockfish, made up 90% of the vertical line fishermen's catch. The council's reduction of these fish in the open access has driven the vertical line fishermen to ruin.

I am petitioning the council to raise the limits on these fish to the vertical line fishermen. Our gear meets all of the criteria set out in the new strategic plan. I can fish for these suspended fish without touching the bottom or drifting off of the high points, allowing me to fish without significant Canary by catch. If the council is serious about no by catch, and gear that does not interfere with the bottom, then vertical line gear and the people who already know how to fish it should be saved.

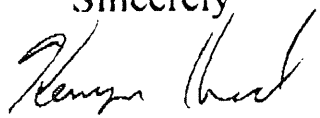
To this end I am asking for a fishery exempt permit from the National Marine fisheries to allow me to take and retain 1000lbs of yellowtail rockfish in the months of Sep, Oct, and Nov. I would also recommend that the council allow J. Larry Moore of Bodega bay to do the same. That retention would allow the two of us to take local Fish and Game observers from our port biologist's staff out to document our ability to catch these this fish mixture without catching Canary rockfish. The small amount of yellowtail we are allowed in open access only allows us to fish these mixed schools

for an hour until discarding yellowtail. An hour is not much time per month to generate any kind of meaningful data.

I am aware that N.M.F.S. does not like to allow the fish that are taken under the E.F.P. to be retained by the fishermen. The drastic financial situation we have been put in by our reduced quotas, mean that I cannot even afford the fuel or time to do this study if I must give up the fish.

If the fish cannot be retained, I will try to gather whatever data on my own, and hope it will be enough to help the council to open up these species of fish to vertical line fishermen. Other wise I see few options to last me through the implication of the new strategic plan, where I know the vertical gear I now use will become the gear of choice for many fishermen. Many with A permits will change over to it, and prosecute their fish with little or no by catch. I learned this lesson 15 years ago, and refined a fishing process to allow me to make the most with the least. Don't make it my reward to watch from shore as this lesson is learned again.

Sincerely



Kenyon Hensel