

SKIPANON BRAND  
OF  
OREGON OCEAN SEAFOODS  
225 S.E. GALENA  
WARRENTON, OR 97146

Exhibit C.9.e  
Public Comment  
June 2001

May 3, 2001

Peter Leipzig, Executive Director  
Fishermen's Marketing Association  
320 Second Street, Suite 2B  
Eureka, CA 95501

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MAY 7 2001

Dear Sir:

PFMC

My wife and I own a 50' drag boat which I fished for twenty years near the mouth of the Columbia River. My son has been fishing it the past three years.

My son tells me most of the local small beach draggers do not want to sell out; they would just like to be allowed to catch more of the species that are abundant.

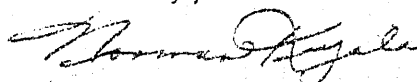
I am vehemently opposed to any buy-back program whereby the fishermen that want to continue fishing have to pay for any part of the buy-back. I can't think of any resource-related industry in recent years whose businesses have shut down, and those continuing in business have had to pay those that closed their doors. For example, many saw-mills, logging companies, and associated businesses have shut down, but Willamette Industries, for instance, has not been paying them to quit logging or quit making lumber.

Around twenty years ago the National Marine Fisheries was encouraging increased harvesting of ocean species with the Capital Construction Fund. When a fisherman had a good year, instead of paying income taxes, he could save money to build a bigger boat. This increased the size of the fleet, with some owners having two or three big boats.

Now the NMFS has reversed itself, and wants the fishermen that will continue fishing to pay for those that quit. Further, under the Endangered Species Act, those that remain fishing will still be tightly restricted in catch, even of abundant species. Similarly, the Columbia River Gillnetters were allowed only a tiny fraction of the record-breaking spring run of Chinook this year because so-called "wild runs" are threatened.

We urge you to support commercial fishermen with opportunity to fish, and with freedom from additional burden of a buy-back program.

Sincerely,



Norman F. Kujala

c: Mr. Dan Waldeck  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
2130 SW 5th Av, Ste 224  
Portland OR 97201



Mr. Don McIsaac, Executive Director  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224  
Portland, Or 97201

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MAY 07 2001

PFAAC

This letter is about Rockfish management and the tension that is building between commercial and recreational fisherman.

going back about 30 years, I remember when Rock fish were plentiful. There was not much of a market for Rockfish, commercial, recreational pressure were at low levels.

The first blow to the Rockfish population were the Russian factory trawlers dragging nets that were miles long, working Cordell banks, Farralon Islands and the Deep Reef off of Half Moon bay. the damage to the resource was hard to ignore. Large schools of Widow rock fish, Yellow tail rock fish took the biggest hit, Not to mention Salmon, Halibut and Pacific whiting. Local fisherman were outraged. Shortly after this event the 200 mile limit was put in to place.

The second blow to the rock cod fishery were the mid water trawlers that were built for the Pacific whiting and the pollock fisheries. Your average mid water trawler was 80 to 150 feet in length and had state of the art sonar systems making these vessels very effective fishing machines.

the owners of these vessels had big boat payments to make and the market for Pacific whiting and Pollock had yet been developed, Rock fish became the target for this fleet and the damage was wide spread, There was so much rock fish being off loaded by mid water trawlers that it drove down the price of hook and line rock fish to new lows.

The third blow to the rock fish population was a byproduct of the Viet Nam war. Hundreds of thousands of south Vietnamese fled to the U.S.A. for political protection. Low interest government loans were given out to help these people get started in the U.S. and a new fleet was developed using Gill nets. Gill nets were fished with out discretion, in San Francisco bay, along the coast and offshore. Many of these landings going unrecorded by the California department of fish and game. Spots where we have fished rockfish for years were wiped out.

Recreational fisherman have also had their share of impact on rock fish, from 1970 to 1985 out of Half Moon bay, San Francisco bay and Bodega bay, There were 15 to 20 rock fish charter boats, Fishing year round weather permitting. Rock cod fishing at that time was incredible along the coast and off shore. We had no idea how slow these fish grew and we thought the supply of fish would never run out.

As a result of aggressive cut backs in the bag limit and loss of time on the water there are now only 2 or 3 full time rock fish charter vessels left and if the trend continues with more cut backs to come there days are numbered.

Open access hook and line rockfish has also been hard hit, Reduced from no quota to 500 lbs, per month and loss of time on the water forcing fisherman to target shallow water live rockfish in order to make a living. Many fisherman that fished rockfish for decades have moved on to other fisheries in order to survive.

Are problem now is how to rebuild the rockfish population with out shutting down or impact opportunity in other sustainable fisheries. Right now there is a big push for the implementation of Marine Reserves or Marine Protected Areas. The organizations behind this movement are the National Resource Defense Council or N.R.D.C. and the Environmental Defense Fund or E.F.D. A Marine Reserve would be a no take zone and once in place it will stay for ever. Areas proposed for Marine Reserves would be the Channel Islands, Cordell banks, Bolinas, Dubble point, just to name a few.

The N.R.D.C. was going to sue the Pacific Fishery Management Council or P.F.M.C. if an emergency rockfish rebuilding plan was not implemented right away. Since then aggressive cut back have been put in place for both recreational and commercial fisherman with more cut backs to come.

In my letter to Jim Lone who at the time was chairman of the P.F.M.C. I stated that because of the impact of current cut backs in the rockfishery , rockfishing effort will drop to a point were Marine Reserves would not be nessary. We should stay focused on cleaning up fishing methods and gear types that damage habitat and juvenile rockfish such as Roller gear , gill nets , spot prawn trawl gear.

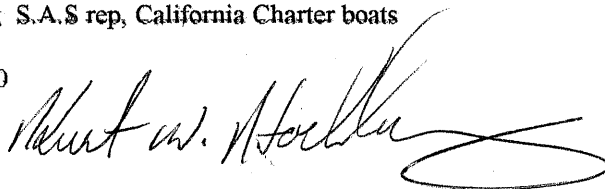
What caused the decline of the rockfish population? I do not lay the blame on commercail or recreational fisherman, it is a result of poor data, bad managment and lack of enforcment.

This is a time for commercail and recreational fisherman to join together and lobby for your fishing rights instead of fighting each other. the N.R.D.C. and the E.F.D. will not be happy until Marine Reserves are in place for 25 % of the coast regardless how it impacts the fishing industry.

Marine Reserves or Marine Protected Areas in my opinion have the potential to capsize the fishing industry on the west coast. I feel that regulations at this time should be left at status quo for a 3 to 5 year period in order to get more current data on the rock fish biomass and time for a economic impact study can be conducted to see how the fishing industry will be impacted by not only current regulations but that of wide spread Marine Reserves.

In closing I would to add that on this matter I do represent the California Charter boats on the Salmon Advisory Subpanel with the P.F.M.C. and the S.A.S. has gone on recored with the P.F.M.C. for the last 2 years in oposition of any regulations that will affect opportunity in the Salmon fishery. Marine Reserves if implemented will affect opportunity in the salmon fishery not mention crab,striped bass, anchovic,sardinc fishcrics.

Kurt W Hochberg S.A.S rep, California Charter boats  
2 Buena Vista  
Benicia, Ca 94510

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kurt W. Hochberg", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.