



NEWPORT TRADEWINDS DEEP SEA FISHING

Agendum C.2.d
Supplemental Public Comment
September 2004

DEEP SEA CRUISES

653 S.W. BAY BOULEVARD, NEWPORT, OREGON

TELEPHONE 265-2101

Patty Burke (Manager of ODFW)
2040 SE Marine Science Dr.
Newport, OR 97365

09/03/04

RECEIVED

SEP 07 2004

Patty Burke:

Just a few words to inform you and the handful of people you work with, to know what an **Injustice** you are doing!!!

All over Oregon, our skippers and deckhands depend on the ground fishery to make a living and feed their families. Winter months through early Spring especially, all they were allowed to catch was bottom fish, to carry them through until salmon season starts again. This is the cycle you have put us in. Now you have ruled to take this away from us leaving nothing to make a living with this winter. How can you sleep at Night???

There is not a shortage of fish, you admitted to that!!! It all falls on the metric tons (inaccurate) count and what you call the **CAP**. (Last two years)

We have gone along with the limit of 10 Misc. and two ling - per person - but feel the injustice comes with the tonnage and cap. You know this is unfair and needs to be corrected. (Done away with) You can't control the poundage of what each fish weighs, any more than we can, nor can you get an accurate poundage of fish caught. Your inaccurate estimates are interfering with peoples lives and should be stopped.

We have all worked with you, allowing observers to go out on our boats, (no charge) and fish checkers to come down to our privately owned docks, to help them do their job.

How and what would they feel and you, yourself, if we say - **NO MORE !!!** and then maybe they are out of a job - and - maybe this would eventually effect your job too. Also you should take into account the cost increase on fishing licenses - one day licenses included. What about John Q Public on that???

Sincerely,

Helen Waddell
Owner/Newport Tradewinds

P.S. **GIVE US BACK OUR FISHING RIGHTS.**

Cc: OFWL - Katie Theil - Salem, Pac Fish Mgt C. - Portland, Cyreis Schmitt - Newport,
Darlene Hooley - Salem, Allen Brown - Salem, Gordon Smith - Eugene, Ron Wyden - Eugene,
John Kitzhaber - Salem



STOP WISHIN' — COME FISHIN'



Rep. Brown seeks to ease impact of sports fishing ban

Representative Alan Brown, R-Newport, called on Governor Kulongoski Thursday to ease the impact on small businesses and coastal communities caused by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department's (ODFW) decision to end the sports fishing season today (Friday).

"The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife closed sport fishing with no prior notice before one of the busiest sports fishing weekends of the year, and that's unacceptable to me," said Brown. "This decision is going to have a profound economic impact on our communi-

ty, and I want some answers about why this is happening now."

Brown said he was encouraged by a conversation he had Thursday with Theresa McHugh, the governor's chief of staff, when he asked that funds be made available to the small businesses who will lose money because of the ODFW decision. He also asked that tourism dollars be spent to let Oregonians know they can still do some sport fishing on the coast, and requested utilizing funds from the Economic and Community Development De-

partment.

"Our coastal communities cannot afford to go without the dollars they would otherwise have received from fishing expeditions this weekend," said Brown. "Something has to be done to make sure people know they can still come to the coast to fish, but that there are some limitations.

"In light of the decision to end fishing for some species, our coastal community - without notice - is going to have a tough time," Brown continued. "I'm working to mitigate that as much as possible."



**PORT
BROOKINGS
HARBOR**

August 31, 2004

**America's
Wild Rivers
Coast**
101 MILES OF NATURE'S BEST

Board of Commissioners:

Chairman

S. John Zia

Vice Chairman

Norma H. Fitzgerald

Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth L. Byrtus

Board Members

Edmund G. Gray

Lloyd D. Whaley

Executive Director:

C. Russ Crabtree

Port Legal Counsel:

Christopher Keusink

Financial Director:

Merle E. Mehlhoff

Economic Development Dir.:

Nita J. Rolfe

Office Manager:

Betty A. Sumner

Harbormaster:

Daniel L. Thompson

Marketing Director:

Jean Pyne

Ms. Patty Burke, Manager
Marine Resources Program
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
2040 SE Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97365

RE: Sport Groundfish Fishery Closure

Dear Ms. Burke:

As the news of the sports ground fishery closure moves like a storm through Brookings Harbor, numerous individuals have contacted the Port of Brookings Harbor to discuss this topic and state their total disappointment with this decision to close the sports groundfish without much notice. The impact is being felt already by this community and is expected to multiply extensively in the next few days. Southern Oregon is struggling to create employment opportunities and keep this one key element of the tourism industry alive, which is our recreational fishing industry. This is a blow to our economy that is unexpected and, plainly speaking, should be justified to the general public, as each of our fishermen knows very well that there is a tremendous abundance of groundfish available in this area.

The Port of Brookings Harbor understands that the number of fish available is not considered, but rather it's the metric tons harvested that is the trigger. What we don't understand is how we got to this situation without notice and why adjustments were not made early on to lessen the 2004 harvest rate, thus eliminating the need to close the fishery entirely. If time was available, why could not there have been meetings of the fisheries managers to seek exceptions and keep Oregon fishery and coastal economies on track. Hind sight is always 20/20, and now the question is how do we collectively as communities make sure our input is considered when decisions of this magnitude are made and what can we do today to guard against this type of future sports ground fishery closures.

RECEIVED

SEP 07 2004

PFMC

P.O. Box 848
Brookings, OR 97415
Ph: (541) 469-2218
Fax: (541) 469-0672

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Serving the Public Since 1956

Website: www.port-brookings-harbor.org
E-Mail: info@port-brookings-harbor.org

Ms. Patty Burke
August 31, 2004
Page Two

The Port of Brookings Harbor has always strived to be participatory in fisheries management and again is willing to do so, but we must have justification for this decision that is understandable and have it provided to our community. The one good thing that is forthcoming out of this year's debacle is the self-mobilization of community support and an increased participation in the next year's fisheries management process.

The community of Brookings Harbor would appreciate a response to this correspondence and, if there are any other discussions or information exchange needed, please feel free to contact me at (541) 469-2218 or by email at russ@port-brookings-harbor.org.

Sincerely,



Russ Crabtree
Executive Director

c: Port Board of Commissioners
Oregon South Coast Fishermen
Curry County Board of Commissioners
City of Brookings
Governor Ted Kulongoski
Representative Wayne Krieger
Senator Ron Wyden
Senator Gordon Smith
Representative Peter DeFazio
~~Don McLissac, PFMC~~
Oregon Coastal Ports Association
Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association