

Mark Elliott  
Open Access Fishermen  
P.O. Box 612  
Warrenton, OR 97146  
(503) 791 - 4638

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JUN - 7 2004

I.P.H.C

Bruce Leaman  
Executive Director  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
P.O. Box 95009  
Seattle, WA 98145-2009

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JUN 21 2004

PFMC

Dir Sir,

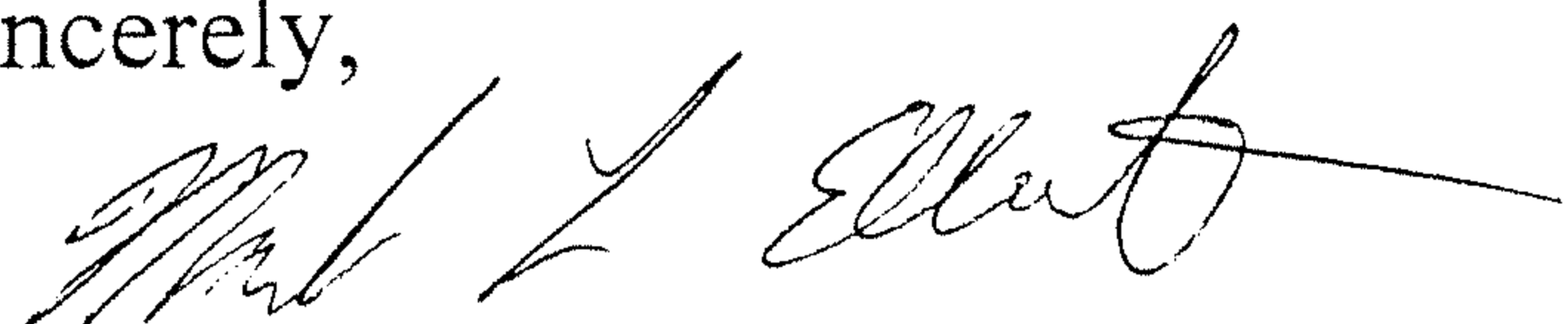
I am currently an Oregon Open Access owner/captain of the fishing vessels Dottie J, Jenny Ann and the Oomaik. I am a very active fisherman in the Astoria area. I have a troll permit on the Jenny Ann and my understanding is that we are allowed to have bi-catch of Halibut with our Troll Salmon permit. This disallows me to participate in the Halibut Derby for this particular boat.

The other two boats I own the Dottie J and the Oomaik are open access vassals only. I am not allowed any Halibut with my open access Sablefish limits, but could potentially catch Halibut as I am long lining

My proposal is that I feel that open access fishermen whose boat is too small to compete in the Halibut derby should be allowed Halibut bi-catch with our open access Sablefish. I propose a ten percent bi-catch of Halibut with our sable fish limits for June July and August only. In addition we would not qualify to be in the Halibut derby. The reason for this is that when the derby commences there are times when a small open access boat cannot leave the dock because of poor weather conditions and the larger boats that participate in the derby can. Smaller open access boats are not being represented in the halibut fishery in equal safety conditions and are unable to compete. If we had a small amount of bicatch we could provide halibut to the consumers over a longer period of time. The Halibut caught could be easily tracked through fish tickets system in each state. The bulk of the non-tribal Halibut is caught and landed off of the Oregon coast. Oregon has a very efficient fish ticket system in the tri state organization.

Please let me know if this change can be made for next year and what do I need to do to further pursue my idea. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mark Elliott

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# INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA

AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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June 15, 2004

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JUN 21 2004

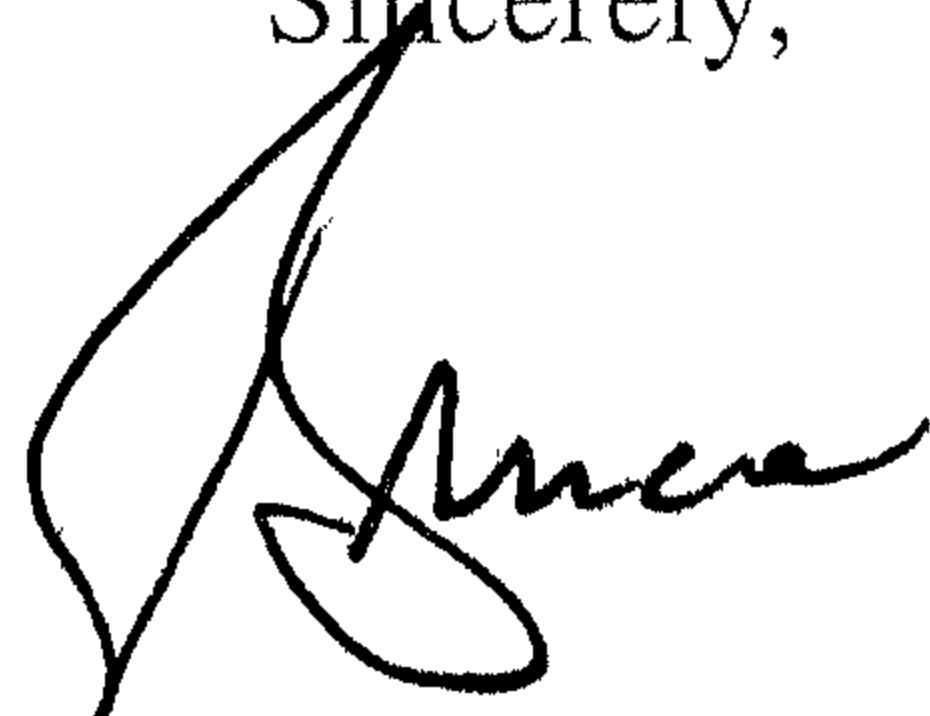
PFMC

Dr. Donald O. McIsaac  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Pl  
Portland, OR 97200-1384

Dear Don,

The Commission received the enclosed proposal from Mr. Elliot to allow halibut bycatch in the open access sablefish fishery. Since the Commission does not have allocative authority among user groups, we are forwarding this proposal for your consideration. Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Bruce M. Leaman  
Executive Director

Encl.