

Independent Fish Filleter
Kelly Barnett
8365 Warren Street
Bay City, OR 97107
(503)377-0259
"have knife...will travel"

To: Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 N.E. Ambassador Place
Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

October 21, 2005

RECEIVED

OCT 25 2005

PFMC

Council Members, Advisory Boards, Staff and all Interested Parties,

My name is Kelly Barnett I have worked many different jobs in my 18 years of commercial seafood processing as well as spending a third of my youth as a fishing boat deckhand. My father spent the majority of his working career as a commercial fisherman or a seafood processor. My sister spent her entire adult life as a seafood processor; she taught both my father and me how to fillet groundfish. My wife was seafood offloading dock foreman when I met her. Of the people mentioned in this paragraph I am the only one still living so I feel that I have earned a heritage in the seafood business, one that I would like to continue for the rest of my life and leave for the generations to come.

This is why I have decided to learn about the council and how it and all of the affiliated agencies operate. So when I lose the right to or the ability to survive in my chosen occupation, my heritage, at least I would have not gone out without presenting my opinions and those of my co-workers and friends who also want to continue living their chosen way of life.

The following letters are from some of those friends and co-workers in Garibaldi, Oregon, they would like them presented to the council.

Sincerely,

Kelly Barnett

OREGON GOURMET

OREGON GOURMET CRAB, INC.

606 Commercial
P.O. Box 484
Garibaldi, Oregon 97118
(503)322-2544 phone
(503)322-2544 fax

"The only crab that's sweeter is still in the season"

OREGON GOURMET CRAB, INC. 10/23/05

10-23-05

Pacific Fisheries Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Suite 3200
Portland, Oregon

Dear Council members,

My name is Steve McGrath, I am the owner of Oregon Gourmet Crab, a seafood processing plant in Garibaldi Oregon. I am a Port Commissioner from Garibaldi as well. It is frustrating to say the least when we discuss Ground fish. Talking to the actual people who do the sampling measuring from Washington to California, you would think there is no problem. The wildlife biologists from Oregon and Washington, who I know, well tell me there is actually growth in our Black Rock species and today there is more than ever.

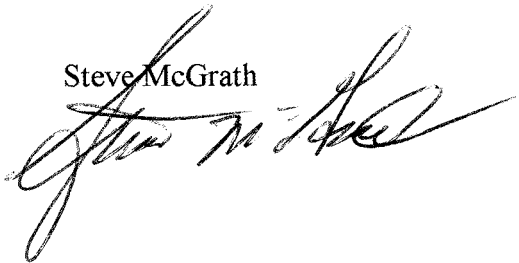
Talking directly, buying directly from licensed fisherman, they say the same. It's easier now to full Rockfish quotas than past years, Lingcod especially. To hear and see this, makes us wonder what information this council is receiving and from who.

The decision of the National Marine Fisheries last year to cut off ground fish days before Labor Day, the largest tourist day on our coastline was devastating. Over 529,000 dollars was lost to Garibaldi alone. This kind of timing decisions are truly uncalled for and are based on speculation at best.

As a Port commissioner to Garibaldi, it is difficult to see the economic impact on an already struggling portal city. Council members demand the facts, review the economic impact lives are at stake.

Sincerely

Steve McGrath



Joe & Siggi Gierga

October 2005

Pacific Fishery Management Council
San Diego, CA.

Ref. Ground fish management

Dear Council Members:

My name is Joe Gierga. I am 74 years old. I have been a Commercial Fisherman, a Charter Boat Captain and now a sport fisherman for more then forty years.

I was a member of the Ground Fish Advisory Panel in the early years of the Pacific Fishery Management Council representing the Oregon Charter Boat industry.

Having been involved in many different aspects of the fishery off the Oregon Coast, I consider myself knowledgeable enough to express my opinion on fishing issues.

When the council was formed all of us in the fishing community felt that it was over due. All of us were shocked and appalled what was happening to our fishing resource. Big trawlers from many foreign countries were invading and raping our fishing grounds.

We too felt that regulations had to be placed not only on the foreign fleets but also on big draggers with roller gear that destroyed much of the habitat. Such regulations were good for the fishery and for the resource.

Much of the species have recovered since and it is time to review what resource needs farther protection and what fishery can be opened for harvest again.

Speaking as a sport fisherman, I can not understand the current regulations that are in place now, especially the regulations pertaining to the Canary Rockfish as well as the Black Rockfish.

The sport fishery has never targeted canary Rockfish. Incidental catches have been small. For the sport fisherman to distinguish a school of Canaries from other midwater fish, is almost impossible considering the type of so called "fish finders" used on small boats.

Black Rockfish often caught in shallow water on sport gear have been the mainstay for the small boater. I too have fished for Black Rockfish many years and by many means.

I was also involved in different studies, offering my Charter boat to The Department of Fish and Wildlife for tagging purposes in years past.

It was determent then that it was impossible to estimate the biomass of this species that travels up and down the Northwest coast. Fish tagged off point Ledbetter in Washington were caught at Cape Lookout and Pacific City. Fish tagged of the Oregon coast have been caught of the Washington coast.

Can sport fishermen decimate a specie and wipe out a resource by catching one fish at a time?

Having limits is fine, having ridicules and changing limits that nobody can keep up with is not right. Why does Washington have different seasons and limits while fishing on the same biomass?

Please consider the economic effects you impose on our communities before you make any more mistakes.

Sincerely:



Joe Gierga

From : Garibaldi Charters <fishon@garibaldicharters.com>
Sent : Tuesday, October 18, 2005 7:49 AM
To : "kelly barnett" <kelly_barnett12@msn.com>
Subject : Re: PFMC Meeting in San Diego

[-] [v] [x] [u] [a]

Kelly,

I think we should emphasize the part of the Magnusson-Stevens act that deals with the economic impact on coastal areas. Constantly changing the rules has a deleterious effect on the local economy. Also ,more current information, like stock assessments more often, would be very helpful.

Mick & Linda

----- Original Message -----

From: "kelly barnett" <kelly_barnett12@msn.com>
To: <fishon@garibaldicharters.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2005 7:38 AM
Subject: PFMC Meeting in San Diego

PO Box 844
Garibaldi, OR 97118
October 18, 2005

1

to whom it may concern,

We are northwest fishermen that have been severely affected by your recent change in the bottom fishing quotas. You have hurt us financially, putting our boats (three) into dry dock because of the low quotas. Someone is not properly assessing the fish stocks which we have complained of on numerous occasions. There are so many schools of black rock out there and such an abundance of fish that it takes us usually less than two hours to catch our limit of two hundred pounds. Each year they cut back more and more and even your scientists feel the count isn't correct. Several times we've offered our services to show you fellows the multiple fish schools out there with no response. Everyone takes notes at the meetings and does nothing but restrict us more and more. We feel its not financially benefit to sit around all summer to catch our few pitant quotas you've allowed us. You've made us ready to quit and sell our boats than to keep up our profession of

fishing. You've hurt several of the businesses also in the area because they can't get the product due to the small quotas. There's way too much rhetoric going around with nothing getting done. We've stopped going to the meetings because nothing ever comes out of them -- there's mainly just political to keep everyone passified while you all do nothing. I think it's time you make a change, get off your -- and take proper assessments with the folks that know where the fish are -- the fishermen.

¹ Invader ² Intruder ³ Intrepid
 OR194UN OR296AA4 OR569ABC

Sincerely,

Ellen Haley
 Ken Jewell
 Doug Ball
 Ordy Bar
 John Bailey

Fisherman's Home
 Restaurant

OREGON GOURMET

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P.O. Box 484
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"The only crab that's better is still at the beach"

OREGON GOURMET CRAB, INC. 2004-2005

10-23-05

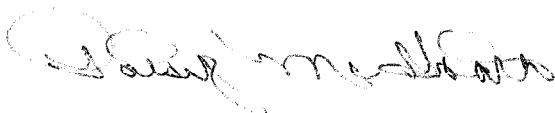
Pacific Fisheries Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Suite 3200
Portland, Oregon

Dear Council members,

My name is Patsy McGrath, I own a seafood processing plant in Garibaldi, Oregon. We buy from commercial fisherman on the west coast. I disagree with several decisions that have been made in the past years. Commercial fishing fleet catching rock fish, we are told that the fish are there. I know that observers have accompanied the fisherman at times to observe the fish. Did it ever occur to anyone that on these trips, they may not find the fish on purpose? It's a funny world today. I know that from what we are told the supplies are there and the fish are around. They have feeding habits like we do. Our ocean has more feed available now that it did 5 years ago. I understand that we need to monitor the Fishing Industry and I agree we need to protect the fish, but I also feel that you have not looked at the whole eco system. Our world has a balance system and I feel mankind has been changing the pattern of which fish and what amounts we keep, throwing that eco system off. The fish need each other to survive. We have altered that. By changing the quotas of certain fish being caught, we are changing the food chain for all fish. We need to go beyond the scientific data we use today. It's flawed and doesn't relate to today's fishing industry. The fishing industry has restricted areas for certain fish that the fish don't even migrate too.

In past years we've created laws to protect the fishing fleet and industry. The reality today is that it's now slowly eliminating the small fisherman. Truly I see that the ways the quotas are dispersed are inconsistent to the whole fleet. I feel it should be fair to all. Some get larger amounts than others. Fishing areas are not being regulated evenly. The scientific data is wrong. I feel we need to help the Fishing Industry today not destroy it. It begins with management. I feel we need to eliminate the excess and redo the scientific data base before we loose it all.

Sincerely



To whom it may concern!

My wife and I have been Hook and Line fishing commercially for over the past 11 years, for Black Rockfish. We fish out of Garibaldi, Oregon. We do this primarily to supplement our Social Security. We have a 200lb Daily limit and a variable monthly quota. The quota is stretched out over 12 months. We only fish from April to September, because of the Ocean conditions being unsafe and unreliable the other 6 months of the year. Why can't our quota be adjusted accordingly. Also, why is it that Salmon Trollers can catch 100lbs of Black rockfish after catching one salmon. These fish go on our quota. They don't catch these fish on salmon gear- they Hook and Line fish like we do. I can honestly say there are as many or more Black Rockfish in my area as were in 1994 when I started fishing for them commercially. I may be wasting my time in writing this letter, but I will any way.

Jack and Dee McGeever (503)322-0256
P.O. Box 102
Garibaldi, Oregon 97118
F/V MUK-MUK