

INTERNATIONAL HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS

Situation: The Council is developing a fishery management plan (FMP) for highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries in waters under the jurisdiction of the Council. The FMP will need to recognize the international context of HMS management and the extent to which international management may affect the domestic fisheries included in the FMP. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will briefly report on recent international developments relevant to HMS fisheries and the issues the Council should be cognizant of as development of the FMP continues.

Council Action: Discussion.

Reference Materials: None.

PFMC
05/21/01

HMS FMP OPTIONS

June 13, 2001

HMS FMP Plan Development Team

Organization of Presentation

- I. Management Authority
- II. Management Unit Species
- III. Control Rules
- IV. Essential Fish Habitat
- V. Framework Management
- VI. Treaty Indian Fishing

Organization of Presentation, Cont'd.

- VII. Fisheries
 - A. Surface Hook-and-Line
 - B. Drift Gillnet
 - C. Harpoon
 - D. Pelagic Longline
 - E. Purse Seine
 - F. Recreational

Organization of Presentation, Cont'd.

- VIII. Legal Gears
 - A. Commercial
 - B. Sport
- IX. Licensing
 - A. Commercial
 - B. Sport
- X. Bycatch

Organization of Presentation, Cont'd.

- XI. Monitoring/Reporting
- XII. Prohibited Species
- XIII. Shark Conservation
- XIV. Harvest Quotas

I. Management Authority Options

- 1. Status Quo or No-Action Alternative
 - Do not adopt a federal FMP for west-coast based HMS fisheries
- 2. Federal FMP (Team Preferred)
 - Adopt a federal FMP to manage west-coast based HMS fisheries

II. Management Unit Species Option:

4. Define MUS as: (Council Preferred)

- Albacore tuna
- Bigeye tuna
- Bluefin tuna
- Skipjack tuna
- Yellowfin tuna
- Striped marlin
- Swordfish
- Blue shark
- Bigeye thresher shark
- Common thresher shark
- Pelagic thresher shark
- Shortfin mako shark
- Dorado (Dolphinfish)

III. Control Rule Option

- 8. Adopt default control rules (Team Preferred)
 - Use MSYs (or MSY proxies) for Management Unit Species
 - Except OYs for “vulnerable” species (i.e. sharks)
 - Vulnerable – different and unique life histories which make these species more vulnerable to exploitation

IV. Essential Fish Habitat Option

- 9. Adopt Essential Fish Habitat Designations for Management Unit Species (Team Preferred)

V. Framework Management Option

- 10. Adopt Framework Procedures to Allow Council to Adopt Regulatory Measures for HMS Fisheries Managed Under the FMP Without Plan Amendment
 - Time-area restrictions
 - Reporting requirements
 - Permits
 - Quotas or harvest guidelines

V. Framework Management Option, Cont'd.

- Gear restrictions
- Allocations
- At-sea observers
- Vessel monitoring system
- Adjustments to EFH
- Shark conservation measures

V. Framework Management Option, Cont'd.

- 11. Adopt Framework Procedure Outlined in Option 10 with Addition of a “Points of Concern” Process by which Council Must Respond When a “Point of Concern” Is Raised
 - Point of Concern must meet certain criteria before addressed
 - Criteria still need development

VI. Treaty Indian Fishing Options

- 12. Adopt and Include in HMS FMP a Framework Process Similar to That Used for Treaty Indian Fisheries Under Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP
- 13. Authorize the Adoption of the Framework to Accommodate Treaty Fishing Rights in the Implementing Regulations

VII. Fisheries Options:

A. Surface Hook-and-Line

General Options

- 14. Add This Existing Fishery to HMS FMP and Federalize Existing State Regulations (As a Starting Point) with the Understanding That the Status Quo May Change with Adopting Additional Options
 - (Team Preferred)
- 15. Start FMP Amendment Process to Initiate Federal Limited Entry Program

VII. Fisheries Options:

A. Surface Hook-and-Line Shark Conservation

- No Options

VII. Fisheries Options:

A. Surface Hook-and-Line Bycatch Options

- 16. Adopt Performance Standards which Reward Fishers that Reduce Bycatch
 - Performance Standards criteria still need development
- 17. Develop Methods and Investigate Gear Modifications to Reduce Bycatch and/or Bycatch Mortality

VII. Fisheries Options:

A. Surface Hook-and-Line

Bycatch Options

- 18. Adopt Time-Area Closures to Minimize Bycatch
- 19. Require Fishers to Retain and Land All Fishing Landed in This Fishery
- 20. Educate Fishers on the Consequences of High Bycatch Rates and Ways to Minimize Bycatch Mortality
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

A. Surface Hook-and-Line Protected Species Option

- 21. Implement a Program to Study and Document the Degree of Protected Species Interaction
 - Team Preferred

VII. Fisheries Options:

B. Drift Gillnet

General Options

- 22. Add This Existing Fishery to HMS FMP and Federalize Existing State Regulations, Including the State Limited Entry System (As a Starting Point) and Regulations Pursuant to MMPA and ESA with the Understanding that the Status Quo May Change with Adopting Additional Options
 - (Team Preferred)

VII. Fisheries Options:

B. Drift Gillnet

General Options

- 23. Incorporate Selected Changes to Current California Drift Gillnet Regulations As Part of Option 22
- 24. Allow a Drift Gillnet Fishery within the Entire EEZ (Subject to Regulations Adopted in Options 22 and/or 23 with Exception of Area Closure North of 46°16'N)

VII. Fisheries Options:

B. Drift Gillnet

Shark Options

- 25. Incorporate the Existing Time-Area Closures Off WA-OR-CA for Shark Protection in the HMS FMP
 - Team Preferred
- 26. Close the EEZ north of 45°N Latitude for Shark Protection and to Address Bycatch and Protected Species Concerns

VII. Fisheries Options:

B. Drift Gillnet

Bycatch Options

- 27. Adopt Performance Standards which Reward Fishers that Reduce Bycatch
 - Performance Standards criteria still need development
- 28. Develop Methods and Investigate Gear Modifications to Reduce Bycatch and/or Bycatch Mortality
- 29. Adopt Time-Area Closures to Minimize Bycatch

VII. Fisheries Options:
B. Drift Gillnet
Bycatch Options, Cont'd.

- 30. Require Fishers to Retain and Land All Fishing Landed in This Fishery
- 31. Educate Fishers on the Consequences of High Bycatch Rates and Ways to Minimize Bycatch Mortality
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:
B. Drift Gillnet
Bycatch Options, Cont'd.

- 32. Reduce the Number of Permits for the Drift Gillnet Fishery to Minimize Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality
- 33. Limit soak times for Drift Gillnet Fishery to Minimize Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality

VII. Fisheries Options:
B. Drift Gillnet
Protested Species Option

- 34. Incorporate specific directives for reducing takes of protected species into FMP
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

C. Harpoon

General Options

- 35. Add fishery to FMP and federalize existing state regulations (as starting point) with understanding that status quo may change with adopting additional options.
 - If additional options are not adopted, the existing status quo would remain
 - Area north of 46°16'N would remain closed
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:
C. Harpoon
General Options, Cont'd.

- 36. Allow harpoon fishing within entire EEZ
 - Subject to regulations adopted in Option 61

VII. Fisheries Options:

C. Harpoon

Shark & Bycatch Options

- No options

VII. Fisheries Options:

C. Harpoon

Protected Species

- 37. Implement additional programs to study and document the degrees of protected species interactions
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

D. Pelagic Longline

General Options

- 38. Add this fishery to FMP which would allow a high seas fishery but not a fishery within the EEZ, with the understanding that this may change with adopting additional options.
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

D. Pelagic Longline

General Options

- 38. “Clarification” *Prohibit a pelagic longline fishery within EEZ but allow on high seas, subject to management controls.*
 - *High seas fishery subject to similar observer coverage and mitigation measures as specified under WP Pelagics FMP (e.g. Option 51)*
 - *Longlining within EEZ prohibited until demonstrated that gear/methods produce acceptable levels of bycatch and protected species interactions that do not significantly impact these populations*
 - **NOT OFFICIAL OPTION – PDT CLARIFICATION**

VII. Fisheries Options:
D. Pelagic Longline
General Options, Cont'd.

- 39. Allow pelagic (conventional) longline fishery within EEZ subject to management measures
- 40. Prohibit pelagic (conventional) longline fishery within EEZ
- 41. Initiate EFP process for use of pelagic (conventional) longline gear within EEZ subject to management measures

VII. Fisheries Options:
D. Pelagic Longline
General Options, Cont'd.

- 42. Allow cable longline fishery within EEZ subject to management measures
- 43. Start FMP amendment process to initiate federal limited entry program for high seas pelagic longline fishery

VII. Fisheries Options: D. Pelagic Longline Shark Conservation

- No Options – see Option 89

VII. Fisheries Options:

D. Pelagic Longline

Bycatch Options

- 44. Adopt Performance Standards which Reward Fishers that Reduce Bycatch
 - Performance Standards criteria still need development
- 45. Develop Methods and Investigate Gear Modifications to Reduce Bycatch and/or Bycatch Mortality
- 46. Adopt Time-Area Closures to Minimize Bycatch

VII. Fisheries Options: D. Pelagic Longline Bycatch Options, Cont'd.

- 47. Require Fishers to Retain and Land All Fishing Landed in This Fishery
- 48. Educate Fishers on the Consequences of High Bycatch Rates and Ways to Minimize Bycatch Mortality
 - Team Preferred Option
- 49. Limit Soak Times for Pelagic Longline Fishery to Limit Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality

VII. Fisheries Options:

D. Pelagic Longline

Protected Species Options

- 50. Implement program to study and document degrees of protected species interactions
 - Team Preferred Option
- 51. Adopted selected portions of WPFMC's regulations which pertain to Hawaiian-based longline fishery for west-coast based (high seas) longline fishery
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

E. Purse Seine

General Options

- 52. Add fishery to FMP and federalize existing state regulations (as starting point) with understanding that status quo may change with adopting additional options.
 - If additional options are not adopted, the existing status quo would remain
 - Area north of 46°16'N would remain closed
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:
E. Purse Seine
General Options, Cont'd.

- 53. Allow purse seine fishery within entire EEZ (subject to regulations adopted in Option 49 except for area closure north of 46°16'N).
- 54. Close area within EEZ north of 44°N latitude to address bycatch and protected species concerns

VII. Fisheries Options:

E. Purse Seine

Shark Conservation

- 55. Require release of management unit shark species taken in the purse seine fishery.
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

E. Purse Seine

Bycatch Options

- 56. Adopt Performance Standards which Reward Fishers that Reduce Bycatch
 - Performance Standards criteria still need development
- 57. Require fishers to retain and land all fish that is caught in this fishery.
- 58. Prohibit setting of small vessel (coastal) purse seine gear on floating objects within EEZ.
- 59. Educate fishers on consequences of high bycatch rates and ways to minimize bycatch mortality – Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

E. Purse Seine

Protected Species Options

- 60. Implement program to study and document degrees of protected species interactions.
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:

F. Recreational

General Options

- 61. Add fishery to FMP and federalize existing state regulations (as starting point) with understanding that status quo may change with adopting additional options.
 - If additional options are not adopted, the existing status quo would remain
 - Team Preferred Option

VII. Fisheries Options:
F. Recreational
General Options, Cont'd.

- 62. Set recreational bag limits which can differ by state or be uniform coastwide.

VII. Fisheries Options:
F. Recreational
Shark Conservation Options

- 63. Adopt coastwide size and bag limits for shark species for recreational fishery.

VII. Fisheries Options:

F. Recreational Bycatch Options

- 64. Adopt formal catch-and-release program for recreational fishery for all HMS.
 - Team Preferred Option
- 65. Require use of “de-hooking” devices for HMS recreational fishery.
- 66. Require use of circle hooks for HMS recreational fishery.

VII. Fisheries Options:
F. Recreational
Protected Species Options

- 67. Implement program to study and document degrees of protected species interactions.

VIII. Legal Gear Options:

A. Commercial

- 68. Include one or more of commercial gears currently legal in one or more states for HMS for commercial harvest of HMS within EEZ and on high seas.
- Gears currently legal to commercially harvest HMS by one or more states are:

VIII. Legal Gear Options:

A. Commercial, Cont'd.

Option 68, Cont'd.

- **Target HMS:**
- Hand gear (harpoon, rod-and-reel, spear)
- Hook and line (troll gear)
- Gillnet (drift, set, or trammel nets)
- Pelagic longline
- Nets (lampara, purse seine, seine)
- **Target Non-HMS:**
- Set longline
- Trawl
- Pots

VIII. Legal Gear Options:

B. Recreational

- 69. Include one or more recreational gears currently legal in one or more states for HMS for recreational harvest of HMS within EEZ and on high seas
 - Team Preferred Option
- Gears currently legal to harvest HMS by one or more states are:
 - Hook-and-line (troll gear)
 - Rod-and-reel
 - Spear

IX. Licensing

A. Commercial

- 70. Require federal vessel permit for all commercial HMS fisheries within and outside of EEZ.
 - One permit would cover all HMS fisheries.
- 71. Require federal vessel permit for all commercial HMS fisheries within and outside of EEZ with endorsements for individual fisheries.

IX. Licensing

B. Recreational

- 72. Require federal recreational permit for anglers (16 years or older) to fish for and retain or possess HMS in EEZ
- 73. Require federal permit for all recreational vessels to fish for HMS within and outside of EEZ.
 - Team Preferred Option
- 74. Require federal or state permit for all recreational vessels to fish for HMS within and outside of EEZ.

X. Bycatch – General

- 75. Direct HMS PDT to develop comprehensive bycatch plan for west coast HMS fisheries.

XI. Monitoring/Reporting

- 76. Federalize status quo by incorporating existing state and federal logbook programs into FMP
- 77. Require federal logbooks for all following HMS fisheries within and outside of EEZ:
 - Surface hook and line
 - Drift gillnet
 - Pelagic longline
 - Team Preferred Option
 - Purse seine
 - Harpoon
 - Charter/party

XI. Monitoring/Reporting, Cont'd.

- 78. Require observer coverage for pelagic longline fishery wherever it is allowed.
 - Team Preferred Option
- 79. Require observer coverage for one or more HMS fisheries within and outside of EEZ:
 - Surface hook and line
 - Drift gillnet
 - Pelagic longline
 - Purse seine
 - Harpoon
 - Charter/party

XI. Monitoring/Reporting, Cont'd.

- 80. Direct PDT to develop comprehensive at-sea data collection plan.
- Priority order of collection:
 1. Pelagic longline
 2. Surface hook and line
 3. Small vessel purse seine
 4. Charter/party
 5. Additional DGN
 6. Harpoon
- Team Preferred Option

XI. Monitoring/Reporting, Cont'd.

- 81. Require vessel monitoring systems (VMS) for one or more of following HMS fisheries within and outside of EEZ:
 - Surface hook and line
 - Drift gillnet
 - Pelagic longline
 - Purse seine
 - Harpoon
 - Charter/party

XII. Prohibited Species -- General

- 82. Federalize status quo by incorporating existing state regulations for prohibited species into FMP
- 83. Prohibit taking of basking and white sharks
 - Team Preferred Option
- 84. Prohibit taking of megamouth sharks
 - Team Preferred Option

XII. Prohibited Species – General, Cont'd.

- 85. Prohibit taking of Pacific halibut and salmon unless using authorized gear during authorized seasons for those species.
 - Team Preferred Option.
- 86. Prohibit the taking and sale of striped marlin by commercial HMS fisheries.

XIII. Shark Conservation -- General

- 87. Adopt current federal law regarding removal of shark fins at sea as part of FMP
 - Allows fin removal at sea provided carcasses are landed
 - Subject to landing ratio not to exceed 5% of fin weight to carcass weight
 - Team Preferred Option

XIII. Shark Conservation -- General

- 88. Prohibit removal of shark fins at sea (i.e. sharks brought in whole)
 - Except for threshers may have fins removed with carcasses retained.
- 89. Prohibit establishment of new fisheries within EEZ targeting sharks pending research or exploratory fishery (EFP) to determine sustainability or biological impacts of such gear.

XIV. Harvest Quotas

- 90. Direct PDT to develop method to set commercial and recreational harvest quotas based on historical landings.
- Quotas would apply to those species identified as vulnerable under Control Rules or for which there is inadequate stock assessment information:
 - Blue, common thresher, bigeye thresher, pelagic thresher, shortfin mako sharks

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT HMS FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel met June 11-12 to review the second draft of the HMS Fishery Management Plan. There are a number of deficiencies in the draft, which we believe need to be addressed prior to release of the FMP for the public hearing process. These deficiencies include:

- lack of economic data and economic analysis of the options. Cost and earnings surveys of the albacore troll, drift gillnet and charterboat fisheries are not completed.
- economic data on the recreational fisheries is lacking, and there is no ongoing effort to collect the necessary information.
- analyses of options in chapter 8 generally are incomplete, in part due to lack of information and in part due to lack of specificity of the options.
- “federalize” needs to be defined more clearly, and there is a need to identify which existing state regulations are not consistent with federal law. Legal advice is needed.
- The Team intends to revise chapters 5 and 6 to include more complete information on bycatch and protected species.
- There are inconsistencies between the options in the matrix of the executive summary and those in chapter 8.
- community impact information has not been included yet. (There is a placeholder on p. 2-27 for a section on characteristics of support industries and communities which has not been drafted yet).
- there needs to be more information in chapter 3 on the impacts of the various options for management unit species, and particularly for the option which would exclude sharks. What are the implications of excluding sharks from the FMP (option 7), would a separate shark FMP be necessary, and what would the costs be?
- the new longline option recommended by the Ocean Wildlife Campaign (attached) needs to be included as submitted, and longline option 39 needs to be modified to be consistent with the proposal by the commercial fishery (attached).
- need to address the potential issue of HMS species held in net pens, if this activity were to start in the U.S. How would these “landings” be monitored and reported?
- need to investigate the possibility of adding a general framework section for limited access programs, which would expedite the amendment process for any specific programs which might be developed after implementation of the FMP.
- the use of PacFIN landings data in the FMP creates a misleading picture of HMS fishery landings by the various commercial gears, largely due to fishticket gear coding problems. Language needs to be added to tables and text to explain this problem. In addition, there is a problem in reporting of swordfish landings, because different conversion factors are used by different state and international agencies to convert dressed weight to round weight.
- in various places the FMP provides misleading information about the “incidental” catch of halibut and salmon by surface hook-and-line HMS fisheries. These are not incidental catches with HMS gear, but are directed salmon and halibut harvests by the same vessel using salmon or halibut gear on the same trip, or during other seasons.

- more*
- the FMP needs to include data on catches of striped marlin in commercial fisheries.
 - the FMP does not adequately address the issue of regulation of U.S. fisheries in the absence of international obligations.
 - the description and analysis of the U.S./Canada Albacore Treaty situation needs to be updated to reflect current events.

In addition to the above concerns, some individual Subpanel members have very specific editorial suggestions, which they will supply to the Team in writing prior to the Team meeting next week.

Due to the extent of the deficiencies in the FMP, the Subpanel recommends that the Council direct the Team to complete the draft by September, and delay the public hearings until the November thru February period. The Council could reexamine the draft at the September meeting, or choose to send the revised document out for public comment. The actual timing of hearings might be different depending on the area of the coast. Another consideration is that summer public hearings are not timed well for many commercial and recreational participants. Final action could be slated for the March Council meeting.

The Subpanel further recommends active involvement of NOAA General Counsel throughout the remainder of the plan development process. This will help ensure that the requisite analyses are conducted to satisfy applicable law.

CHANGES TO OPTION 39
(Allow a pelagic longline fishery within the EEZ with management restrictions)

First bullet, first line: Delete "...West Coast longline effort plus..."

First bullet, third line: Delete "longline" from the phrase "...only active longline and DGN fishers..."

Insert new second bullet: "Limit initial entry to 10 vessels and adjust up or down through framework procedures as determined in the annual SAFE report."

(No changes to third bullet)



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Ocean Wildlife Campaign proposed "Option 5"

(In May 2001 draft
would be new option #41.5)

Section 8.5.5.5 Longline Fisheries

Inside the EEZ – Conventional Longline Gear

Options

Option 5: An indefinite moratorium on longlining with the potential for re-evaluation by the Council following completion of a cooperative research study.

Analysis

Option 5: Before the Council considers expanding the use of longlines in the West Coast EEZ, a cooperative research study would provide necessary data on target and incidental catch, as well as potential techniques to mitigate bycatch including protected species catch. This information would provide the basis for future management options. A cooperative research study would mandate that fishers proposing to use longlines demonstrate that the gear can meet stringent conservation/performance standards, with an emphasis on minimizing bycatch and bycatch mortality, prior to allowing the use of longlines in the EEZ under the HMS FMP. The bycatch standard would be whether longlines can fish with bycatch rates low enough to have negligible impacts on the populations of bycatch species, not whether longline bycatch rates are lower than the rates of existing fisheries.

Components of a cooperative research study would include, at a minimum:

- 100% observer coverage;
- a protocol for conducting the study, with clearly defined goals and a timetable for reporting conclusions to the Council;
- an experimental design which would test the relative effectiveness of various methods to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality through changes in fishing practices (i.e., depths, areas, and times of operations) and fishing gear (e.g., bait type, gangion length and material, hook type);
- the number and identity of participating vessels, to be determined according to the protocol;
- definitions of both "target catch" and "bycatch" (e.g., juveniles of the target species, non-target species, prohibited, and protected species), upon which the selectivity of longlines are to be evaluated; and,
- regular reporting of bycatch rates, so that the study can be terminated if bycatch rates are unacceptably high.

The Council, in consultation with its Advisory Panels, NMFS and interested parties would review the research results and determine if the gear should be permitted. If allowed, the fishery would be required to have high levels of observer coverage, and to maintain low bycatch rates through fishing the areas/seasons/methods/gears demonstrated by the study to have acceptably low bycatch rates.



HABITAT STEERING GROUP COMMENTS ON
THE PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT OF THE
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Habitat Steering Group (HSG) received a brief update on the draft highly migratory species (HMS) fishery management plan (FMP) from Ms. Michele Robinson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. From a habitat perspective, the HSG believes the draft plan is ready to be distributed for public review.

Specific comments on the FMP's habitat sections (Chapter Four and Appendix A) include:

1. The HSG recommends that prey species for each HMS species managed under the FMP, by life stage, be moved from Appendix A and included in the legal essential fish habitat descriptions in the final plan under Chapter Four.
2. The HSG endorses the HMS Plan Development Team's recommendations to proceed with the identification of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern for HMS shortly after the final plan has been adopted by the Council.

PFMC
06/13/01

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT OF THE HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Highly Migratory Species HMS Subcommittee met on June 10 to review the "Draft Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for U.S. West Coast Based Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species," dated May 2001. This statement represents the outcome of the SSC's consideration of the HMS Subcommittee's findings.

General Comments and Recommendations

The draft FMP represents significant progress toward development of a management plan for HMS. For instance, the fishery descriptions (Section 2) and discussions of bycatch by fishery sector (Section 5) are well developed. The SSC recognizes that the HMS Plan Development Team (HMSPDT) attempted to include in the FMP all management options identified during the scoping process to comply with National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) requirements. However, many of the options contained in Section 8 take the form of brief conceptual descriptions of logbook/observer programs, limited entry options, and longline fishing options in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ), and the analysis of such options is very limited. These issues are complex and likely to have significant repercussions for HMS fisheries. The options will need to be more fully developed and the analyses considerably expanded in order to meet NEPA requirements and be considered for implementation by the Council.

Development of the draft FMP has been a daunting task, and development and analysis of the ninety options contained in the FMP will require considerably more time and resources. The SSC fully appreciates the importance of issues such as logbook/observer programs, limited entry, and longline fishing in the EEZ. However, if the Council wishes to move forward expeditiously with the draft FMP, the SSC recommends the scope of the FMP be initially limited to addressing minimum requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) - such as maximum sustainable yield (MSY)/optimum yield (OY) control rules, bycatch, essential fish habitat, and community impacts. Given the importance of "federalizing" the fisheries in some manner, the FMP could also include measures that achieve such federalization. However, depending on how soon the Council wishes to submit the draft FMP for public comment, it may be advisable to exclude options that affect fisheries in ways that deviate significantly from the status quo and that would require major elaboration and analysis to meet NEPA requirements. The Council could framework the management tools needed to address substantive issues not addressed in the draft FMP. Once the FMP is approved, subsequent amendments could be undertaken to address those issues.

In terms of addressing Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements, the draft FMP appears to provide considerable material for addressing the MSY and bycatch provisions of the Act. However, the sections of the FMP on the Characteristics of Support Industries and Communities and the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) analysis are requirements under the Magnuson-Stevens Act and need completion before the plan is made available for public comment. The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) analysis currently contained in the draft FMP is largely limited to assertions that the options will not have a disproportionate impact on small entities. The RFA analysis will need to address other considerations as well. For instance, the analysis will have to document whether a substantial number of small entities are affected by the proposed management actions. It would also have to explain why the preferred option was selected over other options that would minimize economic effects on small entities and, if so, why the preferred option was selected instead. RFA requirements are specified in NMFS Guidelines for Economic Analysis of Fishery Management Actions, dated August 16, 2000.

The SSC also has comments on specific sections of the draft FMP, as follows:

Section 2.4 - Characteristics of Support Industries and Communities (p. 27)

A placeholder for this section is included in the draft FMP, but the section is not yet completed. It is important the Magnuson-Stevens Act requirement to consider community effects be addressed before the FMP is distributed for public comment.

Section 3 - Status of Fish Stocks

The SSC reviewed the aspects of the draft FMP related to evaluating the status of stocks relative to overfishing criteria. The SSC supports the MSY and OY control rules developed for the HMS, but recommends they be presented separately for each management unit species to improve clarity of presentation.

The lack of information for some species will lead to considerable uncertainty when determining stock status using the control rules. This means that any determinations regarding whether overfishing is occurring or stocks are overfished will be highly uncertain. The SSC recommends the draft FMP link the data/analysis requirements identified in FMP Section 8.7 more directly with the need to classify stocks using the control rules and to implement any resultant management actions. In particular, the SSC notes that estimates of the catches off Mexico are not available, increasing uncertainty substantially for some species.

The information in Table 3.3 should be restricted to the estimates derived from analyses of data rather than those based on assumptions about the ratio of B_{MSY} to T , estimates of the intrinsic rate of growth should be replaced by the qualitative conclusions that can be inferred robustly from the analyses based on demographic models. The information presented does not permit a robust evaluation of the sustainability of regional catches of sharks and billfishes. The SSC recommends this be reflected in Table 3.4. The productivity estimates reported in the draft FMP are based on analyses in Au *et al.* (in press). The SSC should review these analyses.

The proposed MSY and OY control rules differ from those applied by international bodies such as Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). The SSC recommends mechanisms be developed to deal with any possible conflicts in harvest guidelines that may arise from the use of different control rules.

Although the draft FMP does not specify an annual management cycle, an annual stock assessment and fishery evaluation (SAFE) document will be produced. The SSC recommends the SAFE document include summaries of available data and assessments by international bodies (e.g., tunas under the IATTC). The SSC notes further that the current assessment framework does not include an independent review process. While assessments conducted by international bodies are already subject to peer review, this is not the case for the proposed assessments for species that are not assessed by international bodies. The SSC recommends a process be developed for independent review of any such assessments; the SSC should be part of this process.

Section 8.2 - Management Goals and Objectives (pp. 3-4) and Section 8.5.3 - Evaluation Factors (pp. 15-16)

Section 8.2 describes 17 goals and objectives of the draft FMP and Section 8.5.3 describes 13 evaluation factors, which are used as the basis for evaluating management options contained in Section 8. Many of the 13 evaluation factors are worded similarly to some of the 17 goals and objectives; moreover, the twelfth evaluation factor ("meeting the objectives of the HMS FMP") ensures all of the goals and objectives not already mentioned are encompassed in the evaluation factors. Some clarification is needed regarding why the distinction is made between the FMP goals and objectives and the evaluation factors. Also, despite the fact many of the management options contained in the draft FMP have significant allocation implications, none of the goals and objectives directly point to the need for fairness and equity in allocation decisions.

Section 8.5.4 - Elements of Economic Analysis

Sections 8.5.4.1 and 8.5.4.2 provide a discussion of theoretical concepts relevant to economic analysis. Expectations are subsequently raised regarding the presence of an analysis in the FMP that applies these theoretical concepts. For instance, Section 8.5.4.3 makes reference to "economic analyses that follow". Section 8.5.4.4 states that "A seven percent real discount rate is used in the analysis below....". However, subsequent sections of the FMP contain no such economic analysis. Unless such analysis is completed and subject to SSC review before the draft FMP is submitted for public comment, the SSC recommends Section 8.5.4 be removed from the FMP.

Section 8.5.5.1.2 - Licensing (pp. 25-28)

Federal permits for commercial HMS fishing vessels are discussed in options 70-71, federal recreational permits for HMS anglers in option 72 and federal and/or state permits for HMS recreational vessels

(including private boats) in options 73-74.

The SSC agrees with the HMS PDT's conclusions regarding the potential research, conservation, and management benefits of having a permit system that allows ready identification of all HMS fishery participants. However, the SSC does not agree with the conclusion that federal permits as specified in options 70-74 would "indirectly contribute to reducing fishing mortality" (a claim which appears to be based on the assumption that increased information necessarily results in additional harvest restrictions). It is also not clear why federal permits would "increase net benefits to the nation." Decisions regarding these options will require close collaboration with the states and a careful delineation of costs. Costs of federal permits for recreational anglers may be particularly difficult to predict, given the unprecedented nature of such a program.

Section 8.5.5.1.3 - Reporting/Monitoring Requirements (pp. 29-32)

Options 76-77 pertain to logbooks, options 78-79 to observer programs, option 80 to a "comprehensive at-sea data collection plan" and option 81 to vessel monitoring systems (VMS).

All of these options are presented as ideas for which programs would need to be developed. The analysis of these options indicates that "limited expenses" would be imposed on fishing entities, and the options would "not have a disproportionate effect" on small relative to large entities. This may or may not be true, depending on the specific details of the monitoring programs.

Sections 8.5.5.2 - Surface Hook-and-Line Fishery (pp. 33-36), Section 8.5.5.3 - Drift Gill Net Fishery (pp. 36-46) and Section 8.5.5.5 - Longline Fisheries (pp. 47-52)

These sections of the draft FMP include a discussion of open access versus limited entry options for three fishery sectors - surface hook-and-line (options 14-15), drift gillnet (options 22-24) and longline (option 43) fisheries. Section 8.5.5.5 also includes additional options pertaining to longline fishing in the EEZ (options 38-42).

The SSC strongly supports consideration of management measures that address overcapacity in HMS fisheries. However, the limited entry options described in the draft FMP are only conceptual in their current form. The SSC is aware of the Council's expressed intention to consider limited entry after the FMP is adopted. Numerous details of limited entry options would have to be developed and analyzed at that time.

The analysis of options 22-24 includes a discussion of the effects on the drift gillnet fishery of a Biological Opinion (BO) issued by NMFS to protect leatherback turtles. Although such information is relevant to understanding the status of that fishery, it is important that the analysis also explicitly distinguish between the effects of the BO (which was authorized by the Endangered Species Act) and the effects of the fishery management options being considered under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

The analysis of option 41, which would allow pelagic longline fishing in the EEZ under an exempted fishing permit (EFP) program, focuses on the potential benefits afforded by the opportunity to gather scientific and/or fishery information. The analysis should also indicate that a prohibition on longline fishing in the EEZ (as delineated in option 40) would be a necessary pre-condition for establishment of an EFP program and should include an evaluation of the effects of such prohibition on the longline fishery.

Section 8.5.5.8 - Recreational Fisheries (pp. 57-62)

This section includes options for federalizing management of the recreational fishery (options 61-62). Option 61 may have potentially significant ramifications, for instance, in terms of the role of the state fish and game commissions relative to federal management, changes in state legislation or regulations needed to authorize or facilitate federalization, analysis and actions needed to ensure (as specified in the draft FMP) that "the regulations would have to be made consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act" (p. 60). Such ramifications will need to be more fully understood in order to evaluate the feasibility, desirability and costs associated with this option.

Section 8.5.6 - Measures to Establish Harvest Quotas (pp. 68-69)

Option 90 appears to pertain to two separate issues, (1) how to establish total harvest quotas for

vulnerable species on the basis of an OY proxy, and (2) how the distribution of such quotas between commercial and recreational sectors should be based on historical landings. (1) is a scientific issue and (2) is an allocation issue for which historical landings represents one of any number of allocation criteria that could be considered. Given the potentially significant consequences of these issues, the SSC recommends that the Council not take action on Option 90 until these issues are further developed, analyzed and reviewed.

Section 8.5.7 - Standardized Reporting of Bycatch and Measures to Minimize Bycatch (pp. 70-85).

There is no discussion of standardized reporting in this section. The SSC recommends that reference be made in this section to the logbook/observer program/VMS options previously described in Section 8.5.5.1.3 (pp. 29-32), given the potential importance of such programs for reporting bycatch.

Options 16, 27, 44 and 56 respectively propose that performance standards be adopted that provide incentives to reduce bycatch for participants in the surface hook and line, drift gillnet, longline and coastal purse seine fisheries. According to the FMP, "Performance standards can be expressed as a percentage of the total catch by weight or number as well as specific goals for individual species of particular concern" (p. 8-70). The SSC notes that performance standards of this type may reflect not only the effect of bycatch avoidance measures but also changes in stock abundance of bycatch species and regulatory measures such as trip limits.

Section 8.7 - Research and Data Needed for Management (pp. 90-97)

The information needs for each species consist of a lengthy list that includes items that are critical for management and those that would be "nice to know". The SSC recommends the HMSPDT prioritize the items in the list, based on the requirements for conducting assessments, applying MSY and OY control rules and conducting economic analysis of pending management actions. This will be particularly important for ensuring that critical HMS needs are incorporated in the Council's Research and Data Needs and Economic Data Plan.

Minor Editorial Corrections

- In Section 8, reference is made to an "Option 6" in the second to last paragraph on p. 42 and in the first and second paragraphs on p. 43. What is Option 6?
- Section 8 states that "The Council is currently considering under the Coastal Pelagics Amendment an option of evaluating the use of grates to cover openings of holds through which fish are pumped..." (p. 67). The statement should be edited to reflect the fact that use of such grates has been approved.
- Some of the research and data needs identified in Section 8.7 (pp. 90-97) are lettered, while others are bulleted. The distinction between lettered and bulleted items should be clarified.
- The title of Section 8.8 on p. 97 (MSFCMA Specifications) should be renamed something that specifically refers to total allowable level of foreign fishing, as it deals only with that one issue.

PFMC
06/12/01

Jim Lone, Chairman PPMC
2130 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

4 -01- 01

Doug Fricke, HMS A/P Member
110 Valley Road
Hoquiam, WA 98550

4PR - 1 2001

Dear Jim,

This letter is to document suggested changes to the Draft FMP and EIS for HMS, dated 2-15-01.

- Ch. 2, Pg. 13, Para.2 under 2.2.1, line two that states "A small amount of catch finds its way into the fresh fish trade." should have added to the sentence wording to the effect "...which is a significant income source to the vessels involved in the fresh fish trade."
- Ch. 2, Pg. 14, Para. 2, line 3 starts with the word "Some". Replace the word "Some" with "Many" would be a more accurate description of our small boat coastal albacore fleet.
- Ch. 2, pg. 19, Para. 3 should have the following sentence added "Most Washington ports have fishermen selling albacore tuna directly to the public which is small in volume, but critically important to the financial survival of the participating fishermen."
- Ch. 2, Pg. 64, needs additional explanation as to how the Washington/Oregon Charter Boat fleet differs from the Southern California fleet in how they operate and the different species that they pursue.
- Ch. 8, Pg. 6, the last paragraph seems to be an exaggeration in light of the fact that the actual numbers of vessels participating in the albacore fishery have actually declined in the last three years. I would suggest the following wording. "Fishing capacity is not limited in all HMS fisheries, which allows new entrants from other fisheries and exacerbates the problems in the HMS fisheries. As larger vessels consider leaving..." (noticed the elimination the sentence on small vessels as the albacore has not increased in availability and the salmon fishery has actually become less constrained the last couple of years.)
- Ch. 8, Pg. 7 under 8.3.3 paragraph one should have the word "some" inserted after "Bycatch in..."
- Ch. 8, Pg. 34, under 8.5.5.1.2.2 Option 1, b) we discussed at the A/P meeting the potential to eliminate consideration of endorsements. After consideration, there may be a place for endorsements and should remain as an option to be considered.
- Ch.8, Pg. 41, paragraph two should be followed with the following sentence. "The direct sales from the vessels to the consumers are particularly important to the financial survivability of the smaller vessels that participate in this activity."

Thanks in advance for considering my views as HMS A/P advisor.
Doug Fricke

Memo

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2001

PFAIC

To: Dr. Donald O. McIsaac, Pacific Council Executive Director
Mr. Svein Fougner, NMFS, Southwest Regional Office
HMS Advisory Subpanel
HMS Plan Development Team

From: David Wilmot, Ph.D., Director *DW*

Date: 5/11/01

Re: Letter to HMS Pacific Fishery Management Council

Identical copies of the attached letter with enclosures was sent to the entire Highly Migratory Species Pacific Fishery Management Council



P.O. Box 31
500 St. Mark's Lane
Islip, NY 11751
Phone: 631-224-9820
Fax: 631-581-7558

May 10, 2001



Dear HMS Pacific Fishery Management Council Member:



For the past four months, the Ocean Wildlife Campaign (OWC) and our six member organizations have repeatedly asked that our recommendation on new fishing gears be included among the options presented in the draft Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast-Based Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species (HMS FMP) before the draft plan goes out for public comment. Our proposed option is reasonable and deserves a fair hearing from the public. While commercial fishing industry options have been included in circulated drafts, a number of our most significant policy recommendations, most notably our position on new fishing gears, have been rejected by the HMS Plan Development Team (PDT).



The OWC's proposed "Option 5" (attached) would impose an indefinite moratorium on pelagic longlining until completion of a cooperative research study which would test ways to fish pelagic longline gear with a minimum of bycatch. At the conclusion of the study, the research results would be examined and a decision made as to whether pelagic longlines should be permitted in the fishery and, if so, under what constraints.



This option is fundamentally different from Option 4 (which we strongly oppose), the purpose of which is to conduct an exploratory commercial fishery for tuna in the US EEZ. In Option 4, bycatch minimization is secondary to fisheries development, with the implication that simply achieving a level of longline bycatch below that associated with drift gillnets, a particularly non-selective type of gear, would be acceptable. Option 4 cannot be revised to address our concerns.



Our position is that any new fishery or gear, especially one like the pelagic longline which has a history of severe bycatch problems, must conclusively demonstrate that it can meet stringent conservation/performance standards, with a focus on a minimum amount of bycatch and bycatch mortality, prior to being permitted in the HMS fishery. The only outstanding question with respect to longline fishing gear is not whether the gear is capable of catching HMS (what Option 4 purports to explore), but whether or not this gear can be modified so that the enormous bycatch problems associated with its use can be avoided. This question must be answered before the Council considers expanding the use of longlines in the West Coast exclusive economic zone, and our proposal, Option 5, is the only way to conclusively answer this important question.



Therefore, we urge you to direct the PDT to include our Option 5 in the longline fisheries section of the draft HMS FMP (section 8.5.5.5) so the Council is presented with the full breadth of available options and the public can provide comment on same. If the PDT fails to include Option 5, the OWC and its six member organizations will have no alternative but to act in accordance with our long-established position and actively and aggressively support Option 2, an indefinite prohibition on pelagic longlining.

We are attaching a copy of our full Position Statement, which provides details on other options the OWC is supporting. We believe that the failure to insert these options for consideration by the public is inappropriate. This oversight must be rectified. In particular, we want to draw your attention to the need for the draft HMS FMP to include an option for setting precautionary recreational and commercial catch limits for all HMS.

Precautionary quotas have been criticized because U.S. fishermen account for only a portion of the total mortality of Pacific HMS. While true, the Pacific Council and National Marine Fisheries Service still have domestic obligations to prevent or halt overfishing, minimize bycatch, and rebuild depleted populations. Given the dearth of information on the status of many Pacific HMS combined with the documented vulnerability of HMS to overfishing and population decline, successfully managing Pacific HMS in accordance with relevant domestic policies demands proceeding with the utmost caution. Establishing precautionary quotas while more data is collected on the current status of HMS is consistent with U.S. law and will ensure the future health of Pacific HMS populations. Quotas could be increased when justified by new, improved population assessments. Additionally, once our domestic policy is established, it can serve as a starting point for the U.S. government's international fishery negotiations.

Thank you for considering our views. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. David Wilmot, our Campaign Director, at 631-224-9820.

Sincerely,



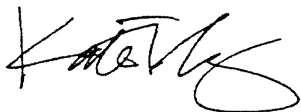
David Wilmot, Ph.D.
Campaign Director



Sonja Fordham
Center for Marine Conservation



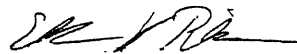
Merry Camhi, Ph.D.
National Audubon Society



Kate Wing
Natural Resources Defense Council



Ken Hinman
National Coalition for Marine Conservation



Ellen Pikitch, Ph.D.
Wildlife Conservation Society



Andy Oliver
World Wildlife Fund

CC: HMS Pacific Fishery Management Council
Dr. Donald O. McIsaac, Council Executive Director
Svein Fougner, NMFS, Southwest Regional Office
HMS Advisory Subpanel
HMS Plan Development Team

Enclosures (2)



P.O. Box 31
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Ocean Wildlife Campaign proposed "Option 5"



Section 8.5.5.5 Longline Fisheries

Inside the EEZ – Conventional Longline Gear

Options

Option 5: An indefinite moratorium on longlining with the potential for re-evaluation by the Council following completion of a cooperative research study.



Analysis

Option 5: Before the Council considers expanding the use of longlines in the West Coast EEZ, a cooperative research study would provide necessary data on target and incidental catch, as well as potential techniques to mitigate bycatch including protected species catch. This information would provide the basis for future management options. A cooperative research study would mandate that fishers proposing to use longlines demonstrate that the gear can meet stringent conservation/performance standards, with an emphasis on minimizing bycatch and bycatch mortality, prior to allowing the use of longlines in the EEZ under the HMS FMP. The bycatch standard would be whether longlines can fish with bycatch rates low enough to have negligible impacts on the populations of bycatch species, not whether longline bycatch rates are lower than the rates of existing fisheries.



Components of a cooperative research study would include, at a minimum:



- 100% observer coverage;
- a protocol for conducting the study, with clearly defined goals and a timetable for reporting conclusions to the Council;
- an experimental design which would test the relative effectiveness of various methods to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality through changes in fishing practices (i.e., depths, areas, and times of operations) and fishing gear (e.g., bait type, gangion length and material, hook type);
- the number and identity of participating vessels, to be determined according to the protocol;
- definitions of both "target catch" and "bycatch" (e.g., juveniles of the target species, non-target species, prohibited, and protected species), upon which the selectivity of longlines are to be evaluated; and,
- regular reporting of bycatch rates, so that the study can be terminated if bycatch rates are unacceptably high.



The Council, in consultation with its Advisory Panels, NMFS and interested parties would review the research results and determine if the gear should be permitted. If allowed, the fishery would be required to have high levels of observer coverage, and to maintain low bycatch rates through fishing the areas/seasons/methods/gears demonstrated by the study to have acceptably low bycatch rates.



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**Ocean Wildlife Campaign Position Statement
Regarding Development of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council's
Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan**

Strategies for Preventing Overfishing and Reducing Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality



March 1, 2001



- **Precautionary Quotas:** Precautionary commercial and recreational quotas should be established for all HMS that include a "margin of safety" to account for scientific uncertainty surrounding reproductive capacity, inaccuracy in catch and discard statistics, and imprecise (or non-existent) population assessments. Given the dearth of population assessments for Pacific HMS and the current reliance on catch trends and catch per unit effort to determine the relative status of many HMS populations, the Council should cap landings at levels below current landings levels to help ensure long-term sustainability of Pacific HMS. Quotas could be increased when justified by new, improved population assessments.



- **Accounting for All Sources of Mortality:** Management actions, including the establishment of species-specific quotas, must account for all sources of mortality (directed and incidental). In order to provide the most reliable information for making management decisions, stock assessments must account for all sources of mortality. Subsequently, management decisions, including the establishment of catch quotas, should be based upon the recognition that directed fishing mortality is not the only source of mortality for a stock. We believe that deducting dead discards from any established species-specific quotas accounts more fully for the actual ecological impact and may create an incentive for fishermen to avoid areas where bycatch is high and handle fish in a manner that promotes post-release survival. We recognize that this action provides an incentive for fishermen to under report dead discards to avoid penalties and as such would require increased observer coverage. Fishing mortality resulting from state landings and dead discards in state waters must also be accounted for (primarily for shark species) in assessments and establishment of quotas.



➤ Fishing Gears and Performance Standards:

I. Existing Fishing Gears

Bycatch Monitoring and Reduction: A comprehensive monitoring program and bycatch reduction framework, including the establishment of gear performance standards for all existing gears, must be established to address bycatch and bycatch mortality of fish and non-fish species. In order to achieve effective bycatch reduction and minimization to meet National Standard 9 requirements, it is important to develop policies and tools to achieve quantifiable reductions in bycatch and bycatch mortality. Specifically, the FMP should address the bycatch and discarding of juveniles of target species, non-target fish species, and non-fish species among other components.

Any bycatch reduction framework should include defined targets and timeframes for reductions, a trajectory with milestones, and pre-defined triggers leading to concrete actions (established *a priori*) if reduction milestones are not met. Management tools could include species-specific quotas (including juvenile quotas), time and area closures, and modifications in fishing gear and practices. Additional bycatch reduction measures that should be considered include a maximum bycatch allowance, which if exceeded would trigger pre-determined management actions.

Gear Performance Standards: A bycatch reduction framework should include performance standards for any and all gears. Gear performance standards should be developed with an emphasis toward minimizing bycatch and discards of all species. The performance standards should be flexible and adaptive, allowing for annual evaluations and adjustments as required. Examples of management tools to achieve performance standards include assigning a percentage cap on total bycatch either by weight or number and species, limits for juveniles, protected species or particularly vulnerable species. Such tools could be applied to individual vessels, to a particular gear sector, or across fleets targeting a particular species.

Performance standards could be combined with incentives to reward fishery participants who meet or exceed target reductions. Gears currently in Pacific HMS fisheries should be expected to meet new performance standards by a set date in the future. If gears cannot achieve the performance standards at that time, they should be disallowed as a legal gear type.

II. New Fishing Gears

New Gear Moratorium: We support an indefinite moratorium on the introduction of new gears into the Pacific HMS fisheries. Many fishing gears used to target highly migratory species have proven to be non-selective resulting in high levels of incidental catch and mortality of unintended, unwanted, or protected sizes or species of fish and other marine wildlife. In moving to federal management of HMS in the Pacific, the Council should prohibit not only gears that are completely new to the fisheries, but also gears that are new to

an area (based on current state regulations). For example, the state of Washington excludes drift gillnets from waters under its jurisdiction, while both the states of California and Washington prohibit pelagic longlining. It would be a mistake to simply extend the range of these fisheries without evaluating their impacts. Any new fishery/gear must conclusively demonstrate that it can meet stringent conservation/performance standards, with a focus on a minimal amount of bycatch and bycatch mortality, prior to being permitted in the HMS fishery under the HMS FMP.

Cooperative Research Study: The burden of proof to conclusively determine the appropriateness of any new gear targeting Pacific HMS rests with those proposing to engage in the fishery. If industry participants believe that a new gear can be used selectively and sustainably, and will not have an adverse impact on HMS stocks or other marine wildlife, they must demonstrate that this is true *before* being allowed into the fishery. We do not support allowing new gears in under unregulated (or lightly regulated), indefinite “experimental/exempted fishing permits”. Should the Council decide that a gear be given the chance to prove itself, it should be as part of a limited cooperative fishery research study that operates under a tightly regulated exempted fishing permit.

Components of a cooperative research study would include, at a minimum:

- a) 100 % observer coverage;
- b) a protocol for conducting the study, with clearly defined goals and a timetable for reporting the conclusions to the council;
- c) the number and identity of participating vessels, to be determined according to the protocol;
- d) definitions of both “target catch” and “bycatch” (e.g., juveniles of the target species, non-target species, prohibited and protected species), upon which the selectivity of the fishing gears and methods being tested are to be evaluated.

The Council, in consultation with its advisory panels, NMFS and interested parties would review the research results and determine if the gear should be permitted.

Comprehensive Monitoring Program: A comprehensive fishery-monitoring program must be developed and implemented. According to NMFS, there are inherent problems associated with the use of self-reported data in fisheries management, including significant under reporting of incidental catch in logbooks. These problems are clearly recognized by the IATTC, which mandates 100% observer coverage for a specific class of vessels engaged in tuna purse-seining. The Commission has also agreed to expand observer coverage to other tuna fishing vessels in the Eastern Pacific. The OWC believes that log-books for all commercial vessels and charter boats as well as increased levels of observer coverage must be mandated in the HMS FMP to be certain that the Council obtains accurate catch and discard data. Vessel monitoring systems (VMS), which are important management and enforcement tools, must be mandatory in certain fisheries. For example, enforcement of time and area closures would be less effective (or ineffective) without VMS.

Domestic-International Interface: The requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, National Standards Guidelines, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act (including appropriate consultations), and National Environmental Policy Act must guide the development of the Pacific HMS FMP. We believe that domestic policy (i.e., HMS FMP) will serve as the starting point for the U.S. government's negotiating position in international negotiations. In other words, the U.S. government should negotiate management and conservation programs in regional fishery management bodies that meet the standards of U.S. laws and guidelines. Importantly, inaction by other nations will not be justification for the United States to delay or reject domestic action to halt overfishing, reduce bycatch, or begin to rebuild depleted fish populations.. In addition, United States obligations to international agreements and treaties (e.g., United Nations Straddling Fish Stocks Treaty and FAO Plans) must also guide development of the FMP. However, the FMP should meet U.S. obligations without limiting the Council's ability to implement more stringent conservation and management actions, if deemed necessary by the Council.

Subject: Fwd: Pacific Bonito in the PFMC Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:41:41 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Pacific Bonito in the PFMC Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan

Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 14:09:50 -0700

From: Chris Backstrand <chris.backstrand@vortexind.com>

To: "'pfmc.comments@noaa.gov'" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

May 23, 2001

Jim Lone

Chairman

Pacific Fishery Management Council

2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224

Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and Council Members:

I am writing in support of including the Pacific Bonito in the PFMC Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan. I believe this fish needs immediate attention of the Pacific Fishery Management Council and that the Highly Migratory Species Plan would be the best vehicle to provide that management. I offer the following reasons:

- 1) The bonito is over fished. NMFS catch data on this fish indicates that the fish may be currently at about only 3% of its historic abundance.
- 2) The bonito is ready for immediate management. The HMS PDT has indicated that adequate data is available for managing this fish for the future. We should not delay any longer.
- 3) The bonito is caught by most gear types and targeted by some gear types being considered for management under the HMS plan.
- 4) The bonito is a very mobile fish, unlike the sort of fish included in the Coastal Pelagics plan. Schools of this fish travel widely and quickly, the fish frequently crosses international boundaries, and ranges far off the coast.
- 5) The bonito is indigent throughout the Pacific. Eastern Pacific populations occur from Chile to Alaska with a typical gap in their populations around the equator as is common with other HMS species.
- 6) The bonito is considered to be a "large" pelagic fish, unlike the other species included in the Coastal Pelagic plan and is of a similar size as many species being considered for inclusion in the Highly Migratory Species plan.
- 7) Current organization of NMFS Southwest Region is divided between Large and Small Pelagics. Bonito has been considered to be a Large Pelagic, not only by the NMFS Southwest Region, but Atlantic Regions also include the similar, but smaller, Atlantic Bonito as a Large Pelagic. All species currently included in the Coastal Pelagics plan have been considered by NMFS as Small Pelagics.
- 8) NMFS publications have listed this specie as being Highly Migratory.
- 9) Bonito has been considered for widespread international management in the past. The bonito was considered for potential management by IATTC nations in 1983 at a convention in Costa Rica. No species currently included in the Coastal Pelagic Plan have been considered, to my knowledge, for management by this large pelagics management regime.
- 10) The bonito is listed as a management species in the Eastern Pacific Tuna Act, Title 16 USC, Section 972. The Act requires licensing for the taking of this fish and other tunas considered for inclusion in the HMS plan. No species currently included in the Coastal Pelagic plan were included in this act.
- 11) It is likely that the emerging MHLA international convention will delegate management of Eastern Pacific species to the IATTC. Therefore the absence of the bonito from preliminary discussions by the MHLA is no

indication that the Eastern Pacific nations will not resurrect discussions on bonito management.

12) The bonito may be in need of some degree of international management. Currently no management regimes have been established to manage any of the Coastal Pelagic species. Mexico shares some stocks of Coastal Pelagic species however at the current time only an exchange of information is occurring regarding Coastal Pelagics and no active management regimes have been established.

13) The bonito was rejected for inclusion in the Coastal Pelagics plan. Verbal communication with a member of the Coastal Pelagics PDT indicated they considered the bonito for inclusion, but believed it should be included in the Highly Migratory Species plan.

14) The bonito is an extremely valuable food fish, fetching ex-vessel prices comparable with and often exceeding some other tuna species.

15) The bonito is an extremely valuable recreational fish. The bonito is a challenging tuna-like species that provides recreational fishermen and related businesses a highly sought-after target. Few if any fish in the ocean match the bonito's ability to fight on a pound for pound basis. Since the fish grows to over 20lbs it is a very challenging recreational fish.

16) The bonito is a very important recreational fish for attracting youth to the sport. The bonito when in abundance provides accessibility to the fish from 1/2 day boats, piers, jetties, and skiff rentals in harbors. Many thousands of these fish were taken annually from barges anchored along our coast. It is probably not coincidental that these fishing-platform businesses have failed and disappeared from our coast at about the same rate as the bonito. These means of fishing access are the typical means utilized for fishing opportunities for youth. It is probably fair to say that the bonito was the primary big-game fish for youth, when the stocks were in better shape.

These reasons should provide adequate basis for a recommendation by the PFMC that this specie be included in the Highly Migratory Species plan in order to expedite active management and possibly active international management. This specie meets every single criterion for active management and is in dire need of such.

Sincerely,

Chris Backstrand
Director of Information Systems
Vortex Industries, Inc.

Subject: Fwd: HMS Draft Plan

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:43:29 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: HMS Draft Plan

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 14:06:20 EDT

From: <MCSFSH@aol.com>

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Jim Lone
Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and Council Members:

I am writing in support of including the Pacific Bonito in the PFMC Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan. I believe this fish needs immediate attention of the Pacific Fishery Management Council and that the Highly Migratory Species Plan would be the best vehicle to provide that management. I offer the following reasons:

- 1) The bonito is over fished. NMFS catch data on this fish indicates that the fish may be currently at about only 3% of its historic abundance.
- 2) The bonito is ready for immediate management. The HMS PDT has indicated that adequate data is available for managing this fish for the future. We should not delay any longer.
- 3) The bonito is caught by most gear types and targeted by some gear types being considered for management under the HMS plan.
- 4) The bonito is a very mobile fish, unlike the sort of fish included in the Coastal Pelagics plan. Schools of this fish travel widely and quickly, the fish frequently crosses international boundaries, and ranges far off the coast.
- 5) The bonito is indigent throughout the Pacific. Eastern Pacific populations occur from Chile to Alaska with a typical gap in their populations around the equator as is common with other HMS species.
- 6) The bonito is considered to be a "large" pelagic fish, unlike the other species included in the Coastal Pelagic plan and is of a similar size as many species being considered for inclusion in the Highly Migratory Species plan.
- 7) Current organization of NMFS Southwest Region is divided between Large and Small Pelagics. Bonito has been considered to be a Large Pelagic, not only by the NMFS Southwest Region, but Atlantic Regions also include the similar, but smaller, Atlantic Bonito as a Large Pelagic. All species currently included in the Coastal Pelagics plan have been considered by NMFS as Small Pelagics.
- 8) NMFS publications have listed this specie as being Highly Migratory.
- 9) Bonito has been considered for widespread international management in the past. The bonito was considered for potential management by IATTC nations in 1983 at a convention in Costa Rica. No species currently included in the Coastal Pelagic Plan have been considered, to my knowledge, for management by this large pelagics management regime.

10) The bonito is listed as a management species in the Eastern Pacific Tuna Act, Title 16 USC, Section 972 . The Act requires licensing for the taking of this fish and other tunas considered for inclusion in the HMS plan. No species currently included in the Coastal Pelagic plan were included in this act.

11) It is likely that the emerging MHLC international convention will delegate management of Eastern Pacific species to the IATTC. Therefore the absence of the bonito from preliminary discussions by the MHLC is no indication that the Eastern Pacific nations will not resurrect discussions on bonito management.

12) The bonito may be in need of some degree of international management. Currently no management regimes have been established to manage any of the Coastal Pelagic species. Mexico shares some stocks of Coastal Pelagic species however at the current time only an exchange of information is occurring regarding Coastal Pelagics and no active management regimes have been established.

13) The bonito was rejected for inclusion in the Coastal Pelagics plan. Verbal communication with a member of the Coastal Pelagics PDT indicated they considered the bonito for inclusion, but believed it should be included in the Highly Migratory Species plan.

14) The bonito is an extremely valuable food fish, fetching ex-vessel prices comparable with and often exceeding some other tuna species.

15) The bonito is an extremely valuable recreational fish. The bonito is a challenging tuna-like species that provides recreational fishermen and related businesses a highly sought-after target. Few if any fish in the ocean match the bonito's ability to fight on a pound for pound basis. Since the fish grows to over 20lbs it is a very challenging recreational fish.

16) The bonito is a very important recreational fish for attracting youth to the sport. The bonito when in abundance provides accessibility to the fish from 1/2 day boats, piers, jetties, and skiff rentals in harbors. Many thousands of these fish were taken annually from barges anchored along our coast. It is probably not coincidental that these fishing-platform businesses have failed and disappeared from our coast at about the same rate as the bonito. These means of fishing access are the typical means utilized for fishing opportunities for youth. It is probably fair to say that the bonito was the primary big-game fish for youth, when the stocks were in better shape.

These reasons should provide adequate basis for a recommendation by the PFMC that this specie be included in the Highly Migratory Species plan in order to expedite active management and possibly active international management. This specie meets every single criterion for active management and is in dire need of such.

Sincerely,

Marty Steelman
219 S. Main Street
Placentia, Ca. 92870

TO
SIM

LONE

TO PFMC

MAY 17 2001

KIRBY YOUNG
62 Parpala Rd.
Naselle, WA 98638



SUBJECT ALBICORE LIMITED ENTRY

I'VE BEEN FISHING TIGS FOR ALBICORE
FOR THE PAST 35 YRS BOTH AS A
CREWMAN & A BOAT OWNER, IN
THE PAST 30 YEARS AS A BOAT
OWNER I'VE SOLD OVER 400 TONS
AND SOME YRS I CAUGHT & SOLD
OVER 30 TONS, NOW I'D WOULD
THINK THAT WOULD BE A HISTORY
IN THE FISHERY?? WHILE
THERE WERE YEARS THAT I WAS
INVOLVED IN OTHER FISHERIES I'VE
COME TO DEPEND ON ALBICORE.

WHAT TROUBLES ME AS IN
MY OWN CASE I'VE NOT BEEN
ABLE TO FISH THE PAST 4 YRS
WITH THE ILLNESS OF MY
DAUGHTER AND SOME ILLNESS-
ES OF MY OWN, AND THAT
NOW WITH THE MOVEMENT TOWARD
LIMITED ENTRY STAIRING ME IN
THE FACE THAT I MIGHT BE
LEFT OUT IN THE COLD AND
REPLACED BY A "JERK" FROM

#2

CANADA WHO IS GOING TO HAVE
MORE SAY SO THEN I AND
HAS ONLY BEEN DOING IT
(Fishing Tigs For Tuna) THE PAST
1-2 or 3 yrs, THIS ~~ALL~~ DONT
SIT WELL WITH ANYBODY, THESE
FISH BELONG TO AMERICAN
FISHERMAN PERIOD

I HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH
CANADIANS THE PAST 35 yrs HAVING
FISHED ALONG SIDE OF THEM ~~FOR~~ SALMON
TROLLING IN ALASKA & IN CANADIAN
WATERS HECATE STRAITS & OFF
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND THEY ARE
GREAT GUYS AS LONG AS THEY
GET THERE OWN WAY,

SO COME ON GUYS & GALS OR
WHOEVER YOU ARE DONT SOCK
OUT THE AMERICAN TIG ALBIECE
FLEET TO A FORIEN NATION TO
REPLACED GUYS LIKE MYSELF
& PLENTY MORE LIKE ME WHO
COULD FALL THRU THE SCOP
OF LIMITED ENTRY

Kerly Young

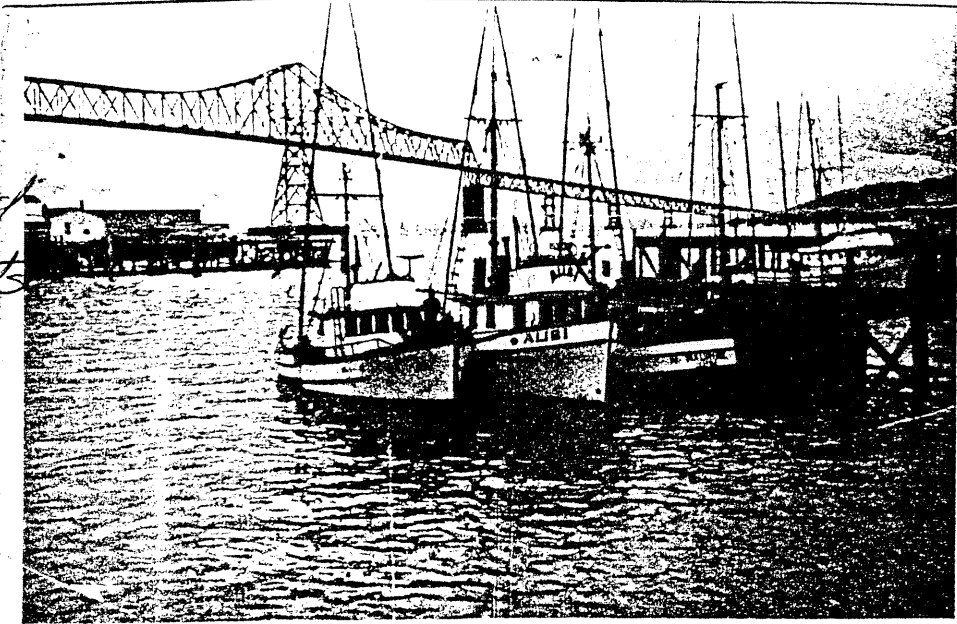
SAME OWNER



KIRBY YOUNG
62 Papala Rd.
Naselle, WA 98638

This is history
JULY 1972 HUGO'S FUEL
DOCK

This
vessel
should
be GRANTED
Fishing Rights
for
ALBICORE
for life
of such
vessel



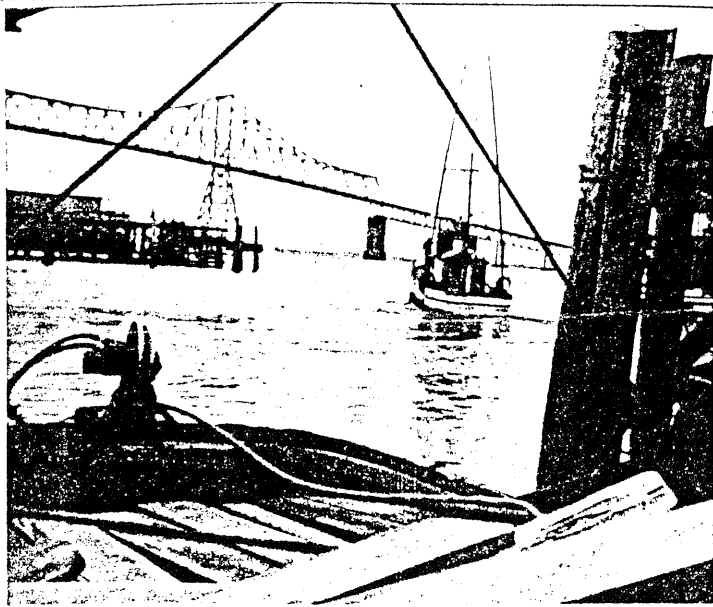
ASTORIA
OREGON

F/V
QUEST
WITH
9 TON
OF

ALBICORE

Along The

IT HAS
PROBABLY
WORTH A
1,000,000
IN MILLION
TON IN ITS
50 PLUS
life TIME



ALBI &
The
MURKIN

QUEST GOING TO CANNERY

\$4000 Then TO UNLOAD

\$18000 today's PRICE

9 TON

CAUGHT A HELPA A LOT OF ALBICOE who could be get -
THE BUSINESS WE AMERICAN STAND TO BAIN NOTHING
AND JOSE A LOT - MYSELF IM FOR STATUS CRUE.
AND LET ANY AMERICAN FISH & DEAL WITH THE ~~PARACHAS~~ ^{KEY}

P.F.M.C.
HI MAB FISH



Kirby Young
62 Parpala Rd
Naselle WA 98638-8612

MAY 17 2001

MAY 17 2001

SUBJECT ALBICORE Limited ENTRY

I'VE BEEN FISHING TIGS FOR ALBICORE
FOR THE PAST 35 YRS BOTH AS A
CREWMAN & A BOAT OWNER, IN
THE PAST 30 YEARS AS A BOAT
OWNER I'VE SOLD OVER 400 TONS
AND SOME YRS I CAUGHT & SOLD
OVER 30 TONS, NOW I'D WOULD
THINK THAT WOULD BE A HISTORY
IN THE FISHERY?? WHILE
THERE WERE YEARS THAT I WAS
INVOLVED IN OTHER FISHERYS I'VE
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WHAT TROUBLES ME AS IN
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DAUGHTER AND SOME ILLNESS-
ES OF MY OWN, AND THAT
NOW WITH THE MOVEMENT TOWARD
LIMITED ENTRY STAIRING ME IN
THE FACE THAT I MIGHT BE
LEFT OUT IN THE COLD AND
REPLACED BY A "JERK" FROM

#2

CANADA WHO IS GOING TO HAVE
MORE SAY SO THEN I AND
HAS ONLY BEEN DOING IT
(Fishing Tigs For TUNA) THE PAST
1-2 or 3 yrs, THIS ~~THE~~ DONT
SIT WELL WITH ANYBODY, THESE
FISH BELONG TO AMERICAN
FISHERMAN PERIOD

I HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH
CANADIANS THE PAST 35 yrs HAVING
FISHED ALONG SIDE OF THEM ~~THE~~ SALMON
TROLLING IN ALASKA & IN CANADIAN
WATERS HECATE STRAITS & OFF
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND THEY ARE
GREAT GUYS AS LONG AS THEY
GET THERE OWN WAY,

SO COME ON GUYS & GALS OR
WHOEVER YOU ARE DONT SELL
OUT THE AMERICAN TIG. ALBINO
FLEET TO A FORIEN NATION TO
REPLACED GUYS LIKE MYSELF
& PLENTY MORE LIKE ME WHO
COULD FALL THRU THE ^{CRACKS} SCORE
OF LIMITED ENTRY

Kerly Young

I STARTED FISHING THESE ALBICORE
ON THIS VESSEL — IN 1969.

July 1972 —

THIS IS MY HISTORY

QUEST WITH 9 TON

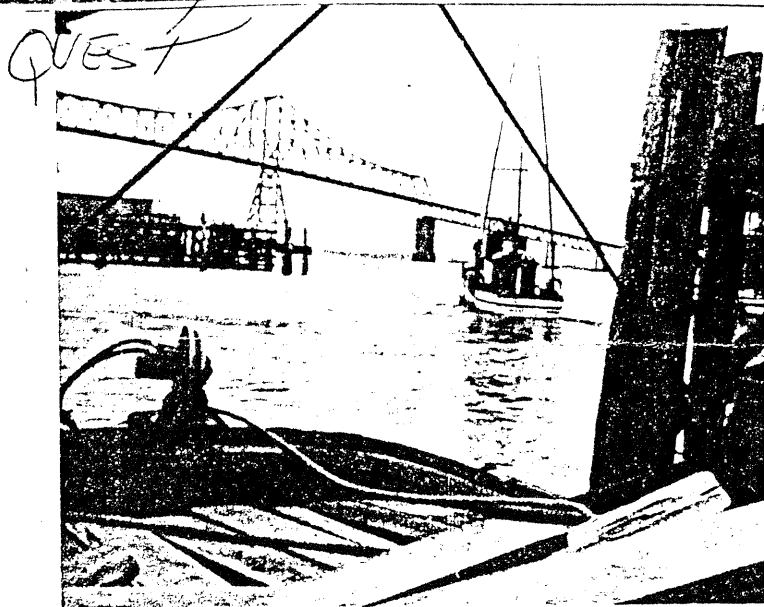
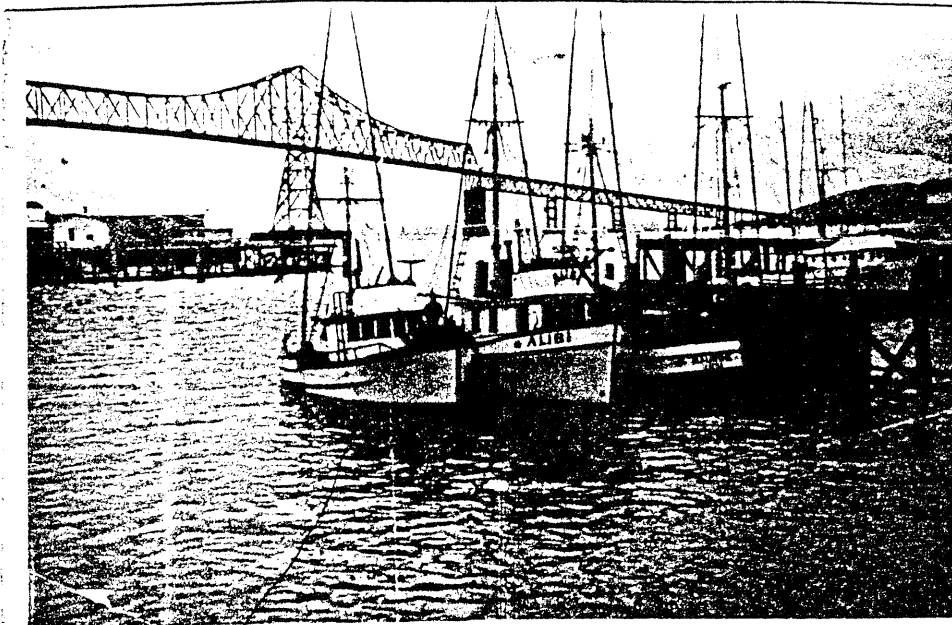
ALBICORE Hugo's
FUEL
DOCK

ASTORIA
ORE

Along side

ALIBI

MAUREEN



IM NOT
GOING TO
BE HAPPY
TO BE SCREWED
OUT OF THIS
FISHERY BY A
FOREIGN NATION

QUEST going TO

then — CANNERY —

9 TON

ALBICORE

\$4000

\$18000

Today's MONEY

50
CANADIANS
WOULD BE
PLENTY

STILL
OWN
SAME
VESSEL

BEEN
THERE
DONE
IT

MAY 17 2001

May 12, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Mr. Chairman:

As a California registered voter, I would like to express my position on pelagic longlines within the (Exclusive Economic Zone) of our coast. We must not allow this destructive, wasteful method of fishing to devastate our irreplaceable fishery. We need only look At the crippling impact this method of fishing has had on the Atlantic fishery. Say no to Longline fishing before it's too late. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely:

Judd Hembree

9 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

Date : MAY 23, 2001

To: Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

MAY 23 2001

From: J. SANICO
1400 N Gaffey
San Pedro CA
90731

Subject: Longlining within our EEZ on the pacific coast.

I strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on our coast. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past and I am not willing to stand by and let it happen here. I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares, but I pay my taxes and vote. Please don't devastate our resources.

Thank you:



14 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

MAY 29 2001

May 25, 2001

Bob Fritzen
941 Redwood St.
Oxnard Calif.
93033

Chairman Jim Lone

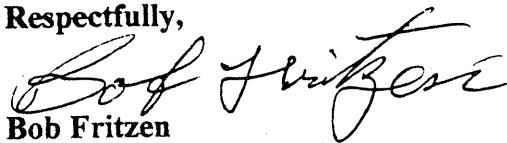
Pacific fishery Management Council
2130 SW fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

I am writing this letter to express my strong opposition to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ along the Southern California coastline. The destruction of the fisheries along the eastern seaboard and other areas with this type of gear is well documented.

It seems that there is a big effort for the establishment of marine reserves, new size limits, and other measures to restore our fisheries. As an avid salt-water fisherman, I applaud these actions so our children will also have an opportunity to fish.

I plead with you to look at what has happened along the East Coast. Let us learn from this knowledge. Please deny this longline request. We're all counting on you!

Respectfully,


Bob Fritzen

2COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

ROBERT R. MCBURNEY

MAY 29 2

Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S/W Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

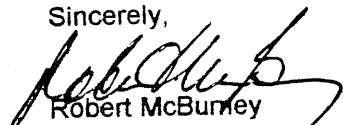
Dear Mr. Lone:

I wish to join other concerned taxpayers and sport fisherman in strong opposition to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the U. S. Exclusive Economic Zone. To do so in any way, even minimally, would be to invite a repeat of the devastation that occurred off the Atlantic and Gulf coasts where the bycatch exceeded 500 metric tons annually.

The California Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously in 1992 to forbid longlines because of indiscriminate bycatch of mammals, birds, juvenile fish, sharks and turtles. This decision must stand.

Please hold firm in preventing a disaster in our west coast waters.

Sincerely,


Robert McBurney
40597 Glenwood Lane
Palm Desert, CA 92260

2 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

May 23, 2001

MAY 29 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Chairman Lone:

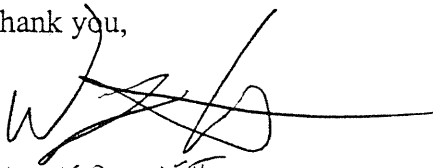
As one of the thousands of saltwater fishermen in Southern California, I feel it is my responsibility to stand up and be heard on the proposed pelagic long liners fishing off the coast of California. I feel the longline fishery is too wasteful to operate within a 500-mile limit let alone the 200-mile EEZ limit.

The affect it will have on the California, Washington, Oregon, and Baja California's pacific coastline will be devastating. The supposed targeted species of the long liners is the Bluefin Tuna (Yea right). The species they will wipe out for their own Greed will be the: Albacore Tuna, Bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna, swordfish, Blue Marlin, Black Marlin, Sailfish, yellowtail, Blue Shark, Thresher Shark, Mako Shark, Great White Shark, King salmon, Coho salmon, Steelhead, and the protected Black Seabass.

If these species are over fished on the West Coast, like they were on the East Coast, it could take 20 years to bring our already stressed fishery back to the point it is now, and only if the fishing for any of these species was completely shut down by any one for the same 20 year period. This type of fishing is wasteful. The by-catch alone at best is 50 % but more realistically is 75-85%. This can be seen in the letter from Mike McGettigan Dated March 2001. The long line fishery has not been regulated enough to make this type of fishing anything but random, compared to seining the intended species.

I cannot see any reason to allow them to come inside the 200-mile EEZ limit. This will keep them outside the fishing rang of most of the 1 day and the 1 1/2 day boat range, which in California is about 100 miles off the coast. The fact that long line fishing was tested here twice, and failed miserably both times, should tell you that this does not make any sense, unless your goal is to destroy the West Coast fishery.

Thank you,



WAYNE CORNETT
1715 Cabrillo Avenue
Torrance CA 90501
(310) 320-6171

2COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

MAY 20 2001

May, 20, 2001

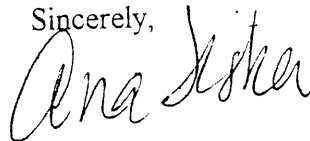
Ana Fisher
9313 Goodbee St.
Pico Rivera, California
90660

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management
Council 2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon
97201

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within US Exclusive Economic Zone on our coast. I am aware of the destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past. I am not willing to stand by and let it happen here. I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares but a tax payer and I vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ana Fisher".

3 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

MAY 22 2001

To;
Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery management Council
Date: May 16, 2001
Subject: Proposed Long lining off California coast

Mr. Lone this letter is in response to proposed pelagic longliners being issued permits to fish inside 200 miles.

It is well documented that longliners have decimated fish stocks on the East and Gulf coasts of the U.S. In fact it is the very same boats applying for permits here that wiped out the stocks on our other coasts. They virtually fished the areas out and are looking at the West coast as their next target.

I am a native Californian and have sportfished offshore from the Oregon border to Cabo San Lucas for 45 years. I'm aware of the decline of our fisheries and wholeheartedly agree with the various size limits and closures that have been put into effect on the different species of fish. I believe all sportfishermen are comfortable with these regulations as we have seen good results stemming from them such as the White Sea Bass, Barracuda and Calico Bass. The Black Sea Bass populations are way up because sportfishermen abide by the rules and release them unharmed.

Just a few short years ago the Halibut fishery in San Francisco Bay was at an all time low due to the commercial gillnets. We banned the nets and the Halibut came back as strong as ever.

As this letter is being written there are people trying to close down a very large area of the Channel Islands to sportfishing and diving. How can this be happening and at the same time we let the longliners go full speed right outside the Islands?

If we allow the longliners to work the West coast they will needlessly kill thousands of striped marlin that have no market value. Thousands of blue sharks will die when they are caught then dumped back into the sea dead. California is home of one of the few Mako shark nurseries in the world. Longlining would seriously endanger this situation. The Longliners target species are swordfish which have been fished so hard that most fish caught are juvenile fish and Tuna. They say by letting them longline we will gain information on the Bluefin Tuna stocks off our coast. What they don't say is if given the chance they will completely wipe out whatever population is available. All the migratory tunas, Albacore, Yellowfin and Skipjack, will suffer. Our pelagic fish will take such a beating they may never make a come back.

As a taxpayer, voter and a person who respects the sea and all it has to offer I ask you to please not allow the longliners to operate off the West coast of the U.S.

Thank you for your considerations,

Paul Lynch
Paul Lynch

3 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

2986 Luciernaga Street #12
Carlsbad, CA 92009

RECEIVED
MAY 14 2001

May 9, 2001

DEAD

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chairman Lone,

I am writing this letter to you to voice my concerns over the proposal to allow commercial longlining within 200 miles of the California coastline. I strongly oppose the introduction of this form of commercial fishing within the United States Exclusive Economic Zone.

Longlining is a wasteful fishing method, period!. For every targeted species of fish, many more are thrown back into the sea and die because they do not have any monetary value. Many viable stocks of fish have been decimated by the introduction of this method of fishery, often in less than 10 years. Take for example the plight of the Atlantic Swordfish, in just 30 years the estimated population of swordfish has declined by 70 percent, with the average fish harvest reducing in size from 300 pounds to less than 90 pounds. A rule of thumb, for most species of fish, the larger the fish, the more eggs produced. If the larger fish are taken out of the breeding stock, and the juvenile fish are caught before they ever have a chance of spawning, it doesn't take a biologist to figure out the eventual outcome.

I hope you consider my viewpoint strongly. I am a recreation angler who practices catch and release. I sure hope I can share this form of recreation and a robust Pacific Ocean teeming with fish with my future grandchildren.

Thank you,



Peter Soracco

4 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

May 8, 2001

MAY 14 2001

PERC

To: Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW 5th Ave.
Portland, OR. 97201

Mr. Chairman,

I am a recreational sports-fisherman who is strongly opposed to the introduction of long-lines within the E.E.Z. on our coast. Furthermore, I am well aware of the waistfull and careless destruction associated with long-line gear in the past. I ~~am~~ not willing to stand by and let it happen here. I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares but, I pay taxes and I vote.

Thank you,

Jeanne Morford
Print Name

Jeanne Morford
Signature

62 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 01 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

I am a recreational fisherman who is concerned about the future of our West Coast marine fishery. I am in full support of a responsible PPMC management plan for the highly migratory species in our region, and hope that you and your council will do the right thing by disallowing the use of indiscriminate commercial fishing gear as part of that plan.

I believe that the resource belongs to all of us, and no individual citizen or organization has the right to waste it. Please do not allow the tragic events that ruined the swordfish fishery and wasted the white and blue marlin populations of our Atlantic coast to repeat themselves here in the West.

I urge you to not only disallow the introduction of new longline gear on the West Coast, but to work to remove drift gillnets as well.

Respectfully,

(Please Print)

Name: CHUCK WILSON
Address: 5302 CHARINGCROSS RD
City: WESTMINSTER
State: CA Zip: 92683

Signature: Charles Wilson

4 copies of this letter received as of 5/29/01



NoCaliforniaLongliners.com



Chair Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council,
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

7201+4:



NoCaliforniaLongliners.com

Mr. Lone & Council,

I am aware that the Highly Migratory Species Development Team is currently evaluating longline gear to be used within California's Exclusive Economic Zone.

The depletion of targeted species combined with the destruction of "bycatch" - waterfowl, turtles, dolphins, and seals is something I am strongly opposed to and I urge you to vote against longlining.

Brandon Lombard

Print

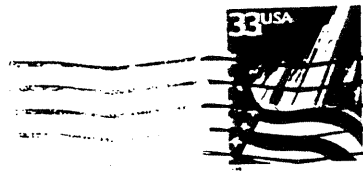
Signature

Date

11/11/00

3 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

FULTS
2640 WAVEWAY DR.
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92663



RECEIVED

MAR 28 2001

PFIAC



James H. Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S.W. Fifth Ave., Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Sir or Madam:

As a saltwater angler, I am very concerned about the Pacific Fishery Management Council's consideration of plans to allow a pelagic longline fishery to develop in the Pacific EEZ. The worldwide use of this gear has demonstrated that it inevitably takes marine mammals, sea turtles, marlin and other non-target species as bycatch.

There exists little, if any, quantitative assessment of the status of our Pacific highly migratory species stocks. Before the Council allows the development of a new fishery and increases mortality of these stocks, let them reduce the levels of bycatch and waste in gears currently in use and invest in good science to establish defensible scientific data on the health of our tuna, shark, and striped marlin stocks.

I support the campaign The Billfish Foundation has underway here in California and agree with their position that there should not be a longline fishery authorized for our waters. The Billfish Foundation is taking a constructive science-based approach. I hope you will help ensure that the Final Fishery Management Plan reflects similarly based decision making.

Sincerely,

Name: Geoff FULTS
Street or Box No. 2640 WAVEWAY DR.
City: NEWPORT BEACH
State: CA Zip: 92663

145 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA)
PO Box 98263
Washington, DC 20090
toll-free 1-888-SAVE-FISH



James H. Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S.W. Fifth Ave., Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Chairman Lone,

I'm a member of the salt-water recreational fishing community and I'm extremely concerned that the Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering a proposal to allow drift longlines in the Pacific.


The science surrounding this gear is clear – marine mammal interaction is inevitable, as is by-catch of juvenile and unmarketable species, including endangered sea turtles, pilot whales, marlin, and sea birds. To introduce this fishing practice to the waters of the West Coast would be reckless.

The U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives have both recognized longlines for the "dirty" gear they are – and are addressing the reduction of this gear through the legislative process. Drift longlines and drift gill nets have no place in sustainable and historical fisheries.

I urge you to remove driftnets from the water – but do not replace them with an unsustainable longline industry.

(Please Print)

Sincerely,

Name GARTH R. SMITH
Address 2541 HAWKINS LN
City EUGENE State OR Zip 97408
Signature 

I FISH I VOTE

10 COPIES OF THIS LETTER RECEIVED AS OF 5/29/01

5-20-01

Chairman Jim Love
Pacific Fishery Council
2130 SW 5th Ave
Portland, Or.

I strongly oppose the
introduction of Long Line
Fishing in the E.E.Z. on
our Coast. To many
kills!

Keep Long Livers
out of the
200 mile Zone!

Please

Sincerely - Tom Hicks
Box 129
Riverside, Ca
92502

MAY 20 2001

MAY 11, 2001

TO THE PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
LONGLINES WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE. I
JUST DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY CALIFORNIA WOULD EVEN
CONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL. WITH ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT
THIS TYPE OF FISHING UNBIASLY KILLS ALL SPECIES OF
MARINE LIFE. I DETEST THIS TYPE OF FISHING AND WILL
NOT STAND IDLE FOR THIS. I URGE YOU TO DO WHAT EVER
IT TAKES TO KEEP THE LONGLINERS AND ANY OTHER TYPE OF
KILLING (FISHING) FROM HAPPENING. I AM A VETERAN AND
ACTIVE VOTER AND WILL BE WATCHING THIS PROPOSAL VERY
CLOSELY.

SINCERELY,

E. GEORGE CHANDLER
1186 GEORGIA ST
IMPERIAL BEACH, CA 91932

E. George Chandler

MAY 23 2001

Sturgeon Lake Mn.
5/23/01

Chairman Rone,

Being an avid saltwater fisherman
I am Opposed to longline fishing
on our ~~west~~ Coast.

Please be aware of the
damage this would cause to
a great fishery that we now have.

Larry Dage
Sturgeon Lake Mn
55783

Larry Dage

Pacific Fishery Mgmt. Council
2130 S.W. Fifth Ave
Portland, Ore. 97201

Jason & Val Pierce
8971 Palomar St
Atascadero, Ca.
934

Dear Chairman Lone,

We strongly oppose the introduction of Pelagic longlines within the "EEZ" zone on our California Coastline. We are aware of the needless waste of untargeted fish caught, returned to the sea dead (70 to 80%) of their catch! We have many friends and a large family, who are taxpayers and do exercise our rights to vote. We will support those who support our position on these matters. Tell the longliner's to go back and rape the East Coast waters as they did before and leave the Calif. Coastline alone.

Thank you, Sincerely

Jason & Valerie Pierce
JASON & Valerie Pierce

James A. Springer
6333 Chaffee Street
Ventura, California 93003
(805) 654-8001
Fax (805) 654-8002

MAY 20 2001

May 24, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

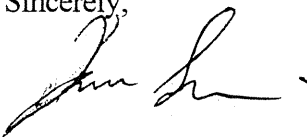
Re: Permitting of Longlines within the 200 mile EEZ

Dear Chairman Lone:

I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose the introduction of longlines within the 200 mile EEZ off the US west coast. As you know there is overwhelming evidence that if longlines are allowed in this area, fisheries for numerous species will most certainly collapse as they have done off the US east coast. Additionally, huge numbers of marine mammals, sharks and other species will be decimated by this non-selective fishing method.

Simply put, longlines have no place in US waters. Please stop this invasion into our waters.

Sincerely,



James A. Springer

P.F.M.C.

I WAS VERY DISTURBED, TO RECENTLY DISCOVER, THAT THE PFMC IS CONSIDERING ALLOWING LONGLINERS ACCESS TO OUR WEST COAST.

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE, THAT AFTER SEEING WHAT DEVASTATION THIS TYPE OF FISHING CAN HAVE ON A GIVEN AREA, THAT YOU WOULD ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN ON THIS COAST AS WELL. TO WITNESS THE "RAPE" OF OUR EAST COAST FISHERIES, AND THEN TO CONSIDER TO LET THIS HAPPEN ON THE WEST COAST IS BEYOND COMPREHENSION.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE
THAT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF
THE MASSIVE AMOUNT OF BY-CATCH,
THAT THIS METHOD OF FISHING
PRODUCES, THAT IT IS NOT BANNED
WORLD WIDE. THE "STRIP MINING"
OF OUR OCEANS MUST STOP!!

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THE INTRO-
DUCTION OF PELAGIC LONGLINES
WITHIN THE EEZ ON OUR COAST

THANK YOU,

MARK A. RODRIGUEZ
1853 N. 7TH ST
PORT HUENEME, CA

93041

MAY 23 2001

May 24, 2001

Michael R Goodwin
PO Box 5457
Huntington Beach, CA
92615

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone:

I am very concerned with the possibility that the Pacific Management Council may allow Long Line Fishing in waters offshore of the California coast. This method of fishing is devastating to fish populations. As a private boater who fishes these waters and waters that would be affected by this type of fishing, I am very worried.

I feel that much of the information submitted by Mr. Janisse in his Proposal to Regulate the West Coast Pelagic Longline Fishery Under the PFMCS HMS FMP is misleading and I also feel that this document is a proposal to decimate the fish population of California Ocean waters. Even though his proposal is for no longline fishing within 25 miles of shore, this type of fishing will wreck the entire fish population within 25 miles of shore also.

Longline Fishing has already wrecked the fish populations of the Atlantic ocean. That is why these guys are trying to move into the Pacific fisheries. They have run out of fish in the Atlantic.

Please do not let the longliners in and wreck our sportfishing waters.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael R Goodwin", written over a horizontal line.

Michael R Goodwin

MAY 23 2001

22786 Rumble Cir.
El Toro, Calif 92630
May 15, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and Members of the Pacific Council,

I am an avid sports fisherman, actively involved with Southern California fishing clubs, and worked hard on the committee to ban gill nets a few years back. It has come to my attention that members of the East Coast longlining fleet are petitioning to open a long line fishery within twenty five miles of the Southern California coast. These are the same boats that have depleted the broadbill sword fish resource on the Grand Banks. With the tenacity that it takes to spend 30 to 60 days on the Grand Banks in terrible weather, these guys could completely wipe out our broadbill swordfish, thresher sharks, Mako shark nursery, yellow fin tuna, and put a big dent in the albacore in a single season while basking in the California sun.

Because of the topography in the Southern California waters the pelagic species tend to school up over a limited number of under sea mounts making them easy targets for the longliners.

The local sport fisherman are working hard on conservation as well as replenishment of the fish and the ecosystem that supports them. The white sea bass grow out program is an example of a successful effort at replenishment.

Please don't allow the longliners to destroy our resources.

Regards
Rick Fuller

May 21, 2001

RECEIVED
MAY 25 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

RE: Pelagic Longlines Opposition

Dear Mr. Chairman:

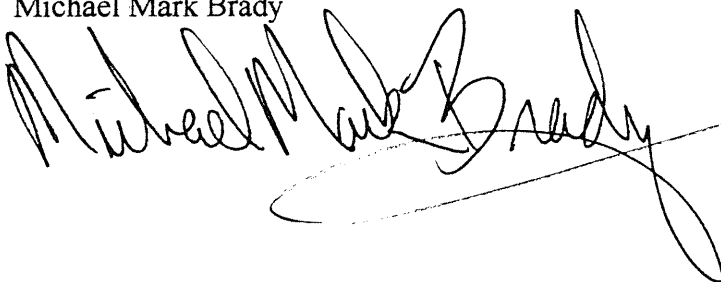
I strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on our coast. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past and I am not willing to stand by and let it happen in the eastern Pacific. I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares about our natural resources, I pay my taxes and I also use my right to vote. Pelagic longlines have clearly demonstrated their destructiveness and the damage to our fishery would be irreparable. Please do not allow longlines into our EEZ!

If you require additional information from me, you may contact me at:

Michael Mark Brady
639 N. Oak Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91107

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Michael Mark Brady

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Mark Brady", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

MAY 25 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chairman Lone,

Please take just a moment to read my concerns regarding the proposed implementation of longline fishing in the Southern California Pacific Ocean region. I am aware of both the need to allow the commercial fishing industry to succeed, and the need to preserve the aquatic ecosystem in the waters that surround our borders. By every stretch, this must be a challenging task.

However, it has come to my attention that the Pacific Fishery Management Council is considering allowing longline fishing along the Californian coast. As I am sure you are aware, longliners drift miles and miles (20 to 40 miles) of baited lines and hooks (sometimes just a few yards apart), which act as walls of death for passing fish. The act of longline fishing has proven to be a devastating means of commercial fishing, not only to the fish species targeted by longliners, but too many other species which are indiscriminately caught and discarded dead after the catch. Many of these species killed and discarded at sea are protected and otherwise illegal to catch and kill.

Species indiscrimination is just one of many serious problems with longlining. Longlines destroy entire fisheries by catching and killing not only adult fish, but indiscriminately catching and killing young fish, the lifeblood of a sustainable species population. In addition, longliners target "highly migratory species" which impact the oceans globally, not just locally. The decision to not allow longlining therefore is a responsibility we have not only to this state/country but other states/countries in the Pacific Region. Mexico and Hawaii have banned this type of commercial fishing altogether. I assume this played a key role in 1992, when the California Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously to bar this type of commercial fishing because of the inevitable by-catch and death of millions of sea mammals, turtles, birds, non-targeted fish and sharks.

The introduction of additional long line fishing gear in California's 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone must be stopped. I strongly urge you to take an active position in this cause. Longline fleets have frequently moved from area to area decimating fish populations in their wake until their daily catches don't cover the cost of their daily operations (the decimation of the sailfish population in the Northern Atlantic region by the longline commercial fishing industry is well documented). Please do not allow the waters off the Californian Coast to be destroyed by longliners like those they have destroyed in the past. Please let us learn from our mistakes!

Sincerely,



Gregory Belzer
22 Sixth Street
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

May 18, 2001

MAY 25 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Re: Pelagic longlines with the EEZ

Dear Chairman Lone and the Pacific Council,

This short letter is to inform you and the Council of my strong opposition of pelagic longlines to be considered or introduced within the EEZ or 200-mile limit off Southern California.

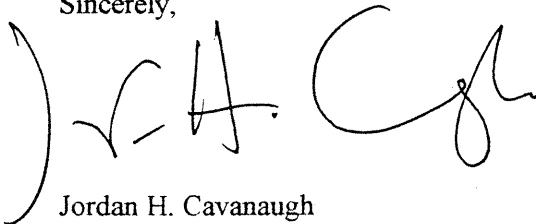
I am a recreational angler and, along with my wife and daughter, practice catch and release. We never abuse set limits for recreational catches. Southern California has recently experienced an increase in sport fishing catches again. This is largely due to the intense efforts of conservation. Recent recreational white sea bass catches are a good example of this rebound.

Please do not overlook the multitude of recreational anglers who vote and pay taxes and the millions of dollars in revenue generated that directly benefits our local and national economy, for a select few commercial interests that will rapidly deplete and destroy our fragile local fisheries. If longlines are allowed within the 200-mile EEZ they will effectively destroy our local and migratory swordfish, Mako shark, Thresher shark, striped marlin, blue shark, and tuna and yellowtail populations. Not to mention the countless fishes and sea mammals by this indiscriminate means of killing. An example of this is the near extinction of the East Coast Swordfish Fishery that was brought about by a few short years of longlining. In addition this, what about the waste associated with the bycatch of non-targeted species or juvenile targeted species.

We will not allow the devastation that longlining within the EEZ will bring about for the short-term benefits of a few commercial interests who will then move on after our resource base has been destroyed. If this devastation is allowed to occur, history will show it was the Pacific Fishery Management Council and those legislators who voted against the public majority who allowed this to happen and they alone will have to answer to future generations and be held solely responsible.

Please do not allow longlining within the EEZ and let the irreversible destruction occur.

Sincerely,



Jordan H. Cavanaugh
17847 Oak St.
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 378-9773

May 18, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 25 2001

Re: Pelagic longlines with the EEZ

Dear Chairman Lone and the Pacific Council,

This short letter is to inform you and the Council of my strong opposition of pelagic longlines to be considered or introduced within the EEZ or 200-mile limit off Southern California.

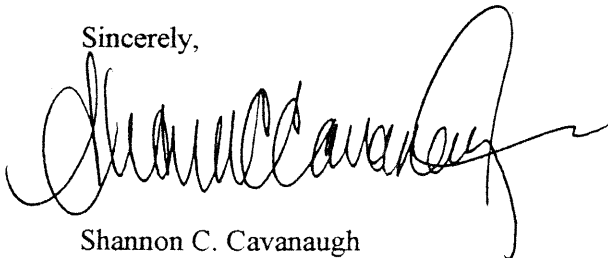
I am a recreational angler and, along with my ^{HUSBAND} wife and daughter, practice catch and release. We never abuse set limits for recreational catches. Southern California has recently experienced an increase in sport fishing catches again. This is largely due to the intense efforts of conservation. Recent recreational white sea bass catches are a good example of this rebound.

Please do not overlook the multitude of recreational anglers who vote and pay taxes and the millions of dollars in revenue generated that directly benefits our local and national economy, for a select few commercial interests that will rapidly deplete and destroy our fragile local fisheries. If longlines are allowed within the 200-mile EEZ they will effectively destroy our local and migratory swordfish, Mako shark, Thresher shark, striped marlin, blue shark, and tuna and yellowtail populations. Not to mention the countless fishes and sea mammals by this indiscriminate means of killing. An example of this is the near extinction of the East Coast Swordfish Fishery that was brought about by a few short years of longlining. In addition this, what about the waste associated with the bycatch of non-targeted species or juvenile targeted species.

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Please do not allow longlining within the EEZ and let the irreversible destruction occur.

Sincerely,



Shannon C. Cavanaugh
17847 Oak St.
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 378-9773

Subject: Fwd: Longlines, Bluefin Tuna and Bonito

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:40:51 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Longlines, Bluefin Tuna and Bonito

Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 13:46:54 -0700 (PDT)

From: Mike Lanning <mglanning@yahoo.com>

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Michael G. Lanning
3937 Manhattan Beach Boulevard
El Camino Village, California 90260

May 23, 2001
Jim Lone
Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

1) No longlines in our EEZ. One longliner sets more hooks for more hours than the entire recreational fleet operating inside the EEZ on an average day in season. One longliner effectively doubles an effort that is already very high.

2) Restoration of the recreational Bluefin fishery. Our bluefin resource has been reduced from historic levels where bluefin schools of large fish used to turn the waters of Avalon Bay to white foam to hardly ever seeing one within 40 miles of the island. The HMS plan should do something to reduce excessive bluefin effort and help restore the bluefin recreational fishery to a satisfactory level.

3) Restoration of the recreational Bonito fishery. Bonito should be included in the HMS plan. A year ago the council agreed to take action on Bonito but still nothing has been done. This fish needs protection so it can recover and it needs to be done now!!

Thank you,

Michael Lanning

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<http://auctions.yahoo.com/>

Subject: Fwd: "Agenda Item: F2"

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:40:23 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: "Agenda Item: F2"

Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 13:09:21 -0700

From: "frank-sullivan" <frank-sullivan@email.msn.com>

To: <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Dear Sirs,

Please address the following issues in your HMS draft plan. They are important to me and my fellow sportfishermen living and recreating in the So. California coastal area.

- 1) No longlines in our EEZ. One longliner sets more hooks for more hours than the entire recreational fleet operating inside the EEZ on an average day in season. One longliner effectively doubles an effort that is already very high.
- 2) Restoration of the recreational Bluefin fishery. Our bluefin resource has been reduced from historic levels where bluefin schools of large fish used to turn the waters of Avalon Bay to white foam to hardly ever seeing one within 40 miles of the island. The HMS plan should do something to reduce excessive bluefin effort and help restore the bluefin recreational fishery to a satisfactory level.
- 3) Restoration of the recreational Bonito fishery. Bonito should be included in the HMS plan. A year ago the council agreed to take action on Bonito but still nothing has been done. This fish needs protection so it can recover and it needs to be done now!! See the letter at the bottom that the council received almost a year ago.

Thank you for your time,

Frank Sullivan
frank-sullivan@msn.com
3350 Sunset Ln.
Channel Islands Harbor, Ca.
93035

Subject: Fwd: Draft Plan for HMS. Agenda Item F2

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:43:00 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Draft Plan for HMS. Agenda Item F2

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 07:54:05 -0700 (PDT)

From: Mark Thomann <thomann@yahoo.com>

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Re Agenda Item: F2

Dear PFMC members:

I am a recreational fisherman residing in Southern California. I would like the Pacific Fishery Management Council to consider these priorities in the Highly Migratory Species draft plan:

1. Restoration of the recreational bluefin tuna fishery. Once commonly found in the Catalina Channel at certain times of the year, uncontrolled commercial fishing has severely reduced this resource in size and numbers, and bluefin tuna are now found only many miles offshore. This important recreational fishery would be severely overstressed by longline fishing.

2. Restoration of the recreational bonito fishery, which has been brought to the edge of extinction by commercial overfishing. Looking back at its widely enjoyed status in the 1970s and 1980s, it's hard to imagine that a popular fishery like the bonito could virtually disappear in just a few short years. It makes me sick when I realize that this resource was primarily ground into fish meal and fertilizer.

3. Finally, but most importantly, continued exclusion of longline commercial fishing in our EEZ. This indiscriminate method of "harvest" causes incredible damage to both targeted and untargeted species of marine life. The lasting damage inflicted by longliners on Atlantic fisheries is well documented, and there is no reason to believe that the result would differ in Pacific coastal waters.

I am appalled that longline fishing permits are getting serious consideration. Do not allow longline permits be granted, even on an experimental basis. There is no sense waiting to limit overfishing after the damage is already done and the commercial fishing industry has invested in capital equipment. Stop longline fishing before it starts.

Sincerely,

Mark Thomann
thomann@yahoo.com

Subject: Fwd: HMS Draft Plan - Agenda Item F2

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:45:01 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: HMS Draft Plan - Agenda Item F2

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 11:15:51 -0700

From: "Curt Putnam" <cputnam@netwebb.com>

To: "pfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

Date: 24 May 2001

Subject: Draft Plan for HMS. Agenda Item F2

Members of PFMC:

As a recreational fisherman residing in Southern California, I request that Pacific Fishery Management Council consider the following in the Highly Migratory Species draft plan:

- 1) - Recreational fishing generates 10 times more economic activity than does commercial fishing.
- 2) - Do NOT consider or allow "long line" fishing on the Pacific coast. Long line fishing has proven to be incredibly destructive everywhere it has been tried. We do not need to destroy what remains of our fisheries to prove that it will happen again here.
- 3) - Consider the restoration of our once great Bluefin fishery that has been eliminated by commerical overfishing..
- 4) - Add the Bonito to the Highly Migratory Species draft plan. Once present everywhere, the bonito is the fish most people first learned to catch. Bonito are now rare, since the brood stocks were all wrapped and converted to fertilizer.

Sincerely,

G. C. Putnam
11843 Mt. Everett Ct.
Alta Loma, CA 91737
(909) 944-7468
cputnam@netwebb.com

Subject: Fwd: Draft Plan for HMS. AGENDA ITEM F2

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:42:17 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Draft Plan for HMS. AGENDA ITEM F2

Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 17:02:40 -0700

From: Gary Cummings <g_cummings_thalia@pacbell.net>

Organization: Thalia Products

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Agenda Item: F2

Dear PFMC members:

I am a recreational fisherman residing in Southern California. I would like the Pacific Fishery Management Council to consider these priorities in the Highly Migratory Species draft plan:

1. Restoration of the recreational bluefin tuna fishery. Once commonly found in the Catalina Channel at certain times of the year, uncontrolled commercial fishing has severely reduced this resource in size and numbers, and bluefin tuna are now found only many miles offshore. This important recreational fishery would be severely overstressed by longline fishing.
2. Restoration of the recreational bonito fishery, which has been brought to the edge of extinction by commercial overfishing. Looking back at its widely enjoyed status in the 1970s and 1980s, it's hard to imagine that a popular fishery like the bonito could virtually disappear in just a few short years. It makes me sick when I realize that this resource was primarily ground into fish meal and fertilizer.
3. Finally, but most importantly, continued exclusion of longline commercial fishing in our EEZ. This indiscriminate method of "harvest" causes incredible damage to both targeted and untargeted species of marine life. The lasting damage inflicted by longliners on Atlantic fisheries is well documented, and there is no reason to believe that the result would differ in Pacific coastal waters.

I am appalled that longline fishing permits are getting serious consideration. Do not allow longline permits be granted, even on an experimental basis. There is no sense waiting to limit overfishing after the damage is already done and the commercial fishing industry has invested in capital equipment. Stop longline fishing before it starts.

Sincerely,

Gary Cummings
email: spectra5@ix.netcom.com

Pacific Fishery Mgmt. Council
'30 SW 5th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

May 20, 2001
Larry L. & Sandra J. Kelley
5555 Portola Road
Atascadero, Ca 93422

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2001

PER

Dear Chairman Lone,

I, we, are very opposed to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the "EEZ" on our California Coastline. We are very aware of the destruction these longlines do to the fishery. We are just now starting to see recovery of our fish stocks from the gill netters and others such as stick boats. Isn't it about time that the Citizens are shown a little compassion? We are taxpayers and voters and do and will encourage our large family to vote and support the politicians who support our position. I practice catch and release but not for the benefit of long-liners who release DEAD fish.

Thank you for your time with this matter

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Larry L. Kelley, Sr.
5555 Portola Road
Atascadero, Ca 93422

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2001

PFAIC

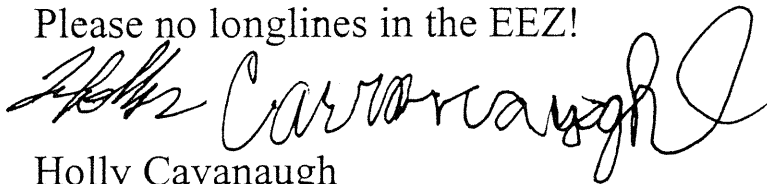
May 18, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chairman Lone and the Pacific Council,

Please protect the water where I fish. I am 10 years old and if we let longlines in here there might not be any more fish for me to catch or for my kids to catch either. I fish with my mom and dad and grandfather and grandmother. We have a Boston Whaler with a Yamaha motor on it. We fish out of Huntington Beach and Newport Beach California and by Catalina Island. I am going fishing June 2 for White Seabass and am going with my dad in July for my first 3 day Tuna trip out of San Diego. I am a junior member of the I.G.F.A. and also a member of United Anglers.

Please no longlines in the EEZ!



Holly Cavanaugh
17847 Oak Street
Fountain Valley, CA. 92708
(714) 378-9773

Dear Chairman Jim Lone,

Hello, My name is Nick Gates and I am the Tackle Shop Manager for Dana Wharf Sport fishing Located In Dana Point, California. I love the sport of fishing and am well aware of the commercial value of fishing. My job depends on fishing. I am writing to you to express my hatred of the idea of allowing long lining to occur along the California coast. I honestly feel that if this is allowed to occur, many local commercial fishermen, as well as sport fishing landings will all suffer. Several fellow fishermen of whom I know lives depend on the fish they catch, often during the summer months. If long lines is established, it will greatly reduce the number of swordfish available to local commercial fisherman who can not long line or have no means to do so.

Along with local fisherman being hurt, I feel the actual fisheries of outer islands will also be harmed. Great Yellowtail fishing at San Clemente Island will become a thing of the past. As if Catalina isn't over fished enough already, it too will suffer. Maybe we should just start drilling for oil in the same waters, quit the clean water act and just give up. This is my attempt at doing something about it. I rarely write to express my views so let it be known I am against the long lining off California.

Sincerely,
Nick Gates
Dana Wharf Sport fishing
Dana Point, Ca

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2001

PFAC

DANA WHARF SPORTFISHING
& WHALE WATCHING
34675 Golden Lantern
Dana Point, CA 92629

Frank Sand
1655 York Drive
Vista, CA 92084

RECEIVED

May 19, 2001

MAY 24 2001

PFAIC

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you to convey my deep sense of urgency to have you help protect our coastline. I am appalled after reading an article on longline fishing of the possible destruction on our natural resources should this proposal permitting commercial longline fishing be approved. While the article was recent the numbers cited by the author was dated at least four or five years back, if you do the math the amount of waste that is happening on a daily basis is staggering. Please consider this proposal for what it is, it is represented and fueled by big business. There is a lot of profit to be had if these companies are allowed such free will to rob our resources. There is no doubt of the destruction to our fish and sealife population if longline fishing is permitted along our shores. I not only have fished my whole life and care about our resources, but my family members and friends also are taxpaying voters. We would appreciate the councils close examination of the proposal at hand.

Sincerely,

Frank Sand

Frank Sand

MAY 23 2001

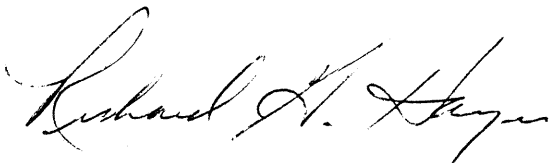
15 may 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, OR 97201

Mr. Lone:

I strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on the West Coast. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past, and I am not willing to standby and let it happen here. I'm not only a recreational fisherman who cares, but I am also a taxpayer and voter.

Longlining is devastating our resources!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard G. Hayes".

Richard G. Hayes
27005 Diamondhead Ln.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Subject: Fwd: Long lining

Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 07:44:33 -0700

From: "Sandra Krause" <Sandra.Krause@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Sandra Krause
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201
Phone: 503-326-6352
Fax: 503-326-6831
e-mail: sandra.krause@noaa.gov
url: <http://www.pcouncil.org>

Subject: Long lining

Date: Tue, 22 May 2001 16:23:26 -0700

From: "Williams, John" <WilliamsJA@navair.navy.mil>

To: "sandra.krause@noaa.gov" <sandra.krause@noaa.gov>

It has come to my attention that your organization is taking up the question of allowing long lining off the west coast.

Long lining is a bad idea. Even Mexico got it together to figurer that out. As a sport fisherman I have no doubt that it will be devastating

to my fishing. And it is the sport fishing group that generates the real money. So it is my request that you put and end to any

and all long lining in Pacific waters.

Sincerely,

John Williams

Sandra Krause <Sandra.Krause@noaa.gov>

Website/Computer Network Specialist
Pacific Fishery Management Council

JEFFREY C. TRUDGEON

160 Glendora Avenue
Belmont Shore, CA 90803
(562) 433-2210
Cell (909) 227-2995
Fax (562) 433-1898

Administrative Assistant
SueAnne L. Yip
(714) 630-8566

For emergency contact:
**Law Offices
Somers & Associates**
367 North Second Avenue
Post Office Box 637
Upland, CA 91785-0637
(909) 946-6863
Fax (909) 946-1623

May 16, 2001

MAY 22 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone:

I am a recreational sports fisherman, own a 50 ft. sportfisher and quite active in fishing to California and Baja coast even to main land Mexico. I am quite familiar with the huge and devastating effect that longlines have on our sportfishery. I strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on our coast.

Thru my years of being a sport and tournament fisherman, I have become quite aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear and I intend to do everything I can to not let that same situation take place on my home ground. I can also assure you that numerous friends and fellow fishermen also are opposed to the longline proposals. During the year, we may fish with hundreds of fishermen and I have never talked to anyone who is favor of the introduction of pelagic longlines.

Please enter my strong objection to the proposal with the EEZ.

Very truly yours,



JEFFREY C. TRUDGEON

Dictated but not read

JCT/sly

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

May 17, 2001

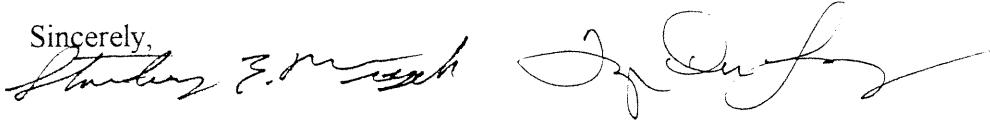
MAY 22 2001

Mr. Chairman and Council members:

We are writing this letter to inform you that we strongly oppose the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ. Having fished the Gulf of California before, during, and after foreign longliners were allowed in, and then thankfully booted out, there is no doubt in our mind that longline gear is extremely wasteful and destructive. We are sure you are well aware of the numbers regarding bycatch to targeted species. This degree of wastefulness is not only disgusting and hard to imagine, it's criminal.

We are not anti-commercial fishing and we, as well as most other sports fishermen, believe the resource belongs to all of us. However, we are against this type of commercial fishing. Its history of waste and disregard for the resource should make your decision in this matter a simple and common sense one. There's a saying that common sense isn't very common, our hope is that the Council proves that there is an exception to this adage.

Sincerely,

The block contains two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature, on the left, is for Stanley E. Wujek and is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script. The second signature, on the right, is for Tanya DuLaney and is also in cursive, appearing more fluid and elongated.

Stanley E. Wujek and Tanya DuLaney

Stanley E. Wujek and Tanya DuLaney
922 Catalina Blvd
San Diego, CA 92106

stand@worldnet.att.net

PIONEER PACKING INC.

MAY 22 2001

2430 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE ★ SANTA ANA, CA 92705 ★ (714) 540-9751 ★ (800) 628-6567
FAX (714) 428-0291

Dear Mr. Loe,

I hope that you and the management council you serve on don't make the same mistake twice! I helped initiate the demise of the "experimental shark longline" fishery which existed here in our local waters some 10 years ago. These 10 permits were granted to see if a viable fishery could exist in our local waters. Our waters were and still are being fished with drift gillnets. These webs of Death have already cut deep into our local Thresher, Blue and Mako shark stocks. A petition was generated by concerned voters and we had enough signatures signed to have the "experimental line fishing" stopped. I don't feel our waters could stand drift gillnet and lines being used in our local waters

EST. '76

PIONEER PACKING INC.

2430 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE ★ SANTA ANA, CA 92705 ★ (714) 540-9751 ★ (800) 628-6567
FAX (714) 428-0291

I'm sure if longlines were Re-introduced here to target all pelagic species, the petitions would start up again.

The reason our local west coast fishery cannot withstand this pressure is that our coast is a nursing ground for mako + Thresher sharks. The majority of our MAKO population averages 1-2 years of age. I worked very close with the Department of Fish and Game in Long Beach tagging MAKOS over the last 10 years. Of the 200 + MAKOS tagged, only 11 fish were of size to reproduce. Sincerely,

Jason Blower

I FISH! I VOTE! I Pay taxes! Lots!

EST. '76

MAY 17TH, 2001

MAY 22 2001

CHAIRMAN JIM LONE
PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
2130 SW FIFTH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OREGON 97201

DEAR MR. LONE,

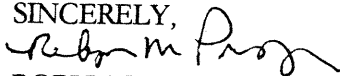
AS A LONG TERM RESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA, I WAS APALLED TO READ THE RECENT ARTICLE IN SOUTH COAST SPORT FISHING. I AM UNHAPPY AND DISGUSTED ABOUT THE IDEA THAT LONG LINE FISHING WOULD ALLOW FURTHER DEPLITION OF OUR OCEANS. I REALIZE THAT SPORT FISHING BY ANGLERS IS NOT ONLY POPULAR, BUT BRINGS IN A LOT OF DOLLARS TO CALIFORNIA VIA OWNERSHIP, RENTAL, EQUIPMENT, JOBS ETC. NOT ONLY DOES IT ATTRACT PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS AREA, IT ALSO BRINGS IN A LOT OF "TOURIST" DOLLARS. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT TRUE SPORT-FISHING IS THAT THE ANGLERS HAVE THE ABILITY TO RELEASE UNHARMED THOSE FISH THAT ARE CAUGHT AND NOT DESIRED, TOO SMALL, PROTECTED.

SO FAR AS LONGLINING IS CONCERNED THE SHEER DISGUSTING WASTE OF FISH LIFE, MEASURED IN TONS, IS JUST UNACCEPTABLE!!!! NOT ONLY ARE UNWANTED FISH SACRIFICIED, BUT YOUNG FISH THAT ARE CRITICAL TO REPRODUCTION FOR THE WHOLE SPECIES ARE WASTED BEFORE THEY ARE EVEN ALLOWED TO MATURE!!! I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT MY VOICE IS HEARD IN THIS MATTER. WE NEED TO WORK VERY HARD TO NOT ONLY KEEP OUR OCEANS CLEAN, BUT TO INSURE THAT WE DO NOT ABUSE THE GIFT OF LIFE THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US IN OUR OCEANS.

THIS MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NEEDS ONLY TO LOOK AT THE FISHING AND DEPLETION OF AREAS AROUND THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN THE UNITED STATES!! THE EAST COAST HAS BEEN SUFFERING FOR YEARS REGARDING OVERFISHING OF OYSTER BEDS/CRABBING AREA'S ETC!! PRODUCTION IN THESE AREAS WILL PROBABLY NEVER RECOVER FROM THE ABUSE AND OVER-FISHING IN OUR LIFE TIME. I RESPECT THE NEED FOR FISHING BUT ABUSIVE AND WASTEFUL FISHING IS A CRIME. WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR WATERS, NOT ABUSE THEM, AND RESPECT HOW LONG IT TAKES ALMOST ALL SPECIES OF FISH TO MATURE, REPRODUCE AND SURVIVE OUR OVER-FISHING IN THESE MANNERS.

I APPRECIATE YOUR LISTENING TO OUR VOICES!!

SINCERELY,



ROBYN PRINZING

SANTA ANA HEIGHTS, CA

OUTDOORSMAN/VOTER/TAX-PAYER/CONCERNED CITIZEN

5/17/01

MAY 22 2001

CHAIRMAN LONE,

AS A SPORT FISHERMAN AND LIFE LONG
CALIFORNIAN I BEG YOU NOT TO ALLOW LONG-
LINES INTO OUR EEZ. I'M NOT AN ENVIRO
BUT I DO BELIEVE IN GOOD STEWARDSHIP
OF OUR RESOURCES. LONGLINING IS INDISCRIMINATE
FISHING AND INHERENTLY WASTEFULL.

RESPECTFULLY,

Richard A. Baruth

ORANGE, CA

MAY 22 2001

May 10, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

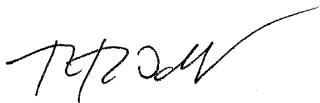
Dear Chairman Lone,

I strongly oppose the introduction longline fishing within 200 miles of the California coastline.

Longlining is a wasteful fishing method, period!. Many viable stocks of fish have been decimated by the introduction of this method of fishery, often in less than 10 years. Take for example the plight of the Atlantic Swordfish, in just 30 years the estimated population of swordfish has declined by 70 percent, with the average fish harvest reducing in size from 300 pounds to less than 90 pounds. A rule of thumb, for most species of fish, the larger the fish, the more eggs produced. If the larger fish are taken out of the breeding stock, and the juvenile fish are caught before they ever have a chance of spawning, it doesn't take a biologist to figure out the eventual outcome. Also, for every targeted species of fish, many more are thrown back into the sea and die because they do not have any monetary value.

I hope you consider my viewpoint strongly. I am a recreation angler who practices catch and release. I sure hope I can share this form of recreation and a robust Pacific Ocean teeming with fish with my grandchildren.

Thank you,



Rob Oddone
6986 Blue Orchid Ln.
Carlsbad, CA 92009

MAY 22 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave
Portland, OR 97201

May 16, 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

I am a recreational fisherman in Southern California and **STRONGLY OPPOSE** the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on our coast.

History shows this practice to be wantless waste of our ocean resources and should not, and cannot, happen here. There is simply no logical argument to let this consideration to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration.



Michael Bick
1341 Beachmont St
Ventura, CA 93001

MAY 18 2001

Marlin G. Miser
1801 Ocean Drive
Oxnard, Calif. 93035

May 13, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ along the Southern California coastline. The destruction of the fisheries along the Eastern seaboard and other areas with this type of gear is well documented.

It seems that there is a big effort through the establishment of marine reserves, new size limits and other measures to restore our fisheries. As an avid salt water fisherman, I applaud these actions so our children will also have an opportunity to fish.

I plead with you to look at what has happened along the East Coast. Let us learn from this knowledge. Please deny this longline request. We're all counting on you!

Thank you in advance,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlin G. Miser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marlin" being more prominent than the last name "Miser".

Marlin G. Miser



Boss Bait & Tackle, Incorporated

1998 Hacienda Dr.
Vista, CA 92083
Tel: 760 631-7417
Fax: 760 643-0647
(Head Office)

4488 Convoy St. #C
San Diego, CA 92111
Tel: 858 277-7417
Fax: 858 277-7699

24346 Rockfield Dr.
Lake Forest, CA 92630
Tel: 949 588-7417
Fax: 949 588-8614

To: Pacific Management Fishing Counsel
Attn: Jim Lowe

From: Wayde Nichols
President

Date: May 15, 2001

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lowe,

I would like to talk with you regarding the Long Line proposals here in Southern California. I am the president of Boss Bait & Tackle, and have three locations in San Diego and Orange Counties. I would like to join forces, using Boss Bait & Tackle as a plateau, to help raise enough signatures to stop the possibility of potential Long Liners/Gill Netters off our coast. Please give me a call at 760 815-1035 at your convince, or respond in writing to my address above.

Thank you for your time.

Wayde Nichols
President
Boss Bait & Tackle

CONCERNED CITIZENS OF CALIFORNIA

May 8, 2001

MAY 18 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and members of the Pacific Council,

I am sending you this letter today to voice my opposition to the recent consideration of the NMFS to grant longline permits in the Pacific West Coasts Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

I would first like to give you my perspective as an avid recreational fisherman from Southern California. Secondly I will share a little story with you that I like to call "Our Gift".

I am an active member in several fishing clubs and community ecological conservation organizations. I am an avid supporter of catch and release Marlin fishing both here in the United States as well as abroad. I have been actively tagging and releasing billfish to assist local scientific research for the past twenty years. I feel certain if you reviewed the history of the longliners destruction to our eastern seaboard you would feel compelled to vote against these ecologically irresponsible fishing practices. Considering the devastation that longliners pose with their indiscriminate killing of everything in their path, I feel that it is morally irrational that the council is even considering these slaughtering permits. Please, I urge you not to let the longliners put any of our pelagic gamefish on the NMFS list of "commercially extinct" species. We don't want to add any names along side the Atlantic Swordfish.

Secondly, I promised a short story from the perspective of a grandson, son, and father titled "Our Gift"

In the early 1900's a young German immigrant with strong engineering skills sailed around the world helping to keep steamships afloat and moving from continent to continent. In his travels he visited many fishing ports hearing tales of the one that got away. He witnessed all the gifts the oceans and seas had to offer, and the challenges Mother Nature would put between her and her bounty. He was asked to come ashore in Panama to assist in the building of a great canal to connect two oceans (it seems the French were in need of some good German engineering). Upon completion of this monumental project with a fist full of dollars in hand, he set out north along the coast. He was in awe of the beauty of the West Coast of this continent and the abundance of life in the Pacific Ocean. Fishing was a way of life for those who traveled the pacific coast during this period, but fishing became a passion, one that resides deep in ones soul. He once again witnessed the gifts our great pacific had to offer her anglers.

After a short time as a resident of Mexico, he found his bride and migrated to the United States to take up residence in Southern California. He became a well liked engineer at the newly constructed Seal Beach Power Plant and eventually went on to run the plant, which was responsible for providing power to all of the southern Los Angeles county residents. He would eventually be known by his children and grandchildren as a great storyteller. He often embarked on fishing excursions with his son and daughter fishing for halibut at Cherry Beach, always only keeping the gifts that they could eat that week. His children experienced his passion for sportfishing; he would pass this along to them like a strong gene always dominant in the make up of ones soul. He and his children would tell stories to their children and grandchildren about the many gifts the oceans would bring to their table. The stories of the Catalina Channels great pacific stripped marlin and swordfish would keep even the smallest child's tired eyes open during story time.

MAY 8, 2001

The century was quickly escaping him when he noticed how pollution and over fishing by the commercial fishing industry was effecting the fish population in the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Cortez. Now in his stories he made sure to include his perspective on the fish population decreases, the change from the abundant gifts the oceans once provided in his day. His children and grandchildren paid close attention and became active in programs to promote the ecological well being of California. He hoped that some day his great grandchildren would experience the fishing and the gifts that the Southern California Pacific Ocean provided in his lifetime.

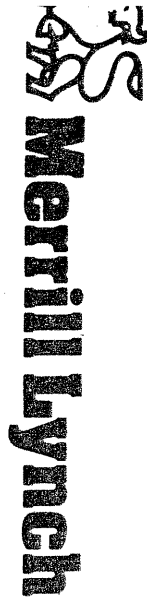
I am here today to keep his dream alive. I am the grandchild who inherited the sportfishing gene that rests deep in my soul. With his great grandchildren standing on the deck at my feet I pledge to deliver "Our Gift". The gift of days spent catching Marlin, Tuna, and Sea Bass, all in one great afternoon of fishing in Southern California.

I implore you to help us deliver "Our Gift" to the many grandchildren of Southern California. Please don't let the longline boats into the Pacific Coast EEZ.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sean K. Marshall". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Sean K. Marshall
Father, The Marshall Family
Native Californians



Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201



May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Brittany Trani. I am a 5th grade student at Peterson School. I am wondering why you are killing our animals in the Pacific ocean. When we go to Hawaii I like to swim with the animals.

You are wasting our swordfishes, turtles and seabirds. If you were a turtle or a swordfish and you were trying to eat your favorite meal, and you got caught you'll die. You are doing something bad and you know it, so stop while the animals are still alive.

I hope you will stop. I love the animals and so should you. Please tell the fisherman to stop. And I want you to stop as well.

Please take my note as a consideration to me and California

Sincerely
Brittany Trani

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Leslie deJesus. I am a fifth grader
John R. Peterson Elementary School. I am a concerned
student who is strongly against longlining.

I am against longlining because it kills
one of my favorite animals which is the turtle. Also, because
the swordfish, and the sea bird can become extinct. The visitors and
Californians won't be able to see the beautiful animals.

In closing, I hope you take my letter in
consideration. Thanks so much for reading my letter.
Good Luck!

Sincerely,
Leslie deJesus

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Jimmy Queen. I am a fifth grader at Peterson school. I am writing this letter to you Jim or should I say Mr. Lone about the longlining. I am worried by the time I am an adult the turtles, the seabirds, and the swordfish will be extinct. I don't know about you Mr. Lone, but I don't want the sea creatures to go extinct.

Longlining is killing so much animals. Instead of the fishermen catching the swordfish there catching the turtles and seabirds. They are catching swordfish, but not only swordfish.

Obviously the fishermen don't care but I do. You need to make a law that the fishermen can't do that anymore.

I hope I got you thinking that longlining is bad. Please stop it. Make the right decision. These animals are good creatures. Don't let people destroy them. They will be here before us. So please please Mr. Lone stop longlining. I think what's best for the fish and California. I hope I made my point.

Sincerely your friend so stop longlining,
Jimmy Queen

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Monica Stupaczuk. I am a 5th grader at J. R. Peterson Elementary School, and I am writing this letter to ask you to help us stop longlining in California.

When people go longlining they don't know and care about what they're doing. Just to let you know they are killing and endangering many species other than swordfish including turtles, sea birds, and sharks. I think it's not fair to the sea animals that people take no consideration and start longlining, kill them, and eventually throw them back in. We have enough of other meat to keep us alive. All I have to say is "Endangered is forever, extinct means we still have a chance."

We still have a chance so please take this letter into consideration.

Your concerned citizen,
Monica Stupaczuk

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Jim Lone,

My name is Micah and I am a 5th grader
at Peterson Elementary School.

I want say stop longlining because it is
not just killing the swordfish it is killing the birds,
and turtles and I hope you will stop harming
other sea animals.

It is a waste killing the ^{wrong}~~long~~ animal and
just throwing it aside because you are being crule
to other animals.

I hope you will change your mind and stop
longlining. S S

Sincerley,
Micah Serrano

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is yesenia Gozman and I'm a student in Peterson and I want to tell you if you can stop longlining in California.

Mr. Lone. Can't you just look what ~~total~~ you are doing you are killing turdes and bird and fish are joint to it. then if you don't get with you what want are you going to do with the once you don't need.

Mr. Lone I hope you under stand why me and my class mate and you take there opens and my.

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Lone,

My name is Yasmin Khajavipour. I am a fifth grader at
person. And I want to stop long lining in C.A. You
are not this killing sword fish but you are also killing
turtle and sea birds.

The swordfish is getting expried. So
are the turtles and the sea birds. If you give
this then the sea birds and turtles
over board then there will be no more.
And it will be all your fault.

Please take this into consideration.
And stop long lining. I am not this writing
this because of class. I'm writing this because I
felt ~~bad~~
bad.

Sincerely
Sincerely
Yasmin Khajavipour

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

My name is Megan Duchring and I am a fifth grader at Peterson Elementary. I want you to tell the fishermen to stop longlining here in California.

If you don't tell them to stop then pretty soon our turtles, birds, etc. will be gone. And the next generation will never know what a swordfish will look like. I want these insant animals to live. It's not very fair.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you have the same feeling as me and kick the fishermen out. Again thank you.

Sincerley,

Megan Duchring

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Shawn McEachin. I am a 5th grader at Peterson Elementary School. I think you should stop the fishermen from longlining because they kill other animals other than swordfish.

Longlining has been going on for about 30 years. It doesn't only kill adult swordfish, it kills baby ones. Also, I like fish and turtles.

After considering all of the facts above, I hope you will stop longlining. I hope you take this letter into consideration.

From,
Shawn McEachin

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Annika Tinsley. I am a 5th grade student at Peterson Elementary School. I think it's bad to longlining inisent animals. So make long firing a law. That's what I want to happen.

I think that you shold think about the animals. They are just inisent animals. Also, it a big waste just killing animals.

For my conclusion I think that you should make it a law because it's bad for the animals. You now it's bad but you still don't care. Think of the seanimals not yourself.

Sinserly,

Annika Tinsley

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Jim Lone,

My name is Keith Goldstein. I think you should stop long lining
in California. Long lining is very bad. They are killing other animals.

We need help! The fishermen are just chasing out each
state and then fish till they get kicked out. I think it is
time for them to leave. Please help. When I grow-up I want
there to still be sea animals.

I hope you do this. The wildlife will be able to
live in peace. Did you know it is also killing turtles and
sea birds.

Please take my letter into consideration. Our future
of saving fish depends on it. That would really be very helpful
if you did not let them fish here.

Sincerely,

Keith Goldstein Peterson Elementary

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Esteva Lemos. I am a 3rd grade student of John R. Peterson school. I would appreciate if you would stop long lining fishing in the state of California.

This fishing is a harm to turtles, seals, and other sea animals. This fishing kills more sea animals than you're target. This is a threat for our sea life.

I hope you take this note in common and stop long-line fishing. Please take our note in common. Thank you for your time.

A concerned citizen,

Esteva Lemos.

May 2, 2001

MAY 18 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone
My name is David Taylor. I
am a 5th grade student at
John R. Peterson School. I am
writing this letter to you
because longlining is a big
problem in California. You're trying
to catch swordfish but all
you are doing is killing
one of God's creatures.
Now that's not right. You
also killing in Jant birds and
turtles. Think of somebody hooking
you and of your home
so please take my advice
from David

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

My name is Ryan Lee Potter
I am a 5th grader at
Peterson Elementary. Please stop
longlining.

Your killing off all the swordfish
also you killing all the turtles
and seabirds. Turtles, swordfish,
and seabirds will be extinct.

Please take this into consideration.
Thank you.

A Concerned Citizen

Ryan Potter

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Brice Gwoltney and I am concerned because of long-lining. You are killing tons of turtles and seabirds. You are trying to kill swordfish. Right, well I say you can but don't kill the baby swordfish or seabirds or turtles.

Long lining is polluting the beaches with dead animals and it says when you accidentally catch a seabird or turtle and you throw it back it is even thought to be dead.

And that is why I write. Even though this is your only way of making money you can still make money over-selling squid but I think you want to keep making more money. But please take this letter into consideration.

Concerned
Citizen
Brice

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

My name is Nolan Gaudreault.
I am a 5th grader at Peterson School.
The reason I am writing you is to
ask you to stop longlining in C.A.

Longlining is very mean. Longlining
kills turtles, seabirds, and swordfish.

Very soon, most of the sea
animals will be dead.

Sincerely

Nolan Gaudreault

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Alex Melendez I am
a fifth grader at Peterson.
Please stop longlining in California.
I don't think you should
do longlining. I like turtles that why I
want you to stop longlining.
It is harming turtles and sea
anemones you are killing swordfish.
You are not doing a good thing.

I hope you understand. I wish
you stop. Have you read
my letter.

Sincerely,

Alex

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Jim Lone,

My name is Sierra Amber Campbell. I am a 5th grader at Paterson Elementary. I heard you were putting longlining through the coast of California. I am a concerned citizen of Huntington Beach.

You need to stop longlining. Because you're killing too much things like birds, turtles, baby fish, squid and lots more.

You are hurting animals that are harmless like birds, turtles. Your killing for a not very good. Its a silly excuse. Or killing innocent animals. So Please Stop for the future sake of seeing these beautiful resources.

Sincerely
Sierra Campbell

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

My name is Kaci Jones-Overs and I am a fifth grade puppet at Peterson Elementary School. Lately, I have been a little concerned about your disison on allowing longlining to go on in the state of California. Today I am writing to you to help make up your mind to stop this type of fishing.

One of the reasons is that we should stop longlining is the next generation will never have the hup of seeing a swordfish or any other type of animal that might become extint because of longlining. The second reason is if this happens there are also scabbies that are all ready on the way out and they are getting out too!

There are two reasons you should banish longlining. I am shure there are many more. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kaci Jones-Overs

May 2, 2001

MAY 18 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Jim Lone,

My name is Lupe Salorio. I'm a student
of 5th grade R John Peterson Elementary. I love sea animals
so would you stop the long-lining. Do
you know how much animals you will save
without long-lining?

Please think about it you can't keep
on killing innocent animals that don't do
anything to us. The turtles, sea birds, sharks and
more animals can't just disappear one by one.
We don't want animals to die alive.

Please make your mind. I love sea animals
so much I don't want them to disappear.
Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

Lupe Salorio

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Joseph Taylor, I'm a 5th grader at John R. Peterson Elementary school. Your company should stop longlining because you killing turtles, sea birds, and swordfish. And I know restaurants are demanding swordfish for money but just don't do that it's not right.

I know your company get hired out of four other states your killing also swordfish. You guys are get caught. You should stop longlining because you killing a couple of good creatures. Longlining you 40 miles and there 1,000 hooks. And killing about 4,000 swordfish that's sad.

I'm very grateful that your listening to my letter and try not to longline any more. I'm also grateful for taking my letter into consideration now. And you. In I hope you have the same feelings as I do so try and stop longlining / please

Sincerely Joe

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone

My name is Bridgette. I'm
a fifth grade student at Watson Elementary.
In my opinion I think you should
stop long fishing in California. It's
killing our ocean life.

I think you should stop
long fishing because your killing other
sea animals when you go in to catch
sword fish. Sea life is a wonderful
and interesting thing to learn about.
You should learn a few things about
it.

I hope you take my letter in
consideration. It's very important.
Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,
BRIDGETTE
Austin

May 2, 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 18 2001

Dear Mr. Lone,

My name is Aleece Martt. I am a fifth grader at Peterson School in California. I don't think you should let longliners longline in California. They have already been kicked out of several other states.

I found out today what longliners do and that's why I am writing to you. This kind of fishing is very harmful to the sea birds and the sea turtles. I think you should go back to harpooning.

In conclusion, I hope you will take my letter into consideration. I'm sure my classmates and a lot of other people think the same way. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Aleece Martt

REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
GMAC REAL ESTATE™

230 Hartnell Ave.
Redding, CA 96002
www.realestateredding.com
Office: (530) 224-6733
Res: (530) 241-8557
Mobile: (530) 949-9130



ROB SMYTH
REALTOR/BROKER



MAY 22 2001

5-15-01

DEAR CHAIRMAN Love-

I HAVE BEEN A SPORT FISHERMAN FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, AND I AM NOW 61 YEARS OLD.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THE INTRODUCTION OF PELAGIC LONGLINES WITHIN THE EEZ ON THE WEST COAST. I AM VERY AWARE OF THE CAREERS DESTRUCTION AND WASTE ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF LONG-LINE GEAR. IF WE CONTINUE TO KILL THE IMMATURE OF ANY SPECIES, THAT FISHERY WILL COLLAPSE. THEN THERE WILL BE NONE FOR ANYBODY. I'M SURE YOU ARE AWARE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR ATLANTIC OCEAN.

I APPEAL TO YOUR SENSE OF WHAT IS RIGHT, AND WHAT IS NOT.

PLEASE, KEEP THESE WASTEFUL KILLERS AWAY FROM OUR PACIFIC COAST.

Respectfully Submitted
Robert W. Smyth
Redding, California

ERICKSON & HALLORAN

1620 26TH STREET
SUITE 2060 NORTH
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404



Chairman
Pacific Fisheries Management Council
2130 SW 5TH AVENUE
PORTLAND OR 97201

97201+4576

5/15/01

DEAR SIRs;
I WANT TO
ADD MY VOICE
TO THE OPPOSITION
TO ALLOWING
LONG LINE FISHING
IN SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA. EVEN
WITHOUT ANY
RELAXATION IN
REGULATION, THE
FISHERIES ARE IN
TERRIFYING DECLINE

THANK YOU

Gunnar

MAY 18 2001

PRIO

J. GUNNAR ERICKSON

1/11/81

DEAR CHAIRMAN LONE

I AM AWARE OF THE CARELESS DESTRUCTION AND
WASTE OF LONG LINE FISHING THAT WIPED OUT
THE ATLANTIC FISHERY & I DONT WANT THAT
TO HAPPEN HERE IN THE PACIFIC.

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST LONG LINING OFF THE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST

I AM A RECREATIONAL FISHERMAN WHO PAYS
TAXES, VOTES, AND CARES.

THANK YOU

Matt Goldberg

MATT GOLDBERG
17226 WILLARD ST
VAN NUYS CA 91406



5948 Warner Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
714 840-0227 TEL
714 840-3146 FAX

MAY 14 2001

PPAC

May 7, 2001

Mr. James H. Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone:

United Anglers of Southern California and our 40,000 affiliated members are deeply concerned about the proposals within the Highly Migratory Species(HMS) Fishery Management Plan(FMP) that allow the introduction of longlines in California's Exclusive Economic Zone(EEZ). These proposals would lead to increased pressure on our already stressed shark, tuna and billfish populations and fly in the face of the California Fish and Game Commission's unanimous decision to ban this indiscriminate gear.

We are also deeply concerned that such a decision with overwhelming consequences to our Southern California fisheries would not be made right here in Southern California. Highly migratory species comprise an important resource for anglers along the West Coast, particularly in Southern California and we want to assure that these resources are managed for healthy stock abundance. Today, Southern California has more than a half million active recreational anglers and account for more than 95% of all recreationally caught HMS fish. Our economic impact exceeds that of all other West Coast EEZ HMS use combined. This decision is about our Southern California fisheries and accordingly must be made here and not in the North. We realize that rescheduling Council meetings is awkward, however precedent exists and with such an overwhelming impact on Southern California there is clearly no choice but to convene in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Tom Raftican
President, United Anglers of Southern California

cc Dr. Rebecca Lent,
Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service

ARTHUR LANGE, Ed.D.

SPEAKER/TRAINER/CONSULTANT

810 SO. BAYFRONT
BALBOA ISLAND, CALIFORNIA 92662
TELEPHONE (949) 675-5102
FAX (949) 675-3567
email: artlange@ix.netcom.com

MAY 14 2001

DEAC

May 8, 2001

Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chairman Lone and Council Members,

I am writing to express my VEHEMENT opposition to the consideration of introducing pelagic longlines inside the 200 mile limit of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. I have seen what devastating effects these longliners have had elsewhere and I do NOT want you to allow them to do it here.

I am an avid sport fisherman but I am more concerned with the tremendous destructive effects longlining will inevitably have on our fisheries. It is your responsibility to ensure that this fishery stays strong and gets even stronger. Longlines will clearly have the reverse effect.

As a voter, taxpayer and one who heartily supports the improvement of the condition of our fisheries, I implore you to keep longlines totally out of the EEZ. Thank you for all you do in this efforts.

Sincerely,



Art Lange

al/sl

Pacific Fishery Management Council
Attn Chairman Jim Lone
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland Oregon 97201

MAY 14 2001

May 7, 2001

Dear Chairman Lone,

I am an avid recreational fisherman with great concern about the proposed Longline industry wanting to set longlines within 200 miles of the West Coast. I often go on trips that are 60-80 miles just to catch 2-3 tuna. The thought of allowing longlines within 25 miles of the coast will surely mean an end to a great sport and have a ripple effect to other areas of our coast.

Please understand that I am not against Long liners as individuals, but do feel that having them anywhere close to shore will cause damage that can not be repaired. Look at the East Coast and ask yourself, "Why don't they just continue to fish there?" The answer lies in the millions of tons of fish that they have killed and thrown back over the side because they were not suitable, or too small for them to sell.

I am a little confused that my State and Federal Representatives are not involved in this matter and have sent them a copy of this letter with hopes that they will join in.

Dave Gahan
4841 Viane Way
San Diego CA, 92110

CC:

President George W. Bush
Vice President Richard Cheney
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein
Representative Susan Davis
Governor Gray Davis
Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante
State Senator Dierdre "Dede" Alpert
State Assembly Christine Kehoe

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2001

PFMC

Joe W. Tyler
5456 E. Canton St.
Long Beach, CA
90815

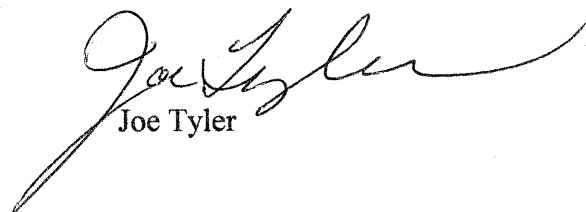
Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone;

I want to express my opposition to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the United States Exclusive Economic Zone off the coast of California. I also oppose any increase in longline activity off of Oregon and Washington.

The killing power and wastefulness of the longline fleets is well documented. On the average 70% of their catch is killed and discarded. They have wiped out the fisheries in the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico and now want to decimate the ocean here. There is no justification for the expansion of longlining here. Does someone believe that supplying an occasional Blue-fin tuna to the sushi market and wiping out the swordfish here is justification for wiping out the marlin, thresher sharks, mako sharks, and blue sharks and ruining the recreational fishery in the Southern California Bight? Don't let the commercial fishery rape the ocean here.

Sincerely yours



Joe Tyler

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2001

PFMC

5/9/2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon, 97201

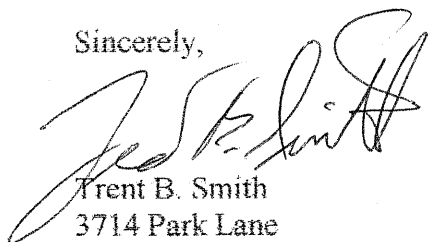
LONGLINING ON THE WEST COAST WOULD BE A TRAGEDY. As a private recreational fisherman I think the consideration of longlining in any waters, especially here in Southern California is a horrible idea.

Longlines indiscriminately kill any and all types of marine life regardless of species or size. Having fished waters from the Mexican border north to the Channel Islands out to 100 miles of the coast I can tell you that I am strongly opposed.

Longlines have been experimented in Northern Mexican waters (almost identical to So. California waters) where the bycatch was 95%! By killing 95 fish to get 5 targeted species is asinine. Needless to say we have dwindling stocks of migratory species as it is, but Striped Marlin, Sailfish, Mako sharks, and Tuna would almost completely disappear off of our coast if any longlining were allowed. Isn't what has happened along the Atlantic Coast enough of a lesson, or do we need to wipe out the fishing stocks here in the Pacific too before we realize our mistakes? The marine environment cannot sustain Long lining in any quantity.

I urge you to fight against any and all longlining.

Sincerely,



Trent B. Smith
3714 Park Lane
Newport Beach, CA 92663
(714) 609-7888

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2001

PR-40

MATT CURTIS
2561 COUNTRY PARK DR.
PRESCOTT, AZ 86301

10 May, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone;

I am writing out of concern over the petition to allow pelagic longline fishing within the EEZ/200 mile limit.

First I want to state that I strongly oppose the introduction of longlines in the EEZ off our Pacific coast.

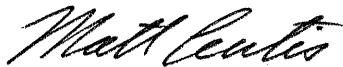
Second, I want to point out the record of this type of fishing in its negative effects upon the highly migratory species in the North Atlantic. It is a shame that any nation allows this to go on, and I think we should set an example and stop it now. History has shown that longlining is not selective and the bycatch losses are unacceptable. Too many immature fish are being killed which undermines the future of the fish stock and reduces future spawning potential for the species.

Third, it seems that previous experiments off our coast and North Baja showed that this is not a feasible way to harvest bluefin tuna for the Tokyo markets. In fact many non-target fish species, as well as other animals, suffered from the process.

Finally, I am a recreational fisherman, a professional educator, and I have a Master of Science in Fishery Management, so I feel qualified to express an informed opinion on this. Also as a taxpayer, I plan to spread the alarm concerning this environmental threat, and actively encourage others to do the same.

Please do not allow this proposal (longlining) to pass.

Sincerely,



Matt Curtis

Science Chair

Bradshaw Mountain High School
Prescott Valley, AZ

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2001

May 10, 2001

PFMC

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Management Fishery Council
2130 SW. Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Chairman Lone,

It has come to our attention that a proposal to longline off the EEZ Pacific coast will soon come under consideration. We, as the concerned youth of America, would like to voice our opposition to this proposed slaughter of an integral natural ecosystem. We believe that to give the "thumbs up" to such an ill-concieved plan would be a death sentence for our world's oceans. We are aware of the lengthy record of waste and destruction associated with the practice of longline fishing and fail to comprehend how one could deem this practice either safe or beneficial. Would you hold on to a household appliance that had only a 30% success rate? Then why would you seek to institute a practice that is proven to deliver desired results only 3 out of 10 times, especially when dealing with something as important as life? We urge you, Chairman, to think of the future when making your decision, a future that we have to live with.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter, we trust that decisions that we can all be proud of will be made.

Sincerely, the concerned students of

Bradshaw Mountain High School's Environmental Science Class,

Mike Jackman

Rachel Monreal

Joe N. Valdez II

Ben De Blois

Jennifer Widrick

Renee Boock

David Nyman

Brandon
Vaal

Natalie DeBouriatte

Michael
Environmen
captain

5/13/01

MAY 17 2001

DEAR CHAIRMAN LONE,

PRINC

I'M WRITING TO STATE MY OPPOSITION
TO THE INTRODUCTION OF LONGLINE FISHING
WITHIN THE 200 MILE U.S. EXCLUSIVE
ECONOMIC ZONE.

THERE IS PLENTY OF EVIDENCE THAT
LONG LINE COMMERCIAL FISHING IS DESTRUCTIVE
TO THE FISHERIES WHERE IT IS
PRACTICED.

I'M A RECREATIONAL ANGLER, ~~AND~~
I'M STRONGLY OPPOSED TO LONGLINING
AS I SEE IT HAVING DEVASTATING
CONSEQUENCES ON THE WEST COAST,
JUST LIKE THE SWORDFISHING DEBACLE
IN THE ATLANTIC.

SINCERELY,

Jim E. Augusteyn

JIM E. AUGUSTEYN
1542 MELLOW LANE
SIMI VALLEY, CA 93065

Christopher Lomax
4034 Napoli Place
Moorpark, CA 93021
(805) 523-8178

May 13, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

MAY 17 2001

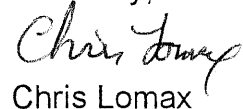
Dear Chairman Lone:

I am writing this letter as a taxpaying resident of California, and a recreational fisherman. I would like to state that I am strongly opposed to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ along the west coast of the United States. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste of marine resources, and impact on non-targeted fish, birds, and marine mammals associated with such a fishery.

To allow the waste associated with this type of a fishery on the west coast would be both foolish, and an economical disaster for both the recreational fisherman, and current commercial permit holders in these waters. We have expended a great deal of effort to curb the use of gillnets in these waters. The prolific White Seabass and Halibut fishery at the California Channel islands is a testament to the effectiveness of this ban. To take a step backwards and open up the offshore fishery would be a slap in the face for all involved in the gillnet closure.

I strongly urge you to put a stop to the waste associated with pelagic longlines, and all other forms of non-discriminatory fishing practices. This would be for the good of all recreational fishermen on the West coast of the United States.

Sincerely,



Chris Lomax

.....

MAY 17 2001

To Chairman Jim Lone

Pacific Fishery Management Council

Dear Sir,

This letter is AGAINST the opening of longline fishing on the Pacific coast. The history of longline fishing speaks for itself. This destructive fishing will crush the health of our Pacific coast. This has been seen on the East coast where there is a total devastation of the swordfish fishery and in Hawaii Where they are attempting to close this terrible form of waste. I urge you to vote against this usage of our coast.

Thank you for supporting a sustainable fishery,

Mark Barbour
337 Mountain View Ave
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062



.....

U
MAY 11, 2001

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2001

PFMIC

TO THE PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
LONGLINES WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE. I
JUST DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY CALIFORNIA WOULD EVEN
CONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL. WITH ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT
THIS TYPE OF FISHING UNBIASLY KILLS ALL SPECIES OF
MARINE LIFE. I DETEST THIS TYPE OF FISHING AND WILL
NOT STAND IDLE FOR THIS. I URGE YOU TO DO WHAT EVER
IT TAKES TO KEEP THE LONGLINERS AND ANY OTHER TYPE OF
KILLING (FISHING) FROM HAPPENING. I AM A VETERAN AND
ACTIVE VOTER AND WILL BE WATCHING THIS PROPOSAL VERY
CLOSELY.

SINCERELY,

W. Earle Harris
955 Fern Ave
Imperial Beach Ca
91932

Subject: Fwd: Longlining in Pacific

Date: Fri, 18 May 2001 14:37:12 -0700

From: "Daniel Waldeck" <Daniel.Waldeck@noaa.gov> **Internal**

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

Subject: Fwd: Longlining in Pacific

Date: Mon, 14 May 2001 08:33:27 -0700

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Subject: Longlining in Pacific

Date: Fri, 11 May 2001 18:45:18 +1000

Dear Dr McIsaac, I am writing to you in regards to the proposed change from gill-netting to longlining off the west coast of America. In 1992 the Pacific Fisheries Management Council banned any longlining off the coast of California. And now I have read that PFMC has had second thoughts about bringing longlines into the commercial fishing industry. What evidence made your council think about bringing them into use? What research have you done that shows that longlines have a less detrimental effect on the enviroment then gill-netting does? Lastly, what is your stance on this subject? Your response would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely, Graeme Alley.

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at
<http://www.hotmail.com>.

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES PLAN DEVELOPMENT TEAM
2130 S.W. FIFTH AVE. SUITE 224
PORTLAND, OR. 97201

MAR 12 2001

I AM A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN AND FISH SPOTTER PILOT. I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE SWORDFISH HARPOON FISHERY AS A SPOTTER PILOT SINCE 1984 AND AS A BOAT OWNER AND OPERATOR AS WELL. I HAVE ALSO WORKED IN THE SEINE FISHERY AS A SPOTTER PILOT SINCE 1983. I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE HARVEST OF TUNAS AS A SPOTTER PILOT SINCE 1984.

MY BACKGROUND AS A SPOTTER PILOT AND FISHERMAN GIVES ME A PERSPECTIVE OF THE HMS FISHERIES THAT IS KNOWLEDGEABLE AND UNIQUE. I ALSO AM A STAKEHOLDER IN THESE FISHERIES ACCORDING TO THE DEFINITIONS IN MAGNUSON-STEVENS IN THAT I AID IN THE HARVEST OF HMS AT SEA AND AM A PART OF THE FISHING COMMUNITY.

SWORDFISHING USING HARPOON IN CALIFORNIA IS THREATENED BY SEVERAL ASPECTS OF TWO OTHER SWORDFISH GEAR TYPES, i.e. LONGLINING AND GILLNETTING. BOTH LONGLINING AND GILLNETTING APPROACH SWORDFISH HARVEST FROM A QUANTITATIVE SOLUTION AS A BUSINESS MODEL. AND THEY ARE BOTH EFFECTIVE AT SOLVING THE QUANTITY BASED SOLUTION. HARPOONERS RELY MORE ON A QUALITY BASED SOLUTION TO THEIR BUSINESS MODEL. THEY RELY ON HIGHER PRICES FOR A MORE LIMITED CATCH. THE QUANTITY BASED BUSINESS MODEL OF THE LONGLINERS AND GILLNETTERS DEPRESSES PRICES TO A DEGREE THAT HARPOONERS ARE UNABLE TO REALIZE A PROFIT FROM THEIR SMALLER CATCH. THIS PRICING CONFLICT MAY NOT BE THE PROVINCE OF THE HMS PROCESS AT THIS TIME. PERHAPS IT COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE DISCUSSION.

A MUCH MORE THREATENING ASPECT OF LONGLINING AND GILLNETTING IS THE PROVINCE OF THIS MANAGEMENT PROCESS. OVERHARVEST OF SWORDFISH STOCKS HAS OR HAS NOT OCCURRED IN OUR REGION, THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BIGHT, DEPENDING ON WHAT VIEWPOINT IS TAKEN. THE VIEWPOINT OF THE HARPOON FLEET IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IS THAT OUR FISHERY HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY GILLNETTING AND IS NOW FURTHER THREATENED BY LONGLINING. WHEN I CLAIM WE ARE THREATENED AND IMPACTED I MEAN TO SAY THAT THE NUMBER OF SWORDFISH THAT WE FIND IN OUR AVAILABLE FISHING GROUNDS HAS DECLINED TO THE POINT WHERE WE ARE THREATENED AS A GROUP OF FISHERMEN. THIS STATEMENT IMPLIES THAT THE SWORDFISH STOCKS THAT HAVE HISTORICALLY SUPPORTED OUR HARPOON FISHERY ARE AT A REDUCED LEVEL. I CAN ONLY BLAME A LACK OF SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT FOR THIS SITUATION.

BOTH GILLNETTING AND LONGLINING HAVE PROVEN TO BE SO EFFECTIVE AT CATCHING SWORDFISH IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD THAT OVERFISHING HAS OCCURRED AND FISHERIES HAVE COLLAPSED AS A RESULT OF EITHER LACK OF MANAGEMENT OR UNSUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT POLICIES. THERE ONCE WAS A PRODUCTIVE AND PROFITABLE HARPOON SWORDFISH FLEET IN THE NORTH EASTERN U.S. IT NO LONGER EXISTS. THE DEMISE OF THAT HARPOON FISHERY WAS THE FIRST SIGNAL THAT OVERFISHING OF SWORDFISH WAS OCCURRING BECAUSE OF THE USE OF "ALTERNATE" GEAR TYPES, GILLNETTING

AND LONGLINING. THE HISTORY OF WHAT CAN AND WILL HAPPEN TO SWORDFISH STOCKS IS CLEARLY WRITTEN. TO ASSUME THAT THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN IS SOMEHOW DIFFERENT AND THEREFORE IMMUNE TO THE LACK OF MANAGEMENT THAT RESULTED IN OVERHARVEST OF SWORDFISH AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE HARPOON FISHERY IN NEW ENGLAND WOULD BE RECKLESS.

AT PRESENT THERE IS A BAN ON LONGLINING INSIDE THE U.S. EEZ. THIS BAN ON LONGLINING IS THE ONLY PROTECTION THE SWORDFISH STOCKS CURRENTLY HAVE. ANY CHANGE TO THE BAN ON LONGLINING INSIDE THE EEZ WILL FURTHER DEplete SWORDFISH STOCKS THAT I BELIEVE ARE ALREADY OVERFISHED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF MANAGEMENT OF MEXICAN FISHING PRESSURE ON SWORDFISH STOCKS THAT WE HAVE TO SHARE AND OUR OWN HIGH SEAS LONGLINE FLEET THAT IS FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES UNMANAGED. THERE ARE NO QUOTAS SET FOR SWORDFISH HARVEST LEVELS OR ANY RESTRICTIONS ON JUVENILE SWORDFISH MORTALITY. THIS LACK OF MANAGEMENT WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD TO OVERHARVEST PROBLEMS IDENTICAL TO THE SITUATION IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN OFF SOUTH AMERICA.

THE HARPOON FISHERMEN IN CALIFORNIA KNOW WHAT THE THREAT IS TO OUR FISHERY. BUT OUR VOICE IS SMALL, AND GETTING SMALLER EVERY YEAR. I BELIEVE THAT OUR HARPOON FISHERY IS SIGNALING OVERHARVEST OF SWORDFISH ON THE STOCKS OF SWORDFISH THAT WE RELY ON FOR OUR EXISTENCE. I BELIEVE THIS IS FROM UNMANAGED FISHING PRESSURE BY LONGLINERS AND GILLNETTERS.

I AM NOT OPPOSED TO ANY GEAR TYPE THAT CAN BE PROVEN SELECTIVE AND MANAGEABLE. IF LONGLINING CAN COEXIST WITH HARPOONING, THEN YOU AS MANAGERS WILL HAVE SUCCEEDED AT YOUR JOB OF MANAGING THE RESOURCE, IN MY OPINION. IF ON THE OTHER HAND HARPOONERS VANISH AS THEY DID IN NEW ENGLAND, THEN YOU WILL HAVE FAILED BOTH THE FISHERMEN AND THE RESOURCE, IN MY OPINION.

AS A HARPOON FISHERMAN AND SPOTTER PILOT I BEG YOU AS MANAGERS TO PROTECT THE SWORDFISH RESOURCE WE DEPEND ON AS WELL AS OUR HARPOON FISHERY. I BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE A SWORDFISH HARPOON FISHERY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. I WOULD HOPE THAT THIS WOULD BE PART OF THE GOALS OF YOUR EFFORTS AS MANAGES OF HMS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. P. Huelman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JOHN P. HUELMAN

JOHN P. HUELIMAN
3600 S. HARBOR BLVD #411
OXNARD, CA. 93035



PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL AND HMS PLAN DEVELOPMENT
2130 S.W. FIFTH AVE.
SUITE 200
PORTLAND, OR. 97201-493

GUY SANDERS

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

35 Pebbly Beach Road, P.O. BOX 53

AVALON, CALIFORNIA 90704

Telephone (310) 510-2903

Fax (310) 510-0682

MAR 12 2001

7 March 2001

Pacific Fishery Management Council
and HMS Planned Development Team
2130 SW 5th Avenue Suite 224
Portland Oregon 97201

Dear Sirs/Madams:

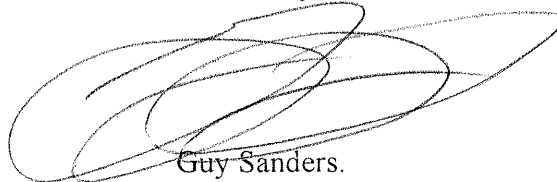
I am an attorney and a commercial fisherman. I am sorry I cannot attend your meeting on March 15. This letter is to voice my objections.

I strongly object to allowing long liners to come into new areas where we now fish. For twenty years I have been a fisherman in Southern California. I have watched the fishery shrink over those years.

It would be a colossal tragedy-- now that the fishery is so diminished--to allow long lines to come in and finish off what is left. The fish and the fishermen are already struggling, the long liners already make illegal runs through here, please don't let them finish off our fishery.

It would be an abuse of discretion for this Council allow further use of long lines. You would be abandoning your posts and your duties to allow the long lines to come closer than they already do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the printed name.

Guy Sanders.

MAR 12 2001

Dear Commissioners,

I have fished swordfish for over thirty years and have seen a lot of changes in the ocean life. All through the seventies fishing was fairly consistent with catches between 250 and 300 fish a season with a harpoon. There were several hundred harpoon boats between Santa Barbara and San Diego. Most of them stayed close to their home port and did well. You would see blue sharks everywhere you went, into the hundreds on a nice day, as well as jumping and feeding thresher sharks. In the 80's, with the introduction of the drift gill net the populations of sharks and swordfish dwindled dramatically and is only getting worse. Today you rarely see a blue shark, virtually no thresher sharks and our count on swordfish averages around 50. It is pretty obvious the effect the gill net has had on these species, and to add another gear type like the longline could be devastating.

It makes me very sad to see a fishery like harpooning die because of the lack of foresight of the people in charge of managing our resource. The writing is on the wall. Please don't let politics instead of common sense win out.

Thank you,

David Black,
F/V "Querida"



City of Avalon

March 6, 2001

Santa Catalina Island

Pacific Fisheries Management Council and
HMS Plan Development Team
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

MAR 12 2001

Re: Longline Fishing

Dear Team Members:

As Mayor of the City of Avalon on Santa Catalina Island, I want to bring to your attention the economic impact sport and commercial fishing has upon our community. Avalon is a tourist-based community with a year around population of about 3,400 residents.

Longlines within the 200 mile EEZ would dramatically impact our island economically, esthetically, and environmentally. As members of a highly visible island fishing community, all of our residents have been affected in one way or another by the over fishing of the drift gill net boats in our waters. We have seen illegally set nets off our East End.

As children growing up on Catalina, many of us have watched the ongoing decline of all types of fish in waters surrounding Catalina, and have seen the effects of over fishing, first hand. We have also witnessed the destruction of previous "experimental fisheries".

Careless handling of our precious natural resources costs us all. We ask that you exercise your power wisely, knowing that the plan you set up today will affect every family on Catalina for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hugh T. "Bud" Smith
Mayor

Administration
Finance
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901

Harbor Patrol
P.O. Box 1085
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0535
Fax 310 510-2640

Fire Department
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0203
Fax 310 510-0104

Community Services
P.O. Box 1980
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-1987
Fax 310 510-9528

Planning / Building
Capital Improvements
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901

CATALINA



ISLAND INN

March 6, 2001

MAR 12 2001

To: Pacific Fishery Management Council
H.M.S. Plan Development Team

I am writing this letter regarding my concern about the long line fishing fleet being allowed to fish inside the 200 mile range. I have lived on Catalina Island for the past 24 years and have been an avid sportsfisherman for the last 18 years. I especially enjoy the marlin fishery and release all of my catch.

Marlin fishing in Southern California waters is a very challenging sport because of the low number of fish in these waters and the short season that they are here. It is common knowledge that long line fishing kills a great number of marlin per year while fishing for swordfish and other saltwater fish.

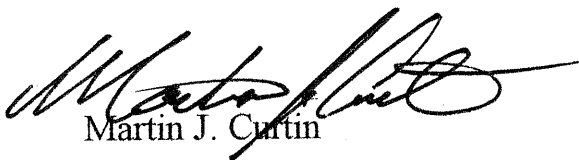
CATALINA



ISLAND INN

If the long liners are allowed inside the 200 mile range our local marlin fishery will cease to exist. This will effect a great number of Southern California sportsfisherman who rely on this activity for recreational enjoyment with friends and family. I strongly recommend that long line fishing be limited to outside the 200 mile range and preserve the wonderful recreational sport of marlin fishing in Southern California for this generation and our future generation.

Thank You



Martin J. Curtin



MAR 1 2 2001

200 "A" Street • Balboa, California 92601
Tel. (949) 673-6316 • Fax (949) 673-6384

MEMBERS
IGFA • PACIFIC FISHERIES • UNITED ANGLERS

February 28, 2001

MAR 1 2 2001

Mr. Jim Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Chairman Lone:

The Balboa Angling Club is the largest recreational sportfishing club in the world. Established in 1926, our club currently represents approximately 1200 members.

We would like to voice the BAC position on fishery management plan (FMM) for highly migratory species. We are strongly opposed to ANY longline fishery within the 200 mile California EEZ. The inevitable bycatch of non-commercial species such as striped marlin and the indiscriminate bycatch of mammals, seabirds, blue sharks, and turtles is unacceptable. We are alarmed and deeply concerned you are even considering a longline option within the California's EEZ.

Before considering any management plan, the council cannot justify allowing longline gear within the EEZ in light of recent legislation for government buy-out to remove longlining in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. In addition, Hawaii has restricted millions of square miles to drift longlines because of the interaction with endangered turtles and seabirds.

We agree with the United Anglers that "to introduce this gear type in California waters would be extremely irresponsible to the environment and a real step backwards for fisheries management."

The BAC urges the Pacific Fishery Management Council to do all in its power to keep longline gear out of the 200 mile California economic zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bob Hoose". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Bob Hoose
BAC Vice President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Greg Hickman". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Greg Hickman
BAC Conservation Committee

RECEIVED

MAR 13 2001

PFMC

To Pacific Management Council.

This letter is in regard to longline and gill net 200 mile limit. The waters in California seem to finally coming back at a slow rate. I am a commercial fisherman in California. I am against reopening the long line and gillnet in side the 200 mile limit it will finish of any recovery that's been done and finish the ocean off permanently.

Thank you

Gregory J Wenger.

Gregory J Wenger.

P.O. Box 2351

Owland CA. 90704.

310-510-1742.

Subject: Fwd: Dr. Donald O. McIaac Executive Director

Date: Wed, 14 Mar 2001 16:02:32 -0800

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

CC: donald.mcisaac@noaa.gov

Subject: Dr. Donald O. McIaac Executive Director

Date: Tue, 13 Mar 2001 23:54:51 -0800

From: "sr" <paduda@jps.net>

To: <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>


Dear Dr. McIaac:

I am just the regular 50-year-old father who loves sportfishing. I am not a ecology freak and I understand business. I am totally against the issuance of any longline permits for California, all for that matter any other area. history shows they have continually devastated, our fishing stocks already, and I'm afraid my grandchildren will be eating guppies and farm raised fish instead of ocean fish. will this destruction continue before it is too late? Have the courage to do what is right for the people in future generations to come, that is if anybody cares. this system of commercial interests controlling the future of our resource is like having a child babysit for himself. We the people see through this crap and are getting fed up.

I have attached a letter that I have sent to my congressman.

sincerely,

Stewart Rosen

 <u>March 15 2001 Longlines.doc</u>	Name: March 15 2001 Longlines.doc Type: WINWORD File (application/msword) Encoding: base64 Download Status: Not downloaded with message
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03/10/01

Pacific Fishery Management Council

Dear Sir:

I wish to extend my protest and opposition to Longliners anywhere.

Any new law that would lessen their 200 mile limit will simply compound the devastation already being done by longliners.

Respectfully,

Caroline Alderice

PO Box 734
Avalon, CA
90704

704



Pacific Fishery Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S.W. 5th Avenue, Ste. 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

MAR 16 2001

2555 Jefferson
Carson, California 90810
March 12, 2001

Pacific Fishery Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S.W. 5th Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

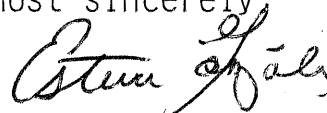
Dear Sirs,

Please acknowledge my concern over the possibility of changing the 200 mile limit for long-fishing. I humbly request that you carefully consider the horrific damage that will occur to local waters should this law be changed or altered.

I was born and raised on Catalina Island. I understand the importance of abundant sea-life. And, I know the joy of fishing. However, long-line fishing is not joy of the sport, it is pure carnage to any species that happens to be hooked on one of the thousands and thousands of hooks on the long-lines. The bycatch of these long-lines is abominable. And the ensuing results of long-line fishing without a 200 mile limit would be murderous to our local waters.

Please consider this plea carefully and don't allow any change or alteration to the 200 mile limit to long-line fishing. It certainly would have disastrous effects to the waters off my home of Catalina.

Most sincerely,



Estevan Gonzalez

EG:ac

March 13, 2001

4001 Via Oro, Suite 103
Long Beach, California 90810
March 13, 2001

Pacific Fishery Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S.W. 5th Avenue
Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Sirs:

I am a Catalina native, and frequent the island. My entire family resides there. It has been brought to my attention that there is a possibility that possible laws-in-the-making could possibly alter the 200 mile off shore limit for long-line fishing. I am adamantly opposed to any such laws. It is imperative that we protect our local waters.

It is a well known fact that the discards of the long-line fishing activity is complete pillage of our marine species other than the desired swordfish. And, often the swordfish that are taken are not mature and thus, the population of swordfish is greatly diminished as well!

Please consider this possible law-making decision carefully and weigh the tremendous loss of porpoises, whales, turtles, marlin, and other large and small fish as a result of long-line fishing. To not impose the 200 mile limit on long-fishing would be completely irresponsible to the sanctity of marine life.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Kindest regards,


Steven C. Crow

SCC/sm

MAR 16 2001

Sino,

To protect our local waters, please,
keep the long liners to their
200 miles off shore.

We are avid sports fishers and
don't want our local waters
raped. We believe in tag and
release.

We live on Catalina Island, you
can be sure if the law is
changed it will ruin all local
sports fishing.

Marilyn Toland

P.O. Box 1009

Avalon, Ca. 90704

Scott Langin

P.O. Box 26

Avalon Calif. 90704

4128 East Fountain, Apartment B
Long Beach, California 90804
March 13, 2001

MAR 16 2001

Pacific Fishery Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S.W. 5th Ave., Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

RE: 200 mile limit of long line fishing

Dear Sirs:

I implore you to not make any laws that would endanger the marine life of local waters. If you elect to make law-making changes to the 200 mile limit of long-fishing, you will ultimately be making a law that will destroy and pillage the very essence of our local waters. In my opinion, this would be a gross, if not negligent, decision.

Every year less and less swordfish and marlin are caught in and around the local waters of Catalina Island. And, if the 200 mile limit is changed for long-line fishing the population of these species, as well as others, most assuredly will be decimated. It would be unconscionable to facilitate long-line fishing any closer than the 200 mile limit. I strongly urge you to consider the long-term results of such a law, rather than the short-term results of a "swordfish catch."

Thank you for your mindful consideration of this plea. It is not only an individual's concern, but a concern for all, as the damage caused by long-line fishing closer to shore will have not only long-lasting damage, but irreparable results.

Yours truly,



Adele Brown

ab/s

I'V BEEN A Fisherman for
27 years, I'V SEEN what longlins do's
to the OCEAN. Florida is ONE of many
who gave them the boat. The billfish population
there well never MAKE A come back, because of
the slauter that they give to the ocean.

Now you want California to be
the same way, I really cant belive you are
even thinking about PASSING ~~the~~ this LAW
to RAPE are OCEAN.

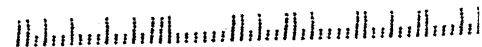
If you PASS this you CAN
change the PASTIC OCEAN to the Dead SEA!

Scott Costa
AVALON, CATALINA Island.



Fishery Management
HMS Planner Devau
2130 SW 5th A
Portland, OR

57201+4334



MAR 19 2001

Dear Council -

As A Resident of CATALINA Island I ASK that you please do not Allow Any change in the law that would allow longliners closer to US grounds + waters. It's no Secret longlines kill so randomly and ~~in~~ in such great numbers.

Look at the fact that the giant black sea bass have made a huge comeback. I scuba dive and am delighted to know of a spot where I can regularly see 6-7 of the beautiful fish. With longlines around, they could vanish completely.

Please, please, please.... let there be all these intriguing sea creatures for our kids, grandkids + great grand-kids to enjoy.

Thank you.

Patti Ly

PATTI LANGE
P.O. Box 1868
AVALON CA 90704

Dear Sir:

3-15-2001

I am writing to discourage possible law making that would allow long line use in local waters.

I fished commercially from 1944 until 1952.

When we fished broadbill swordfish we only fished in the Catalina channel and our fish averaged 250 lbs and at .32¢ per lb it was profitable because of the number of fish.

From 1976 to 1980 I tried broadbill fishing again.

We had to cover all the channel Islands to find fish, they averaged 125 lbs @ 6.00 per lb. We couldn't find enough to make it pay, at that time.

The sportfishing charter boats of Avalon, consisting of six or eight boats, caught four and five marlin per boat per day in the mid 1930's.

Today there are many boats fishing a greater area with many days without any fish being brought in.

The point is, why do you have to wait until there aren't anymore before you restrict fishing.

Sincerely

Silas M. Hathaway



Silas M. Hathaway
P.O. Box 1842
Avalon, CA 90704-1842

Pa
24

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

DEAR COUNCIL MEMBERS

MEMBER

NOV 11 1991

PERC

MY NAME IS DICK HOAGLAND. I
HAVE BEEN FISHING IN SO. CALIF.
WATERS FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND THE
DEPLETION OF OUR MAJOR GAME FISH
HAS BEEN SHOCKING, TO SAY THE LEAST
PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW LONG
LINE FISHING WITHIN 200 MILES OF
OUR SO. CALIF. COAST. IT WILL SPELL
DISASTER TO WHAT FISHERY WE HAVE
LEFT! LONG LINE FISHING IS INDESCRIMINATE
IN THE CATCH, CANNOT BE REGULATED AND
WILL CAUSE UNTOLD PROBLEMS! RK Hoagland
949-673-8333



RICHARD K HOAGLAND
300 E COAST HWY SPC 31
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660-6106

March 15, 2001

MAR 10 2001

RECEIVED

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and members of the Pacific Council,

I am a recreational fisherman who is actively involved with several Southern California fishing clubs and conservation organizations. I am an active supporter of catch and release marlin fishing and also a supporter of our local scientific billfish research community. I'm writing to you today in the hope that I can influence you to keep our West Coast offshore waters free of commercial longlines. I'm sure I don't have to list all of the statistics that clearly show how devastating and destructive longlining is to convince you that allowing these people into our waters would not only be irresponsible, but openly reckless. In addition to the certain ultimate destruction of our commercial swordfish and tuna fisheries at the hands of the longliners, we would also stand to lose one of the most economically sound sport fishing industries in the world. If the argument was to be based upon economics alone, the commercial entities in this issue couldn't hold a candle to the billions of dollars contributed to our economy each year by the sport fishermen of the West Coast.

One would think that the legacy that the longline fleet left behind on our East Coast, by itself, would be enough to convince our government to put a stop to this horrible destructive practice of ocean strip-mining. With the pathetic state of the Atlantic swordfish fishery haunting us like the ghost of some poor sole we just left to die alongside the road, it's impossible to imagine that your council is actually contemplating letting it happen all over again. With what the longline fleet has already taught us, it's very difficult to comprehend that even the greediest of people in this country could think that this was a good idea.

If the will of the majority has any weight in this matter at all, I can guarantee you that it would be nearly impossible to find 5% of the people of these Western States who think that allowing longlines off our coast is the right thing to do. I ask you and your fellow councilmen to please listen to the wisdom and recommendations of the people of this country who oppose the indiscriminate killing practices of the pelagic longline fleet. Please do the right thing by saying "NO" to their bid to repeat their horrible crimes on our coast.

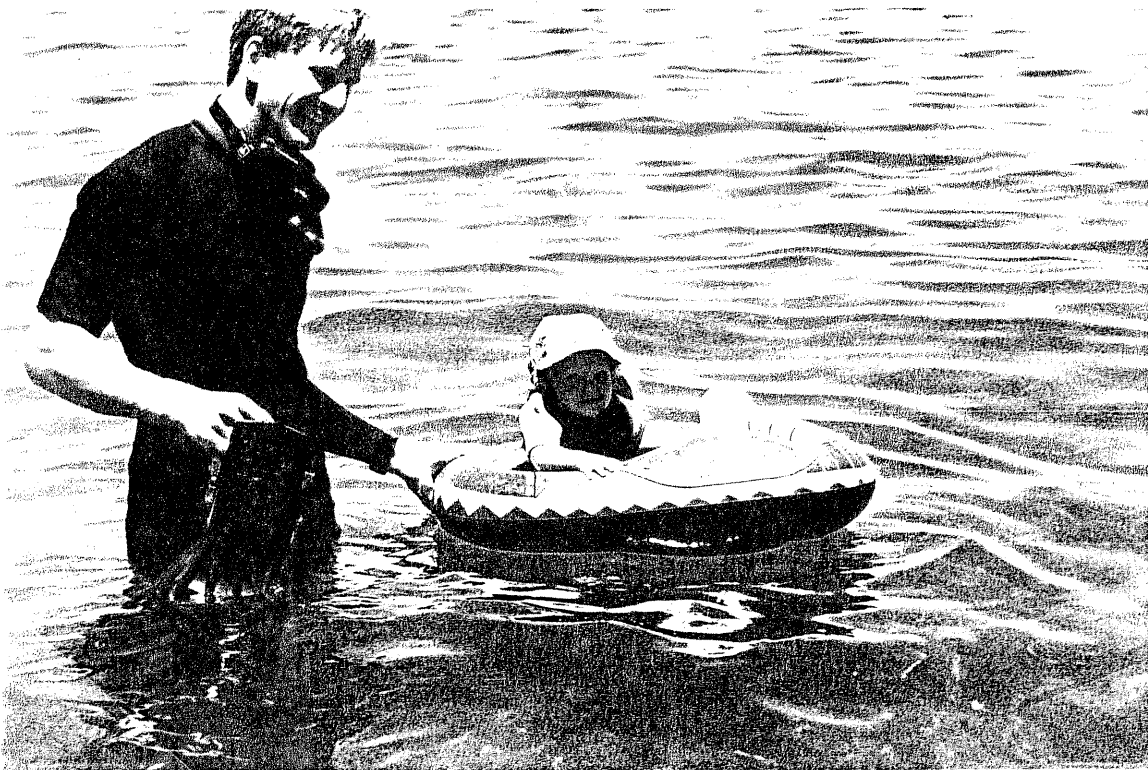
Sincerely,



Steve Bledsoe
San Clemente, CA

S. Bledsoe
2169 Via Teca
San Clemente, CA 92673

CATALINA Island
June 2000



MY NAME IS Riley Addison
AND I AM NOW 16 months
old. I go snorkeling with my parents and
love the water. Please don't allow
longlines nearer to shore than they already
are. I want to ~~see~~ be able to see
more than kelp when I actually get to
use A mask. Thanks.

P.O. Box 1866
Avila CA 90704

GEORGE LEWIS GILDRED

550 WEST C STREET, SUITE 1820
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-3509
TELEPHONE (619) 232-6361
FACSIMILE (619) 696-0991

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MAR 23 2001
FBI

20 March 2001

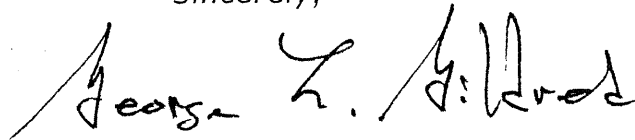
Fishery Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S.W. 5th Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Enclosed is an important article that appeared in The Catalina Islander.

Kindly please direct your thought and efforts to disallow longlines from devastating our fisheries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George L. Gildred". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" being the most prominent.

Enclosure

Fishermen concerned about long liners in local waters

Long-time local sword fisherman Jerry Ciccone is urging locals to write a letter to the Pacific Fishing Management Council to discourage possible law-making that would allow long-line use in local waters.

Ciccone said that longliners are trying to change the current law that keeps them 200 miles off of shore. If the law changes, they could possibly fish anywhere. Personnel for the Council were out of the office for the week and unavailable for comment.

Currently long lines are allowed to be set 200 miles off of California's waters. Ciccone said that if the law passes, longliners will be able to fish much closer, and, in Ciccone's estimation, decimate all fisheries.

"It's important to keep them out of the 200-mile zone," Ciccone said. "They kill everything. They rape the ocean and move out."

Longlines are 30 to 40 miles long and contain thousands of hooks. Fishermen have a target species but the bycatch is inevitable, leading to literally tons of marine species being killed. Sharks, porpoises, dolphins, marlin, pilot whales and turtles are just some of the many animals that die regularly from longliners.

Ciccone said that a long line boat that catches a ton of swordfish in a season discards approxi-

mately 10 tons of other species.

Of the swordfish caught, many are juvenile and will never be able to reproduce.

Ciccone, who has attended Council meetings as far away as Sacramento, notes that in 1978 local swordfishermen caught 378 fish. In 1979 the number was more than 250. In 1980, after gill nets were introduced in local waters, only 30 swordfish were caught by the local fishermen. Ciccone is certain longliners will do at least as much damage.

In the Atlantic ocean, Ciccone said that they don't know if the swordfish population will ever make a comeback, even if they stop fishing.

Commercial fishermen would not be the only ones feeling the effect of longlines in local waters.

Ciccone mentioned that the sportfishing marlin fleet of long ago consisted of a half-dozen boats yet they caught 600-700 fish. Today there are thousands of boats in local waters and only 75-100 fish are caught every season.

Letters can be sent to: Pacific Fishery Management Council, HMS Planned Development Team, 2130 S.W. 5th Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, Oregon, 97201.

"If you don't know anything, they make the law. By the time you know about it, the law is passed," Ciccone said.

Subject: Fwd: No Longlining in the Pacific Coast

Date: Fri, 30 Mar 2001 08:35:03 -0800

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: No Longlining in the Pacific Coast

Date: Fri, 30 Mar 2001 08:20:08 -0800

From: "Wilson, Rick" <RickW@gen-probe.com>

To: "graydavis@governor.ca.gov" <graydavis@governor.ca.gov>

"RHight@dfg.ca.gov" <RHight@dfg.ca.gov>

"pfmc.comments@noaa.gov" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

"Rebecca.Lent@noaa.gov" <Rebecca.Lent@noaa.gov>

"devans@doc.gov" <devans@doc.gov>

The lessons learned on the East Coast, Gulf Coast and Hawaiian Island chain PROVE longlining is a detrimental form of fishing that can wipe out a fishery. Please do not allow them to kill the Pacific too! They have all relocated here, awaiting the opportunity to begin fishing in our waters. They call it "experimental" longlining but we all know what it really is. In slang, it's called "getting your foot in the door."

The argument, we don't know how it will effect fish populations here since it's never been allowed is ridiculous. I don't need to jump of every bridge in the country to realize the new one just built is also dangerous to jump off of. We've already jumped of the bridge of longlining on the East Coast, Hawaii and the Gulf and it has been horribly destructive and unsustainable. It will be the same here and everyone knows that. We don't need a "longline experiment" to prove it.

Please...preserve the last refuge of a semi decent ocean fishery.....

KEEP THE DOOR SHUT! Reject all longlining requests within the EEZ!

Respectfully submitted,

Thanks,
Rick

<<http://members.aol.com/rwilson599/fish.gif>>

><(((?>

Rick Wilson
Network Manager
Gen-Probe Incorporated
rickw@gen-probe.com <<mailto:rickw@gen-probe.com>>
Voice: 858-410-8771
Mobile: 858-247-9555
Fax: 858-410-8103

Subject: Fwd: The Door

Date: Fri, 30 Mar 2001 07:50:42 -0800

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: The Door

Date: Thu, 29 Mar 2001 15:10:10 -0800

From: Bruce Carter <bcarter3@home.com>

Organization: @Home Network

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

The lessons learned on the East Coast, Gulf Coast and Hawaiian Island chain PROVE longlining is a detrimental form of fishing that can wipe out a fishery. Please do not allow them to kill the Pacific too! They have all relocated here, awaiting the opportunity to begin fishing in our waters. The call it "experimental" longlining but we all know what it really is. In slang, it's called "getting your foot in the door."

Please...preserve the last refuge of a sediment ocean fishery...KEEP THE DOOR SHUT!

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce A. Carter

Director

SaltWater Anglers Club

Member RFA

Member UASC

Calif. Registered Voter

< ')>>>K

semi-decent



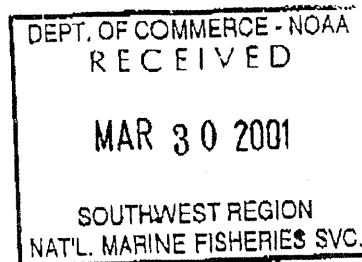
City of Avalon

Santa Catalina Island

March 22, 2001

APR - 9 2001

Ms. Rebecca Lent
Regional Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200
Southwest Regional Office
Long Beach, CA 90802



Dear Ms. Lent:

I am writing to you to request your help in combating what I feel is the greatest threat to the fishing industry California has ever had to defend itself against. I am referring to a change in the law, which would allow longliners the ability to operate in local California waters. As you know, the lines from these boats stretch for miles, and although they target one kind of fish, the hooks capture tons of unwanted species of sharks, dolphins, porpoises, marlin, pilot whales and even sea turtles. This type of wasteful over-fishing displays a frivolous disregard for our natural resources.

The City of Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island, is known as a beautiful tourist destination. The island's entire economy is tourist based. We make every effort to maintain our pristine environment. Our city has a zero tolerance discharge ordinance to keep our harbor clean for our visitors. Anglers from around the world come to fish in the ocean waters off California. The residents of our island view such a change in the law as a life and death threat to the fishing industry and to our local fragile economy, not to mention the senseless slaughter of marine life.

Please consider the long-term consequences associated with longline fishing when reviewing this most important issue.

Sincerely,

Tim Winslow
Councilmember

Administration
Finance
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901

Harbor Patrol
P.O. Box 1085
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0535
Fax 310 510-2640

Fire Department
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0203
Fax 310 510-0104

Community Services
P.O. Box 1980
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-1987
Fax 310 510-9528

Planning / Building
Capital Improvements
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901



Nelson Financial.....

C. Robert (Bob) Nelson
Registered Representative
FSC Securities Corporation
Inc. Lic #0B74630

April 3, 2001

RECEIVED

APR 09 2001

PFMC

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and Members of the Pacific Council,

I am a recreational fisherman who is actively involved with several Southern California fishing clubs and conservation organizations. I am an active supporter of catch and release marlin fishing. I'm writing to you today in the hope that I can influence you to keep our West Coast offshore waters free of commercial longlines. I'm sure I don't have to list all of the statistics that clearly show how devastating and destructive longlining is to convince you that allowing these people into our waters would not only be irresponsible, but openly reckless. In addition to the certain ultimate destruction of our commercial swordfish and tuna fisheries at the hands of the longliners, we would also stand to lose one of the most economically sound sport fishing industries in the world. If the argument was to be based upon economics alone, the commercial entities in this issue couldn't hold a candle to the billions of dollars contributed to our economy each year by the sport fisherman of the West Coast. One would think that the legacy that the longline fleet left behind on our East Coast, by itself, would be enough to convince our government to put a stop to this horrible destructive practice of ocean strip mining. With the pathetic state of the Atlantic swordfish fishery, it's impossible to imagine that your council is actually contemplating letting it happen all over again. With what the longline fleet has already taught us, it's very difficult to comprehend that even the greediest of people in this country could think that this was a good idea. If the will of the majority has any weight in this matter at all, I can guarantee you that it would be nearly impossible to find 5% of the people of these Western States who think that allowing longlines off our coast is the right thing to do. I ask you and your fellow councilmen to please listen to the wisdom and recommendations of the people of this country who oppose the indiscriminate killing practices of the pelagic longline fleet. Please do the right thing by saying "NO" to their bid to repeat their horrible crimes on our coast.

Sincerely,

C. Robert Nelson

24681 La Plaza, Suite 260, Dana Point, CA 92629 Tel (949) 493-2608 Fax (949) 493-2390

Securities offered through FSC SECURITIES CORPORATION

A registered broker/dealer, Member NASD/SIPC

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APR 09 2001

PFMC

Tiburon Engineering Inc.
1104 E. Chestnut Ave.
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 667-1144
fax 667-1030
www.tiburoneng.com

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and members of the Pacific Council,

I am a recreational fisherman and fishing tackle manufacturer who is actively involved with Southern California fishing clubs and conservation organizations. I am an active supporter of catch and release marlin fishing and also a supporter of our local scientific billfish research community. I'm writing to you today in the hope that I can influence you to keep our West Coast offshore waters free of commercial longlines. I'm sure that you are aware of the statistics that clearly show how devastating and destructive longlining is to our fishery. In addition to the certain ultimate destruction of our commercial swordfish and tuna fisheries at the hands of the longliners, we would also stand to lose one of the most economically sound sport fishing industries in the world. If the argument was to be based upon economics alone, the commercial entities in this issue couldn't hold a candle to the billions of dollars contributed to our economy each year by the sport fishermen of the West Coast. My business and many others like mine would definitely feel the impact. I don't see how anyone with a clear conscience could stand by and let this situation continue. It's time to stop it now!

I have never talked to anyone that thought that longlines was the right thing to do except for the commercial fishermen who use them. I ask you and your fellow councilmen to please listen to the wisdom and recommendations of the people of this country who oppose the indiscriminate killing practices of the pelagic longline fleet. Please do the right thing by saying "NO" to their bid to repeat their horrible crimes on our coast.

Sincerely,

Rich Duncan

MINYARD AND MORRIS, LLP

A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MARK E. MINYARD**
MICHAEL A. MORRIS***
LONNIE K. SEIDE*

KENNETH T. DEMMERLE*
JAMES R. PARKE*
ROBERT F. MCLAUGHLIN
STEVEN G. HITTELMAN
JOHN S. COWHIG*
KEVIN G. MUSULAS
ELENE M. JOHNSTON
THOMAS W. ERWIN

PRACTICE LIMITED TO FAMILY LAW LITIGATION & MEDIATION
ONE CITY BOULEVARD WEST, 11TH FLOOR, SUITE 1100
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA 92868
TEL (714) 937-1020 • FAX (714) 978-6060

*CERTIFIED SPECIALIST - FAMILY LAW
THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
†A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

**CERTIFIED FELLOW
AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS

RECEIVED

APR 09 2001

PFMC

April 3, 2001

James H. Lone, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201


Sir:

I am very concerned about the Pacific Fishery Management Council's consideration of plans to allow a pelagic longline fishery to develop in the Pacific EEZ. The worldwide use of this gear has demonstrated that it takes marine mammals and other non-target species as bycatch.

Before the Council allows the development of a new fishery and increases mortality of these stocks, let them reduce the levels of bycatch and waste in gears currently in use and invest in good science to establish defensible scientific data on the health of our tuna, shark and striped marlin stocks.

I support the campaign The Billfish Foundation has underway here in California and agree with their position that there should not be a longline fishery authorized for our waters.

Very truly yours,



MARK E. MINYARD

MEM:lp

March 30, 2001

Chairman Mr. Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

RECEIVED

APR - 9 2001

55110

Dear Jim,

I'm writing in regards to the possibility of longlining permits being issued for the West Coast. It is hard to imagine this issue is even being considered after what this type of fishing has done to the East Coast fishery. Please think long and hard before making this serious decision. I am 37 years old. I have lived in Southern California my whole life. I grew up being a recreational fisherman my whole life with my father. I'm now taking my son's fishing too. I have witnessed in recent years the recovery of some fish species do to stopping the inshore gillnetting. My 15 year old son last weekend actually caught a 20lb. halibut for the first time. This doesn't seem like a big deal but for years it seemed like the only halibut you could catch was 21 1/2 inches long (which would be 3 lbs. & 1/2 inch short of legal). I still remember to this day being a kid, going out fishing only catching "shorts". My father took me over to the dock where some gill-netters had just come in. I don't remember how many halibut they unloaded off the boats but it seemed like one 40 pounder after another was unloaded. From then on I realized I didn't have a chance against the nets. I believe these nets were stopped in the early 1990's. Today, people are realizing what positive effect stopping the gillnets has done. Not only halibut, but whites seabass seem to be making a comeback too. This is possibly aided by the seabass fish hatchery also.

As far the longlines go, I don't see the need for them. The swordfish fishery seems to have enough pressure on it as it is. The present method of harpooning fish at least doesn't kill unwanted catch that ends up being thrown away. When the season comes plenty of commercial boats are out in search of swordfish with the aid of spotter planes. Any swordfish that pops up is found. The plane radios the coordinates to the boat. The boat zooms in & the fish is harpooned. I know my father would like to catch a swordfish before he dies. He has lost three in his lifetime. For an angler, catching a swordfish is like winning the World Series, Super Bowl, etc. As it is now we can't compete with the commercial boats and planes that are out there now.

We as people can't continue to rape and pillage the oceans with out giving something back. Fish hatcheries, quantity and size limits, releasing catches will save something for future generations. Please do your best in making a wise decision. I believe the choice of not allowing longliners here far out-weigh the one of allowing the disaster that has taken place on the East Coast.

Sincerely,

Scott Kingsmill
Mission Viejo, CA

23131 Via San Gabriel
Mission Viejo, CA 92691



City of Avalon

March 22, 2001

Santa Catalina Island

Mr. James H. Lone
Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

APR - 9 2001

Re: Longline Fishing

Dear Chairman Lone and Councilmembers:

I am writing to you to request your help in combating what I feel is the greatest threat to the fishing industry California has ever had to defend itself against. I am referring to a change in the law, which would allow longliners the ability to operate in local California waters. As you know, the lines from these boats stretch for miles, and although they target one kind of fish, the hooks capture tons of unwanted species of sharks, dolphins, porpoises, marlin, pilot whales and even sea turtles. This type of wasteful over-fishing displays a frivolous disregard for our natural resources.

The City of Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island is known as a beautiful tourist destination. The island's entire economy is tourist based. We make every effort to maintain our pristine environment. Our city has a zero tolerance discharge ordinance to keep our harbor clean for our visitors. Anglers from around the world come to fish in the ocean waters off California. The residents of our island view such a change in the law as a life and death threat to the fishing industry and to our local fragile economy, not to mention the senseless slaughter of marine life.

Please consider the long-term consequences associated with longline fishing when reviewing this most important issue.

Sincerely,

Tim Winslow
Councilmember
AVALON CITY COUNCIL

Administration
Finance
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901

Harbor Patrol
P.O. Box 1085
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0535
Fax 310 510-2640

Fire Department
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0203
Fax 310 510-0104

Community Services
P.O. Box 1980
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-1987
Fax 310 510-9528

Planning / Building
Capital Improvements
P.O. Box 707
Avalon, CA 90704
310 510-0220
Fax 310 510-0901

Susanna M Espinosa-Gonzales
PO Box 1207, Avalon, CA 90704
March 14, 2001

Pacific Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 S. W. 5th Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, OR 97201

APR - 9 2001

Subject: Long Line Use- less than 200 mile limit

Dear Sirs:

It has been brought to my attention that you are considering legislation that would change the current law regarding the 200-mile limit by long line use fishing. I am opposed to it, as it can potentially endanger local Catalina waters and other coastal fisheries.

Please seriously review and consider the long-term impact on our environment and on jobs related to the fishing industry.

Please use caution and wisdom, looking beyond the monetary benefits. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Susanna M Espinosa-Gonzales

Subject: Fwd: Longlining in EEZ

Date: Mon, 09 Apr 2001 13:42:46 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Longlining in EEZ

Date: Fri, 30 Mar 2001 14:14:00 EST

From: <BobDVM@aol.com>

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

I appose any type of longlining. Sincerely, Bob Thayer, DVM

Subject: Fwd: No... Longlining in the EEZ

Date: Mon, 09 Apr 2001 13:48:10 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: No... Longlining in the EEZ

Date: Fri, 06 Apr 2001 17:07:56 -0700

From: Wesley Trent <fishingcalif@home.com>

Organization: @Home Network

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov, fishingcalif@home.com

Please preserve the Pacific Ocean. Longlining was the death of the East Coast, and the Gulf Coast.

Thank You

Wes Trent

Subject: Fwd: Please Say No to Longline Fishing

Date: Mon, 09 Apr 2001 13:45:33 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: Please Say No to Longline Fishing

Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 13:31:57 -0700

From: Mel Auiler <mel@fishntell.com>

To: graydavis@governor.ca.gov

Please do not allow long line fishing along the California coast in the EEZ.
The Sport fishing industry brings far more tax dollars to your pocket.

Thank You

Mel Auiler

27461 Catala Ave

Santa Clarita Ca. 91350

Mel

Allcoast Sportfishing www.sport-fish-info.com

DOCTOR'S ORDERS SPORTFISHING

33012 CALLE PERFECTO

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

(949) 489 FISH (3474)

E-mail skip@binus.com www.drsorders.com

Mar. 31, 2001

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APR 11 2001

PFMC

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 92701

Dear Mr. Lone and member of the Pacific Council,

I am a Sportfishing guide here in Southern California and also a recreational fisherman. I am actively involved with making my living guiding people for recreational fishing. I am very concerned with the possibility of having commercial longlining allowed in our waters. I support catch and release fishing as much as possible. No one has ever killed a marlin caught on my boat and no one ever will.

I can't imagine having our water raped as they were on the East Coast. Now that we can all see the damage that has been done to that fishery, it would seem criminal to me to allow the same thing to happen on the West Coast. A tragic lesson was taught to us all by the depletion to the East Coast stocks of not only the targeted species of swordfish but many other species as well. Most of those are "merely" classified as "bycatch" and thrown back. Lets not let that lesson go to waste.

Economically, many, many people would suffer greatly if longlining is allowed to take place here. Not only folks in my profession, but the people who operate and are employed by fuel docks, marinas, fishing tackle stores and manufacturers, boat manufactures, the car dealers who sell tow vehicles for those boats and you can imagine the list goes on and on.

I implore you to not knuckle under to the longlining lobby and allow commercial longline fishing on our Pacific Coast. Please say NO to longlining.

Sincerely,



Captain Wade H. Driggers
Doctor's Orders Sportfishing

This letter is directed to the Pacific Fishery Management Council in regards to Long line fishing.

I am a fisherman with a thirty two foot Swordfish boat. I feel that long line fishing is wasteful and in this age a problem.

Please don't let long line fishing be done inside the current 200 mi offshore limit. This would be a disaster to many family fishing fleets.

Respectively

Orne Carstarphen

04-09-01

RECEIVED

APR 13 2001

PFMC

*Mr. and Mrs. Orne Carstarphen
P.O. Box 856
Avalon, CA. 90704*

David Devoy
26352 Ibeza Road
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

RECEIVED

April 9, 2001

APR 13 2001

PFMC

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S. W. Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and Members of the Pacific Council,

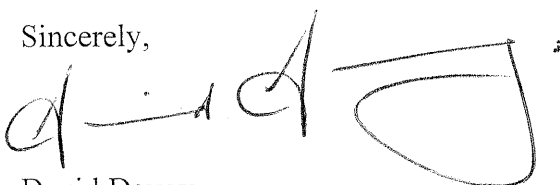
I am writing to you today to keep our West Coast offshore waters free of commercial longlines. I am a recreational fisherman and a member of a prominent Southern California angling club. Our club actively supports the catch and release of marlin fishing and we are also supporters of our local scientific billfish research community.

The recreational fishing industry is a major source of income for the Pacific states. By allowing the complete destruction of swordfish and tuna at the hands of the longliners, we would stand to lose one of the most economically sound sport fishing industries in the world. If you and your council allow the longlines, you will be responsible for diverting this resource to other areas of our great country, or even worse - to other countries. You and your council will have failed in your obligations to the Pacific states.

I know you are aware of the statistics that clearly show how devastating and destructive longlining is. Allowing these people into our waters would be irresponsible and openly reckless. These boats and crews are now looking for new waters to plunder. Most of them have come to the Pacific, and after getting run out of Hawaii, they're trying to get into our waters. One would think that the legacy that the longline fleet left behind on our East Coast, by itself, would be enough to convince our government to put a stop to this horrible destructive practice of ocean strip-mining. With the pathetic state of the Atlantic swordfish fishery haunting us, it's impossible to imagine that your council is actually contemplating letting it happen all over again. With what the longline fleet has already taught us, it's very difficult to comprehend that even the greediest of people in this country could think that this was a good idea.

I am asking you and your fellow councilmen to please listen to the wisdom and recommendations of the people of this country who oppose the indiscriminate killing practices of the pelagic longline fleet. Today, it is illegal to longline in California waters. Let's keep it that way. Please do the right thing by saying "NO" to their bid to repeat their horrible crimes on our coast.

Sincerely,



David Devoy

RECEIVED

APR 16 2001

PFFAC

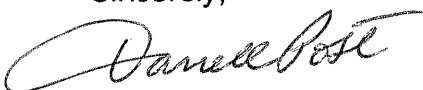
Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Mr. Lone and members of the Pacific Council,

As a recreational fisherman involved with conservation organizations, and a local fishing club, and also a home owner on the big island of Hawaii, I have seen first hand what kind of an impact commercial longlining has on our fisheries. I fish with a friend who has seen catches diminish over the past twenty years in Hawaii to the point where many of the locals have said, "When they want to catch billfish they go to Cabo". I know that it is not only longlines, but also overfishing by sport fisherman that do not practice catch and release, that can harm the health of the billfish fishery. For this reason at this time it seems particularly important to keep them from cleaning out the eastern Pacific. I would encourage you to consider the sport fishing interests of many like myself.

I realize how large the commercial industry is, when you compare all that make money from it, not just the fishing side but the shippers, the retailers, restaurants etc. It is difficult to compare that to recreational fishing. However when they are finished as has happened in the Atlantic, and they have depleted the ocean to the point where it's not worthwhile for them anymore, they move on to the next ocean that still has fish. I would urge you to consider saying "NO" to these interests, before there are no fish left.

Sincerely,



Darrell Post

RECEIVED

APR 26 2001

PFMC

Chairman Jim Lone April 21, 2001
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland Oregon 97201

April 21, 2001

Dear Mr. Lone and members of the Pacific Council

It has recently come to my attention, that your council will be considering granting permits to commercial longline fleets to fish in US waters inside the 200-mile offshore limit known as the Exclusive Economic Zone or EEZ.

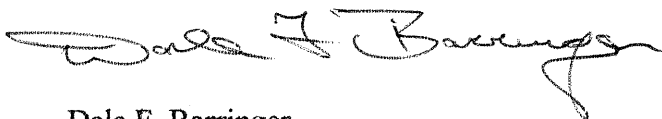
As I am sure you are aware, this is the same commercial longline fleet that among other things devastated the billfish and tuna fisheries on our eastern seaboard. Surely the lessons learned from that catastrophe cannot be ignored. To even consider the granting of permits to these commercial longliners to devastate our Pacific fisheries is unthinkable!

I have had the privilege and pleasure of being a recreational fisherman in Southern California. for over 50 years. During that period of time I have taught my children and grandchildren the joy of fishing and respecting the God given gift of our Pacific Ocean resource. I am also a strong advocate of catch and release and only take fish that will be eaten by my family.

I am writing to you today in the hope that I can influence you to keep our West Coast offshore waters free of commercial longlines. Please do not ignore past history of the damage longliners cause. I firmly believe that responsible fisheries management can assure that my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren can realize the joy of fishing for years to come.

Allowing longliners to fish our Pacific Coastal waters is NOT RESPONSIBLE fish management. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

Regards,



Dale F. Barringer
28412 Avenida La Mancha
San Juan Capistrano CA. 92675

ROOM 3086
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-4906
(916) 445-6447
FAX (916) 327-9113

3711 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD
SUITE 801
LONG BEACH, CA 90807
(562) 997-0794
FAX (562) 997-0799



California State Senate

BETTY KARNETTE

SENATOR
TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:

CHAIR:
TRANSPORTATION

MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS
FINANCE, INVESTMENT AND
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
AND RETIREMENT

SELECT COMMITTEE:
ALAMEDA CORRIDOR (CHAIR)

JOINT COMMITTEE:
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

April 30, 2001

MAY 07 2001

James Lone, Chair
Pacific Fishing Management Council
HMS Planned Development Team
2130 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 224
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chair Lone and Members of the Council:

I am writing to express my strong concerns about the proposal to allow longliners to operate in local waters.

As you well know, these fishing lines indiscriminately hook tons of other marine species in addition to the intended catch. Allowing their use in coastal waters would simply decimate the local fishing industry and the associated economy in coastal communities throughout California.

This proposal presents a serious threat to communities within my district and all along the West Coast, and I respectfully urge you to reject the proposal and keep the longline fishing in at the current 200-mile limit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Karnette".

BETTY KARNETTE

BK:ts

cc: Honorable Tim Winslow

May 7, 2001

MAY 10 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 S W Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Chariman Lone,

I have been alerted to the upcoming council meeting in June 2001 wherein you will be considering the application from the Longlining commercial fishermen to use our southern California coastline.

I am highly opposed to the use of Longlining anywhere along the California coastline within 200 miles from shore. Longlining is devastating to our resources. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past and I am not willing to stand by and let it happen here. I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares, but I pay taxes and I vote.

Please do not be fooled by the the longliner's groups attempt to pass off an experimental Bluefin Tuna longline fishing study in the Southern Callifornia Bight area as being needed. It is just a ploy to tap into our rich migratory pelagic fishing area for greed and profit at the expense of the well being of our resource. The longliners can not be trusted to manage this area with concern for the fish. They have shown how little the care for the resources on the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. Please do not let them damage our area.

This meeting is being held in Oregon which is very unfair to the many hundreds of thousands of interested parties in Southern California. Why are you not holding your meetings and review where interested parties can attend? In fairness please reconsider your meeting site and give ample time for people to attend this hearing.

Sincerely,

Sharon Longdale
226 Ave Serra #3
San Clemente, Ca 92672

Don Green

4114 Elm Ave. #9
Long Beach, Ca. 90801
562-427-3189
630.berryBelair@msn.com

RECEIVED
MAY 10 2001

DEAC

May 4, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Sir,

We are writing to register our concern about allowing longline fishing off our Southern California Coast. I have been fishing here for the past 45 years and was taught to fish by my father who has been fishing off of our coast since the mid 1930's. I taught my five children how to fish and now have a grandson who in the not too distant future will also be taught to fish.

It is funny how the old timers talk about how the fishing use to be and we're afraid that if we allow the longline fishing off of our coast it will ruin our tradition of family fishing for fun and sport. There has been some improvement since the gill nets have been banned but we're afraid longlines will wreak havoc on our fishing. The twenty to thirty mile lines catch any fish that is present and the non-commercial fish are thrown back dead into the ocean. We who fish on boats, piers, or shores return under sized or protected fish back to their environment alive to grow to legal size or to replenish the species. A longline in the ocean doesn't care what it catches, if it lives or dies, or if that species is immature or protected.

Please, no longlines off of our coast. Our fishery needs to be protected for us who fish now and for those who are yet to fish. I would like to be able to take my grandson out for a day of fishing and come home with a nice catch of fish for our dinner. Again, please no longlines.

Sincerely,

Don Green

&

Julieta Gutierrez

Subject: Fwd: long line fishing

Date: Tue, 15 May 2001 08:59:31 -0700

From: "PFMC Comments" <pfmc.comments@noaa.gov>

To: daniel.waldeck@noaa.gov

Subject: long line fishing

Date: Mon, 14 May 2001 20:26:59 -0700

From: dbrady@pmug.org (Don Brady)

To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Sir: please do not allow any long line permits to be issued.
Thank you.

Donald E.Brady
507 N.19th Av #85 Cornelius, OR 97113-9220

Ebb N. & Sharon A. Dozier

1013 E. Coachwood Drive

Tucson, AZ 85737-9163

(520) 825-1130 fax (520) 825-6989 e-mail ebbd@aol.com

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MAY 15 2001

PFAC

May 9, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Chairman Lone:

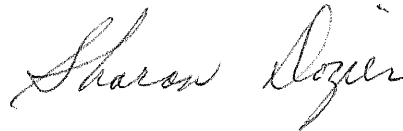
We urge you to block any move by the long line commercial fishermen to ravage our Pacific Coastal waters by permitting them to fish within the 200-mile limit of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. Their record of depletion of the fisheries in other parts of the country speaks for itself. Their disregard for all sea life, including endangered sea turtles, birds, sharks, pelagic rays, sail fish and marlin is in evidence in the Atlantic and gulf.

Of every 100 tons of sea life taken on long lines, 70 tons is unmarketable and thrown dead into the sea. ***STOP THEM NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE, PLEASE!*** Their only objective is greed.

Sincerely,



Ebb Dozier.



Sharon Dozier

cc: Senator Jon Kyl
John McCain



PERFORMANCE CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Dr. Mark T. Elliott
Dr. Debra T. Asakura

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2001

PERC

May 11, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone,
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Av.
Portland, OR 97201

Mr. Lone,

I am an avid fisherman who strictly opposes any introduction of longlines anywhere. I and thousands of other people from all over the world come to fish the West Coast because we have kept the longliners out of our area. I know what longlining does to the fishery. I have seen the decimation on the East Coast USA, Baja California and even Indonesia.

The idea that it might be different off our coast is ridiculous. I am not willing to stand by and let it happen here-right in my own backyard!

Strict, hard legislation needs to be written to forever keep the longliners away from West Coast and Mexican waters. We don't want longliners. They devastate our resources and leave us with a dead sea. Please keep them out for good.

I pay my taxes and vote so I may have a voice in these issues. I would like to see the Council do it's job and stop the longliners before it is too late.

Sincerely,

13821 Cantlay St., Van Nuys, CA 91405

May 11, 2001

Chairman Jim Lone
Pacific Fishery Management Council
2130 SW Fifth Ave.
Portland, OR 97201

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2001

PFMC

Dear Mr. Lone:

This is a short letter to you but with a very strong intent.

I am absolutely opposed to the introduction of pelagic longlines within the EEZ on our coast. I am aware of the careless destruction and waste associated with the use of longline gear in the past and am not willing to stand by and let it happen here.

I am not only a recreational fisherman who cares, but I pay taxes and vote.

I respectfully request that you do all you can to prevent the use of longlines along our coast.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ernest F. Scarcelli".

Ernest F. Scarcelli

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT OF THE HMS FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Situation: The Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team (HMSPDT) will present a revised draft of the fishery management plan (FMP) for highly migratory species (HMS), and the HMS Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will provide their comments on the draft FMP. The Council will consider adopting the draft for public review.

The FMP was extensively revised following Council guidance at the March 2001 Council meeting. The HMSPDT will highlight these changes and additions for the Council. Moreover, the HMSPDT will provide information to help the Council determine if the document is ready for public review.

National Marine Fisheries Service will speak to recent developments in the domestic legal context germane to West Coast HMS fisheries.

The draft FMP was developed during the last 17 months over the course of 11 HMSPDT meetings, five HMSAS meetings, and five Council meetings. During development of the draft FMP, public input has been highly encouraged. Generally, public involvement in the process (both in attendance at meetings and written correspondence) has been substantial.

The Council continues to receive numerous public comment letters (Exhibit F.2.e). As in the past, form-letters made up much of this correspondence. When multiple copies of the same letter were received, a single copy of the letter is included with a notation describing the total number received. The majority of the comments are in opposition to the use of pelagic longline gear inside the West Coast EEZ. As of May 29, 2001, the Council received approximately 380 new letters in opposition to the use of pelagic longline gear. This is in addition to the 1,083; 3,000; and 1,120 opposition letters received prior to the November 2000, September 2000, and March 2001 Council meetings, respectively.

Council Action:

1. Consider Adoption of Public Review Draft.

Reference Materials:

1. Supplemental HMSPDT Report (Exhibit F.2.c)
2. Supplemental HMSAS Report (Exhibit F.2.d)
3. Public Comment (Exhibit F.2.e)

DRAFT FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Situation: If the Council adopts for public review the draft fishery management plan (FMP) for West Coast-based highly migratory species fisheries, public hearings will need to be scheduled and hearing officers appointed. Hearings are expected to be held in August 2001, with final Council action on the draft FMP scheduled for September 2001.

Possible meeting locations and dates:

Long Beach, CA	August 13, 2001
Monterey, CA	August 14, 2001
Newport, OR	August 15, 2001
Astoria, OR	August 16, 2001
Westport, WA	August 17, 2001

Council Action: Recommend dates/locations of public hearings and appoint hearing officers.

Reference Materials: None.

PFMC
05/23/01