------ Forwarded message ------From: **The Edgars** <<u>seacliff4@gmail.com</u>> Date: Wed, Feb 24, 2016 at 1:55 PM Subject: Long Leader recreational midwater groundfish species fishing To: <u>pfmc.comments@noaa.gov</u>

Dear PFMC,

I wish to support Alternative 1 for Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 1 for the for Mid-water Species Fishery proposal in Oregon.

I believe that by adopting this new opportunity it will reduce pressure on other near shore species. I myself would target Yellowtail rockfish during the summer months instead of Black Rockfish and Blue Rockfish.

The proposed long leader fisheries seaward of the 40 fa line would provide a new opportunity for our recreational ocean fishery.

Please make my letter part of the hearing record on this matter.

Sincerely, Barrett Edgar PO Box 210 Wedderburn, OR 97491

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Timothy Machado** <<u>collym3@gmail.com</u>> Date: Wed, Feb 24, 2016 at 8:40 AM Subject: Agenda item G.5 Mid - Water Recreational Fishing Regulations To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Council Members - I want to express my support for the passage of liberalized regulations pertaining to the usage of specialized gear enabling recreational anglers to target the under utilized and healthy stocks of mid - water rockfish. As the nearshore stocks of rockfish come under increasing pressure, this would provide additional fishing opportunity for the recreational angler as well as diverting effort onto alternative populations of non-threatened rockfish. The proposed regulations would benefit both Oregon and northern California anglers at no risk to threatened species. Alternatives for recreational anglers to expand access need to be implemented whenever possible.

Timothy Machado Crescent City, CA ------ Forwarded message ------From: **Bob Smith** <<u>rrobsmith@att.net</u>> Date: Thu, Feb 25, 2016 at 8:11 AM Subject: RE: Agenda Item G.5 - Authorization of an Oregon Recreational Fishery for Midwater Groundfish Species To: <u>pfmc.comments@noaa.gov</u>

PFMC Members:

This email is in support of the Council adopting a preferred alternative to allow the sport harvest of pelagic groundfish at or beyond the 40 fathom depth line off the Oregon coast. The proposed long leader gear restrictions should allow anglers to target healthy pelagic groundfish while minimizing bycatch of protected species. Sport angling has been focused on shallow water groundfish species and anglers have experienced periodic restrictions to protect overfished stocks. A long leader pelagic midwater groundfish fishery seaward of the 40 fathoms will increase angler opportunity of healthy midwater groundfish stocks.

Sincerely, R. Robert Smith Yreka, CA <u>rrobsmith@att.net</u>

------ Forwarded message ------From: **david ragsdale** <<u>deeragsdale@gmail.com</u>> Date: Fri, Feb 26, 2016 at 10:06 AM Subject: Alternative 1 for the Mid-water Species Fishery proposal in OR To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Dear PFMC,

I am writing to express my support for Alternative 1 for Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 1 for the Mid-water Species Fishery proposal in Oregon.

I believe that adopting this new opportunity will reduce pressure on other near shore species such as Black Rockfish and Blue Rockfish. The proposed long leader fisheries seaward of the 40 fathom line would provide a new opportunity for our recreational ocean fishery under which rules I would target Yellowtail rockfish during the summer months. Monitoring of the harvest and any by-catch allowed under this alternative would provide information to allow future adjustments to the rule if determined necessary.

Please make my letter part of the hearing record on this matter.

Sincerely David Ragsdale 94681 Neo Lane Ophir, Oregon 97444