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Agenda Item F.2

Supplemental Attachment 10

September 2018

Fwd: Requesting Council input on Groundfish buyback loan debt

huck Tracy <chuck.tracy@noaa.gov>
To: Jennifer Gilden <Jennifer.Gilden@noaa.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 3:51 PM

Sent from Chuck's iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Stafford, Julia" <Julia.Stafford@mail.house.gov>
Date: September 6, 2018 at 1:26:44 PM PDT
To: "pmand001@comcast.net" <pmand001@comcast.net>
Cc: "chuck.tracy@noaa.gov" <chuck.tracy@noaa.gov>, "mike.burner@noaa.gov" <mike.burner@noaa.gov>
Subject: Requesting Council input on Groundfish buyback loan debt

Dear Chairman Anderson,

Several members of the West Coast Congressional delegation, including Congressman Schrader, are seeking an appropriation to address the unanticipated additional debt service that has accrued in the Pacific Coast Groundfish fishery trawl buyback account as a result of the initial delay in 2003 in implementing a payment process for the program. Congressman Schrader wants to ensure that the fishermen are treated fairly and equitably, which does not appear to be the case. NMFS's delay in implementing the program has resulted in over \$10 million dollars in additional interest that has accumulated since the start of the program.

Congressman Schrader is asking that the Council confirm his understanding that an appropriation of \$10 million to reduce the outstanding loan amount (to a level that is more aligned with that envisioned by the original loan terms) would have a positive impact on the

Pacific Coast Groundfish fishery, and that the Council would be supportive of such an action to help that fishery.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Julia

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