

Here it is Dan Good Luck

Letter of Economic Hardship for Crescent City for Near Shore Fishermen

Last year's low catches of near shore fish in Crescent city have left our ports fishermen in dire economic situations. Three of us have lost our homes or filed for bankruptcy. Two of the three buyers of live fish are not going to buy this year. The one buyer that is left is only going to run his small truck and will pick up Port Orford's fish first because they have more of the preferred mixed exotic species available in they catches. Since our long liners have difficulty fishing under the restrictions of twenty fathoms under the boat at all times, they can not compete with the Oregon fishermen.

The fishermen still trying to land live fish will have to rent trucks and try to deliver fish driving themselves. This cuts down time on the water and limits how much you can catch and move during any one weather window.

If you lower the by-monthly limits, when fishermen have good weather during peak months, they will have to stop fishing in half the time. Then when weather is bad, fishermen have no surplus from the good weather periods to hold them till the next weather break.

After last year's low catches, we are desperate for time to catch up. Most of us have deferred maintenance that will have to be addressed. I myself have \$3500 in work that will have to be done this year. Many of us are fishing with boats that need work to remain on the water. If you limit us to half of our prier catches, our harbors near shore fishermen may not recover to be active members of our fishing community. Please do not destroy our local fishing communities just to rebuild a stock of fish a few years quicker. These are people's lives you are destroying just have paper progress on a fifty year rebuilding plan. How is it going to hurt this species of fish if takes a few years longer to rebuild. That action right there guarantees maximum rebuilding. Any more cuts are unconscionable.

Kenyon Hensel

On Sun, Mar 6, 2011 at 9:36 PM, morefish@mcn.org wrote:

> Here you go Kenyon.Hope you are all doing well.Dan