



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI  
Governor

December 30, 2010

The Honorable Gary Locke  
Secretary of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Locke:

I write in support of funding to help the Pacific Coast groundfish trawl fisheries transition to a catch share program.

As noted in the December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 letter from members of the Washington, Oregon and California congressional delegations, President Obama requested \$12.6 million for FY 2011 for the West Coast. I consider this level of funding to be an important and wise investment to help fishermen through the transition. Specifically this funding should be directed to cover the key expenses of at-sea monitoring and to address the thoughtful development of community fishing associations so that coastal communities have an avenue to participate in this fishery and the ability to anchor opportunities for economic development in their areas.

While the currently approved program addresses only the trawl sector of the fishery, other important gear sectors, such as the fixed-gear fleet, remain vitally important to the overall success of the groundfish fishery. Looking ahead, a comprehensive well-funded catch share program that encompasses all gear sectors and integrates the needs of the broad range of fishermen is key to Oregon's coastal and other communities along the West Coast that are dependent upon this fishery.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this matter. I am confident that with adequate funding, the Pacific Coast groundfish trawl fishery can be a model for how to effectively implement a catch share program.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI  
Governor

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