

Leonard Herzog
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TO: ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

October 20, 2017

RE: Support for Opening a State Water Fishery in Area O

I learned during discussions with representatives from the North Pacific Council at 3PM Saturday October 19 that creating a state water Pacific Cod fishery for pot cod vessels under 60 feet will not take any fish from other user groups at this time. My understanding is that with the current and projected large Pacific Cod populations, the federal waters fisheries are not allocating all of the available Pacific Cod because of the total cap on all species of fish harvested in federal waters. This is different than the Gulf of Alaska where all of the Pacific Cod are already allocated.

I would request that before the Board makes a decision on this issue, the Board ask a representative from both the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the North Pacific Management Council advise the Board on this issue.

With this information that was new to me, I am no longer opposed to pursuing an appropriate state water fishery in Area O for vessels under 60 feet.

Sincerely,

Leonard Herzog

