SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Teleconference regarding Adak Pollock Management Plan November 1, 2006

This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the Board's actions.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) meet by teleconference to consider generating a proposal to modify the start date of the Aleutian Islands District pollock fishery. At its recent October 14-15, 2006 meeting, the board adopted a new regulation providing for a state waters pollock fishery in the Adak area (between 174° W. long. and 178° W. long). New information from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee prompted to board to consider generating a proposal to modify the start date of this fishery, consistent with board's Policy for Changing Board Agenda (5 AAC 39.999(b)) which allows for coordinating state regulatory actions with federal fishery agencies, programs, or laws.

The board acted to generate a proposal to address the start date of the fishery. The proposal offers three options to the current January 20 opening date:

- Option 1) Provide for a fixed starting date.
- Option 2) Allow for Emergency Order opening once experimental fishing permit is issued and the effect on the guideline harvest level is known.
- Option 3) Link starting date to closure in other fishery.

The board's rationale for generating the proposal was to provide options to allow for better coordination of the start date and the guideline harvest level accounting with the federal fishery. (see Proposal 260)

The board scheduled consideration of this proposal at the beginning of its previously scheduled December 4-12, 2006 regulatory meeting.