



**United States Department of Commerce**  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Financial Services Division, F/MB5  
1315 East-West Highway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

January 15, 2020

Dear Pacific Coast Groundfish Buyer,

On December 11, 2019 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA NMFS) announced a decrease in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishing Capacity Reduction loan program (Buyback) fee rate from 4.0% to 3.5% (see enclosed Federal Register Notice). The new lower Buyback fee rate of 3.5% will start for all landings beginning and after January 1, 2020. The first due date for the Buyback fee payments at the decreased 3.5% fee rate will be February 14, 2020.

Fish buyers may continue to make Buyback fee payments to NOAA NMFS by using [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) or by mailing to: NOAA NMFS Pacific Coast Groundfish Buyback, P O Box 979059, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000. Fish buyers must include a fee collection report with each fee payment. Fish buyers using [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) will find an electronic fee collection report form. For fish buyers using the mail, please access a copy of the report at: [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial\\_services/docs/pacific\\_coast\\_groundfish\\_buyback\\_loan\\_fee\\_collection\\_report.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial_services/docs/pacific_coast_groundfish_buyback_loan_fee_collection_report.pdf), or use the enclosed Buyback Fee Collection Report, effective January 1, 2020. Also, enclosed is the Fish Dealer's Responsibilities flyer, effective January 1, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact either: Kristin Fonte at 301-427-8727 or [kristin.fonte@noaa.gov](mailto:kristin.fonte@noaa.gov); or Michael A. Sturtevant at 301-427-8782 or [michael.a.sturtevant@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.a.sturtevant@noaa.gov)

Sincerely,

Elaine Saiz, Chief  
NOAA NMFS Financial Services Division  
1315 East West Highway-13th Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Enclosures - Federal Register Notice, dated December 11, 2019  
Buyback Fee Collection Report, effective January 1, 2020  
Fish Dealer's Responsibilities, effective January 1, 2020

