



September 30, 2016

Dear Harvesters and Buyers/Processors of California pink shrimp,

In 2005, harvesters in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery agreed to repay a \$35.7 million loan to fund a fishing capacity reduction (buyback) program. The program was originally composed of seven sub-loans for pink shrimp (CA, OR, and WA) Dungeness crab (CA, OR, and WA), and groundfish species.

The California pink shrimp sub-loan will be repaid in full upon receipt of buyback fees on landings through August 31, 2016. Please see the enclosed Federal Register Notice for additional information.

If you have not submitted buybacks fees for any California pink shrimp landings through August 31, 2016, please immediately submit the fees owed. **The fees due must be received by NMFS no later than October 31, 2016.** Fees submitted to NMFS for the August 2016 landings may be subject to a partial refund, based on landing data, once we complete the final reconciliation. For example, if fees received for landings through August 23, 2016 pay the loan balance in full, NMFS will refund fees paid in excess of \$25 for landings after August 23, 2016.

California pink shrimp landings after August 31, 2016 will not be subject to the buyback fee. The fish buyers/processors should provide refunds to the harvesters for any buyback fees which were collected, but not yet remitted to NMFS, as well as any partial refunds from NMFS that they receive.

Please note that all other buyback fees for the remaining two sub-loans in the Pacific Coast Groundfish buyback program remain in effect (Federal Limited Entry Trawl Groundfish, and WA coastal Dungeness crab).

If you have any questions, contact the staff listed below.

Contact	Telephone	Email Address
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Sincerely,

Paul Marx, Chief
Financial Services Division

Enclosure-Federal Register Notice, Vol.81, p.67295, September 30, 2016.