



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

November 5, 2010

F. Joseph Bersch III
111 West Harrison
Seattle, Washington 98119

Re: Approval of Entity Application and Incentive Plan Agreement

Dear Mr. Bersch:

We have reviewed two applications you submitted under regulations at 50 CFR part 679 for management of Chinook salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery. This letter contains my determinations about (1) the application for approval of the Mothership Fleet Cooperative as an entity to receive transferable Chinook salmon prohibited species catch (PSC) allocations, and (2) the application for approval of the Mothership Salmon Savings Incentive Plan Agreement (IPA).

An application for approval of the Mothership Fleet Cooperative as an entity to receive transferable Chinook salmon PSC allocations was received by the deadline of October 1, 2010. The information submitted in this application is complete and meets the requirements of § 679.21(f)(8)(ii). The members of this entity represent all catcher vessels authorized to harvest pollock for processing by American Fisheries Act (AFA) motherships. All of the members of this entity also are participants in the proposed IPA.

With respect to the proposed IPA:

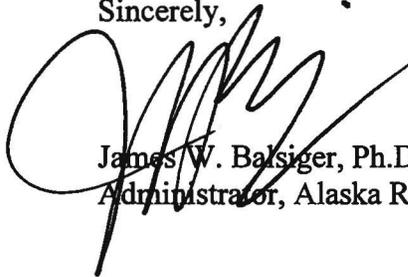
- A completed application was submitted in compliance with § 679.21(f)(12)(iii)(A), and was received by the deadline of October 1, 2010.
- The IPA complies with the minimum participation requirements in § 679.21(f)(12)(i)(A) because participants in the IPA represent all catcher vessels authorized to harvest pollock for processing by AFA motherships. These catcher vessels collectively represent 9 percent of the pollock quota as defined under § 679.21(f)(12)(i)(A).
- The IPA complies with the minimum participation requirements in § 679.21(f)(12)(i)(B) because the participants collectively represent two or more corporations, partnerships, or individuals who own AFA permitted vessels and are not affiliated, as affiliation is defined for purposes of AFA entities in § 679.2.
- All participants in the IPA also are members of the Mothership Fleet Cooperative.
- The IPA contains the information required in § 679.21(f)(12)(iii)(B), including a written description of the incentive measures required in § 679.21(f)(12)(iii)(B)(3).



Based on these findings, I approve the Mothership Fleet Cooperative as the entity eligible to receive and manage transferable Chinook salmon PSC allocations on behalf of catcher vessels authorized to harvest pollock for processing by AFA motherships. In addition, I approve the Mothership Salmon Savings Incentive Plan Agreement as it is described in the application and attachments received on September 30, 2010. This IPA is effective on January 1, 2011, and does not have an expiration date. We have assigned this IPA the identification number 3. A copy of this IPA is posted on the NMFS Alaska Region website at alaskafisheries.noaa.gov. You will receive a separate letter from NMFS providing additional information about online access to the Mothership Fleet Cooperative's Chinook salmon PSC allocation account to check account balances and to make transfers.

If you have questions about approval of the IPA, please contact Sally Bibb at (907) 586-7389 or sally.bibb@noaa.gov, or Gretchen Harrington at (907)-586-7445 or gretchen.harrington@noaa.gov. If you have questions about the management of the Chinook salmon PSC allocations, please contact Josh Keaton at (907) 586-7519 or josh.keaton@noaa.gov, or Mary Furuness at (907) 586-7447 or mary.furuness@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Balsiger', is written over the typed name and title.

James W. Balsiger, Ph.D.
Administrator, Alaska Region