



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

May 7, 2012

Dear Referendum Voter:

The Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon referendum was successful and the industry fee system necessary to repay a \$13,133,030 reduction loan has been approved.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) mailed ballots to 379 permanent permit holders in the fishery designated as S01A by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) who were eligible to vote in the referendum. The voting period opened on March 30, 2012, and closed on April 30, 2012. NMFS received 269 timely and valid votes. 215 of the votes approved the fees. This exceeded the majority of permit holders (190) required for industry fee system approval. Consequently, the referendum was successful and permit holders approved the industry fee system. Accordingly, the reduction contracts are in full force and effect.

We published a reduction payment tender notice in today's Federal Register. A copy of this notice is enclosed and discloses the name of each of the sixty-four selected bidders and the permit number for each reduction permit.

On or about June 6, 2012, we intend to tender reduction payment to the selected bidders. The selected bidder must permanently stop all further fishing with each reduction permit the bidder has relinquished. The selected bidders, in accordance with section 5 of the relinquishment contract, must notify any parties with secured interests in the relinquished permits to take any necessary action.

Post-reduction harvesters will begin paying the fees on Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon (S01A) landings soon after we disburse payments, likely around July 1, 2012. NMFS will provide additional fee collection guidance and instructions in the coming weeks.

Please contact any of us if you need further information:

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Sincerely,

Paul Marx, Chief
Financial Services Division



Enclosure

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