



Office of the Chairman

National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

July 17, 2015

Mr. Chris Oliver
Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th St., Ste. 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
chris.oliver@noaa.gov

Dear Mr. Oliver:

Thank you for your May 12, 2015, e-mail addressing Safety Recommendation M-09-12. The National Transportation Safety Board issued this recommendation to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on October 9, 2009, as a result of our investigation of the March 23, 2008, sinking of the US fish processing vessel *Alaska Ranger* in the Bering Sea.

M-09-12

Amend the fishery management plan for groundfish of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island management area to allow for replacement of an Amendment 80 vessel in situations other than vessel loss.

The National Marine Fisheries Service's October 1, 2012, final rule for Amendment 97, which became effective on October 31, 2012, allows for Amendment 80 vessels to be replaced in situations other than vessel loss, as requested. Accordingly, Safety Recommendation M-09-12 is classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

Thank you for your assistance and for your commitment to fishing vessel safety.

Sincerely,