

# Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative

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North Pacific Fishery Management Council

605 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 306

Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Re: Agenda Item C-7 BSAI Crab Cooperative Reports

During the February, 2013 meeting the Council passes the following motion:

“The Council requests that each of the BSAI crab rationalization cooperatives voluntarily provide an annual report detailing measures the cooperative is taking to facilitate the transfer of quota share to active participants, including crew members and vessel owners, and available measurers which affect high lease rates and crew compensation. The annual reports should convey to the Council the effectiveness of the measures implemented through the cooperatives and the estimated level of member participation in any voluntary measured and include supporting information and data. These reports are requested to be delivered for the October meeting each year.”

Following is the report on behalf of Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative:

Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative has 8 member entities including one CDQ group. Our coop is made up of 2 member vessels, both of which have participated in the BSAI Crab Fisheries since the last submitted report.

Following are Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative’s answers to the specific questions from the Council’s February motion:

1. “What measures is the cooperative taking to facilitate the transfer of quota share to active participants, including crew members and vessel owners?”

Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative is voluntarily complying fully to the Right of First Offer (RoFO) approach developed by Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers and governed by the Inter-Cooperative Exchange. CVC is encouraging crew members to purchase IFQ C shares and offering assistance to navigate the NMFS loan program to quota share purchasing.

2. “What is the level of participation from cooperative members regarding these measures?”

All coop members in Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative follow the RoFO provisions.

3. How effective have these measures been?”

During the past year, one crew member has accumulated multiple CVC shares with multiple regional designations in multiple fisheries. As a result, this crew member became part of the coop. These shares came from entities not affiliated with our coop. Our coop has a significant amount of C shares based on historical participation.

4. "What measures is the cooperative utilizing to address the issue of high lease rates, as they affect crew compensation?"

We have revised our crew share percentage to reflect industry standard formula in a simpler format. CVC does not deduct some of the industry standard deductions from crew shares, such as Fuel, Bait and/or Room & Board. Therefore CVC Coop Crew Shares are slightly higher than comparable industry standards.

5. "What is the level of participation from cooperative members regarding these measures?"

All of our members follow industry standards, per Co-op lease agreement.

6. "How effective have these measures been?"

The crew that operates within the Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative is compensated at or above industry standards. There is insignificant turnover amongst the crew. What turnover there is has to do with factors other than compensations.

7. "What future measures does the cooperative plan to take to address the Council concerns over active participation and lease rates as they affect crew compensation?"

Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative will continue to use the RoFO protocol to assist with the QS transfers for active crew members.

Sincerely,



Lorena Rosenberger, President

Coastal Villages Crabbing Cooperative