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## CPH ASSOCIATION

March 07, 2019

Mr. Dan Hull, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Voluntary Crab Harvesters Report

Dear Chairman Hull;

During the February 2013 meeting the Council passed the following motion:

*"The Council requests that each of the BSAI crab rationalization cooperatives voluntarily provide an annual report detailing measure the cooperative is taking to facilitate the transfer of quota share to active participants, including crew members and vessel owners, and available measures 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 measures and include supporting information and data. These reports are requested to be delivered for the April meeting each year."*

These reports are on the agenda for the April Council meeting. The following is the 2018-2019 season report on behalf of CPH Association.

CPH Association (formerly known as Crab Producers and Harvester, LLC) is a smaller unaffiliated crab cooperative with 25 members and 5 harvesting vessels. Our coop holds catcher vessel owner (CVO) and catcher vessel crew (CVC) quota share units issued under the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) crab rationalization program.

The following is in response to the seven questions outlined in the Council's February 2013 motion.

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

The CPH Association's membership is supportive of transferring quota share to active participants. When quota share becomes available for sale, members are contacted and given opportunity to purchase.

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

All members of CPH Association cooperative are voluntarily adhering to these measures.

3. How effective have these measures been?

We believe it has been effective. We have had a small amount of quota shares available for sale this past year 2018-2019 which were made to available to members of CPH Association however the shares ultimately were transferred outside of our coop. The quota shares were transferred to an active participant in the BSAI fisheries in fact the new owner leased the shares to our coop and were harvested by our coop.

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

Our membership has been made aware of the Council's interest in lease rates and this topic is an important one. As a result of a voluntary industry effort over the past few years, the following lease rates have become more of the standard, 50% for BSS, 65% for BBR and 30% for EBT/WBT. It is my understanding that most of our harvesting vessels pay the standard lease rates.

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

Please refer to response in question #4

6. How effective have these measures been?

Please refer to response in question #4

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?

CPH Association will continue to encourage our members who are selling quota share to give preference to active participants in the fishery. CPH Association will also continue to encourage members to adhere to the standard lease rates being mindful of how it affects crew compensation.

Sincerely,

CPH Association



Brenda Clutter  
Coop manager