Dear Chairman Olson,

Adak Community Development Corporation is the entity which received the community allocation of 10% of the WAG crab.

The stated purpose of that allocation from the Council’s October 2002 motion was “aid in the development of seafood harvesting and processing activities within that community.”

This goal is reflected in our bylaws which state that all funds of the Corporation shall be “dedicated to the promotion and development of fisheries related resources, infrastructure and assets for the benefit of the community of Adak, Alaska.”

ACDC has been working on developing a fisheries plan for our community. We are particularly interested in promoting entry level opportunities for local small boat fishermen.

One of the ways we think we could create those entry level opportunities would be for ACDC to use our crab royalties to buy 4B halibut IFQ and AI sablefish IFQ for use by local fishermen. We have talked to Council staff about how we could do this. We learned that unlike the CQE program for the GOA or the CDQ program in the BSAI, there are no provisions for Adak’s community entity to hold halibut and sablefish IFQ.

We were advised by Council staff that the way to initiate consideration of changing the regulations to allow ACDC as a community entity to hold quota is to raise the issue under staff tasking.

Under staff tasking the Advisory Panel unanimously recommended a call for proposals for the halibut/sablefish IFQ program. We support a call for proposals and we would like the chance to submit a proposal to allow ACDC to hold IFQ for use in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Michael Swetzof
President, ACDC
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