November 9, 2009

Northern Pacific Fishery Management Council

This is a rule change proposal to allow the transport of fish on a catcher vessel via trailer to the buyer.

Compliance: When the IFQ holder calls in for a landing confirmation, he also asks for a variance to transport vessel and fish on trailer to the buyer.

Reason: Alleviate some pressure on waters surrounding a village (both commercial IFQ and subsistence). It would allow villages without buyers and/or ice to have D class IFQ holders (which are usually skiffs) to fish without having to make dangerous late in the day long runs to the closest buyer.

Enforcement: When stopped, a simple call to NMFS would be enough to determine legality.

Use: Only D Class, as larger boats are not trailerable and have sleeping quarters to allow further ranging and weather options unavailable to skiffs and therefore some villages.

Thank you for your consideration.

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