

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST CRAB INDUSTRY ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE (PNCIAC)  
8941 179<sup>th</sup> PL SW  
Edmonds WA 98026**

Mr. Glenn Haight, Executive Director  
Boards Support Section, Alaska Board of Fisheries  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811 via fax (907-465-6094) and email [glenn.haight@alaska.gov](mailto:glenn.haight@alaska.gov)

September 12, 2016

Dear Mr. Haight,

The Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee (PNCIAC) is an advisory body comprised of both crab harvester and processor representatives and established by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to assist in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the commercial Bering Sea crab fisheries. PNCIAC submits this letter in support of the Emergency Petition submitted by the Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers (ABSC) regarding the harvest strategy and upcoming season for the commercial Bering Sea Tanner crab fishery.

After having been closed for several years prior to the 2013-2014 season, the commercial fishery and associated markets are healthy and thriving. An unnecessary closure of the 2016-2017 fishery, based on a flawed harvest strategy, will have serious negative economic implications for both the harvesting and processing sectors. These negative economic consequences will be further multiplied given that a full commercial season per regulations won't again be available for several years after a closure. As such, the members of PNCIAC respectfully request that the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Commissioner of ADF&G address this issue as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,

---

Lance Farr, Chair, PNCIAC



---

Steve Minor, Vice Chair, PNCIAC