

Subject:Outside the PRT Considerations, NPLA Mitigation Proposal (#4)
Date:Fri, 26 Oct 2007 11:40:08 -0700
From:Thorn Smith <Thorndog@npla.net>
Reply-To:Thorndog@npla.net
Organization:North Pacific Longline Association
To:'Bill Wilson' <Bill.Wilson@noaa.gov>

Bill, You asked us to address questions under the SSLMC Objectives list you prepared at our last meeting, as they relate to our proposals. Here are some, listed under the numbers of the objectives.

1. - The proposal indirectly provides protection for additional sites in that the 19% increment must be taken outside CH. Otherwise, it could be taken in the Aleutians and in CH in the B season. It is worth noting that with CH closed to fishing, we can't get into the Aleutians - where SSL have suffered most - because all the fishing grounds are inside CH.

- The proposal reduces the number of fishing days required to harvest the quota, as CPUEs are twice as high in the A season as in the B season (see proposal).

2. - No impact on experimental design for monitoring that I know of.

3. - Economic benefits derive from halving the fishing time for the increment, processing time, time at sea, saving also fuel and insurance costs.

- Improves both harvesting and processing efficiency, as above.

4. - Reduces halibut PSC and seabird incidental take substantially (see proposal).

5. - Promotes safety at sea by cutting in half the time necessary to catch the 19% increment. Moves fishing time from rough season (November) to smoother season (February/March).

6. - Reduces threat to endangered short-tailed albatross.

Thanks, Thorn

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