



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

July 1, 2009

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Chris:

We have approved Amendment 62 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI FMP), and Amendment 62 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA FMP), and the accompanying final rule. Amendments 62/62 revise the BSAI FMP description of the Catcher Vessel Operational Area and remove the obsolete sunset date for inshore/offshore sector allocations of pollock and Pacific cod in the GOA FMP. The final rule modifies the single geographic location requirement for stationary floating processors (SFPs) authorized under the American Fisheries Act (AFA) by allowing AFA SFPs to relocate up to four times in a year within State of Alaska waters in the BS to process pollock harvested in the BS directed pollock fishery. This action also requires AFA SFPs to process all Gulf of Alaska pollock and Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod where they processed these species in 2002.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region

