


Alaska Board of Fisheries
Resolution No. 80-64-FB

Regarding Foreign Bottomfish Processing
in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea

- WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries is the State regulatory agency charged with the conservation and development of Alaska's fisheries resources; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Bottomfish Development Plan promotes nearshore harvesting and onshore processing of bottomfish; and
- WHEREAS, the island of Akutan is the site of a fledgling bottomfish processing operation by American industry; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries has adopted regulations to encourage the bottomfishing industry in nearshore areas; and
- WHEREAS, foreign operators have made applications to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to allow foreign factory processing ships to operate in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea; and
- WHEREAS, the fishing methods to be employed by these foreign operators include the use of transferable cod ends, a method that has been scientifically demonstrated to result in unnecessary and excessive mortality of incidentally caught halibut; and
- WHEREAS, competition of foreign interests with American industry in the Aleutians poses a significant risk of displacement of domestic effort in the nearshore fishing grounds needed by the emerging United States bottomfish fishing and processing industries;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is strongly encouraged to impose appropriate area restrictions on the operations of foreign bottomfish processing ships both as conditions of the permits for such operations and as amendments to the pertinent Fishery Management Plans. Such restrictions should be imposed for the purposes of conserving fisheries resources and encouraging the development of domestic bottomfish processing capabilities to assure that United States citizens benefit from the employment, food supply, and revenue which could be generated thereby.



Nick Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: January 10, 1980
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 6/0