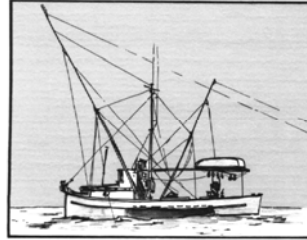


Alaska Troller

FALL 2008

Changing of the Guard

As America welcomes an historic new administration, we in the fishing industry ponder the impact of the course President Obama will chart. Our nation faces a sea of issues that will challenge the President-elect before he's even handed the keys to the Oval Office. Buzz words like 'economic stimulus' have an encouraging ring, but can the deliverables meet the citizen's expectations? What can any person or industry reasonably expect from government? Personal responsibility during these times is also critical. *Ask not what your country can do for you...*



So, what is ATA likely to request of the new president? Our association's basic list of 'demands' over the years has been consistent, fairly modest, and perhaps fitting in light of today's economic challenges. See what you think, and suggest what we should add.

Adequately fund port infrastructure and the agencies that research, manage, monitor, and enforce, to protect our natural resources.

Why is this in the national interest in a time of crisis? Because over half of what Alaska exports is seafood - nearly \$2 billion a year. Studying and caring for fish with an eye towards the future helps not only our residents and home towns, it also allows Alaska to do its part to reduce the US trade deficit.

Maintaining a healthy wild capture seafood industry, nationally, will help secure existing US jobs. NMFS estimates that commercial fisheries contributed 1.5 million jobs and \$103 billion in sales in 2006. With the nation's employment rate plummeting, this should be an important consideration to an administration focused on economic recovery.

When conservation problems arise, our government must encourage and spearhead common sense, meaningful solutions - not just rely on political expediency. If the problem is fishery related, find an equitable management solution. If it's environmental, then the remedy should focus on habitat and water quality restoration. Burdens of recovery should be shared relative to the actual impact of an activity. Simple? We're not that naïve, but we are plenty tired of the fishing industry being the scapegoat (e.g. ESA).

The government must avoid unnecessary new programs that burden small business with added costs for too little benefit. While new equipment, like VMS, might seem like a cost effective solution to monitoring and enforcement, it has had mixed reviews upon implementation and adds significant risk to the small boat fleet, due to potential for breakdowns and long-term cost.

Affordable access to healthcare programs is essential. ATA doesn't endorse handout programs, but the fact that our industry can't come up with a decent group plan - on its own or with other small businesses - is just wrong.

The government must stop pitting one fisherman against another. Among other things, some of GW's Executive Orders must be reversed!

ATA wishes President Barrack Obama the greatest success as he tackles the world's toughest problems. We stand willing to work with his administration to bring stability and prosperity not only to our industry, but to the state and nation.

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The Results Are In...

ATA is pleased to welcome Matt Donohoe (Helen A) to the Board of Directors. Matt will serve in the At Large seat recently vacated by Jim Dybdahl (Coronation). Many in the fleet are familiar with Matt and his strong advocacy for fishermen and the resource. The board and staff will miss Jim, who added a unique blend of business savvy and humor to the mix.

Another change to the roster occurred recently when At Large member Tony Guggenbickler (Toni Marie) stepped down. As our longest tenured board member, Tony is a valuable asset to ATA. Hopefully he will continue to field questions from those of us who look to him for advice and perspective. We wish the best for Tony and his family as he takes a well-earned break and redirects his energies to personal endeavors. In a stroke of good luck, former ATA board chairman, Dick HofMann (Standy) agreed to fill the seat for the near term.

Thanks to all these fine men for their commitment to the association and fleet!



Preliminary 2008 Harvest Review

CHINOOK	Treaty Quota	Treaty Catch	AK Hatchery Addon	D8 Stikine Exempt	D11 Taku Exempt	Harvest Total
All Gear Quota	169,950	164,108		US TAC = 6,100	TAC = 0	
Winter		19,370	2,455			21,825
Spring		20,752	19,223	1,137		41,112
Summer		85,650	3,319			88,969
Total Troll	125,400	125,772	24,997	1137		151,906
Seine	7,308	3,451	12,103			15,554
Drift Gillnet	4,929	8,379	15,681	5,704		29,764
Set Gillnet	1,000	844				844
Sport	31,314	25,662	11,357			37,019
Total	44,550	38,336	64,138	5,704		108,178
Total All Gear	169,950	164,108	89,135	6,841	0	260,084
COHO	Catch		Avg % Commercial (1989-2007)	BOF Allocation %		
Troll	1,273,710		64.3	61		
Seine	219,655		14.3	19		
Drift Gillnet	358,657		14.2	13		
Set Gillnet	153,712		7.2	7		
Total Commercial	2,005,734					
Sport	UNAVAILABLE					
Marine						
Freshwater						
Total Sport	UNAVAILABLE		XX% of Total Coho Harvest			
Total Harvest						
Winter Fishery	Total		Permits	Landings	Avg Wt.	Avg. Fish Ticket Price
2009	5,430		196	767	12.5	\$7.44
2008	21,824		466	3,304	14.5	\$8.62
5 yr Avg (2004-08)	44,194		436	3,938	13.6	\$6.62
10 yr Avg (1999-08)	39,086		386	3,150	14.3	\$5.14

Make ATA Part of Your Business Plan

Many of us have some sort of business plan. It might be a general plan or more detailed. Some kind of plan helps in your decision making when dealing with your fishing operation. I would like to point out how ATA may fit into your plan.

For those who are not members and are asking, "What does ATA really do for me?", please read on.

The real fact is whether you are a member or not -- ATA represents the entire fleet when we can't always do it ourselves. Alaska Trollers Association Board members and our capable Executive Director look after these details -- attending Board of Fish meetings; working on proposals to secure product for your fish hold; tracking legislation both on State and Federal levels; working with ADF&G and other groups and organizations who share common goals and interests; getting information out to the fleet. And that's the short list.

Many of you know our Executive Director, Dale Kelley, who is a valuable asset. She is very knowledgeable and has many years of experience and credibility on fisheries issues. The Board as well brings a lot of experience and knowledge to the table. Dale and the Board continually work on the issues above, and more. Our aim is protecting the fleets' interests, and lifting the load, so you can do what you do best, harvest fish.

ATA, in one form or another, has been around for nearly 85 years. Your support of ATA insures that this history continues, as we deal with our current fishery issues. This isn't a stand alone group. There are many individuals and groups with whom we interact that are important to the troll fleet. ATA also receives financial support from some of the processors and fish brokers, as well as businesses. It would be a tough slog, almost impossible, without that support. We hope you will also support these folks with your business.

If you know a troller who is not a member, consider talking to them personally about joining. There is real power in numbers and the financial support is crucial to being able to accomplish our mission.

The Board and Dale thank you for your membership and support if you are a member. And a special thanks to those folks that stick with ATA through thick and thin.

Again, don't forget about the issues that impact your fishery. Consider writing a membership to ATA into your fishing business plan and becoming involved in a personal way by attending the meetings or voicing your concerns. We need you!

Sincerely,

John Murray F\V LORAN



*Seafood Producers Cooperative
Sitka Sound Seafoods
Triad Fisheries
The Boat Company*

Your exceptional support helps ATA stay on the job.

2009 Board of Fisheries

It's that time again... get your wish list tuned up and comments written, the Board of Fisheries is coming to town!

Southeast/Yakutat Finfish Meeting: February 17-26th Sitka Harrigan Hall

COMMENTS DUE: No later than 5pm February 3 - snail mail or fax only!

Proposal Book: Pick one up at your local fish and game office, or read online:

www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishinfo/meetinfo/2008-2009/propbook/se-and-yak-fin-props2.pdf





Mail or Fax comments to:






Shannon Stone/Scott Crass
Board Support
Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110 phone
(907) 465-6094 fax



Copy ATA: 130 Seward #205 Juneau, AK 99801 FAX: (907) 586-4473 ata@gci.net

ATA Positions

PROPOSAL	ISSUE	POSITION	ATA
137	Groundfish bag limits	S	
138	Groundfish bag limits	S	
224	Exception to chinook bag limit during Golden North Derby	S – w/amend at (h)	
225	Double bag limit in hatchery access areas - all areas	O	
226	Double bag limit in hatchery access areas - Ketchikan only	O	
227	District 8 Transboundary Rivers Fishery 7d/wk for troll	S	
228	Open part of Fredrick Sound to troll M-W only in May/June	S	
229	District 8 Transboundary Rivers Fishery 7d/wk for troll	O	
230	District 11 Transboundary Rivers Fishery 7d/wk for troll	S	
231	District 11 Transboundary Rivers Fishery open district-wide	S	
244	Exclude PNPs from hatchery allocation plan	O	
245	NSRAA and hatchery allocation	O	
246	Close Coffmann Cove to commercial fishing	O	
247	Re-opened District 8 waters can be managed for any fishery	S	
248	Uncouple troll and set gillnet openings in Yakutat	S	
250	Same as proposal 249	S – only with #252	

PROPOSAL	ISSUE	POSITION	ATA
252	Offload from one fishery before participating in another	S	
266	Increase allowable set gillnet length for Yakutat area	O	
269	Expand Neets Bay harvest area / increase sport king limits	O	
286	Define possession limit as maximum number fish taken home	S	
288	Annual limit of 12 coho for non-residents & harvest record	S	
289	Amend harvest reporting for non-residents to include coho	S	
295	Develop a plan to address sport catch and release mortality	Support concept	
296	Modify the definition of sportfishing gear in SE Alaska	S – w/ amend	
297	Modify the definition of a fishing rod in Southeast AK	O	
298	Allow the use of electric reels for sportfishing	O	
299	Allow beach seine, cast net, purse seine, gillnet for herring	O	
303	Allow unguided angler an additional rod/line to jig herring	S	
305	Prohibit use of felt soles for wading in freshwater	S	
308	Restrict subsistence and personal use fishing when guiding	S	
310	Develop fish ticket system for guided sportfishery	S	
311	Allow monitoring of guided sport vessels, lodges, facilities	S	
312	Allow monitoring of guided sport vessels, lodges, facilities	S	
313	Allow monitoring of guided sport vessels, lodges, facilities	S	
320	Allow unharvested winter chinook to be caught in spring fishery	O	
321	Don't count hatchery fish against winter guideline harvest	O	
322	Remove the Stikine River winter troll closure in District 8	Position pending	
324	Allow fishing 7 days per week in Cross Sound in June	S	
325	Extend troll fishery closure date to September 30th	S	
326	Delay coho fishery opening date to July 10 th	O	
327	Extend troll closure date in Behm Canal to September 30th	S	
328	Allow transferrable HT permit holders to use 2 power gurdies	O	
329	Increase number of HT gurdies to 4 West of Cape Spencer	O	
333	Raise lingcod guideline harvest in Central Outside SEAK	O	
334	Increase sport allocation of lingcod	O	
335	Equal shares lingcod allocation for commercial and sport	O	
337	Make any surplus dinglebar quota available to troll fleet	S	
341	Increase sport allocation of DSR rockfish to 25 percent	O	

Calendar

December

15 Comments Due - USCG Safety Regs Advance Notice

January

21-27 Board of Fisheries - SE/YKT **Shellfish** Sons of Norway, Petersburg
 21 Deadline for comment - one fish halibut daily bag limit
<http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/prules/73fr78276.pdf>

February

3 Board of Fisheries Finfish Comment Deadline - 5pm!
 15-16 ATA Board of Directors - Members & Invited Guests Only
 Harrigan Hall, Sitka
 17-26 Board of Fisheries - SE/YKT **Finfish** Harrigan Hall, Sitka
 20 ATA Raffle Event - 7pm Westmark Shee Atika Sitka

March

16-20 Statewide Board of Fisheries Anchorage

**ATA is grateful for the support of our Associate Members and encourages
 your patronage of these fine establishments...**

<p>Anderes Oil, Ketchikan Bellingham Cold Storage City of Port Alexander Craig Bar & Liquor, Craig E.C. Phillips & Son, Ketchikan First Bank, Ketchikan Hammer & Wikan, Petersburg Hoonah Cold Storage House of Liquors, Sitka Lisianski Inlet Café, Pelican Madison Lumber, Ketchikan Marine Surveyors of SE Alaska, Wrangell Murray Pacific, Ketchikan Murray Pacific, Sitka</p>	<p>Nerka Sea Frozen Salmon Norquest Seafoods Ocean Beauty XIP Petro Alaska, Ketchikan Petro Marine, Seward Port Townsend Shipwright Precision Boatworks, Sitka Seafood Producers Co-op Sea Mart, Sitka Seattle Marine, Seattle Seaview Boatyard, Seattle Service Auto Parts, Ketchikan Shoreline, Pelican Sitka Boat Watch</p>	<p>Sitka Sound Seafoods Taku Oil, Juneau Taku Smokeries, Juneau The Boat Company, WA, DC The Office Bar, Hoonah Timber & Marine Supply, Ketchikan Tongass Trading, Ketchikan Trading Union, Petersburg Triad Fisheries Union Machine Shop, Ketchikan US Seven Oceans, Mukilteo Wells Fargo Bank, Juneau Wrangell Oil, Wrangell Yakutat Seafoods, Yakutat</p>
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Dock Talk...

"When I stepped the mast I used a 1918 (year boat was built) mercury-head dime, because my nautical law books all say "silver coin", not a dollar. Not that I'm that cheap you understand . . . I actually paid \$8.50 for that dime on eBay."

Welcome New Members

(Through 12/15/08)

	Boat	Home Port	Type
James White	Lady Ann	Ketchikan	PT
Ivan Gjertsen	Elizabeth Grace	Sitka	CW
Mark Neidiffer	Patricia Louise	Petersburg	PT
Russell Snell	Alliance	Auke Bay	PT/S
Steve Daniels	Pelican	Pelican	PT
Casey Mapes	Mai Tai	Yakutat	HT
Bruce Barrett	Haven	Hadlock	PT
David Richey	Vicki Ann	Sitka	PT
Jack Armer	Grace	Sitka	PT



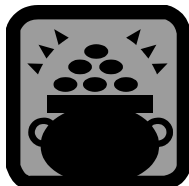
Upgrades

Joel Kawahara	Karolee	Quilcene	PT/S
Toni Carrington	Valiant Hunter	Sitka	PT/G
Paul Olson	Valiant Hunter	Sitka	CW/G
Clyde Cowan	Megan	Ketchikan	PT/S
Spencer Severson	Snorkel	Sitka	PT/S
Scott Visscher	Georgia	Haines	PT/G
Ken McGee	North Star	Juneau	PT/S
Ken Bare	Chanty	Kaunakakai, HI	CW/P

Did you know...

The value of Alaska's seafood exports in 2007 was the second highest ever? At \$1.98 billion, seafood contributed 51% of the state's second biggest year for total export revenues. Forest products made up 2.2% and mining/metals 34%.

Price paid for Alaska's seafood exports nearly doubled in the last decade, most likely due to improved overall quality, new product forms, traceability programs, and the state's track record of sustainable management.



Raffle Tickets?

There's still time!

Next drawing Feb. 20th

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Keith Brady

Ilona B, Southern Rural

John Murray

Loran, Sitka

Mark Roberts

Cape Cross, Petersburg

Carter Hughes

Radio, Northern Rural

Dan Doak

Kodiak, Wrangell

Dick Hofmann

Standy, At Large

Matt Donohoe

Helen A, At Large

Ken Ash

Jennison, Handtroll

Staff

Dale Kelley, Executive Director
ata@gci.net

Treaty Team

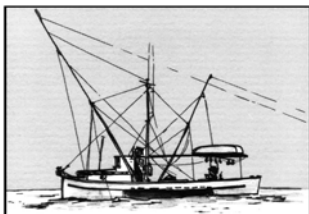
Howard Pendell, *Rosa Lee*

Dennis Longstreth, *Shearwater*

Dale Kelley, *ATA*

Coming Soon!

www.aktrollers.org



Alaska Trollers Association
 130 Seward #205
 Juneau, AK 99801
 (907)586-9400 ph / 4473 fx
 ata@gci.net
 aktrollers.org

Non-Profit
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Join Today!

Renewal New Member

Category	Power	Hand	Crew	Processor	Other Business	For Your Convenience...
Basic	300	200	75	500	250	You may include payments to these groups along with your ATA dues: <input type="checkbox"/> United Fishermen of Alaska (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Fishermen of America (\$50)
Silver	350	250	110	1000	500	
Gold	400	300	160	2500	1000	
Platinum	500	400	300	5000	2500	
LIFE	3000	2000	750			
Retired Troller	50	50	50			

Name: _____ F/V: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip: _____

Phone/Cell: _____ E-Mail: _____

Crew Size: Ice Boat: Freezer Boat: Direct Seafood Marketer: Processor: SPC: UFA:

Other Fisheries: _____

Are you willing to volunteer some time and/or expertise to ATA? Yes No Call-In Program? Yes No

DONATION: \$ _____ Please use my extra donation for: Legal General Purposes Publicity

T-SHIRTS Lt. Blue, Indigo, Forest Green, Maroon (L, XL, XXL)

	Qty.	Size (s)	Color(s)
Long-sleeve	\$25	_____	_____
Short-sleeve	\$25	_____	_____

HATS: navy oilskin / khaki & black denim

	Qty.	Color(s)
Hat:	\$25	_____
Raffle Ticket:	\$20	_____

Method of Payment: Check Mastercard Visa Need a Receipt? Yes No

Account # _____ Exp. Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____

