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Date: January 31, 2023

To: Chris Hladick, Bill Homka, Marjorie Veeder, Michelle Price:

From: Frank Kelty, Fisheries Consultant

Re: Fishery Activities Memo, Prime Nomination Addendum, Prime Sanctuary Articles and Fishery Articles for the past week.

I attend two meeting having to do with the Pribilof Islands Marine Sanctuary (PRIME) Initiative. On Thursday January 26th I attended a one hour Zoom meeting put together by Stephanie Madsen of the At Sea Processors group. The purpose of the meeting was to have a discussion before the St Paul Island Tribal Groups, Pribilof Islands Marine Sanctuary (PRIME) Roundtable discussion that would place on Monday January 30, 2023. Attending the Thursday Zoom meeting were harvesters, processors, CDQ group representatives and fishery dependent community members. The discussion centered on what we hope to learn at the meeting, topics like size of the boundary the critical fishing areas that may be affected. It was discussed that the St Paul Tribal Government will be making a lobbying trip to Washington DC in early February on the Marine Sanctuary issue, it was discussed that we should try and get intel from the Alaska delegation members and NOAA departments that they will be meeting with on what they were proposing and asking for support on. Lastly we were cautioned be good listeners and respectful to what they present, and don't be overly aggressive in our questions or on are responses. It was evident that many people still had a lot of questions on the development of this Sanctuary and if it is really needed.

On Monday January 30, 2023 I attend the two hour Zoom Pribilof Islands Marine Sanctuary (PRIME) Initiative Sponsored St Paul Island Tribal Government. About 110 people were online. They ranged from harvesters, processors, CDQ groups, Tribal Governments, Environmental groups, Government agencies, NPFMC staff and members, the State of Alaska and fishery dependent community members. We were greeted by Laura Devine ,Director Ecosystem Conservation Office of St Paul office and Amos Philemonoff, President, of the Aleut Community of St Paul Island Tribal Government.

During there opening comments they were adamant that they did not have any intention to bump heads with the North Pacific Council and the State of Alaska of the fishery resources in and around the Pribilof Islands region. Amos Philemonoff , stated that the people of the Pribilof Island are fishermen and want to continue that for themselves there children, and grandchildren. I most point out that the regulations that govern Marine Sanctuary's trump the regulations of the Fishery Management Councils and the

Magnuson /Stevens Act National Standards, that definitely is a concern for fishery dependent communities, harvesters and processors groups as this moves forward. Ms. Divine then went into a long presentation on the St Paul Island Tribal Groups Bering Sea Research Center Four Goals that will be a part of St Paul's Strategic Economic Development Goals. The Goals are as follows.

1. Fisheries Support and create new fisheries and mariculture opportunities.
2. Development Bering Sea Research Center to study fish and crab species, marine mammals and birds that the community depends.
3. Develop Tourism Industry for St Paul critical for that is building a hotel for visitors coming to the island and promoting the great beauty, culture, ecologically of the island.
4. Development of the facilities on the Island and workforce into a leading coastal climate change and resilience research center.

It appeared that from comments for Amos on Island residents that they seemed more concerned on with fur seals and birds as one person put at the meeting the concerns seemed to be on land more than of what goes on at sea I don't think I buy that . They moved into the question-and-answer part of the meeting. Many questions were asked of examples of how comanaged marine sanctuary in other parts of the nation the told us to look at NOAA Marine Sanctuary Site and review about four examples nationwide. When asked about the boundary size and location we were told no decision has been made as of yet by there group. I believe that topic would be a good topic for another roundtable so they could get input from harvesters, processors and other fishery dependent communities and support sector businesses that depend on the resources harvested in that area. ADFG Commissioner Doug Vincent Lang, weighed with questions on how the joint management would work within the State of Alaska management system I don't believe he got a clear answer but it appears joint management setup would carry over into stare waters as well.

They did state they would continue to do outreach and have further meetings with stakeholders and would work to share information with all that want to be involved with the process. I believe we have a long way to go before this gets done. In a couple of days we should get the minutes of the meeting I will share them when I get a copy.

Regards

Frank Kelty

Attachments:

- 1.Prime Nomination Addendum
2. Heart of the Ocean Prime Articles
3. Fishery Articles for the Week

