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National Marine Fisheries Service

Northwest Fisheries Science Center

2725 Montlake Blvd E.

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# «AddressBlock»

# «GreetingLine»

We would like to invite you to participate in a cost earnings survey of commercial fishing vessel owners being conducted by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service. This survey targets vessel owners who (1) participate in the West Coast groundfish, salmon, crab, and shrimp fisheries and (2) do no hold a limited entry permit. This survey was designed through industry collaboration and updates a similar survey conducted during 2014. Our goal is to support fisheries management decision-making and to generate information that is required to help meet legal and regulatory requirements.

Data will be collected through in-person or telephone interviews and mail questionnaires. Based on the availability of a telephone number, you have been selected for an in-person or telephone interview. During your interview, the interviewer will ask you the questions on the enclosed questionnaire. The enclosed questionnaire is provided at this time so that you know what information to have available during the interview. You do not need to return the questionnaire prior to the interview. We will contact you by telephone to schedule a time and place for the interview at your convenience.

Because you and other vessel owners are the only ones that can provide this information, we encourage you to participate in this survey. Your participation is voluntary and you are not required to participate in this survey. However, by collecting information from vessel owners like you, we can better understand average fleet characteristics as well as diversity within the fleet. With this information, fisheries managers will be better able to consider the effect of regulations.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Jerry Leonard

National Marine Fisheries Service

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