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INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

28 March 1966

ESTABLISHED BY THE CONVENTION
BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF THE HALIBUT FISHERY
OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC OCEAN
AND BERING SEA

F. HEWARD BELL
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS
AND SECRETARY

OFFICE AND LABORATORY
FISHERIES HALL NO. 2
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SEATTLE, WASH. 98105
TELEPHONE LAKEVIEW 5-8323

Mr. Harry L. Rietze
Regional Director
Bureau of Commercial Fisheries
Box 2481
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Rietze:

Info.	To
✓	Reg. Dir. <i>H.R.</i>
	Asst. Reg. Dir. <i>RRB</i>
✓	Adm. Serv. <i>W</i>
	Nat. Lab.
	Enforcement
	EF & GR
	Loans & Grants
	River Basins
	Statistics
	Tech. Lab.

In reply to your letter of February 28 we are enclosing the remainder of the Bering Sea king crab data available in our files. These 1963 data were collected in essentially the same manner as those for 1965. However, the 1-1/2-inch net was not used until the latter part of the cruise; consequently, you can consider all stations as one-hour tows with a 71-foot headrope trawl of 3-1/2-inch mesh unless otherwise stated. This information has been summarized in the same form as that in our letter to you of September 29, 1965. Also enclosed is a copy of the station grid locating the successfully- as well as the unsuccessfully-fished stations.

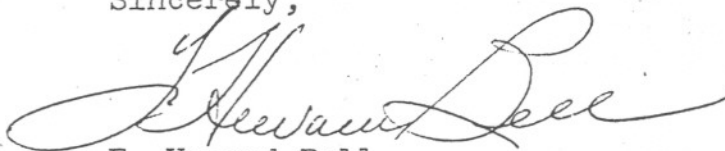
In regard to your planned 1966 survey, it would be most desirable if you could collect a representative sample of halibut less than 65 cm. at each station. We could supply you with plastic bags in which the sample (not to exceed 25 fish) could be placed and identified. These samples could be frozen or iced down depending upon what is available on your vessel and placed in cold storage at Sand Point under our account. When catches exceeded 25 halibut, or contained fish above 65 cm., we would like to obtain at least a count of the total number caught, or better, a length frequency if time and conditions permitted.

We would also like to request that you be on the lookout for tagged fish. We tagged over 2000 halibut in Bering Sea last summer. Juveniles (less than 64 cm.) were tagged with an orange vinyl tube (wire reinforced) through the opercle. Adults (80 cm. and above) were tagged with the standard IPHC tags, and fish in the 65 to 79 cm. size range were double-tagged with the above types.

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We have not yet chartered a vessel for our operation so have nothing further to add to our earlier communication regarding possible space for any of your personnel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Heward Bell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

F. Heward Bell
Director of Investigations

FHB:lr
Encl.