



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

National Marine Fisheries Service

P.O. Box 21668

Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

June 2010

Dear Quota Share (QS) or Processing Quota Share (PQS) Holder:

Enclosed is your application for Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) or Individual Processing Quota (IPQ) for the 2010/2011 crab fishing year. Please note that we must receive your application by **no later than August 1, 2010**. The August 1 deadline will be strictly enforced. The regulations do not provide flexibility; applications received after the application deadline will be denied and no annual IFQ or IPQ will be issued.

In addition to receiving your application by August 1, we must also be able to verify that you have submitted any required Economic Data Reports (EDRs) and paid all crab cost recovery fee liabilities. If you are subject to either requirement, but have not yet fulfilled it, we urge you to do so as soon as possible.

Please note: You are required to complete and submit this application by the August 1 deadline, even if you are joining a crab harvesting cooperative. If you are joining a cooperative, you must note that on your completed application for annual IFQ. The cooperative is required to submit an annual cooperative permit application which also must be received by RAM by August 1, 2010, and must include each member's annual IFQ application.

Your annual application for IFQ/IPQ will not be considered complete if you fail to complete each block of the form, including Block E, Declaration of Affiliation. Failure to complete and sign the form, or discrepancies between your annual application and those submitted by your cooperatives may delay issuance of annual IFQ/IPQ.

Annual IFQ and IPQ permits will be issued for each crab quota fishery after the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is announced by the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game. The first IFQ/IPQ annual permits to be issued will be for the Western and Eastern Aleutian Islands golden king crab fisheries (WAG and EAG, respectively), which are anticipated to open in mid-August. We do not expect to issue the annual IFQ/IPQ for other fisheries until early October.

If you have any questions about the enclosed application or about the Crab Rationalization program generally, please give us a call. We can be reached toll-free at 1-800-304-4846 (select option 2) or via facsimile at 907-586-7354. NMFS permit applications and instructions are available from RAM or on our Internet web site at: <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov>. Our e-mail address is RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Tracy Buck,
Acting Program Administrator
Restricted Access Management

Enclosure

