Advisory For Vessels Participating in the 2005 Opilio Crab Season

With considerable input and continued cooperation by the fishing industry, both skippers and processing company executives, the Unified Command have developed some recommendations intended to minimize contact with random tarballs that may be encountered by vessels transiting to and from the opilio grounds.

Vessel skippers are encouraged to:

1. Obtain the latest return information on the recommended return routes from your processor. They will be updated as necessary throughout the delivery process.

2. The following information is based on the water quality sampling data collected in Unalaska Bay and Akutan during tow net surveys conducted January 1 – January 21, 2005.
   a. Akutan – Extensive water sampling in the Akutan area has been completed. No oil has been detected either in harbor or offshore beyond 100 fathoms.
   b. Dutch Harbor/Unalaska Bay Approach – Recent days sampling has detected no oil east of 166° 30’ W on approach to and inside of Unalaska Bay.
   c. Inner Bays/Unalaska Bay - No tarballs have been located in Iliuliuk Bay in Dutch Harbor or in waters east of 166° 30’ W and south of Eider Point.
   d. Tarballs, although very small in quantity and frequency have been detected in Captains Bay, Nateekin Bay, Wide Bay, Broad Bay and east of Hog Island.
   e. Be advised that the water quality program sampled over 133 million gallons of seawater and recovered a total quantity of tar balls equivalent to 2 teaspoons.

3. ADFG has designated Beaver Inlet and associated bays as an opilio landing port for vessels delivering in Dutch Harbor for this season. If you wish to hold crab in Beaver Inlet before transit/offload in Dutch/Unalaska, vessels must notify ADFG.

4. Please log any oil or oil sheen sightings during transit using your wheelhouse log or the form on the back of this sheet.
   a. ADF&G – Call Sign: WIM 76 Dutch Harbor Telephone: 581-1239
   b. Your processor, or
   c. The Unified Command – Telephone: 581-7159 or 581-7600 extension 4041