NOTICE TO PACIFIC COD CATCHER BOATS

Cooperative efforts between the fishing industry, the State of Alaska and the M/V Selendang Ayu Unified Command continue with the goal of collecting data and taking steps to minimize the risk of oil contamination in fish/shellfish.

Pacific cod catcher boats delivering their catches into the Dutch Harbor/Unalaska area are being asked to install and maintain oil detection “pom pom packs” in their RSW tanks.

The “pom pom packs” will consist of a mesh bag enclosing “pom pom snare material” designed to attract and capture floating oil contaminants. The bag assemblies will be provided to catcher boats.

Each vessel is also asked to provide a small trawl float and to secure each “pom pom pack” with the float to keep the bag near the surface of the water inside each RSW tank.

Please secure the “pom pom pack” in the tank prior to tank down. REMOVE THE PACK FROM THE TANK and check it for signs of oil contamination before the fish are placed in the tank. Inspection should include smelling for oil and looking for tar balls or others contamination both on the outside of the bag and on the pom poms inside. Also, please check the tank for any oil sheen. If oil contamination is found please:

- Please place the contaminated pack in the plastic bag provided and enter the date, vessel name and location (lat x long) into the vessel’s log and on the bag.
- Notify your processor who will notify the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, (Rebecca Sheffield, tel 581-4632 and cell 391-2118)
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation inspectors will retrieve the contaminated pack upon vessels return to port.
- Follow your regular tank cleaning procedures.

If no oil contamination is detected store the pack where it will not be contaminated. The mesh bags and pom poms are made to be reused during the season.