10 January 2025

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Attn: Alaska Board of Fisheries
RE: Proposal 230 and 231

Dear Board Members,

Please accept this statement, on behalf of myself, in support of Proposal 230 and 231. Stock assessment for Magister squid (*Berryteuthis magister*) can be conducted primarily using commercial logbooks and ex-vessel value receipts, leveraging existing infrastructure and minimizing management costs. Similar to the CDFW monitored commercial squid fishery for market squid (*Doryteuthis opalescens*), sustainable assessment can be achieved through a maximum total allowable harvest guideline, commercial logbooks, ex-vessel receipts, and minimal subsampling of harvests. Further cost reductions would be enhanced through use of electronic logbooks as recently recommended by the Squid Fishery Advisory Committee (2024) for market squid. *B. magister* is a highly productive fishery, and our preliminary evidence indicates that it has a lifespan of approximately one year in SE Alaska, spawning in winter and summer. This fishery appears underutilized as the fishing areas in SE Alaska represent a small fraction of *B. magister*'s total habitat, both along the coastline and in depth and is fished primarily only in the summer. For example, this species is most common in the mesopelagic zone (200 - 1000 m depth), and commercial fishermen are mainly targeting squid migrating to depths of less than 200 m. Additionally, to ensure squid quality, fishing vessels must remain close to ports, limiting economically viable regions to a small percentage of the coastline inhabited by these squid (i.e., for processing high quality products, travel time to port is usually under 24 hours). Also, this species is primarily fished in the summer months only. Last, as new scientific information emerges, management has various adaptive controls to mitigate risks associated with this low-risk fishery, as is done currently with a currently sustainable market squid fishery, monitored through the Market Squid Fishery Management Plan. Please let me know if I can provide any additional details.

Sincerely,

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