



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

National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

December 2012

Dear Registered Buyer:

The National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, Restricted Access Management Program (RAM) invites you to renew your IFQ Registered Buyer Permit (RB Permit). Your current permit expires December 31, 2012. Starting in 2013, RB Permits must be renewed annually due to regulatory changes required to support to the collection and payment of fees under the restructured North Pacific Groundfish and Halibut Observer Program (Observer Program). Therefore, your new RB Permit will be valid from March 1, 2013 through February 28, 2014. As the holder of an RB Permit, starting on January 1, 2013, you will be required to collect and submit a fee of 1.25% of the ex-vessel value of halibut and sablefish landings covered under the Observer Program. Please see the enclosed summary of upcoming changes to the Observer Program for more information. Additional information is available on the NMFS, Alaska Region website at: <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/>. You also may call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228 if you have questions regarding these new regulations.

You may renew your current RB Permit using our online application system located at: <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/ram/webapps.htm>. To renew your permit online, simply log-on to the NMFS Web Application using your NMFS ID and personal password. Your NMFS ID is listed on your current RB Permit. If you do not know your current password, follow the link on the application webpage to request that your password be e-mailed to you. If your current e-mail address is not on file with RAM, please contact us in writing so that we may add that information to your records.

Please make sure that you follow all of the instructions as indicated on the screen to successfully submit your information. If you choose to renew your permit using the online system you may print your new permit from your personal computer. A legible copy of this permit must be available for inspection by authorized NMFS personnel.

You may also renew your permit by completing a hard copy application form and submitting it to RAM. A paper application can be found on the NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region website at: http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/ram/applications.htm#Link_7. Please contact us as follows for assistance, and allow at least ten working days for processing of applications submitted by U.S. mail or facsimile. **Please note that we do not accept applications sent by e-mail.**

If you have any questions regarding this or any other NMFS, Alaska Region permit, please contact RAM by telephone at 1-800-304-4846 (select option #2), by facsimile at 1-907-586-7354, or by e-mail at RAM.Alaska@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Program Administrator
Restricted Access Management

Enclosure: Observer Program Summary

