

Cotter, Hegge named to North Pacific panel

Two Alaskans, Lawrence Cotter of Juneau and Ronald Hegge of Sitka, have been named to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Hegge is director of the Alaska Longlines Fishermen's Association. Cotter, who has been reappointed to a second three-year term, is president of Pacific Associates in Juneau.

Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher informed Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, of the Alaskans' appointment. The council is responsible for the allocation and management of fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska. Council members meet five times a year and make recommendations to the secretary on fishery management issues.

At the most recent council meeting last month, the council recommended that all fishing vessels over 125 feet, operating in the council's jurisdiction, carry and pay for an observer.