

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

This is to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, who has applied with Saltwater Inc. for a position as an observer in the National Marine Fisheries Service domestic groundfish observer program and /or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game observer program. To assist you in assessing the candidate's fitness to perform duties as assigned, the following is a brief synopsis of what an observer can expect during an average three or four month contract.

Observers gather biological data onboard commercial fishing vessels which operate in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. **Routine medical care is non-existent; emergency medical care is available only in extreme situations and can be days away.** Observers spend many hours at a time in cold or wet weather and heavy seas. Meals are unscheduled. Good vision and hearing are a must for the safety of an observer. They may work long, odd hours seven days a week, and rarely sleep uninterrupted for eight hours. Sampling requires lifting heavy baskets of fish (80 to 100 pounds) several times a day, usually from awkward positions. Motion sickness can be a real problem, can cause dehydration and may require medications. Life onboard a fishing vessel involves exposure to constant shipboard noise (engines, machinery, and gears) and vibrations, and can be quite lonely and stressful.

Thank you for your assessment of this candidate. Please indicate your recommendation below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prior to the examination I was made aware of the duties of the observer and the dangerous, remote, and rigorous nature of the work by reading the NMFS prepared pamphlet.

\_\_\_\_\_ I find no impediment of this candidate's completing duties as described,

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not recommend the candidate accept this position in view of my findings and the duties described.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Facility

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, and Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

This form will be released to NMFS per federal regulation.