Steller sea lions and may require modification. As a conservation measure, NMFS also recommends that the State of Alaska request NMFS to assist in the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (as authorized under section 10 of the ESA). This plan should be designed to mitigate adverse impacts on Steller sea lions and other listed species that might accrue from State managed fisheries. This plan should employ the same standards and principles as used in this biological opinion to prevent completion and minimize take between fisheries and listed species.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the cumulative, direct and indirect effects of the Alaska groundfish fisheries on listed species, NMFS concludes that the fisheries do not jeopardize any listed species other than Steller sea lions. The biological opinion concludes that the fisheries do jeopardize Steller sea lions and adversely modify their critical habitat due to competition for prey and modification of their prey field. The three main species with which Steller sea lions compete for prey are pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel. The biological opinion provides a reasonable and prudent alternative to modify the fisheries in a way that avoids jeopardy and adverse modification.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period for morning business be extended, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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SENATE RELATIONSHIPS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, yesterday morning, without any notice to this Senator, my distinguished colleague from Washington, Senator MURRAY, came to the floor to congratulate me in my career in the Senate in a most generous and gracious fashion and to yield time to other Senators for the same purpose.

Each of them, including the other Senator present, Mr. BURNS, was more than generous and profuse in their praise. The experience of listening to it in my office bore some resemblance to attending one's own wake. But, nonetheless, the many fine things that were stated about my career by Members on both sides of the aisle is deeply appreciated.

I reflected a little bit later on the fact that while our public image—and, for that matter, our public duties—has to deal with profound political and social questions of public policy, our personal relationships among the 100 Members is something really quite different. Each of us leaves the others with strong impressions. Friendships become both broad and deep during the course of a career here in the Senate. When one comes to the end of such a career, it is those personal relationships, in my view, that are the most deep and most profound and that have the greatest effect on one as an individual.

To listen to expressions from people who are not accustomed to speaking emotionally or personally is an extremely moving experience. For that reason, as close as each of those individuals was to me, I don't want to mention them by name but simply express my thanks and my appreciation for all they said. Those friendships, of course, will continue in most cases through a lifetime.

Relationships of necessity are really quite different.

There is, however, one other set of relationships about which I should like to speak very briefly, and that is the relationship between a Member of this body and his or her staff, both present and past. I think I can say unequivocally that quite profoundly I am and have been a creature of my staff over the period of my entire 18 years in this body.

My proudest achievement is that so many young people—almost all from my own State—have worked for a great or shorter period of time on my staff either here or in the State of Washington. The great majority of them, of course, have already gone on to other careers—most of them in the State, a return that I find particularly gratifying.

If I have a legacy—I think in many respects if any of us has a true legacy over the years—the best of all the bills we have gotten passed and almost inevitably amended within a relatively short period of time—that legacy is the young people to whom we have given a start here in highly responsible positions, working on important matters of public policy and dealing with dozens, hundreds, and even thousands of the constituents whom we represent, growing in not only thoughtfulness but responsibility during that period of time.

For me, the great legacy for generations to come will be the new, young, and maturing people who have worked for me during the course of these 18 years. I have every hope that at some time in the not too distant future at least one of them may appear in this body as a Member. And certainly I am of the belief that many of them will appear in my State and other States in positions of increasing responsibility in a lifetime that will have been marked by our association together.

I thank my colleagues. I thank the staff here and of the Senate itself in this Chamber, but most particularly the hundreds of young people who have worked for and with me during the course of the last 18 years.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. GORTON. Given the presence of the assistant Democratic leader, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to the consideration of H.J. Res. 128.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered read the third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) was considered read the third time and passed.

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COMMENDING SENATOR GORTON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while the Senator from Washington is present. I wish to tell him on a very personal basis, how much I have appreciated his help. SLADE GORTON has called the State of Washington his home for the past 47 years, having moved to Seattle from Chicago in 1953.

He served in the United States Army from 1946 to 1947. He was in the United States Air Force on active duty where he reached the rank of colonel, from 1953 to 1956, and in the Air Force Reserves from 1956 to 1981.

I have worked with Senator GORTON on the Appropriations Committee, particularly on interior issues. Because of his knowledge and experience on interior matters, working closely with him in his role as the Interior Subcommittee chair, we passed the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act and other important environmental legislation for Nevada including restoration of the Lahonton cutthroat trout and stopping the spread of invasive species.

Those of us who have worked with SLADE GORTON have long known his dedication to the ideals of this body and his championing of the State of Washington. I remember when the Senator took over the Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations; he did something unusual. The Senator called members to his office, all the members of the subcommittee, Democrats and Republicans, to sit down and talk about what we thought should be the direction of the subcommittee, which areas should be funded, which areas should be cut back a little bit. I appreciated that very much. It set a great tone for the subcommittee.

I was curious and looked around his office and saw many indications that Senator GORTON had been to the U.S.