

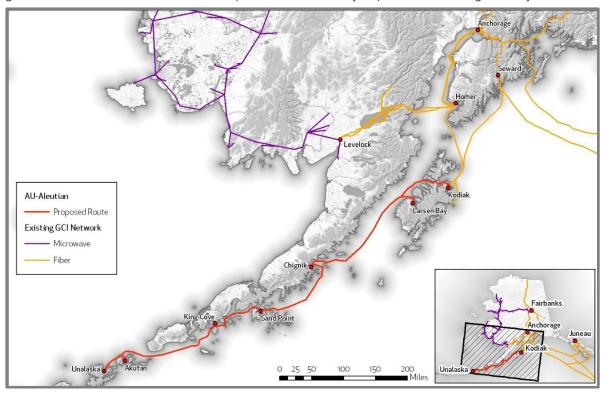
Date: March 3, 2021

North Pacific Fishery Management Council 1007 West Third, Suite 400 Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

RE: AU-Aleutian Submarine Fiber Optic Cable

Dear Sir / Madam:

GCI is working to build a fiber optic connection to support the people along the Alaskan Peninsula and out to Unalaska, AK. GCI has preformed a route desktop study to identify a probable route for the submarine cable and will undertake a detailed marine survey this year to finalize the route. The desktop study used NMFS data, AIS fishing history tracks, interviews with local fishermen at each landing site, meetings with marine interests at FishCom and Pacific Marine Expo to route the cable to avoid the highest effort fishing areas where possible. In areas where the cable must transit bottom contact fishing grounds the cable will be buried where possible to avoid any impact to the fishing industry in the area.





Please provide any comments or concerns to me at GCI for the quickest response. Ideally any major concerns with current routing should be addressed prior to GCI conducting the marine survey. If needed I can provide larger scale nautical charts that depict the route at a greater detail. Post the marine survey a final route alignment will be available and can be shared later this summer. Once the cable is installed in 2022 GCI will ensure the cable route is published to the industry and included on all nautical charts through NOAA chart office.

GCI wants to continue the over 20-year history of having submarine cables within the Alaska region with no adverse interaction with the fishing industry. Any input from NPFMC will be used to ensure this history continues.

All the Best,

Bruce Rein

GCI Sr. Staff Engineer

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