

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Clement V. Tillion, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue  
Post Office Mall Building



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563  
FTS 271-4064

January 8, 1980

## SSC AGENDA

The Council recessed the meeting in December after taking action on all but 5 Agenda Items, listed below. This meeting is being held to complete unfinished business. The Council can also readdress any item on the December Agenda.

### G-1 TROLL SALMON FMP

Consideration of possible Chinook conservation measures for the S. E. Alaska troll fishery.

The SSC did not get an opportunity to comment on this issue before the December meeting when it was presented to the Council. The PDT will report on available chinook data and will discuss data gaps and research needs.

### G-2 TANNER CRAB FMP

The issue of pot storage in the Bering Sea has been raised by the Council.

This may require a review by the SSC on cost benefit aspects of the pot storage regulations in the Bering Sea. There are no data available at this time.

### G-3 HERRING FMP

- a) Recommendation on estimates of surplus herring available to joint ventures and TALFF.

The SSC did not have an opportunity to comment on the estimates proposed by the PDT for the 1980 season. The Council will want the SSC recommendations when it comments on the regulations for the herring PMP, and on the US/USSR Joint Venture applications and their requested herring quotas. Presentations will be made by the PDT and NMFS Regional Office.

- b) Public Hearing Schedule

Four herring public hearings are scheduled to be held in Bethel, Hooper Bay and Tooksook, and Togiak on February 9, 10, and 11, 1980. These hearings were postponed in November, 1979. SSC members are welcome to attend.

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Clement V. Tillion, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue  
Post Office Mall Building



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563  
FTS 271-4064

## DRAFT MINUTES

### SCIENTIFIC & STATISTICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

November 27, 1979

Anchorage, Alaska

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Pennoyer at approximately 9:00 a.m. on November 27, 1979. The following members were present:

Steve Pennoyer, Chairman  
Jack Robinson, Vice Chairman  
Don Rosenberg  
Alan Millikan  
Robert L. Burgner  
Edward Miles  
Richard Marasco  
Jerry McCrary for Jack Lechner  
Jim Balsiger for Frank Fukuhara

### TROLL SALMON FMP AMENDMENTS (Council Agenda Item G-1)

Robert L. Burgner, Chairman of the SSC Subgroup assigned to review this plan reported on the meeting of the Subgroup which met with the PDT on November 19th, 1979 in Juneau to review the proposals.

The position of the SSC is that the stocks of chinook and coho salmon distributed in offshore waters of Southeastern Alaska are apparently fully utilized. The data base available for management of these stocks is poor and unlikely to dramatically improve in the near future, thus

posing a further risk to the welfare of these stocks and fisheries. Increases in offshore harvest ~~rates~~ <sup>levels</sup> thus could be detrimental to stocks and reduce allocations available to inshore fisheries, B.C. and other Pacific Coast states. Therefore, as a Council policy, the SSC recommends that regulations should be framed to prevent increases in offshore fishing effort.

The SSC Subgroup will meet with the PDT on December 8th to discuss time/area and effort limitation proposals further and make recommendations to the Council at the December meeting.

The SSC did make recommendations regarding certain of the issues and plan amendments to be considered by the Council:

Handtrolling in the FCZ - The SSC reiterates its statement of the October 27, 1978 meeting in which they stated:

"The SSC endorsed the need to prevent further expansion of effort by new fleets or gear types onto already fully utilized outside stocks as expressed by the extension to the FCZ of the State ban on handtrolling from 0-3 miles. Due to possible legal problems, the SSC recommended that the Council consider taking up this problem at the December Fisheries Board Meeting."

Mutilation of Salmon - The SSC concurs that salmon should not be processed at sea in such a way to render species recognition and size determination unfeasible.

Retention of Prohibited Species - The SSC agreed that an important management/enforcement tool would be the prohibition of possession on board of coho or chinook in a closed area or season.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HERRING IN THE BERING-CHUKCHI SEAS

(Council Agenda Item G-3)

The SSC deferred consideration of the herring public hearings until the hearings are over and have been summarized. A report will be made to the SSC at the January/February meeting.

GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENTS (Council

Agenda Item G-5)

A report was presented to the SSC by Jim Balsiger of the Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center on the status of sablefish stocks off Alaska and on the U.S. fishery off Washington, Oregon and Alaska.

The PDT had not had an opportunity to review this matter and their recommendations and data on the sablefish OY was not available for SSC review. The SSC recommended that the PDT present data on the OY figures to the Council in December with the statement that the SSC was unable to review the data.

Regarding the inseason authority provisions for the Regional Director to make time and area closures for gear conflicts, the SSC preferred this more flexible approach to the problem than fixed closures. With input from a public hearing in Kodiak, the PDT will present this issue to the AP at the December meeting. The PDT should examine possible criteria to take into account the full range of problems involved.

The SSC also reviewed the Council policy on provisions for time/area closures to foreign joint venture processors. The SSC has no recommendation to make on what it considers a Council matter policy statement.

BERING SEA GROUND FISH FMP (Council Agenda Item G.6)

Bert Larkins recommended the inseason field order authority for the Regional Director as currently exists in the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan and Tanner Crab Plan be included in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. The SSC approved of his suggestion that the plan be amended similar to Section 8.3.1.1.(h) of the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP.

The SSC also discussed a request that had been made to relax domestic trawl restrictions in certain areas of the Bering Sea. They postponed this matter to the January meeting as data was not available to support the proposal and recommendations were not available from the PDT.

SSC MEMBERSHIP (Council Agenda Item H-2)

The SSC discussed the resignation of Jack Robinson of the Oregon Department of Fisheries. We noted our appreciation of Jack's service as vice-chairman of the SSC for the past 14 months. The Committee nominated Larry Hreha who has been Mr. Robinson's alternate, also of the Oregon Department of Fisheries, as Mr. Robinson's replacement. Jack Robinson elected to remain with the SSC as Mr. Hreha's alternate. The Committee nominated Don Rosenberg as Vice Chairman.

The SSC also discussed the 11th member of the SSC. They reviewed two resumes, and nominated John J. Burns of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks, as the marine mammal specialist on the Committee. Mr. Burn's resume' is attached. We feel he will be an active participant and contribute significantly to our review of management plans.

STATE/FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (Council Agenda Item H-9)

The SSC reviewed a document presented by Terry Leitzell. We were unable to determine the differences in meaning between several of the categories suggested as separate priorities for research. We feel there is insufficient information and explanation of what was required to make any detailed recommendations to the Council, but referred back to their recommendation to the Council for the Congressional Oversight Hearings on the FCMA, in June 1979. The SSC statement was: "The SSC strongly supported increased funding for research and management functions performed by the States in support of FMP's. In a period of tight budgets, the additional demands for data and data summaries places very heavy burdens on existing state as well as federal agencies. State agencies are equipped to gather many kinds of data, have support and confidence in many cases from the public, which is often more comfortable with local or regional input to FMP's than with National (or non-local) only input."

PROPOSAL TO ASSESS THE DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF CERTAIN MARINE MAMMAL POPULATIONS IN BRISTOL BAY (Council Agenda Item I.1)

Jim Balsiger, Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center and alternate for Frank Fukuhara, presented a report on the review of Bud Fay's Bristol Bay Walrus Survey from Cliff Fiscus of the National Marine Mammal Laboratory, Seattle. Fiscus stated that Fay provides a good summary of what is presently known about the distribution of walrus in the Bristol Bay area and their relationship to the movements of seasonal pack ice. Fiscus recommended the competence of Fay, Lowrey and Muktoyuk and considered the stated objectives in the proposal as feasible.

The SSC recommended that the Council fund this proposal and established a Steering Committee of Rosenberg, Hreha and Balsiger to monitor the contract.

We were concerned about the sample size for walrus stomach collection. Apparently the sample size (20-30) was predicated somewhat on the apprehension that a permit (from NMFS in Washington, D.C.) would not be available for a larger sample. The SSC recommends that at least 50 samples be requested and that every effort be made to expand seasonal coverage. We understand that a cooperative program with the USSR for winter sampling is a possibility. The project may require Council or SSC support in this.

I-2 HALIBUT LIMITED ENTRY RFP (Council Agenda Item I.2)

It was reported that Ed Miles and Richard Marasco as representatives of the Halibut Limited Entry Steering Group had met individually with Bruce Hart, ADF&G, to revise this RFP. They informed the SSC that the RFP had been changed according to their recommendations but that additional items had been added. In general, the SSC approved the RFP content. The SSC recommended that Richard Marasco and Edward Miles continue in their role as SSC representatives for the review and guidance of the contract.

The SSC reiterated that it was their understanding that the purpose of this contract was to collect data and information from which analysis could be made at a later date.

A cost estimate of \$50,000 was made by Rich Marasco; however he stressed that cost estimates be expressed in 'man-years', he will help on drafting the RFP.

DRAFT FINAL REPORT ON HERRING RESEARCH CONTRACT WITH ADF&G (Council Agenda Item I.3)

The Final Report was distributed to the SSC. The Subgroup will submit written comments to the Council by December 15th.

DRAFT (RFP) "FEEDING HABITS AND FOOD REQUIREMENTS OF MARINE MAMMALS  
IN THE BERING SEA (I-4)

The SSC reviewed this proposal which would be funded by the Marine Mammal Commission and the Council. This RFP was developed at a meeting of a steering group which met in August to discuss marine mammal/ecosystem issues, principally in the Bering Sea. It resulted in a draft scope of work for a study to determine data availability of the feeding habits and food requirements of marine mammal in the Bering Sea. The SSC recommended assigning the 11th member of the SSC to review and report back to the SSC. We felt the RFP was overly broad and non-specific.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED BY SSC

REPORT ON MEETING BETWEEN SURF CLAM PDT AND THE SSC CLAM SUBGROUP

The SSC received a written report of the SSC Clam Subgroup which met in Anchorage to review the draft Surf Clam Plan. Larry Hreha was appointed to replace Robinson on the SSC Subgroup. The Clam Subgroup plans to meet and review the revised draft in January, 1980.

OTA STAFF PLANNING PAPER

Jim Balsiger, alternate for Frank Fukuhara, presented a paper prepared by the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center. Because of the diversity of federally funded activities associated with studies of the oceans, the SSC believes there exists a need for a study to assist the Legislature in making decisions concerning past and ongoing technological developments and future needs and applications. It appears, however, that the objectives of the OTA study are not clearly stated. The SSC believes that the OTA study should not focus on ocean research policy, which is adequately reviewed at other levels, but should rather focus narrowly on the identification of hardware and alternate technologies which are available to meet ocean research goals.



APPOINTMENT OF SSC MEMBER TO MANAGEMENT PLAN PRIORITIES SUBGROUP

A vacancy exists on the Management Plan Priorities Subgroup after Dr. Bevan's nomination to the Council. The SSC recommended that Dr. Ed Miles replace Dr. Bevan as SSC representative to the Subcommittee.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the SSC is scheduled for January 29-30 or February 5 - 6, depending upon the date the Council meets.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

JOHN J. BURNS

## Mailing Address:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
1300 College Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Phone: (907)452-1531

## Birth Date and Place:

11 April 1938, New York, New York

## Education:

1960 BS - University of North Carolina, Raleigh (Zoology)  
1964 MS - University of Alaska (Wildlife Management)  
1977 PhD - University of Alaska (in progress)

## Professional Experience:

1962-1969 Marine Mammals Biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Nome  
1969-1970 Marine Mammals Biologist and Regional Research Coordinator, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks  
1970-1971 (Fall) Research Associate Marine Mammals, University of Alaska  
1971-1976 Marine Mammals Biologist and Marine Mammal Coordinator, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks  
1976-1977 Marine Mammals Biologist and Regional Supervisor, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks  
1977- Marine Mammals Biologist and Marine Mammal Coordinator, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks

## Professional Memberships:

American Society of Mammalogists  
American Polar Society  
Arctic Institute of North America  
East African Wildlife Society  
Northwest Bird and Mammal Society  
Scott Polar Research Institute  
The Wildlife Society  
The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

## Publications:

1964 Burns, J. J. Utilization of pingos by mink in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska. Proc. 14th Alaska Sci. Conf., Anchorage, Alaska.

- 1964 Burns, J. J. Movements of a tagged weasel in Alaska. Murrelet 45(1):10.
- 1964 Burns, J. J. Pingos in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska: their plant succession and use by mink. Arctic 17:204-210.
- 1964 Burns, J. J. Comparison of two populations of mink from Alaska. Can. J. Zool. 42:1071-1079.
- 1965 Burns, J. J. Marine mammal investigations in northwestern Alaska. Proc. 45th Amer. Conf. West. Assoc. State Game and Fish. Comm. pp. 129-134.
- 1965 Burns, J. J. The walrus in Alaska. Alaska Dept. Fish and Game, Juneau. 48pp.
- 1966 Marks, S. A. and J. J. Burns. Deformed forelimbs of a calf walrus. J. Mammal. 47:115-116.
- 1967 Burns, J. J. The Pacific bearded seal. Alaska Dept. Fish and Game, Juneau. 66pp.
- 1968 Burns, J. J. The bearded seal in Alaska. Alaska Dept. Fish and Game, Juneau. Wildl. Notebook Ser.
- 1968 Irving, L., C. P. McRoy and J. J. Burns. Birds observed during a cruise in the ice-covered Bering Sea in March 1968. Condor 72(1):110-112.
- 1969 Ray, C., W. A. Watkins and J. J. Burns. The underwater song of Erignathus (bearded seal). Zoologica 54:79-83.
- 1970 Burns, J. J. The walrus. Pages 212-217 in V. H. Cahalane, ed. Alive In the Wild. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.
- 1970 Burns, J. J. Remarks on the distribution and natural history of pagophilic pinnipeds in the Bering and Chukchi Seas. J. Mammal. 51:445-454.
- 1970 Burns, J. J. and F. H. Fay. Comparative morphology of the skull of the ribbon seal, Histriophoca fasciata (Zimmermann), with remarks on systematics of Phocidae. J. Zool. (London) 161:363-394.
- 1971 Burns, J. J. Biology of the ribbon seal, Phoca (Histriophoca) fasciata (Zimmermann) in Bering Sea. 22nd Alaska Sci. Conf., Fairbanks, Alaska, August 1971.
- 1972 Burns, J. J. and F. H. Fay. Comparative biology of Bering Sea harbor seal populations. 23rd Alaska Sci. Conf., Fairbanks, Alaska, August 1972.

- 1972 Galster, W. and J. J. Burns. Accumulation of pesticides in Alaskan marine mammals. 23rd Alaska Sci. Conf., Fairbanks, Alaska, August 1972.
- 1972 Burns, J. J., G. C. Ray, F. H. Fay and P. D. Shaughnessy. Adoption of a strange pup by the ice-inhabiting harbor seal, Phoca vitulina largha. J. Mammal. 53(3):594-598.
- 1972 Burns, J. J. and S. J. Harbo. An aerial census of ringed seals, Phoca (Pusa) hispida Schreber, along the northern coast of Alaska. Arctic 25:279-290.
- 1973 Burns, J. J. and F. H. Fay. Comparative biology of Bering Sea harbor seal populations. Proc. Alaska Sci. Conf. 23:48 (abstract).
- 1974 Burns, J. J. and F. H. Fay. New data on taxonomic relationships among North Pacific harbor seals Phoca (sensu stricto). Trans. 1st Intl. Theriol. Cong., Moscow, 1:99.
- 1975 Burns, J. J. and J. E. Morrow. The Alaskan arctic marine mammals and fisheries. Pages 561-582 in J. Malaurie, ed. Arctic Oil and Gas: Problems and Possibilities. Mouton and Co., Paris.
- 1975 Shapiro, L. H. and J. J. Burns. Major late-winter features of ice in northern Bering and Chukchi Seas as determined from satellite imagery. Univ. Alaska Sea Grant Rept. No. 75-8. 16pp.
- 1975 Shapiro, L. H. and J. J. Burns. Satellite observations of sea ice movement in the Bering Strait Region. Pages 379-386 in G. Weller and S. A. Bowling, eds. Climate of the Arctic. Univ. Alaska Geophys. Inst.
- 1976 Burns, J. J., F. H. Fay and L. H. Shapiro. Marine mammal distribution in relation to ice conditions in the Bering, Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. Trans. Alaskan Sci. Conf. 25(1976).
- 1977 Burns, J. J. Marine mammal management in northern Alaska: contemporary conflicts. Proc. Second Conf. Biology Marine Mammals, 12-15 December 1977. p.24 (abstract)
- 1977 Burns, J. J. and S. J. Harbo, Jr. Surveys of spotted seals, Phoca vitulina largha, in the ice front of Bering Sea. Proc. Second Conf. Biology Marine Mammals, 12-15 December 1977. p.6 (abstract)
- 1977 Frost, K. J., L. F. Lowry and J. J. Burns. Spring foods and feeding of phocid seals in the Bering Sea ice front. Proc. Second Conf. Biology Marine Mammals, 12-15 December 1977. p. 20 (abstract)

- 1977 Lowry, L. F., K. J. Frost and J. J. Burns. Variability in the diet of ringed seals in the northern Bering and Chukchi Seas. Proc. Second Conf. Biology Marine Mammal, 12-15 December 1977. p.21 (abstract)
- 1977 White, M. J., Jr., K. G. Osborn and J. J. Burns. A ringed seal (Pusa hispida) stranding in southern California. Proc. Second Conf. Biology Marine Mammals, 12-15 December 1977. p.83 (abstract)
- 1978 Burns, J. J. The ribbon seal. In R. J. Harrison and S. H. Ridgway, eds. Handbook of Marine Mammals. London: Academic Press (In press).
- 1978 Lowry, L. F., K. J. Frost and J. J. Burns. Foods of ringed seals and bowhead whales near Point Barrow, Alaska. Can. Field-Nat. 92(1):67-70.
- 1978 Burns, J. J. Ice seals of the Bering and Chukchi Seas. Pacific Search Ptes. Seattle, Washington (In press).
- 1978 Burns, J. J. and A. Gavin. Recent records of hooded seals, Cystophora cristata Erxleben, from the western Beaufort Sea. (Manuscript submitted).
- 1978 Burns, J. J. (ed.). Probable impacts and consequences of oil development. Pages 288-320 in Interim Synthesis: Beaufort/Chukchi. NOAA/OCSEAP, Boulder, CO. 362pp.
- In press Lowry, L. F., K. J. Frost and J. J. Burns. Potential resource competition in the southeastern Bering Sea: Fisheries and phocid seals. Proc. 29th Alaska Sci. Conf., Fairbanks, 15-17 August 1978.
- In press Lowry, L. F., K. J. Frost and J. J. Burns. Geographical and seasonal variability in the diet of ringed seals (Phoca hispida) in Alaska. Submitted to the Journal of the Fisheries Board of Canada.
- In prep. Frost, K. J., L. F. Lowry and J. J. Burns. Ringed seals in the Alaskan Beaufort Sea: feeding patterns, trophic relationships and possible effects of offshore petroleum development.
- In prep. Lowry, L. F., K. J. Frost and J. J. Burns. Feeding of bearded seals in the Bering and Chukchi Seas and implications with respect to carrying capacity.
- In prep. Burns, J. J. and K. J. Frost. Results of long-term studies of reproduction in female bearded seals, Erignathus barbatus, from the Bering and Chukchi Seas.

*raft*

Certified by \_\_\_\_\_  
SSC Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTES

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

January 10, 1980

The Scientific and Statistical meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman  
*W* Donald Rosenberg<sup>9</sup> at approximately 8:30 on ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> Thursday January 10, 1980. The  
*✓* following members were present:

- Donald Rosenberg
- ✓* Alan Milikan *Alan Millikan*
- Bud Burgner
- Jim Balsiger (alternate for Frank Fukuhara)
- Jerry McCrary (alternate for Jack Lechner)

- absent:
- Steve Pennoyer
  - Ed Miles
  - George Rogers,
  - Larry Hreha
  - Richard Marasco
  - John Burns ?

The meeting did not start on the 9th as scheduled due to weather and transportation difficulties.

G-1 TROLL SALMON FMP

The SSC did not consider Chinook conservation measures during the review of the salmon amendments. The SSC does not have any new data to review or comment on at this time.

The Council does have contracts with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game which will provide some of the new data. The SSC considers that this issue should be addressed by the SSC's of both the Pacific and North Pacific Councils and are therefore requesting that the item be placed on the agenda of the proposed joint meeting.

G-2 TANNER CRAB FMP

The SSC has not been provided with any data or analysis of the cost benefit aspects of pot storage. If this issue is of concern to the Council we believe that a study should be done either by one of the agencies or by contract. The SSC and PDT will work with the Council staff to develop guidelines for such a study if the Council so requests.

G-3 HERRING FMP

The SSC reviewed the estimates of the 1979 OY and preliminary 1980 OY for herring in the Bering Sea. These estimates were prepared by the Plan Development Team and were presented to the Council in December in a document entitled "Estimated Optimum Yield and Allocations if Herring FMP in Effect in 1979-1980".

These estimates were formulated using the most current data available and following procedures prescribed in the draft Bering/Chukchi Sea Herring FMP

We find that the estimates are satisfactory and the best available. Further, we have determined that procedures and calculations utilized to determine the 1979 biomass estimate, subsequent estimates of ABC, final 1979 OY and the October 1979 to March 1980 available surplus. The plan are correct based on procedures described in the draft FMP. The Council should be aware that the 28,314 metric ton surplus is available only until March 30, 1980. Surplus available for the remainder of 1980 is to be determined using the 1980 biomass estimates and the actual 1980 harvest of the roe fishery. The SSC withholds final judgement of the procedure used to adjust the "Maximum Potential TALFF" to the "Actual TALFF" at this time. We will consider this procedure during the final review of the entire plan after the public review process is complete.

We note that the procedures used throughout the plan are appropriately conservative and estimates are derived from the lower end of a range of acceptable values. In addition, estimates have been adjusted downward to account for uncertainties.

G-6

BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN GROUND FISH ISLANDS FMP

✓ The SSC received further analysis of the number of incidentally caught salmon in the foreign groundfish fishery presented by NMFS. This document indicates that for the 1977 and 1978 period the average number of salmon caught was 45,680 fish and 70% were caught by the Japanese small trawlers (under 1500 tons). We also noted that these 45,680 fish could represent 5-10% of the actual western Alaska salmon run.

✓ The SSC does not see any short term solution to this incidental catch problem. We are reluctant to recommend time/area closure based upon only 2 years of data as they may very well be atypical years in regards to resource distribution. Instituting a time/area closure at this time could result in a higher incidental catch as effort might shift to an adjacent area containing high numbers of chinook.

The SSC has requested that the NMFS continue its analysis of these data bases concentrating on the Japanese Small Trawlers to see if the incidental catch can be attributed to a fishing strategy or gear type.

✓ If a relationship can be documented, then appropriate management measures could be developed.

Additionally the SSC recommends that the Council request Alaska Department of Fish and Game to assign a western salmon expert to the Bering Sea groundfish team during the next review period. The team will then be able to address the impact of this incidental catch in light of the salmon resources of the Bering Sea area.

✓ The SSC hopes to have this analysis by its next meeting to be able to meet our obligation to the Advisory Panel.

G-6b

DOMESTIC CATCH RESTRICTIONS IN THE WINTER HALIBUT SAVINGS AREA

The SSC reviewed with members of the Plan Development Team the rational and scientific reasons behind the 2,000 metric ton groundfish quota in the winter Halibut Savings Area. This restriction was to limit the incidental catch of halibut in the Saving Area and yet allow for a controlled expansion of the domestic fishery in the area. At the time the plan was



developed, the domestic fishery was harvesting approximately 900 metric tons of groundfish from the area. The controlled expansion and high degree of protection offered to the halibut is consistent with the specific management objective in the plan, that of continuing the rebuilding of the halibut resources.

The SSC did not consider deviating from that management objective. They agreed that in order to meet that objective, the harvesting of halibut in the area should be kept to minimum. It must be noted that the 2,000 metric ton limit was not established as a restriction on the harvesting of groundfish but as means of limiting the amount of halibut taken. Therefore, this quota could also be expressed in terms of poundage of halibut instead of poundage of groundfish. PDT members informed the SSC that this quota could be expressed as 10 metric tons of halibut. Since the SSC did not consider deviating from the specific management objective we therefore recommend that 10 metric tons of halibut or 2,000 metric ton of groundfish which ever comes last, be the quota for the Saving Area. It should be noted that this figure for halibut is based upon a 100% mortality and could be adjusted should the fishery be carried out in such a manner as to increase the survival of the harvested halibut.

The SSC noted that if a halibut quota is established for this fishery, a domestic fishery observer program will be required.

G-6c NO COMMENT

G-6d ✓ PROCESSOR PREFERENCE TIME/AREA CLOSURES<sup>E/</sup>

The SSC briefly discussed the concept of these proposed time/area closures. We concluded that such restriction must be reviewed by the SSC in light of their effect on the biological resource of the area. We have requested that the NMFS provide us with that biological data so that we can make such a review and develop our recommendations based upon that biological data.

H-5 JOINT VENTURE PERMITS

The SSC was not presented with any information on the conditions or restrictions on the joint venture permits. The SSC agrees to review these conditions and restrictions with the PDT, if presented, in the light of the current status of the fishery.

ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

January 9, 1980  
corrected copy

G-1 TROLL SALMON

AP Action: The Advisory Panel passed a motion to ban handtrolling in the Fishery Conservation Zone. This action supports the Council intent concerning handtrolling.

There was no consideration of possible chinook savings measures for addition to the troll salmon FMP.

G-2 TANNER CRAB

AP Action: None

G-3 HERRING FMP

AP Action: The Advisory Panel passed a motion with respect to TALFF and joint venture herring amounts:

The Advisory Panel accepts the figure of 7965 metric tons of herring as excess beyond DAH available to TALFF between October, 1979 and March, 1980 subject to subtracting the foreign catch for the period October 1, 1979 through December 31, 1979. The total amount of herring available to TALFF is <sup>7,165</sup>~~3,965~~ metric tons. (VOTE WAS 11 for 2 against)

The Advisory Panel was presented the herring information in a briefing by Louis Barton, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and PDT member. Indications are that herring are on the increase at least during the past 3-4 years, and that the spawning relationship between stock units is being investigated. Attached are the figures presented for the estimated optimum yield and allocations of herring for the 1979-80 FMP.

During the course of the extended discussion concerning herring, AP member Jessie Foster questioned the reasons why only 4% (12<sup>000</sup>mt) of the available biomass had been caught by the fishermen engaged in the herring harvest. Foster also questioned the ability of observers to distinguish between capelin and herring when conducting aerial surveys. Some AP members questioned that the biomass which should have been available for harvest may have been overestimated and that reduced amounts had actually been available to fishermen. Wilde estimated the capacity of the fleet at 20-40<sup>11000</sup> metric tons.

Harold Sparcks, Bethel, cautioned the AP to be wary of the figures representing biomass as presented by the PDT as he questioned the method of estimating biomass.

The Advisory Panel passed the following motion:

The Advisory Panel reiterates to the Council their action in December on the subject of TALFF and joint ventures with respect to herring:

That any allocations of herring to joint ventures or TALFF be contingent upon a determination by the Council that the OY clearly establishes a surplus for the offshore fishery and that the joint venture request clearly takes priority over any foreign allocation;

Four AP members have volunteered to attend the public hearings to be held in Togiak, Hooper Bay, Tooksook Bay and Bethel: Ed Linkous, Jessie Foster, Harry Wilde and Al Otness.

The Advisory Panel passed the following motion:

The Advisory Panel recommends that the North Pacific Council bring to the attention of the Secretary of Commerce their dissatisfaction with the procedure by which the Optimum Yield stated in the Preliminary Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea Herring was amended to accommodate TALFF.

G-6 HALIBUT was discussed at 5 p.m. Wednesday, January 9.

The Advisory Panel reconvened at 9 a.m. Thursday, January 10 to receive presentations from Steve Hoag (IPHC) and Bert Larkins (NW&AFC) on the subject of halibut savings areas.

Testimony was also received from Dennis Peterson (Seattle fisherman) and Kaare Ness (Seattle fisherman). Both men testified to the effect that trawling should be allowed with as few restrictions as possible in order to encourage the growth of the fishery.

There followed a discussion concerning proposals forwarded by Harold Lokken. Mr. Lokken was present to explain.

Following the discussion, the following motion was made:

A test fishery will be permitted in the Bering Sea Halibut Savings Area under a 5,000 metric ton limit. There will be an allowable incidental catch of halibut of 1/2 of /%. The results of the fishery will be evaluated for information about the fishery on June 1.

A further motion was made:

A domestic trawl fishery will be permitted in the Bering Sea Pot Sanctuary on an experimental basis to determine incidental catch rates of prohibited species for the period from January 1, 1980 to June 1, 1980.

The Advisory Panel rescinded its December action in accepting processor preference zones in Prince William sound, Cook Inlet, Seward, Petersburg, Kodiak and Akutan.

A motion to rescind the Advisory Panel recommendation of a 12-mile restriction for foreign processing, and to allow such processing into 3 miles and to address processor preference requests on a case-by-case basis failed by a vote of 8-5.

An additional motion to adopt a rectangular "window" for processor preference in Akutan, with boundaries to the north at 54-40 N and south at 53-40 N and 164-45 W and 166/0 W failed on a vote of 6-6.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made and passed to request the Council representative from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to investigate the manner in which Interim Use Permits are issued and to pursue the possibility that such permits can be issued at regional ADF&G offices.

The Advisory Panel adjourned at 12.00 p.m. Thursday, January 10.

---

Robert D. Alverson  
Chairman

ESTIMATED OPTIMUM YIELDS AND ALLOCATIONS IF HERRING FMP  
IN EFFECT IN 1979-80

*Heinberger*

Sept. 1978      Preliminary estimate of 1979 OY

1978 Biomass Estimate	146,193 mt
Exploitation Rate from Plan Formula	12%
Preliminary 1979 ABC = Biomass x Exploitation Rate + 2000 mt Estimate from Aleutian Island-Alaska Peninsula	19,736 mt
Preliminary OY/ABC adjusted for 10% Exploitation Rate for Norton Sound and 0% for Yukon-Kuskokwim	18,879 mt

Allocations for 1st half of Fishing Year April-September 1979

Incidental Catch for Apr-Sept. 1979 Foreign Fishery	1,000 mt
Domestic Food & Bait Fishery for July-Sept. 1979	2,000 mt
1979 Roe Fishery	15,879 mt

Sept. 1979 Final Estimate of 1979 OY

1979 Biomass Estimate	224,874 mt
Exploitation Rate from Plan Formula	18%
Final 1979 ABC 40,477,+2,000	42,477 mt
Final 1979 OY same adjustments as above	41,064 mt
Available Surplus OY for Oct-Mar Domestic Food & Bait Fishery 41,064-11,750 (actual roe harvest) -1,000 (Foreign incidental)	28,314 mt
Potential Domestic Harvest 5,000 (joint venture) -3,000 (Other domestic)	8,000 mt
Maximum Potential TALFF	20,314 mt
Actual TALFF 20,314 x 0.392 (mortality factor)	7,955 mt

*-4000*

Sept. 1979 Preliminary 1980 OY

Incidental catch for Apr-Sept. 1980	1,000 mt
Domestic Food & Bait July-Sept. 1980	2,000 mt
Roe Fishery	38,064 mt
Harvest Capacity for 1980 roe fishery	30 - 50,000 mt <u>1/</u>
Expected Harvest	30,000 mt

IF biomass estimate in 1980 same as in 1979  
THEN surplus OY is

8,064 mt

IF domestic food and bait capacity is the same in 1980  
as in 1979, food and bait allocation is

8,000 mt

Maximum available TALFF for Oct-Mar 1980-81

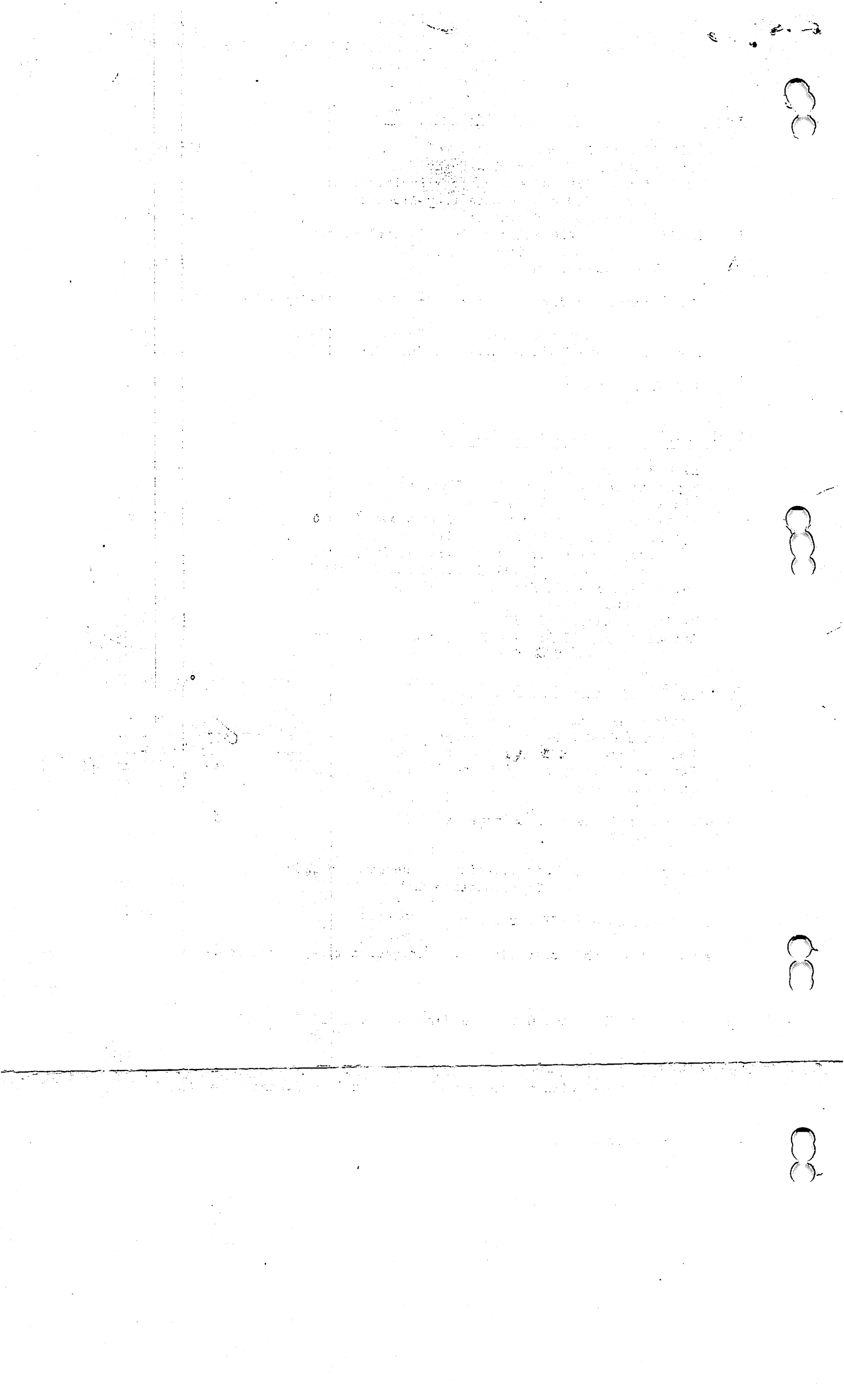
64 mt

Under the Plan, this situation would trigger a time-area closure

1/ Board of Fisheries Guideline Harvest Levels 22,750-42,750

PROJECTED Maximum harvest capacity 220 Purse Seine Vessels x 259 mt/vessel

+ 600 Gillnet vessels      x 14 mt/vessel = 65,380



# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Clement V. Tillion, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue  
Post Office Mall Building



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563  
FTS 271-4064

January 8, 1980

## AP AGENDA

The Council recessed the meeting in December after taking action on all but 5 Agenda Items, listed below. This meeting is being held to complete unfinished business. The Council can also readdress any item on the December Agenda.

### G-1 TROLL SALMON FMP

Consideration of possible Chinook conservation problems in the S. E. Alaska troll fishery.

### G-2 TANNER CRAB FMP

The issue of pot storage in the Bering Sea will be discussed by the Council.

### G-3 HERRING FMP

- a) Recommendation on estimates of surplus herring available to joint ventures and TALFF.

The AP did not have an opportunity to comment on the estimates proposed by the PDT for the 1980 season. The Council will want the AP recommendations when it comments on the regulations for the herring FMP, and on the US/USSR Joint Venture applications and their requested herring quotas. Presentations will be made by the PDT and NMFS Regional Office.

- b) Public Hearing Schedule

Four herring public hearings are scheduled to be held in Bethel, Hooper Bay and Tooksook, and Togiak on February 9, 10, and 11, 1980. These hearings were postponed in November, 1979. AP members are welcome to attend.

G-6 BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FMP

Four items remain to be considered:

- a) Closures to reduce the incidental catch of salmon by foreign trawlers.

The AP have asked the SSC to take another look at this issue in the context of a short term solution to the problem, until a more adequate data base is compiled.

- b) Domestic catch restrictions in the winter halibut savings area:

The Council has requested the SSC to review the regulations establishing a winter halibut savings area in the Bering Sea. The groundfish quota of 2000 MT for domestic trawl fishermen is considered unduly restrictive. Recommendations on alternative means of protecting halibut while allowing a domestic trawl fishery were made by the AP, by IPHC and NW&AF Center.

- d) Processor preference time/area closures.

The AP did not have an opportunity to review the newest Icicle proposals for areas closed to foreign fishing and foreign processing: a general 12 mile closure and a special area around Akutan. The PDT will present a report on the potential impacts of closures.

H-3 JOINT VENTURE PERMITS

The Council approved all Russian and Korean joint venture permits in December subject to conditions and restrictions to be considered at this time i.e. incidental catch restrictions, time and area restriction, ect.



DRAFT  
ADVISORY PANEL AGENDA

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- (a) The reconsideration of the Tanner Crab decisions in Sitka.
- (b) The reconsideration of the salmon savings time and area closures to foreign trawling in the Bering Sea.

D EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

- G.1 High Seas Salmon Fishery off the Coast of Alaska East of 175° E. Longitude FMP.
- G.2 Tanner Crab off Alaska FMP.
- G.3 Draft FMP for Herring in the Bering-Chukchi Sea.
- G.4 Draft Halibut Off Alaska FMP.
- G.5 Gulf of Alaska Ground Fish Amendments FMP.
- G.6 Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Groundfish FMP Amendments.

H. NEW BUSINESS

- H.1 Resolutions and actions resulting from joint meeting with Alaska Board of Fisheries.
- H.5 Joint Venture Applications from Korea and USSR and permit applications from ships that have committed serious violations of the FCMA in 1979.
- H.6 1980 Foreign Fee Schedule.
- H.7 HR 5611, A bill to Amend the FCMA.
- H.8 Suspended coverage of World Developments in the "WORLD FISHERIES REPORT"

I. REPORTS, CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS

F. OLD BUSINESS

- F.1 Selections of new Chairman for Advisory Panel.

ADVISORY PANEL

AGENDA

Meeting Place: Captain Cook Hotel

Time: 9:30 - January 9, 1980

Subjects to be considered

(The agenda addressed by the Council during the December portion of the meeting is technically still an open agenda and may be considered in its entirety. As a practical matter, those items which have been considered and resolved will probably not be re-addressed unless there is a specific request to do so.

The following agenda items were not addressed or resolved and are to be discussed by the Advisory Panel for the benefit of the Council:

AGENDA ITEM #G-1 - Troll Salmon

The only action needed on this item is a formal motion from the Council to ban handtrolling in the FCZ.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTION - The Council adopted the Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals on the troll salmon fishery as amendments to the FMP as follows:

- a. A 10-day mid-season closure to all trolling unless the run is exceptionally strong. The actual date of the closure is to be a joint determination between the Commissioner, ADF&G and the Regional Director, NMFS, probably in early July. Provide whatever additional in-season adjustments are necessary to stabilize the offshore troll catch and directed the PDT to establish criteria for such closures.
- b. Require delivery from troll vessels of all king and coho with heads on to facilitate tag recovery.
- c. Prohibit possession of any species of salmon in an area or during a time when the taking of that species is prohibited.
- d. Prohibit mutilation of king salmon which might prevent its length from being determined.
- e. Change the boundaries of regulatory districts 13-14-16.
- f. Prohibit the use of more than 4 lines south of Cape Spencer or more than 6 lines north of Cape spencer and limit gurdies to 6 on any power troller.

## SALMON ADDENDUM

### AMENDMENT #1

As a result of the Council action in accepting the Alaska Board of Fisheries' proposals on the troll salmon fishery, Amendment #1 to the Salmon FMP has been drafted:

### INTRODUCTION

Amendment #1 is proposed as follows to the Fishery Management Plan for the High Seas Salmon off the Coast of Alaska East of 175 Degrees East Longitude.

#### Part 1

Extend FMP through April 14, 1981.

#### Part 2

Adopt a modified resource management regime as follows:

- A. Impose an annual 10-day area closure following an observed assessment of the coho salmon run strength and dispersion to inshore and nearshore fisheries unless such run is deemed to be of a sufficient size, with adequate dispersion inshore, to make such a closure unnecessary.
- B. Ban a method of fishing known as hand trolling in the waters of the Fishery Conservation Zone.
- C. Require the landing with heads on of all troll caught chinook and
- D. Restrict to four (4) the number of lines which can be fished from a trolling vessel south of the latitude of Cape Spencer.
- E. Restrict to six (6) the number of lines which can be fished from a trolling vessel north of the latitude of Cape Spencer.
- F. Prohibit the possession of any species aboard a trolling vessel fishing in an area for which the season for that species is closed.
- G. Continue the moratorium on power troll limited entry.
- H. Prohibit the mutilation in any manner which tends to obscure the legal length of chinook salmon.

## BACKGROUND

### Part 1

The Fishery Management Plan for High Seas Salmon off the Coast of Alaska East of 175 Degrees East Longitude, as adopted by the Secretary of Commerce for the 1979 regulatory season, was implemented on April 15, 1979 by emergency order. On May 18, 1979, The National Marine Fisheries Service published interim emergency regulations implementing the approved portion of the FMP. On June 8, 1979, the FMP as approved by the Secretary of Commerce was published in the Federal Register (FR 44-33250) to be effective for the regulatory year ending on April 15, 1980.

Part 1 of this amendment extends the FMP as approved by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council through the regulatory year ending April 14, 1981.

### Part 2

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council, at a meeting on Dec. 14, 1979, adopted certain regulations for the conduct of the salmon troll fishery which are complementary to those adopted by the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries for the conduct of the salmon fishery conducted in waters under the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska.

Included in that adoption was the acceptance of a management plan philosophy which included the following:

1. established a hand troll - power troll provisional allocation of 20% - 80% respectively;
2. adopted regulations which limit the efficiency of both hand troll and power troll vessels by limiting to two (2) the number of lines allowed to be fished from a hand troll vessel and to four or six (4-6) the number of lines to be fished from a power troll vessel; and
3. adopted fishing seasons and areas for different gear types.

Within that broad framework the North Pacific Fishery Management Council proposes the adoption of a modified resource management regime as follows:

A. Impose an annual 10-day salmon troll fishery management unit closure following an observed assessment of the coho salmon run strength and dispersal of coho salmon to inshore fisheries unless such run is deemed to be of a sufficient size, with adequate dispersion inshore, to make such a closure unnecessary.

RATIONALE - The ability to manage the salmon fishery in-season is necessary to achieve the stated objective of the Council to limit the fishing effort against declining stocks of chinook salmon in this mixed-stock-mixed species fishery. In addition, escapement needs, met heretofore from late-run stocks, can be met from initial or mid-run stocks to achieve a better balance of escapement for spawning and survival.

B. Prohibit hand trolling from the Fishery Conservation Zone.

RATIONALE - The method of fishing known as hand trolling is in 1981 and has been prohibited in State of Alaska waters outside the surf line. In addition to facilitating enforcement in the salmon fishery, prohibiting hand trolling in the FCZ will have the effect of maintaining the status

quo of fishing effort. The proliferation of hand trollers and hand troll catches can be seen from 1975 to 1979: in 1975, only one (1) percent of the troll landings made in the FCZ were made by hand trollers; in 1979, that percentage of landings had risen to 24 percent. The increase in percentage of troll landings represents an unacceptable increase in effort against salmon stocks in the FCZ.

C. Require the landing with heads on of all troll caught chinook and coho salmon.

RATIONALE - A frequent criticism of existing regulations and management is that there is insufficient data on which to base any decision. Coded wire tagging, in which the tag is implanted in the head of chinook and coho salmon, will yield information about stocks of chinook and coho present in the fishery. The tagging programs conducted by various agencies are only as successful as the number of tags which are retrieved. Insuring the return of tagged fish by requiring the heads of all fin-clipped fish to be kept on the fish until landed will increase the success of the tagging programs.

D. Restrict to four (4) the number of lines which can be fished from a troll vessel south of the Latitude of Cape Spencer.

RATIONALE - Present State of Alaska regulations limit to four the number of lines which can be fished in State waters. The regulation is soon to be changed to allow the use of four lines south of the latitude of Cape Spencer, a natural dividing line both geographically and biologically. Adopting the regulation for the FCZ will make it easier to enforce regulations in the troll fishery and will facilitate achieving the stated objective for the troll fishery of limiting the effort against depressed stocks.

E. Restrict to six (6) the number of lines which can be fished from a troll vessel north of the latitude of Cape Spencer.

RATIONALE - The adoption of this regulation will be complementary with proposed State of Alaska regulations concerning the limit of four and six lines south and north of Cape Spencer respectively. See rationale above.

F. Prohibit the possession on board a vessel within the Fishery Conservation Zone of any species of fish for which the taking is prohibited.

RATIONALE - Adoption of this regulation, proposed for State of Alaska waters, would make it necessary to land coho salmon before fishing for chinooks in a mixed stock fishery where the season is still open for chinooks but closed to the taking of coho.

G. Continue the moratorium on power troll limited entry.

RATIONALE - The effect of this moratorium would be to extend for an additional year the moratorium presently in effect on the number of power troll vessels participating in the fishery. The desired effect is to limit the effort in the troll fishery to the status quo.

H. Prohibit the mutilation in any manner which tends to obscure the legal length of chinook salmon.

RATIONALE - The regulation applies only to chinook salmon for which there is a legal minimum length established. The possibility of a market for salmon fillets would encourage the dressing/cleaning/filleting of salmon from which it would not be possible to determine the length of the fish when it was caught.

## CHINOOK SALMON ADDENDUM

The troll salmon FMP contains Objective #6 as follows:

(The Council will) Promote the eventual development of a Pacific coast salmon fishery management plan.

The objective was recognition of the fact that the Southeast Alaska troll fishery receives contributions of chinook salmon from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

During the consideration of the initial drafts of the FMP, the underlying concern of the PDT and Council was the level of fishing effort conducted against depressed stocks of Alaska chinook and the contribution of chinook from outside Alaska. There was, and to a great degree still is, a lack of biological data from which to base management decisions concerning chinook salmon.

The present plan contains numerous references to either the lack of information about chinook or makes specific statements about chinook based on available data. (See pp. S-1, S-2, 10, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 59, 73, 108, 109 and 113).

Working with the known information to develop the FMP has brought to light the information gaps necessary for more discrete management of chinook. A partial list includes catch rates for specific areas of the troll fishery, percentage of catch offshore, degree or rate of contribution from specific rivers of origin both inside and outside Alaska, areas of high shaker incidence, percentage of interception by Canadian fishermen, growth and maturity rates, etc.

Since the plans' inception, the NPFMC has funded several studies designed to yield additional information from the fishery, including a coded wire tag recovery program and troll observer (logbook) program.

The plan presently contains several specific management measures designed for the protection of chinook; these include in-season adjustment of time and area, 28-inch minimum length and restrictions on fishing effort (limited entry) and gear (line and gurdy limit).

A summary of what is known or inferred from the information available about chinook indicates that, at the very least, (1) Alaska wild stocks of chinook are depressed, perhaps within danger range of safe biological parameters; (2) harvest tickets have shown certain areas

to be feeding and nursery areas for immatures; (3) harvest tickets have shown certain areas to be feeding, resting or migration/schooling areas; (4) certain inferences can be drawn as to migration routes from offshore-to-inshore, and (5) tentative harvest rates and percentages of contribution of non-Alaskan chinook to the troll fishery can be made.

Positive Council action designed to increase the data known about the contribution of non-Alaska chinook stocks to the troll fishery include:

- A. Contract #78-7 1978 troll tag recovery
- B. Contract #78-9 1978 troll salmon observer program
- C. Contract #79-3 1979 troll tag recovery
- D. Contract #79-4 1973-1977 biometrical analysis of troll salmon data
- E. A joint SSC meeting to be held Jan. 23-24 in Seattle with the troll salmon PDT.
- F. Council request of Dec. 14, 1979 to the troll salmon PDT for a comprehensive report on the status of Pacific Northwest chinook stocks, contribution of those stocks to the Alaska troll fishery, data availability and data needed and funding/time estimate for completion of a joint salmon fishery management plan.

Finally, the Council is in receipt of correspondence from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. The letter was made available to you during the December meeting and contains objectives proposed by the CRITFC for the troll fishery. Summarized, they are:

1. 40-45% maximum fishing rates on chinook stocks.
2. Area/time closures to protect immatures.
3. In-season closures to control effort.
4. Readjustment of OY/MSY to account for depressed chinook stock.

G-2 TANNER CRAB

The issue of pot storage *will be considered* has to be resolved by Council. A summary of Tanner crab actions by the Council at the December meeting follows:

The following regulatory proposals approved by the Alaska Board of Fisheries have been adopted by the NPFMC as amendments to the Tanner Crab FMP:

Proposal 350 - 50 CFR Part 671.24 Vessel Inspection. (a) Inspection (1) Delete the present inspection requirements for Tanner crab vessels. (4) Landings. Delete the present requirement for an inspection certificate for Tanner crab vessels.

Proposal 353 - 50 CFR 671.25 Landing Requirements (d) Add the following new language. " Allow sale of Tanner crab after the season closure by the owner of a vessel that was lost through sinking. The owner or operator of a Tanner crab vessel that is lost through sinking may apply to the Commissioner for a permit to sell legal size Tanner crab obtained when his pots are recovered by himself or his authorized agent even though the crab season is closed in the area. The fish ticket shall show the delivery made by the lost vessel."

Proposal 355 - 50 CFR Part 671.4 Reporting Requirements (e). Providing a new section for the reporting of dead loss by the fishermen and the processors. "Each Tanner crab fishermen shall indicate on the fish ticket at the time of landing any Tanner crab harvested which are not purchased by the processor or buyer but which have been dumped at sea. Each buyer of Tanner crab shall indicate on the fish ticket any Tanner crab which was not purchased from a load."

Proposal 365 - 50 CFR Part 671.26 Season and Gear Restrictions (f) Registration Area J (1) Districts - Provide for a new Chignik and South Peninsula district of Statistical Area J. "South Peninsula District: all Pacific Ocean waters of Statistical Area J west of a line from Kupreanof Point to the eastern most point of Castle Rock, and west of a line extending 135° Southeast from the eastern most point of Castle Rock and east of the longitude of Scotch Cape Light. Chignik: All Pacific Ocean waters of Statistical Area J east of a line from Kupreanof Point to the eastern most point of Castle Rock and east of the line extending 135° Southeast from the eastern most point of Castle Rock and west of the longitude of Cape Kumlik."

No action was taken on the following proposal: (effect is to retain the original OY)

Proposal 371 - 50 CFR Part 671.21 Optimum Yield (a) Table. Establish an adjusted harvest guideline for C. bairdi in the Bering Sea. In the Bering Sea district 28 million to 36 million pounds C. bairdi Tanner crab. The newly amended OY was 22 to 33 million pounds.

The Board of Fisheries deferred action on several other proposals of interest to the Council until their Spring meeting. At that time we expect to jointly consider those proposals as well.

The following proposal was deferred:

Proposal 367 - 50 CFR Part 671.26 Season and Gear Restrictions (f) Registration Area J (3) Seasons (iv) Change the closing date of the opilio Tanner crab season from 12 Noon September 3 to 12 Noon August 15. Tanner crab may be taken in the Bering Sea district until 12 Noon June 15 unless closed by emergency order except the Tanner crab other than C. bairdi may be taken from 12 Noon November 1 through 12 Noon August 15 unless closed by emergency order.



Agenda Item G-3  
January, 1980

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 7, 1980

TO: Council Members, Scientific & Statistical Committee and  
Advisory Panel

FROM: Jim H. Branson

SUBJECT: Bering Sea Herring

Action Required

*Recommendation on the estimated surplus for joint ventures  
and TALFF for the 1980 season.*

BACKGROUND

At the December meeting, the Council asked the SSC to review the OY, DAH and TALFF estimates proposed by the PDT for the 1980 season. These estimates are based on procedures to determine spawning biomass and allocations similar to methods proposed in the draft Herring FMP. The fishing year in the draft FMP runs from April 1 to March 31. The draft FMP is not yet finally approved by the Council, and is not scheduled to be implemented until the end of 1980. In the meantime, the offshore foreign fisheries are managed under a preliminary fishery management plan (PMP).

The fishing year in the PMP is from January 1 to December 31. For the 1980 season, NMFS has revised the 1979 estimates of OY, DAH and TALFF

(see Table 1), and have included an estimate of herring available for joint ventures in early 1980 (6,000 mt) in response to a joint venture permit application for 4,900 mt by Marine Resources, Inc. The revised PMP and implementing regulations have been published in the Federal Register as Final Regulations (January 4, 1980) with a comment period of 30 days. Thus the regulations will be implemented immediately but can be reconsidered if public comment warrants a change.

MD

TABLE 1. MSY, OY, DAH, TALFF (by country) and reserve for herring,  
as published in the PMP for Herring Gillnet Fishery in the Bering Sea, 1977-1980

	MSY	OY		DAH	TALFF				RESERVE
	X1000	J.V.			JAPAN	USSR	TAIWAN	KOREA	
1977 <sup>1</sup>	50-100	21,000		1,000	5,800	13,600			19,400
1978 <sup>1</sup>	50-100	18,670		10,000	2,580	6,060	10	20	8,670
1979 <sup>3</sup>	50-100	18,670		10,000	2,413	5,657	25	450	8,670
1980 <sup>4</sup>	48.1	41,200	6,000	33,200 <sup>5</sup>					6,000
									2,000

1. from: Summary of 1977/1978 allocations, NMFS, March 24, 1978
2. from: SEIS for Trawl Fisheries and Herring Gillnet PMP of the Bering Sea, November. 1977.
3. PMP extended, no change in numbers except in foreign fisheries allocation.
4. from: Final Regulations for Amendments to the Trawl Fisheries and Herring Gillnet PMP, 12/28/1979 (effective January 1, 1980); prepared by NMFS, Plan Review Office, Washington, D.C.
5. DAH - 27,000 (DAP) + 6000 (JVP) + 200 (Subsistence)

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item G-6

DATE: January 8, 1980  
TO: Advisory Panel  
FROM: Mark Hutton  
SUBJECT: Bering Sea/Aleutian Groundfish Fishery Management Plan - issues.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

*Possible reconsideration of the Advisory Panel recommendations for the Domestic Fishery and the winter halibut savings area.*

BACKGROUND

Four issues have been carried over from the December Council meeting. They deal with (a) the salmon savings time and area closure to foreign trawling (b) the domestic fishery in the winter halibut savings area (c) in season field order authority (d) the impacts of time and area closures. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will address these issues and has been asked to comment on the proposals submitted to relax the domestic trawl restrictions in the winter halibut savings area.

WINTER HALIBUT SAVINGS AREA

A request has come from Daniel Webster to eliminate the domestic trawl restrictions in winter halibut savings area (i.e., 2000 metric ton quota between December 1 and May 31) and instead use observers to monitor the incidental catch of halibut; using 1% as a maximum guide line for the incidental catch rate. You have submitted recommendations which are being considered by the SSC. Recommendations have also been made by the IPHC which are also being considered by the SSC. Last, Bert Larkins, Bering Sea Groundfish

Plan drafting team leader, has responded to the Daniel Webster request to relax the trawl restriction by establishing a maximum incidental catch rate equal to 1% of the 2000 metric ton quota or 20 metric tons of halibut.

TIME AND AREA CLOSURES ("WINDOWS")

New England Fish Company and Icicle Seafoods Inc. have withdrawn all their proposed time and area closures around certain shore based processing plants. A new Icicle Seafoods proposal is attached. Because their area recommendations for time and area closures around Petersburg, Seward, Kodiak and Akutan have been withdrawn the Advisory Panel's previous recommendation for conditions and restrictions to the Joint Ventures permits should be readdressed. The new proposal from Icicle calls only for a general 12 mile coast wide exclusion to joint venture foreign processing and for a time and area closure around Akutan.