

12/06

Public Testimony Sign-Up Sheet

Agenda Item ALL B Items

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AFFILIATION
1	Robert Alverson/John Crowley	FVOA-Seattle
2	David O. David	
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

Executive Director's Report

New Council staffer

I want to introduce you to the newest member of the Council staff. Ms. Jeannie Heltzel started work this week, and will be replacing Elaine Dinneford as our Data Manager/Analyst. She will be working with Elaine for the next few months in that transition. Jeannie comes to us from the ADF&G Division of Subsistence where she has been working as a Research Analyst III, and she has substantial experience with large data sets. She is a graduate of Stanford University (B.A. Natural Resource Policy), Oregon State University (B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife), and University of Louisiana (M.S. Biology). Please help us welcome her to the Council family!

Russian Delegation in April

I have met recently with representatives from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) who are hosting a delegation of Russian fishing industry members and government officials from the Kamchatka region in April 2007. They have an interest in our regional management structure, as they are striving to create a structure and process which may apply to some of their Kamchatka region fisheries. They will be attending parts of our April Council meeting in Anchorage, and I wanted to give you a head's up that I have agreed to help coordinate certain aspects of their visit, including some short meetings with various representatives of our Council, SSC, AP, and fishing industry. Bubba Cook and I will provide more details as we get closer to that April meeting.

Sustainable Fisheries Leadership Awards

Item B-1(a) is a reminder that the nomination period is open for NOAA's 2007 Sustainable Fisheries Leadership Awards, with a closing date of January 8, 2007. These awards recognize outstanding performance, achievements, and leadership contributions to science and management, and are open to fishing industry sectors, organizations, individuals, states, local and federal government agencies and their employees (other than employees of NOAA Fisheries). More information is available at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/awards/2006.htm>.

2006 AFA cooperative reports

Draft annual reports from the AFA pollock co-ops were due December 1, and we have copies of those draft reports available. However, we will wait until February to have this as a Council agenda item, when the final year-end reports are available.

Bering Sea Habitat Workshop

On Thursday evening at 6:30 pm there will be a public workshop in the AP meeting room to provide input to the analysts preparing the Bering Sea habitat conservation amendment package, relative to the gear modification options. We organized this workshop to provide a forum to discuss practical issues such as disc size, composition, spacing, attachment, and enforcement aspects of potential bottom trawl gear configurations.

Saturday Celebration

And, of course, don't forget our 30th Anniversary celebration this Saturday night! We will probably have to break early Saturday, by 4:30 pm, and break down this meeting room, in order to accommodate the nearly 400 attendees. The evening begins with a social hour starting at 6 pm and dinner service starting at 7 pm sharp, to be followed at around 8 pm by speakers, special guests, and a few surprises. You will need a ticket to enter (if you don't have it in hand Gail will make sure that you do), and be sure and keep your ticket stub to put in the hat for some door prize drawings during the social hour – and yes, you must be present to win!

NOAA's 2007 Sustainable Fisheries Leadership Awards

Nominations Open Nov 8, 2006 to Jan 8, 2007

The Sustainable Fisheries Leadership Awards recognize outstanding performance, achievements and leadership contributions to science and management that have served to promote best stewardship practices for the sustained use of the Nation's living marine resources. Leadership Awards are open to fishing industry sectors, organizations, individuals, states, local and federal government agencies and their employees. Self-nominations by any entity will not be accepted. Employees of NOAA Fisheries Service are not eligible.

NOAA Fisheries has partnered with the Fish for the Future Foundation to administer and host the Awards Ceremony. For detailed information on the nomination process, please visit the Fish for the Future Foundation Website (www.fish4thefuturefoundation.org). For further information please contact: Michele Shea, Program Manager, Fish for the Future Foundation, Michele.Shea@fish4thefuturefoundation.org, (703) 379-6101. **All nominations must be received by January 8, 2007.**

Information on last year's award recipients and their contributions to stewardship of the Nation's living marine resources can be viewed in an online video at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/awards/2006.htm>.