

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

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Certified:   
Chairman

## MINUTES

58th Plenary Session  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
February 1-3, 1984  
Baranof Hotel  
Juneau, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met with the Alaska Board of Fisheries Wednesday, February 1, 1984, continuing through noon on Thursday, February 2. The Council met alone beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday and adjourned at 1:45 p.m. on Friday, February 3.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee and the Advisory Panel met at the Baranof Hotel on Monday and Tuesday, January 30 and 31, 1984.

Members of the Council, Board, Scientific and Statistical Committee, Advisory Panel and general public in attendance are listed below.

### Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman  
Harold E. Lokken, Vice-Chairman  
Robert W. McVey  
Rudy Petersen  
Jeffrey R. Stephan  
RADM Richard Knapp  
Robert U. Mace for  
John Donaldson

Jon Nelson for  
Dr. Robert Putz  
Don Collinsworth  
Sara Hemphill  
Gene Didonato/Bill Wilkerson  
John Harville  
John Winther

### Scientific and Statistical Committee

Don Rosenberg, Chairman  
Richard Marasco, Vice-Chairman  
William Aron  
Don Bevan  
Bud Burgner  
John Burns

Steve Langdon  
Jack Lechner  
Larry Hreha  
Phil Rigby for  
John Clark  
Al Millikan

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Advisory Panel

Robert Alverson, Chairman  
Bud Boddy, Vice-Chairman  
Pat Barker  
Al Burch  
Barry Collier  
Larry Cotter  
Eric Jordan  
Joe Kurtz

Ray Lewis  
James O'Connell  
Jack Phillips  
Don Rawlinson  
Harvey Samuelsen  
Walter Smith  
Tom Stewart  
Anthony Vaska  
Ed Wojeck

NPFMC Staff

Jim H. Branson, Executive Director  
Clarence Pautzke  
Judy Willoughby  
Steve Davis  
Jim Glock

Doug Larson  
Ron Miller  
Jeff Povolny  
Helen Allen  
Peggy Hough

Support Staff

William G. Gordon, NMFS  
Pat Travers, NOAA/GC  
Thorn Smith, NOAA/GC  
Cmdr. Paul Blaney, USCG  
Steve Pennoyer, ADF&G  
Guy Thornburgh, ADF&G  
Steve Hoag, IPHC  
Allen Davis, ADF&G

Pete Jensen, NMFS  
Fred Gaffney, ADF&G  
James Brooks, NMFS  
Craig Hammond, NMFS  
Kirk Beiningen, ODFW  
Ron Berg, NMFS  
Mel Seibel, ADF&G  
Mike Fraidenberg, WDF

General Public

G. Howe  
Ron Lundaur  
Tony McDonald  
Bob Lane  
Raymond Stims, Sr.  
Serg Astra  
Kathleen Mitchell  
Frank Thomson  
Dolly Garza  
David Woodruff  
Bruce Wallace  
Dick Carlton  
Richard C. White  
Paul Johnson  
Stan Reddenkopp  
Walter Johnson  
Ken Koboyashi  
Terry Parder  
George Gardner

Wilbur Brown  
John E. Jensen  
Jeff Davidson  
Richard Lundahl  
Charlie W. Jim  
Dennis Petersen  
James Martin  
John Schmiedtke  
Joe Piederer  
Jon Black  
Jack Bailey  
Charles E. Wilber  
Han Mo Kim  
Bertrand J. Adams  
Mike Zacharof  
Steve Schwartz  
Nevette Bowen  
Chris Sharpsteen  
N. Kathryn Brigham

Advisory Panel

Ray Lewis  
James O'Connell  
Jack Phillips  
Jon Harrison  
Harvey Samuelson  
Walter Smith  
Tom Stewart  
Anthony Vaska  
Ed Weisler

Robert Anderson, Chairman  
Bob Bodey, Vice-Chairman  
Pat Barker  
Al Burch  
Barry Collier  
Larry Corbin  
Eric Jordan  
Joe Krutz

NSF Staff

Doug Larson  
Ron Miller  
Lyle Povolny  
Heien Allen  
Peggy Hoehn

Jan W. Brannon, Executive Director  
Clarence Bantzke  
Gary Wilcoyby  
Steve Davis  
Jim Gluck

Support Staff

Pete Jensen, WFRS  
Fred Galtney, ARRSO  
James Brooks, WFRS  
Craig Hammond, WFRS  
Rick Reininger, ODW  
Ron Berg, WFRS  
Mel Seibel, ARRSO  
Mike Frankendorf, WFR

William S. Gordon, WFRS  
Pat Traversa, WFRS  
Thom Smith, WFRS  
Cand. Paul Blaney, WFRS  
Steve Penoyer, ARRSO  
Guy Thompson, ARRSO  
Steve Hoag, WFRS  
Allen Davis, ARRSO

General Public

Wilbur Brown  
John E. Jensen  
Jeff Davidson  
Richard L. Dabell  
Charles W. Tim  
Dennis Peterson  
James Martin  
John Schmiedtke  
Joe P. Scherer  
Jon Black  
Jack Bailey  
Charles E. Wilder  
Ran Ho Kim  
Bernard J. Adams  
Mike Scharoff  
Steve Schwartz  
Hoyote Bowen  
Chris Branson  
M. Kathryn Brigham

Gl. Howe  
Ron Lundgren  
Joey McDonald  
Bob Lane  
Raymond Stiles, Sr.  
Ray Adams  
Kathleen Mitchell  
Frank Thomson  
Dolly Gaus  
David Woodruff  
Hume Wallace  
Dick Carlson  
Richard C. White  
Paul Johnson  
Stan Gohankopp  
Walter Johnson  
Dan Johnson  
Rory Barber  
George Gardner

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Harold Cuplus  
E.J. Bunt  
Richard W. Lundhal  
Shojo Sigura  
Donald P. Swisher  
Bill Woolf  
S. Audi  
Peter T. Hagen  
Phil Chitwood

James H. Stevenson  
Midori Ota  
Donald Martinsen  
Toshio Ueno  
Bill Hudson  
Y. Niimi  
Mark Lundsten  
Dean Adams  
Hiroaki Matsumura

A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF  
PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting with the Board of Fisheries was called to order at 8:50 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1, 1984 by Ron Jolin, Board of Fisheries. Ron Jolin and Bix Bonney were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Fisheries, respectively. The meeting was turned over to Jim Campbell, Chairman of NPFMC at 9:00 a.m. *The agenda for the joint Board/Council meeting was approved with a minor shift in the sequence of staff reports.*

The Council, meeting alone, was convened by Chairman Jim Campbell at 2:09 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, in the Gastineau Room of the Baranof Hotel. Jim Branson suggested the following changes to the agenda: The Norway permit applications were withdrawn and will not need review; John Schmiedtke of Nordstern requested Council approval of an additional direct allocation for his West German operation; remove the Herring FMP (D-2), because the necessary information is not available; remove Item C-2(b), dealing with provisions for local development in the Bering Sea, because the IPHC has developed regulations which will accommodate the developmental fishery for 1984; add a discussion of cul-de-sacs in Chatham Straits and Frederick Sound as they affect the "inside/outside" sablefish fishery in Southeast; and add an industry request for a minimum size for sablefish. *Keith Specking moved that the agenda be approved with the changes suggested by the Executive Director. Rudy Petersen seconded the motion. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

*Bob Mace moved that the minutes of the December 1983 meeting be approved as submitted. John Winther seconded the motion. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

James H. Stevenson  
Richard G. ...  
Donald W. ...  
Robert ...  
Bill ...  
Y. ...  
Mark ...  
Gene ...  
Richard ...

Richard ...  
Bill ...  
Peter ...  
Bill ...

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting with the Board of Fisheries was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1, 1983 by Don ... Board of Fisheries. Don ... and Bill ... were ... elected ... and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Fisheries. The meeting was turned over to Don ... Chairman of ... at 9:00 a.m. The agenda for the joint Board Council meeting was approved with a minor edit in the sequence of ... reports.

The Council meeting also, was convened by Chairman Don Campbell at 9:09 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2, in the Gasthouse Room of the ... Hotel. Jim ... suggested the following changes to the agenda: The ... applications were withdrawn and will not need review; John ... of ... suggested Council approval of an additional direct allocation for the West ... (B-2), because the ... is not available; remove item C-2(b). ... for local development in the ... because the ... will accommodate the development ... for 1984; add a discussion of ... in ... and Frederick ... as they affect the "interchange" ... in ... and add an industry request for a ... with the ... that the agenda be approved with the changes suggested by the ... Director. ... recorded the ... there being no objections, it was so ordered.

Don ... moved that the minutes of the December 1982 meeting be approved as submitted. ... recorded the motion, there being no objections, it was so ordered.

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B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report

Jim Branson reported on recent Council and staff travel to prohibited species meetings, the U.S.-Canada negotiations, and the IPHC meeting in Anchorage.

The Council was provided with the Department of Commerce legal opinion on Council conflict of interest. The opinion gives Council members a great deal of freedom under the Conflict of Interest Act and exempts Advisory Panel members completely.

Mr. Branson suggested a special two-day Council meeting April 25-26 to deal only with Council policy, planning and procedures. *Council members agreed that the meeting is necessary. Participants will include Council members and staff, two members from the SSC and two members from the AP.*

Mr. Branson also asked the Council to approve funds for Natural Resources Consultants to study the U.S. fleet mix required to harvest the Alaska groundfish OY, cost not to exceed \$3,000.

Council approval was also requested for a staff member to travel to Japan and the U.S.S.R. for the crab and groundfish bi-laterals in April 1984.

Mr. Branson advised that the deadline for Council nominations by the Governors had been moved up from May 15 to March 15 to provide more time for screening so that appointments could be announced 45 days before Council terms end on August 10.

It was announced that this would be the last Council meeting for Admiral Knapp who will retire from the Coast Guard in March. He has been appointed the Commissioner of Transportation for the State of Alaska.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

*Chairman Campbell advised Council members that he would prefer that they not abstain from voting because of a conflict of interest unless there is a very good reason; Council members will be required to state the reason for abstaining.*

*Jeff Stephan moved to approve funds for the Natural Resources study on the U.S. fleet mix required to harvest the groundfish OY off Alaska. The motion was seconded by Gene Didonato. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

8. SPECIAL REPORTS

8-1 Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director reported on recent Council and state travel to provide special meetings, the U.S.-Canada negotiations, and the 1953 meeting in Anchorage.

The Council was provided with the Department of Commerce legal opinion on Council control of interest. The opinion gives Council members a great deal of freedom under the control of interest for and example advisory panel members completely.

Mr. Branson suggested a special two-day Council meeting April 22-23 to deal only with Council policy planning and procedures. Council members agreed that the meeting is necessary. Participants will include Council members and staff. Two members from the 222 and two members from the 221.

Mr. Branson also asked the Council to approve funds for Natural Resources Committee to study the U.S. Fleet was requested to harvest the Alaska groundfish of cost not to exceed \$2,000.

Council approval was also requested for a staff member to travel to Japan and the U.S.A. for the crab and groundfish fisheries in April 1954.

Mr. Branson advised that the deadline for Council nominations by the Governor had been moved up from May 15 to March 15 to provide more time for reviewing so that appointments could be announced 60 days before Council terms end on August 31.

It was announced that this would be the last Council meeting for Admiral Knapp who will retire from the Coast Guard in March. He has been appointed the Commissioner of Transportation for the State of Alaska.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Chairman Campbell advised Council members that he would prefer that they not abstain from voting because of a conflict of interest unless there is a very good reason. Council members will be required to state the reason for abstaining.

John Eide moved to approve funds for the Natural Resources study on the U.S. Fleet was requested to harvest the groundfish of Alaska. The motion was seconded by John Eide. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

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In discussing the request to send a staff member to the bi-laterals in Japan and the U.S.S.R., Bob McVey said he could not support it because there would be ample representation by others associated with the Council and NMFS and reports would be available. Several Council members expressed the importance of the Council being represented by a staff member for reasons of international recognition.

*Bob Mace moved to approve travel for a staff member to the bi-lateral meetings. The motion was seconded by Rudy Petersen. The motion passed with Bob McVey objecting.*

B-2 AP and SSC Reports on Non-Agenda Items

The SSC approved the appointment of Phil Roger of the Columbia River Tribal Commission, to the Salmon Plan Maintenance Team. *Bob Mace moved that the Council endorse the appointment. Gene Didonato seconded the motion; there being no objections, it was so ordered.*

Jim Campbell announced appointment of John Lecture of the Seafood Producers Cooperative to the Advisory Panel to serve the remainder of Greg Baker's term.

C. NEW AND CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute Report

Bill Hudson, Executive Director for ASMI, gave the Council a brief overview of the Institute and its goals. The Institute was created in 1981 to try to develop a constant supply of seafood products and create a better awareness, in America and worldwide, of Alaskan seafood products. Through ASMI's marketing programs, sales of canned Alaskan seafood products are greater now than before the canned-salmon recall. According to statistics from the Food Research Center in New York, Alaska has moved from 5th to 2nd place in national awareness of the state as a source of quality seafood. The Institute, along with state agencies and industry representatives, is trying to establish quality control programs for Alaskan seafood through premium seal and inspection programs and product and species specifications. Mr. Hudson told the Council that it is important that regulatory bodies recognize the value of Alaskan seafood products for the state and the U.S.

C-2 Halibut Management

Steve Hoag, International Pacific Halibut Commission, reported on the recent IPHC meetings held in Anchorage. The Commission is recommending a total halibut catch quota of 43 million pounds for 1984 because of a noticeable improvement in abundance, particularly in the Gulf of Alaska, due mainly to the decreased inci-



In discussing the request to send a staff member to the bi-lateral in Japan and the U.S.A., Bob Wovey said he could not support it because there would be some representation by others associated with the Council and WMT and reports would be available. Several Council members expressed the importance of the Council being represented by a staff member for reasons of international recognition.

Bob Wovey moved to approve travel for a staff member to the bi-lateral meeting. The motion was seconded by Henry Peterson. The motion passed with Bob Wovey objecting.

B-2 RP and SAC Reports on Non-Agency Issues

The SAC approved the appointment of Bill Koger of the Columbia River Tribal Commission to the Salmon Fish Administration Team. Bob Wovey moved that the Council endorse the appointment. Henry Peterson seconded the motion; there being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Council announced appointment of John Peterson of the Salmon Fisheries Cooperative to the Advisory Panel to serve the remainder of Greg Hansen's term.

NEW AND CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Alaska Sealot Marketing Institute Report

Bill Nelson, Executive Director for AMI, gave the Council a brief overview of the Institute and its goals. The Institute was created in 1981 to try to develop a consistent supply of sealot products and create a better awareness in America and worldwide of Alaskan sealot products. Through AMI's marketing programs, sales of canned Alaskan sealot products are greater now than before the canned salmon recall. According to statistics from the Food Research Center in New York, Alaska has moved from 5th to 2nd place in national awareness of the state as a source of quality sealot. The Institute, along with state agencies and industry representatives, is trying to establish quality control programs for Alaskan sealot through premium seal and inspection programs and product and species specifications. Mr. Nelson told the Council that it is important that regulatory bodies recognize the value of Alaskan sealot products for the state and the U.S.

C-2 Salmon Management

Steve Hood, International Pacific Salmon Commission, reported on the recent ITHC meeting held in Anchorage. The Commission is recommending a total halibut catch quota of 83 million pounds for 1984 because of a noticeable improvement in spawning, halibut early in the Gulf of Alaska, due mainly to the decreased fish-

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dental catch of halibut. However, the Commission is concerned that the incidental catch may increase again. The Commission is recommending a 60-40 split in Area 2 as in the past (60% of the Area 2 quota is assigned to Canadian fishermen and 40% to U.S. fishermen), but is recommending that the 1985 apportionment be based strictly on biology. There will be extremely short seasons again this year, particularly in Southeast where the quota may be taken in three days.

The Commission, on recommendation from the Fishermen's Conference Board, scheduled one-day-on/one-day-off openings in Area 4C to accommodate the developing halibut fishery of the residents of the Pribilof Islands. The season will open in that area on May 21. If the quota of 400,000 pounds is not taken by August 2, the area will open for eight days allowing larger boats from other areas to fish in the district. If there is any quota left after the eight-day opening, the one-day-on/one-day-off restriction will resume until October 30 when all commercial halibut seasons close.

The Commission also created a new area, 4E (Nelson Island area) with a quota of 50,000 lbs., which will operate on a similar basis as Area 4C.

Bob McVey told the Council that the most controversial issue this year was the 60-40 split which is provided for in the 1979 Protocol to the Halibut Convention. The Commission cannot change this requirement but is recommending it be taken out of the Protocol before the 1985 quotas are set; this revision will require the approval of both the U.S. and Canada. Canadian representatives indicated they would wait until the end of the season to make any decisions.

### C-3 Foreign Vessel Permit Applications

Pat Travers reported that there has been no resolution of the lawsuit involving Japanese permit applications the Council denied at the December meeting. The hearing is scheduled to resume March 1. In the meantime, because of the temporary order by the Court, permits have been issued and the ships are fishing.

The Council was asked to review a permit application for the Japanese medium stern trawler, TAISEI MARU No. 58, for directed fishing in the Bering Sea. The vessel was cited in 1983 for failure to submit a cease fishing message prior to departing the FCZ; however the case is not yet resolved. Penalties are expected to exceed \$3,000.

John Schmiedtke, Nordstern, asked the Council to consider allocating additional pollock to West Germany to keep the FRIEDRICH BUSSE operating through the end of the year. In December the Council had approved a 14,000 mt direct allocation for 1984 but stipulated that 50% of the allocation be withheld

general catch of halibut. However, the Commission is concerned that the individual catch may increase again. The Commission is recommending a 60-40 split in Area 2 as in the past (60% of the Area 2 quota is assigned to Canadian fishermen and 40% to U.S. fishermen), but is recommending that the 1985 apportionment be based strictly on biology. There will be extremely short seasons again this year, particularly in September where the quota may be taken in three days.

The Commission, on recommendation from the Fisheries Conference Board, scheduled one-day-one-day-off openings in Area 40 to accommodate the developing halibut fishery of the residents of the British Islands. The season will open in Area 40 on May 21. The quota of 400,000 pounds is not taken by August 31. The area will open for eight days allowing larger boats from other areas to fish in the district. If there is any quota left after the eight-day opening, the one-day-one-day-off restriction will remain until October 30 when all commercial halibut seasons close.

The Commission also created a new area, 45 (Hudson Island area) with a quota of 50,000 lbs, which will operate on a similar basis as Area 40.

Bob Wovey told the Council that the most controversial issue this year was the 60-40 split which is provided for in the 1979 Protocol to the Halibut Convention. The Commission cannot change this requirement but is recommending it be taken out of the 1985 quota and set aside. The 1985 quota and set aside will require the approval of both the U.S. and Canadian Fisheries representatives and they would wait until the end of the season to make any decisions.

C-3 Foreign Vessel Permit Applications

Pat Travers reported that there has been no resolution of the lawsuit involving Japanese permit applications. The Council denied at one December meeting. The hearing is scheduled to resume March 1. In the meantime, because of the temporary order by the Court, permits have been issued and the ships are fishing.

The Council was asked to review a permit application for the Japanese medium stern trawler, KAISEI MARU No. 58, for fishing in the Bering Sea. The vessel was cited in 1983 for failure to submit a catch fishing message prior to departing the Bering Sea. However, the case is not yet resolved. Permits are expected to exceed \$3,000.

In Committee, Nordstrom, asked the Council to consider allowing additional permits to West Germany to fish in the Bering Sea through the end of the year. In December the Council had approved a 1,000 mt permit allocation for 1984 but stipulated that 80% of the allocation be allocated

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until after June 30 to assure the BUSSE fulfilled its joint venture agreements to purchase 6,000 mt of pollock.

#### Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Review Committee recommended extending the BUSSE permit to conduct a joint venture in the Gulf of Alaska, but not allocating any more fish until the 3,000 mt joint venture obligation is fulfilled. The Committee recommended that the Council then support a total direct allocation of 25,000 mt for the year. The increased allocation should be dependent on Nordstern increasing their joint venture agreement to 8,000 mt.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel voted to recommend approval of the directed fishing permit for the TAISEI MARU No. 58. The AP requested a Coast Guard explanation of the seriousness of a "failure to provide a cease fishing message."

Cmdr. Paul Blaney advised Council members that the "cease fishing" message is considered serious because of the possibility that a vessel could illegally transfer fish to another vessel outside the FCZ and return to continue fishing.

The AP did not have the request from the FRIEDRICH BUSSE when they met.

The Advisory Panel also adopted a motion requesting the Permit Review Committee to initiate the standardization of criteria for reviewing permit applications of foreign fishing vessels with violations and penalties applicable to all foreign fishing vessels, foreign companies engaged in foreign fishing, and foreign countries engaged in fishing within the North Pacific FCZ.

In order to expedite the Council process, the AP suggested that five AP members be added to the Permit Review Committee. The AP members would report back to the AP, thus eliminating need for full AP review of each permit.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

*Keith Specking moved to approve the permit application for the TAISEI MARU NO. 58. Bob Mace seconded the motion. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

*Bob Mace moved to approve the recommendations of the Permit Review Committee regarding the Nordstern request. Jeff Stephan seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

until after June 30 if possible. The USFWS fulfilled the permit  
vehicle agreements to purchase 2,000 mt of fuel.

Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Review Committee recommended extending the USFWS  
permit to conduct a joint venture in the Gulf of Alaska, but not  
allocating any more than the 2,000 mt of joint venture oil  
from the permit. The Committee recommended that the permit  
then support a total direct allocation of 25,000 mt for the year.  
The proposed allocation should be reported on Worksheet  
concerning joint venture operations in 2,000 mt.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel voted to recommend approval of the proposed  
joint permit for the TARIKI WAKU No. 22. The AP requested a  
cover sheet explanation of the seriousness of a violation to  
provide a cover sheet message.

The Panel also advised Council members that the permit  
message is considered serious because of the possibility  
that a vessel could illegally transfer fish to another vessel  
outside the FOC and return to continue fishing.

The AP did not have the request from the TARIKI WAKU when  
they met.

The Advisory Panel also adopted a motion requesting the Permit  
Review Committee to initiate the standardization of criteria for  
reviewing permit applications of foreign fishing vessels with  
violations and penalties applicable to all foreign fishing  
vessels. Foreign companies engaged in foreign fishing and  
foreign countries engaged in fishing within the North Pacific  
FOZ.

In order to expedite the Council process, the AP suggested that  
five AP members be added to the Permit Review Committee. The AP  
members would report back to the AP, thus eliminating need for  
full AP review of each permit.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Permit Review Committee moved to approve the permit application for the  
TARIKI WAKU No. 22. AP had received the motion. When being  
no objection, it was so ordered.

AP had moved to approve the recommendation of the Permit  
Review Committee regarding the worksheet report. AP had  
received the motion which carried unanimously.

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Jim Campbell said the Council will discuss the addition of five AP members to the Permit Review Committee at the special policy and planning meeting in April.

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Salmon FMP

Steve Pennoyer, ADF&G, reported on the U.S.-Canada salmon treaty negotiations, currently recessed with no agreement or further discussions scheduled. Discussions centered on the annexes to the treaty which deal with the actual fishery regimes specifying limits and ways in which the fisheries will operate to minimize or control interceptions.

The proposed treaty states that each country shall receive benefits commensurate with the production of its own rivers. The migration routes of various stocks take them through the other country's fisheries where they may be intercepted at varying rates. This makes it difficult to balance interceptions and benefits, especially where there is little or no knowledge of stock abundance, distribution and availability to each fishery.

A major topic of discussion was the Fraser River which is covered by an existing treaty. Approximately 90% of the pink and sockeye salmon taken in Puget Sound are bound for the Fraser River; that is, this is a major intercepting fishery by the U.S. Although the Fraser River is not a transboundary river, over the years the U.S. has helped with the management and supported research and rehabilitation of the Fraser River runs. The Canadians are dissatisfied with the U.S. interception rates allowed by the current Fraser River treaty. Negotiations stalled when the difference between U.S. and Canada positions could not be resolved.

Review of 1984 Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery

Alan Davis, ADF&G, reported that the 1983 troll harvest was approximately 270,000 chinooks, 1.3 million cohos, 510,000 pinks, 21,000 chums and 8,000 sockeye salmon, worth approximately \$15 million to the fishermen. The 1983 chinook harvest was 14% below the 1971-82 average because the summer season was reduced to 60 days. About 1,900 permit holders participated in the fishery (including about 900 power troll and 1,000 hand-trollers). Hand-trollers accounted for approximately 14% of the chinook and 21% of the coho troll catch. In addition to the troll catch, about 20,000 chinooks were taken in the inside net fisheries.

Approximately 30,000 chinook were taken in the winter troll fishery between October 1, 1982 and April 14, 1983. This represents a 138% increase over the 1981-82 winter season,

The Council will discuss the addition of five  
members to the Permit Review Committee at the special policy  
and planning meeting in April.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

B-1 Salmon FMP

Steve Bennett, ADWA, reported on the U.S.-Canada salmon treaty  
negotiations, currently reviewed with no agreement or further  
discussion scheduled. Discussions centered on the annex to  
the treaty which deal with the actual fishery regime specifying  
limits and ways in which the fisheries will operate to maintain  
or control fish populations.

The proposed treaty gives each country shall receive  
benefits commensurate with the production of the own rivers. The  
negotiations center on various issues that through the other  
country's fisheries where they may be interrupted at varying  
times. This makes it difficult to balance fisheries and  
harvest, especially where there is a lack of knowledge of  
stock abundance, distribution and availability to each fishery.

A major topic of discussion was the Fraser River which is covered  
by an existing treaty. Approximately 90% of the fish and sockeye  
salmon taken in Fraser River are bound for the Fraser River, but  
this is a major interlocking fishery by the U.S. Although  
the Fraser River is not a transboundary river, over the years the  
U.S. has helped with the management and supported research and  
rehabilitation of the Fraser River runs. The Canadian are  
dissatisfied with the U.S. Interception rates allowed by the  
current Fraser River treaty. Negotiations stalled when the  
differences between U.S. and Canada positions could not be  
resolved.

Review of 1983 Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery

Alan Evans, ADWA, reported that the 1983 troll harvest was  
approximately 100,000 chinook, 1.2 million coho, 210,000 pinkie,  
21,000 chum and 8,000 sockeye salmon, with approximately  
125 million in the fishery. The 1983 chinook harvest was 12%  
below the 1971-82 average because the summer season was reduced  
to 60 days. About 1,800 permit holders participated in the  
fishery (including about 900 permit holders and 1,000 hard-  
trolics). Hard-trolics accounted for approximately 14% of the  
catch and 31% of the coho troll catch. In addition to the  
troll catch, about 20,000 chinook were taken in the inside net  
fisheries.

Approximately 30,000 chinook were taken in the winter troll  
fishery between October 1, 1982 and April 14, 1983. Data  
collected in 1982 increased over the 1981-82 winter season.

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primarily a result of increased effort combined with exceptionally mild weather conditions. This trend of increased effort and catch has continued into the current winter fishery and a harvest of approximately 36,000 chinooks is anticipated by April 14, 1984.

Mel Seibel, ADF&G, reported that the state is still managing according to the three-cycle chinook rebuilding schedule developed in 1981 although the Stikine and Taku systems have not responded as well as hoped. However, in 1984 and 1985, much better escapements are expected.

Alan Davis also reported on the hook and release of chinooks during the coho-only season. In order to minimize the hooking of chinooks during the coho season, ADF&G closed four areas along the outer coast where high levels of chinook were probable. In addition, the Regional Director of NMFS re-opened certain areas of the FCZ where low chinook abundance was expected but where high coho availability was also expected. In an observer program conducted on several troll vessels, average catches of three chinook and 80 coho per day were reported between August 15 and September 1. From September 1-11, the average catch was 37 coho and 4.7 chinook per day. Observers were also asked to judge the severity of hooking injuries. Chinooks with minor injuries (relased in good condition) accounted for 72.9% of those caught; 16% were severely injured, and 11% were returned to the water dead.

Mike Fraidenburg of the Salmon Harvest Management Division, Washington Dept. of Fisheries, summarized a written report submitted to the Board and Council, "1984 Chinook Salmon Management in the Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery." The major conclusion of the report was that, if chinook conservation problems are to be solved and spawning escapements achieved, coastwide management of the resource is necessary. Without cooperative U.S.-Canada management, the burden will fall on the U.S. to meet the conservation needs.

#### Chinook Technical Report

The U.S./Canada Chinook Technical Committee was formed in 1983 with management and research salmon scientists from the U.S. and Canada. The basic purpose of the committee was to compile and evaluate fisheries performance and escapement data and to determine the status of those naturally spawning chinook salmon stocks originating from the Columbia River to Southeast Alaska. Alternative management strategies for 1984 and beyond were also identified. This Technical Team has produced a report updating and expanding the PDT report to the Council and Board in January 1983. The Technical Team concluded that many natural chinook stocks remain severely depressed with escapements well below established goals. In addition, in 1983 the overall coast-



... a number of factors which have contributed to the decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas. The decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas is a result of increased effort combined with a number of factors which have contributed to the decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas. The decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas is a result of increased effort combined with a number of factors which have contributed to the decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas.

... reported that the state is still conducting research on chinook salmon. The state is still conducting research on chinook salmon. The state is still conducting research on chinook salmon. The state is still conducting research on chinook salmon. The state is still conducting research on chinook salmon.

... also reported on the work and release of chinook salmon. The work and release of chinook salmon is a result of increased effort combined with a number of factors which have contributed to the decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas. The work and release of chinook salmon is a result of increased effort combined with a number of factors which have contributed to the decline of chinook salmon in the Columbia River and other areas.

... of the Salmon Harvest Management Division, Washington Dept. of Fisheries, submitted a written report submitted to the Board and Council. "1984 Chinook Salmon Management in the Southeast Alaska Trawl Fishery." The report was that if chinook conservation programs are to be solved and spawning escapements achieved, cooperative U.S.-Canada management is necessary. Without cooperative U.S.-Canada management, the burden will fall on the U.S. to meet the conservation needs.

Chinook Technical Report

The U.S.-Canada Chinook Technical Committee was formed in 1983 with management and research scientists from the U.S. and Canada. The basic purpose of the committee was to compile and evaluate fisheries performance and management data and to determine the status of those fisheries spawning chinook salmon. This technical team has produced a report updating and expanding the 1981 report to the Council and Board in January 1983. The Technical Team concluded that many current chinook stocks remain severely depressed with escapements well below established goals. In addition, in 1983 the overall catch

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wide abundance of chinook was substantially below the 1982 level. After reviewing status reports on the 1983 fisheries from Washington, Alaska and British Columbia, the team concluded that in order to rebuild stocks, a 30% reduction in the total harvest rate in all fisheries would be required.

Report of the Plan Maintenance Team

Jim Glock, NPFMC, advised that the OY range of 243,000-263,000 chinook in the salmon fishery management plan is commercial catch only and does not include the sport fishing figures. The numbers from the U.S.-Canada talks include the sport catch. The maximum sustained yield specified in the FMP is 288,000-320,000 chinook which was identical to the OY range until 1981. At that time, the Council and Board reduced the harvest guideline range to address the 15-year rebuilding plan for Southeast stocks and the coastwide trend in declining escapements.

The Salmon Plan Team adopted the U.S.-Canada Chinook Technical Team report, including the recommendations, which the PMT felt would be a major step toward accomplishing the objectives of the FMP. The PMT stated that the best way to rebuild natural chinook stocks is to spread the necessary harvest reduction over the range of the stocks and over all age classes.

The PMT had reviewed the proposals submitted to the Board of Fisheries on 1984 salmon management and noted that each of the proposals recommended an increase in harvest. They found no biological evidence to support an increased harvest in 1984 and therefore could not support any of the harvest proposals. The PMT said that they are looking into the problem of conflicting state and federal regulations in those portions of the FCZ that occur inside the state's surflines and expect to have a report and recommendation at the March meeting. (The PMT minutes are included as Appendix I to these minutes.)

Report of the Salmonid Gear-Mark Workgroup

John Harville, Chairman of the workgroup, presented a summary of the workgroup's meeting of January 29, 1984 in Juneau. The workgroup recommended that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game provide a written report on 1983 fishing gear mark sampling, continue gear mark sampling through the 1984 season, and develop a study for assessing the age of individual marks and injuries.

The Workgroup also recommended that Canada be invited to participate in Workgroup deliberations to exchange information and plans. A major portion of the group's report recommended improvement and expansion of photographic and other records of gear marking of salmon and the development of a regional clearing-house for information, reports, photographs, and samples of gear. It was also suggested that a regional staff position be developed

with abundance of chinook was substantially below the 1983 level. After reviewing various reports on the 1983 harvest from Washington, Alaska and British Columbia, the team concluded that in order to rebuild stocks, a 10% reduction in the total harvest rate in all fisheries would be required.

Report of the Fish Management Team

Jim Block, AFMTC, advised that the 07 range of 243,000-300,000 chinook in the salmon fishery management plan is somewhat out of date and does not include the sport fishing figures. The numbers from the U.S.-Canada talks include the sport catch. The maximum sustained yield specified in the FMP is 288,000-320,000 chinook which was identical to the 07 range until 1981. At that time, the Council and Board reduced the harvest guideline range to address the 15-year rebuilding plan for commercial stocks and the rebuilding period in rebuilding components.

The Fish Management Team adopted the U.S.-Canada Chinook Technical Team report, including the recommendations, which the FMT felt would be a major step toward accomplishing the objectives of the FMP. The FMT agreed that the best way to rebuild natural chinook stocks is to spread the necessary harvest reduction over the range of the stocks and over all age classes.

The FMT had reviewed the proposals submitted to the Board of Fisheries of 1984 salmon management and noted that each of the proposals recommended an increase in harvest. They found no biological evidence to support an increased harvest in 1984 and therefore could not support any of the harvest proposals. The FMT said that they are looking into the problem of consulting state and federal regulations in those portions of the FMP that cover lands the state's jurisdiction and asked to have a report and recommendation at the next meeting. (The FMT minutes are included as Appendix I to these minutes.)

Report of the Salmon's Gear-Mark Workshop

John Havelle, Chairman of the workshop, presented a summary of the workshop's meeting of January 22, 1984 in Umanak. The workshop recommended that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game provide a written report on 1983 fishing gear mark sampling, continue gear mark sampling through the 1984 season, and develop a study to assess the use of individual marks and logbooks.

The Workshop also recommended that Canada be invited to participate in Workshop deliberations to exchange information and ideas. A major portion of the group's report recommended improvement and expansion of geographic and other records of gear marking of salmon and the development of a regional clearing house for information, reports, photographs, and samples of gear. It was also suggested that a regional gear mark position be developed.

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to serve as an expert on identification of lost gear. Improvement of information from foreign net fisheries through the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission was also stressed.

Dr. Harville told Council and Board members that these recommended tasks could, in most instances, be included in ongoing projects and that additional costs would be minimal.

Council and Board members unanimously approved the recommendations of the workgroup.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC received presentations from NMFS, the Salmon PMT, ADF&G, the Washington Dept. of Fisheries and the Alaska Trollers Assn. and reviewed several reports. The presentations and discussions made it clear that many natural chinook stocks remain severely depressed and escapements for them are well below established goals. For these reasons, the SSC reaffirmed their position that a coastwide conservation problem exists. Given the forecasted reduction in 1984 total stock abundance and the proposed reduction in exploitation rates, the SSC feels rebuilding rates will have to be examined annually to determine performance. They believe that the conservation issue must be addressed by a coastwide plan which would be of much more benefit to conservation than any unilateral action taken by any single management group. The SSC suggested that the Council and Board consider using the last management proposal from the recent U.S.-Canada negotiations which calls for a 3-year coastwide plan.

The SSC outlined several criteria for monitoring stock assessment and data collection for a successful coastwide plan. Those seven points are included in the minutes of the SSC meeting which are included as Appendix II to these minutes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended that the Council and Board adopt the status quo with regard to chinook harvest quotas subject to Canada's intentions for the 1984 season and continued negotiations on a coastwide salmon treaty.

Public Testimony

A summary of public testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix III to these minutes.

COUNCIL/BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Don Collinsworth said there is general agreement that there is a coastwide conservation problem. The Alaska position during treaty talks was one that would reconcile the interests of Alaska



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and Canada. Mr. Collinsworth proposed the following package for review of the Council and Board:

Seasons. Seasons be established within the time frame of April 15-Sept. 20 with an opening of May 15 or June 5. The season would accommodate the interest of maintaining the BOF three-cycle rebuilding schedule for transboundary rivers. A specific number of days was not being proposed, only that the plan respond to Canadian actions.

OY. A commercial only harvest of 243,000-272,000 adult chinook salmon.

Single-species fishery. Management of the fishery should be such that it would minimize hooking mortality of chinook.

Winter season ceiling. No ceiling on winter fishery.

Enhancement. Enhancement fish would be taken into consideration in 1985.

These proposals would be for the 1984 season only. The three-cycle rebuilding program would be better for Alaskan fisheries.

Board and Council members were in general agreement with the proposal; however many felt that a specific number should be identified in the OY range in the event the Canadians reciprocated.

*Harold Lokken moved that the Council manage for a range of 243,000 - 272,000 adult chinook salmon in the commercial catch for 1984, with the understanding that the target will be the lower end of the range if the Canadians match this action, not only in the north, but also outside Vancouver Island. The motion was seconded by Keith Specking. Gene Didonato moved to amend the motion to read "the low end of the range." The motion was seconded by Mace. Both motions passed unanimously. The Board passed a similar motion.*

Although a ceiling on the winter fishery was suggested as a means to deter an influx of out-of-state vessels when other fisheries are in trouble, it was also pointed out that the winter fishery is critical in maintaining prices and a year-round market.

Jeri Museth of the Board of fisheries moved that the Board not impose a ceiling on the winter fishery. The motion was seconded and passed by the Board. Don Collinsworth moved that the Council concur with the Board motion. Jeff Stephan seconded the motion; there being no objections, it was so ordered.

and General. Mr. Collinsworth proposed the following package for review of the Council and Board:

Seasons be established within the time frame of April 15-Sept 30 with an opening of May 15 or June 1. The season would accommodate the interest of maintaining the 100% commercial fishing schedule for transboundary rivers. A specific number of days was not being proposed, only that the plan respond to Canadian seasonal.

YO. A commercial only harvest of 340,000-375,000 adult chinook salmon.

Management of the winter fishery. Management of the winter fishery should be such that it would maintain healthy mortality of chinook.

Winter season fishing. No ceiling on winter fishery.

Management. Management plan would be taken into consideration in 1985.

These proposals would be for the 1984 season only. The three-year rebuilding program would be taken for Atlantic fisheries.

Board and Council members were in general agreement with the proposal, however they felt that a specific number should be permitted in the YO range in the event the Canadian receipts could.

Board members moved that the YO range for a range of 340,000 - 375,000 adult chinook salmon in the commercial catch for 1984, with the understanding that the range will be the lower end of the range if the Canadian catch this season not only in the YO range, but also outside Vancouver Island. The motion was seconded by Keith Speer. The motion moved to amend the motion to read "the YO range of the range". The motion was seconded by Mr. Collinsworth. The board passed a similar motion.

Although a ceiling on the winter fishery was suggested as a means to deter an influx of out-of-state vessels when other fisheries are in trouble, it was also pointed out that the winter fishery is critical in maintaining stocks and year-round market.

Mr. Speer of the Board of Fisheries moved that the Board not impose a ceiling on the winter fishery. The motion was seconded and passed by the Board. Mr. Collinsworth moved that the Council concur with the Board motion. Mr. Speer seconded the motion, there being no objections, it was so ordered.

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Jeri Museth of the Board of Fisheries moved to set the chinook troll season opening for April 15 with an immediate closure to June 4. The season would reopen on June 5 and proceed until Sept. 20 or until the harvest range is achieved. The motion was seconded by Bix Bonney and was passed unanimously by the Board. *It was the concensus of the Council that NMFS would accommodate the State regulations as passed by the Board.*

In discussion of the single-species fishery, Jim Campbell pointed out that the Council is on record directing managers to avoid a single-species fishery if at all possible. Jim Branson mentioned the conflict between state and FCZ regulations which occurred last year when the FCZ was closed entirely to trolling while the state allowed additional coho fishing in state waters. Bob McVey said that the Council had given him clear guidance to close the FCZ when the chinook quota was reached. He also reminded the Council that NMFS did arrange the opening of small areas of the FCZ and the closing of some high chinook abundance areas inside state waters in an attempt to reduce the incidental catch. Bob McVey suggest that the Council request technical advice on the seriousness of opening the FCZ in the terms of incidental chinook catch. Jim Campbell said he would prefer input from the SSC and AP after they have had a chance to look into it. However, Sara Hemphill pointed out that fishermen testifying at this meeting specifically requested that the issues be resolved at this meeting, not at a future one.

*Sara Hemphill moved that the FCZ not be automatically closed for the coho-only season after the chinook season is closed. The motion was seconded by John Winther. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

Bob McVey said he felt this was a major change in the direction the Council has given NMFS and suggested there should be an opportunity for representatives from the "lower 48" and treaty tribes to comment on this change. Don Collinsworth said the action would not be contrary to the interests of Oregon and Washington; the action will allow coordination of openings in areas in state and FCZ waters that should allow an orderly coho fishery beyond the chinook season while minimizing the incidental hooking of chinook.

D-2 Herring FMP

This was dropped from the agenda as the summary report on Herring Scale Analysis had not been reviewed by the SSC and the information for the RFP was not yet available.



and Board of Fisheries moved to see the Director  
will season opening for April 15 with an immediate closure to  
June 1. The season would begin on June 1 and proceed until  
June 30 or until the harvest range is exhausted. The season was  
approved by six majority and was passed unanimously by the Board.  
It was the consensus of the Council that with the recommendations  
the State regulations as passed by the Board.

In discussion of the single-species fishery, the Council pointed  
out that the Council is on record directing managers to avoid a  
single-species fishery if at all possible. The Board mentioned  
the conflict between state and FCE regulations which occurred  
last year when the FCE was closed entirely to whiting while the  
state allowed additional whiting in state waters. The  
Council said that the Council had given his plan guidance to close  
the FCE when the whiting quota was reached. He also mentioned the  
Council has been directed to avoid a single-species fishery in  
state waters in an attempt to reduce the incidental catch. The  
Council suggested that the Council request technical advice on the  
feasibility of opening the FCE in the form of incidental whiting  
catch. The Council said he would prefer to look into the FCE and  
if after they have had a chance to look into it. However, the  
Council pointed out that the Council is not a fisheries management  
agency and requested that the issue be referred to the  
Director for a decision.

John Whittier moved that the FCE not be automatically closed for  
the current season after the whiting season is closed. The  
action was seconded by John Whittier. There being no objection,  
it was so ordered.

Bob Moyer said he felt there was a major change in the direction  
the Council has given FCE's and suggested there should be an  
opportunity for representatives from the "lower 48" and nearby  
states to comment on this change. Don Collinsworth said the  
action should not be taken as the interests of Oregon and  
Washington; the action will allow coordination of openings in  
state waters and FCE waters that should allow an orderly whiting  
fishery beyond the whiting season while maintaining the incidental  
hooking of chinook.

U-S Meeting FME

This was dropped from the agenda as the summary report on whiting  
state waters had not been reviewed by the FCE and the information  
from for the FCE was not available.

D-3 Tanner and King Crab FMPs

Steve Davis, NPFMC, provided Council and Board with a summary of current king crab research. He also advised that the Board and Council would need to set a date for the annual public hearing on crab regulations in Seattle.

Mr. Davis also reported to the Council that Amendment 9 to the Tanner Crab FMP, which establishes a framework procedure for setting fishing seasons and updates MSY and ABC values, was submitted for Secretarial review on December 22. However, the Council has received word that there is concern by NMFS about the adequacy of the RIR/RIA. The Council was provided with a summary of the problems in their Council notebooks. The Council staff has discussed the problem with NMFS staff and is committed to do what is necessary to get Amendment 9 reviewed and implemented.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the memorandum from the NMFS Regional Office which outlined the problems with Tanner crab Amendment 9. Members of the SSC expressed concern regarding the process of the pre-review, finding that this was not the intent of the MFCMA. The SSC felt that the pre-review/public review process could result in an endless loop. The SSC did not support the Regional Office's concept that the RIR is the principle analytical document justifying the amendment. The SSC also felt that the analysis requested in the memorandum would not add much to the Council's decision-making process and was concerned that the Council's limited resources would be diverted from other important tasks.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended approval of the March 9 public hearing date in Seattle.

The AP also recommended that a Council subgroup participate in the deliberations with the Board of Fisheries when Tanner crab regulations are being considered.

The AP also requested that the State of Alaska make public their intent regarding enforcement in the Tanner crab fishery in the South Peninsula area because of the difference between state and federal regulations.

COUNCIL/BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

*Board and Council members agreed to set the public hearing in Seattle for March 9, 1-5 p.m. at the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center.*

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There was also discussion on the advisability of Council members being more involved in the decision-making process on crab regulations. It was suggested that a subgroup of Council members sit with the Board to review proposed regulations rather than having the whole Council attend. The subgroup would speak for the Council during the decision-making process. Steve Davis told the Council that the Tanner Crab FMP does not have the same joint-operating provisions as the King Crab FMP which delegates regulatory authority to the Board, and therefore it is important that Board and Council work together to ensure compatible regulations. Don Collinsworth expressed concern with the current lengthy process to get federal regulations in place, often causing conflicting state and federal regulations.

Jim Campbell will meet with the Chairman of the Board, Beth Stewart and Jim Branson to develop a workable approach for the joint meetings.

John Harville suggested that the SSC and PMT be asked to review the adequacy of current king crab research and come back to the Council with recommendations.

D-4 Gulf of Alaska FMP

I. Sablefish by-catch limit on joint venture permits.

Jeff Povolny briefed the Council on a request at the December 1983 meeting to raise the sablefish by-catch limit on joint venture permits from 1.5% to 5%. Action was delayed until this meeting to allow time for public review. The Council was provided with 1983 sablefish by-catch rates in the Gulf of Alaska joint venture fisheries, the Shelikof Strait summer fishery, Kodiak summer/fall fishery, and the Western Gulf summer/fall fishery, and 1984 sablefish apportionments. There was also information on amounts of sablefish that would be required in 1984 at various by-catch rates in the joint venture fisheries.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC recommended that Council documents be changed to indicate that the issue is retention, not by-catch, since they understand the request is not to increase the by-catch level to 5% but to allow joint venture processors to retain sablefish up to 5% of the groundfish harvest. The SSC noted that the catch data were not available which would have allowed the determination of weighted average by-catch rates. The SSC thought that this information should be made available to the Council.

The SSC felt that if retention was increased to 5% that the harvest would move to that level and that the weighted by-catch rate would increase because of the potential markets for sablefish caught in the trawl fisheries.

There was also discussion on the advisability of Council members being more involved in the decision-making process on case regulations. It was suggested that a subcommittee of Council members be set up to review proposed regulations rather than having the whole Council review. The subcommittee would report to the Council during the decision-making process. There were also comments that the Tanner Group did not have the same joint-operational provisions as the Knap Group which delegates regulatory authority to the Board, and therefore it is important that Board and Council work together to ensure compatible regulations. Don Collinsworth expressed concern with the current regulatory process as per federal regulations in place, often causing conflicting state and federal regulations.

The subcommittee will meet with the Chairman of the Board, Bill Stewart and the Chairman to develop a working approach for the joint meeting.

John Bartlett suggested that the SSC and TWT be asked to review the adequacy of current joint case research and come back to the Council with recommendations.

3-4 Date of Alaska PWT

1. Statistical by-catch limit on joint venture fisheries.

John Bartlett advised the Council on a request at the December 1987 meeting to raise the statistical by-catch limit on joint venture fisheries from 1.5% to 2%. Action was delayed until this meeting to allow time for public review. The Council was provided with 1987 statistical by-catch rates in the Gulf of Alaska joint venture fisheries, the Bering Strait summer fishery, North American fishery, and the western Gulf summer fishery, and 1988 statistical by-catch rates. It was noted that information on amounts of statistical by-catch would be required in 1988 at various by-catch rates in the joint venture fisheries.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC recommended that Council documents be changed to indicate that the data is statistical, not by-catch, since they understand the request is not to increase the by-catch level to 2% but to allow joint venture processors to retain statistical up to 2% of the quota rather harvest. The SSC noted that the catch data were not available would have allowed the determination of weighted average by-catch rates. The SSC thought that this information should be made available to the Council.

The SSC felt that if retention was increased to 2% that the harvest would move to that level and that the weighted by-catch rate would increase because of the potential market for additional catch in the joint fisheries.

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The SSC felt that this issue is of sufficient concern that the Council should direct the team to explore the implications of the increasing domestic on-bottom trawl fishery on the sablefish resource and that the Council should provide the team with an indication of its short- and long-term goals regarding that resource. The SSC was also concerned about being locked in to a specific retention rate until a long-term solution can be developed by the team. They suggested that other methods of accommodating JVP needs should be explored, possibly by allocating from reserves to JVP on a case-by-case basis by the Regional Director in consultation with the Council at the time of the issuance of the JVP permit.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP voted 11 to 2 against increasing the percentage of sablefish that joint venture processors could retain in their operations. Those opposing the increase felt that since the Gulf-wide foreign fishery averages a .5% incidental catch, that joint venture vessels should be able minimize their by-catch rates of sablefish also. The AP also felt that there is a conservation issue involved. Public testimony indicated that the blackcod were small and were unmarketable in Kodiak. A 5% incidental catch could lead to 1,521 mt of juvenile blackcod harvested in the Central and Western Gulf and it is not currently known what effect this might have on the stocks. Other concerns included effects on the market as well as future harvest of larger fish, and protecting stocks for reproduction.

The Advisory Panel requested the Council develop a foreign trawl regulations amendment to the FMP or a permit restriction to limit by-catch of blackcod to 1% and, by unanimous vote, requested the Council direct the staff or PMT to study the benefits and costs for the domestic industry of a size limit on sablefish caught by foreign and domestic fishermen.

Public Testimony

Tom Stewart, Petersburg Vessel Owners' Assn. If the retention rate for sablefish is raised to 5% he feels it would become a targeted species in the trawl fishery. He would like to see sablefish put in the same category as halibut (hook and line only fishery) and managed in that way.

Dean Adams, FVOA, Seattle. He feels it would be biologically and economically bad to raise the by-catch level.

Barry Collier, NPFVOA, Seattle. He feels that this is going to be a wasted resource if the retention rate is not increased. If TALFF is available to foreign trawlers, domestic users should be able to harvest the resource.

The 280 felt that this issue is of sufficient concern that the Council should direct the team to explore the implications of the increasing domestic on-board vessel fishery on the available resource and that the Council should provide the team with an indication of the short- and long-term goals regarding that resource. The 280 was also concerned about being looked on as a passive participant in a long-term solution can be developed by the team. They suggested that other methods of allocating that resource to WVP on a case-by-case basis by the Regional Director in consultation with the Council at the level of the fisheries of the WVP be sought.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The 280 voted 11 to 3 against increasing the percentage of available fishery resource which could remain in their own waters. These opposing the increase felt that since the 280 were fishing largely outside a 25 nautical mile limit, that other vessels should be able to fish their by-catch. The 280 also felt that there is a conservation problem also. Public testimony indicated that the by-catch were small and were uneconomical to fish. A 25 nautical mile limit would lead to a 25% increase in the amount of by-catch in the central and western Gulf and it is not currently known what effect this might have on the stock. Other concerns included effects on the market as well as future harvest of larger fish, and protecting stocks for reproduction.

The Advisory Panel requested the Council develop a foreign fishery regulatory amendment to the WVP or a permit restriction to limit by-catch of blacked to 15 and, by unanimous vote, requested the Council direct the staff to study the benefits and costs for the domestic fishery of a size limit on available catch of foreign and domestic fishermen.

Public Testimony

Mr. Stewart, representing the General Agent, stated that the retention rate for available is raised to 25 he feels it would reduce a targeted species in the local fishery. He would like to see available but in the same category as blacked (hook and line only) fishery, and wanted in that way.

Gene Brown, WVP, Seattle, he feels it would be economically and economically had to raise the by-catch limit.

Gene Collier, WVP, Seattle, he feels that this is going to be a wasted resource if the retention rate is not increased. It is a waste of a valuable resource, domestic vessels should be able to harvest the resource.

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Al Burch, Alaska Draggers Assn., Kodiak. He agrees with Barry Collier. It is a shame to throw away the resource after it is brought on board. Have tried to make arrangements in Kodiak for processing, but would have to make too many trips back to port with fish to make it feasible.

Phil Chitwood, Marine Resources. The amount of sablefish being discussed is insignificant. He doesn't feel they are interested in targeting when it's not really worth it. As long as foreign fisheries have a TALFF, domestic fishermen should also be able to harvest the resource.

Bob Alverson, FVOA, Seattle. Because several large boats will be operating in Kodiak, domestic fishermen may need the TALFF. Icicle Seafoods and other processors have given a firm commitment to buy. The fish caught in joint ventures are small, immature fish and the Pacific Council has recently restricted the catch of immature sablefish.

Eric Jordan, Sitka. The longliners in Sitka are interested in harvesting this resource and it would be a mistake not to support the U.S. longline fishermen.

Mark Lundsten, Deep Sea Fishermen's Union, Seattle. He feels raising the retention rate of sablefish in joint venture fisheries would be a mistake and would like to see all the trawlers treated equally.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members were concerned about wasting fish, however most agreed that not enough information is available at this time to make a decision on increasing the retention rate. The Prohibited Species Workgroup is working on information that may be useful and it was suggested that action be deferred until a report is available. Council members also pointed out that the sablefish by-catch in the foreign fishery is kept at a minimum and that domestic fishermen should be able to do the same. Sara Hemphill pointed out that there might be some legal difficulties if Council action favored foreign fisheries over domestic.

Jeff Stephan suggested that an overall analysis from Doug Larson on how increasing the retention rate would affect the Japanese and American markets would be useful. Jim Branson told the Council that staff has been trying to develop information on those markets already; however it is a long process and it may not be possible to complete an analysis by the March meeting.

Dr. Hemphill suggested that when a request is made to the Council for actions such as this, the requesting parties should be responsible for supplying as much information as possible to aid the Council in making decisions.

At lunch, Alaska leaders Asari, Kobayashi, He spoke with Barry  
Carter. It is a shame to throw away the resources after the  
purchasing on board. Have tried to make arrangements in Alaska for  
processed, but would have to make too many trips back to port  
with fish to make it feasible.

Paul Clifford, Marine Resources. The amount of surplus being  
discussed is insignificant. He doesn't feel they are interested  
in carrying them out really worth it. As long as foreign  
fisheries have a 50% share, domestic fishermen should also be able to  
harvest the resource.

Bob Livingston, EVO, Seattle. Because several large boats will be  
operating in Alaska, domestic fishermen may need the 50%  
share. Some other processors have given a firm commitment  
to buy. The fish caught in joint ventures are small, immature  
fish and the Pacific Council has recently restricted the amount of  
immature available.

Miss Joan, Seattle. The fishermen in Alaska are interested in  
harvesting this resource and it would be a mistake not to support  
the U.S. Longline Fishermen.

Mark Lundberg, Dept. of Fishery's Alaska. He feels  
that the retention rate of surplus in joint ventures  
fisheries would be a mistake and would like to see all the  
resources worked equally.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members were concerned about wasting fish, however want  
to get the best possible information as available at this time to  
make a decision on increasing the retention rate. The Committee  
Speakers Workshop is working on information that may be useful  
and it was suggested that action be delayed until a report is  
available. Council members also pointed out that the surplus  
system in the foreign industry is kept at a minimum and that  
domestic fishermen should be able to do the same. Paul Hendrick  
pointed out that there might be some legal difficulties if  
Council action favored foreign fishermen over domestic.

Jeff Hagan suggested that an overall analysis from long term  
and how increasing the retention rate would affect the Japanese  
and American markets would be useful. The Japanese side the  
Council that there has been a trend to develop information on  
those markets already, however it is a long process and it may  
not be possible to complete an analysis by the March meeting.

Paul Hendrick suggested that when a request is made to the Council  
for action such as this, the requesting parties should be  
responsible for supplying as much information as possible to aid  
the Council in making decisions.



No action was taken pending further information and analyses.

II. Restriction on bottom trawls in the foreign pollock fishery.

At the December 1983 meeting, the Council discussed a restriction on the use of bottom trawl gear by foreigners to take any TALFF for pollock above 100,000 mt. When the Council increased the pollock OY to 400,000 mt for 1984, there was a potential TALFF increase and a concurrent halibut by-catch increase to unacceptable levels. A ceiling for the foreign fishery of 100,000 mt of pollock taken by bottom trawls would probably prevent the incidental halibut catch from increasing above current levels.

At the Council's request, the EA/IRFA for Amendment 13 (which increases the pollock OY and combines the Western and Central regulatory areas) was expanded to include discussion of the halibut by-catch problem and the need for a restriction. Four alternatives for a bottom trawl restriction were discussed and analyzed. The expanded EA was sent out for public review and the Council was asked to reaffirm their desire to impose a restriction on foreign bottom trawling for pollock and to select a preferred alternative.

Doug Larson summarized the alternatives and their implications as discussed in the Environmental Assessment. Alternative 1, to permit only 100,000 mt of pollock to be taken by foreign bottom trawl gear, would prevent an increase in the Pacific halibut by-catch in the foreign pollock fisheries. Bottom trawl gear catches more halibut than other types of trawl gear and has been used by most foreign nations fishing for pollock. The disadvantage of this alternative is that it is based on the assumption that halibut by-catch rates in the foreign pollock fishery will continue at the present level. If by-catch rates increase, more halibut would be caught prior to the 100,000 mt pollock ceiling triggering the prohibition of bottom trawl gear which would be contrary to the Council's objective of preventing an increase in the halibut by-catch. If the halibut by-catch rates decrease, foreign vessels could be unnecessarily restricted to 100,000 mt of any pollock TALFF using bottom trawl gear. In addition, this alternative could result in increased by-catches of salmon should foreign fisheries choose to catch the TALFF in excess of 100,000 mt with pelagic gear.

Alternative 2, which would allow no more than 1,200 mt of halibut to be incidentally taken by foreign bottom trawl gear, would meet the Council's objective to hold halibut catches at current levels. If the catch rate should increase, no more than 1,200 mt of halibut would be allowed in the bottom trawl fishery for pollock; after the ceiling is reached, foreign vessels, regardless of the amount of pollock taken, would have to switch to a different gear type. If the incidental halibut catch rate should decrease, foreign vessels would be allowed to harvest pollock

The action was taken regarding further information and analysis.

11. Restriction on bottom trawls in the Pacific halibut fishery.

At the December 1983 meeting, the Council discussed a restriction on the use of bottom trawl gear by foreign vessels to take any TAC/TMFA for halibut above 100,000 mt. When the Council increased the TAC/TMFA to 400,000 mt for 1984, there was a potential 100% increase and a comment without bycatch increase to unacceptable levels. A ceiling for the foreign fishery of 100,000 mt of halibut taken by bottom trawls would greatly prevent the kind of general halibut catch from increasing above current levels.

At the Council's request, the NAHFA for Amendment 12 (which increases the TAC/TMFA and contains the Western and Central Fisheries Areas) was expanded to include discussion of the halibut bycatch problem and the need for a restriction. Four alternatives for a bottom trawl restriction were discussed and analyzed. The expanded FA was sent out for public review and the Council was asked to reaffirm their desire to impose a restriction on foreign bottom trawling for halibut and to select a preferred alternative.

Four actions examined the alternatives and their restrictions as discussed in the Preliminary Assessment. Alternative 1, to permit only 100,000 mt of halibut to be taken by foreign bottom trawl gear, would prevent an increase in the Pacific halibut bycatch in the foreign bottom trawls. Bottom trawl gear catches more halibut than other types of trawl gear and has been used by most foreign vessels fishing for halibut. The amount of catch by alternative 1 is based on the assumption that halibut bycatch rates in the western Pacific fishery will continue at the present level. If bycatch rates increase, more halibut would be caught prior to the 100,000 mt halibut ceiling. Supporting the prohibition of bottom trawl gear which would be contrary to the Council's objective of preventing an increase in the halibut bycatch. If the halibut bycatch rates decrease, foreign vessels would be unnecessarily restricted to 100,000 mt of any halibut TAC/TMFA using bottom trawl gear. In addition, this alternative could result in increased bycatches of salmon should foreign fisheries choose to catch the TAC/TMFA in excess of 100,000 mt with halibut gear.

Alternative 2, which would allow no more than 1,000 mt of halibut to be incidentally taken by foreign bottom trawl gear, would meet the Council's objective to hold halibut catches at current levels. If the catch rates should increase no more than 1,000 mt of halibut would be allowed in the bottom trawl fishery for halibut after the ceiling is reached. Foreign vessels, regarding less of the amount of halibut taken, would have to switch to a different gear type. If the incidental halibut catch rate should increase, foreign vessels would be allowed to harvest halibut

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with bottom trawl gear until either 1,200 mt of halibut or their full allocation of pollock had been caught. The potential for increased salmon by-catches under Alternative 2 is tied to the actual halibut by-catch rate and the desire of foreign fisheries to continue fishing after they reach their halibut by-catch limit. At low halibut by-catch levels, the potential for increased salmon by-catches is low, and vice versa, depending on how much pollock is caught after a change of foreign fisheries to pelagic gear.

Alternative 3, which would permit only 100,000 mt of pollock or 1,200 mt of incidentally-caught halibut by foreign bottom trawl gear, would establish a dual ceiling for bottom trawl catches of either 100,000 mt of pollock or 1,200 mt of halibut. However, halibut catch rates would not affect the total allowable level of incidentally-caught halibut. The disadvantage of this alternative is the same as for Alternative 1. Even if halibut by-catch rates should decrease, foreign vessels would only be allowed to use bottom trawl gear until 100,000 mt of pollock was harvested. Any remaining pollock TALFF could only be fished with pelagic trawl gear and may unnecessarily restrict foreign trawl operations. If halibut catch rates decrease, it would permit an actual reduction in overall halibut by-catch. There is still a potential for increased salmon by-catches, similar to the situation under Alternative 1.

Alternative 4, maintaining the status quo, would not be consistent with the Council's current efforts to rebuild the Gulf of Alaska halibut resource.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for Amendment 13 for the GOA FMP and found that the analysis indicates a weakness in the SSC recommendation to shift to pelagic gear to prevent an increase in the halibut by-catch since it could result in a significant increase in the by-catch of salmon. In light of this analysis, the SSC feels that the Council will need to provide clarification of its intent with regard to salmon in addition to halibut. The SSC felt the team should be directed to make a more in-depth examination of this issue. Without clarification and additional analysis, the SSC was unable to recommend an alternative. The SSC recommended that the halibut by-catch issue be removed from Amendment 13.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP, on a vote of 8 to 7, endorsed Alternative 1 in the EA/IRFA. The seven in opposition felt that the option would not satisfactorily minimize the take of prohibited species. The

with bottom trawl gear would either 1,500 mt of halibut or their  
total allocation of 2,000 mt. The potential for  
increased salmon by-catch under alternative 2 is tied to the  
total halibut by-catch rate and the degree of trawling activities  
to continue fishing after they reach their halibut by-catch  
limit. As for halibut by-catch levels, the potential for  
increased salmon by-catches is low, and vice versa. Depending on  
how much halibut is caught there is a change of foreign fisheries to  
pelagic gear.

Alternative 3, which would permit only 100,000 mt of halibut or  
1,500 mt of individually-quotable halibut by trawler bottom trawl  
gear, would establish a dual ceiling for bottom trawl catches of  
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trawling after rates would not affect the total allowable level of  
individually-quotable halibut. The disadvantage of this alternative  
is the same as for Alternative 1. Even if halibut by-catch  
rates would decrease, foreign vessels would only be allowed to  
use bottom trawl gear until 100,000 mt of halibut was harvested.  
Any remaining halibut TAC would only be fished with pelagic  
trawl gear and may unnecessarily restrict foreign trawl opera-  
tions. If halibut catch rates decreased, it would permit an  
overall reduction in overall halibut by-catch. There is still a  
potential for increased salmon by-catches similar to the situa-  
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Alternative 4, maintaining the status quo, would not be consis-  
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Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the draft appointment Environmental Assessment  
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GSA TAC and found that the analysis indicates a weakness in the  
SSC recommendation to shift to pelagic gear to prevent an  
increase in the halibut by-catch since it could result in a  
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analysis, the SSC feels that the Council will need to provide  
clarification of its intent with regard to salmon in addition to  
halibut. The SSC felt the team should be directed to make a more  
detailed examination of this issue. Without clarification and  
additional analysis, the SSC was unable to recommend an alterna-  
tive. The SSC recommended that the halibut by-catch issue be  
removed from Amendment 13.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP, on a vote of 5 to 7, endorsed Alternative 1 in the SSC  
TAC. The seven in opposition felt that the option would not  
adequately minimize the risk of prohibited species.

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Advisory Panel also requested the staff to present future incidental amounts of prohibited species both in numbers of fish and in pounds.

Public Testimony

Don Swisher, Japan Deep Sea Trawlers, Hokuten Trawlers Assn. After hearing the SSC's analysis, he is not sure that any of the alternatives should be adopted. The Prohibited Species Workgroup has been working hard on the problem and hopefully they will come up with a solution. If the Council does choose an alternative at this time, he would support Alternative 1. He agrees with SSC's recommendation to remove this issue from Amendment 13 and allow the amendment to go forward.

Jim Branson suggested that since the issue is so complex, it would probably be best to sever it from Amendment 13 in order to allow time for the Prohibited Species Workgroup to make a report, but noting that it will be at least August 1984 before one is available.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Mace said he is concerned about the Council telling fishermen what type of technique they can use and doesn't feel it's a good management philosophy. A limit for the halibut by-catch should be set and fishermen allowed to decide how they can stay within that limit.

While Council members were concerned about a possible increase in halibut by-catch with an increase in pollock OY, they felt they could not make a decision at this time. It was noted that the Regional Director could choose not to release any reserves for conservation reasons if there appears to be a problem later in the year.

*Keith Specking moved that the halibut and salmon by-catch issue be removed from Amendment 13 and held in abeyance while allowing the other portions of Amendment 13 to go forward. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

III. Federal "Cul-de-sacs" in Inside Southeast Waters

Bob McVey told the Council of a problem caused by areas of the FCZ which extend into the major fjords in Southeast Alaska, particularly in lower Chatham Strait (cul-de-sacs or intrusions). These areas have remained open to sablefish fishing when State waters have been closed and it is causing problems with enforcement of state closures. Mr. McVey thought it was the Council's intention to treat those areas as part of the inside fishery with fish caught there counted against the inside quota. He suggested

Advisory Panel also requested the staff to present future...  
detailed accounts of prohibited species been in numbers of fish and  
in pounds.

Public Testimony

Don Walker, Japan Deep Sea Fisheries, Japanese Fisheries Board.  
After hearing the SSC's analysis, he is not sure that any of the  
alternatives should be adopted. The prohibited species workshop  
has been working hard on the problem and hopefully they will come  
up with a solution. If the Council does choose an alternative at  
this time, he would support Alternative 1. He agrees with SSC's  
recommendation to remove this issue from Amendment 11 and allow  
the amendment to go forward.

The Bureau suggested that since the issue is so complex, it  
would probably be best to sever it from Amendment 11 in order to  
allow time for the prohibited species workshop to make a report,  
but noting that it will be at least August 1984 before one is  
available.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Wain said he is concerned about the Council taking Fisheries  
what type of technique they can use and doesn't feel it's a good  
management philosophy. A limit for the prohibited species should  
be set and fishermen allowed to decide how they can stay within  
that limit.

While Council members were concerned about a possible increase in  
prohibited species with an increase in policy, they felt they  
could not make a decision at this time. It was noted that the  
Regional Director could choose not to release any reserves for  
conservation reasons if there appears to be a problem later in  
the year.

Keith speaking moved that the fishing and salmon species issue  
be removed from Amendment 11 and held in abeyance until allowing  
the other portions of Amendment 11 to go forward. The motion was  
seconded by Bob Wain. There being no objections, it was so  
ordered.

III. Report "On-Stream" in Inside Southeast Waters

Bob Wain told the Council of a problem caused by users of the  
ROR which entered into the major fjords in southeast Alaska,  
particularly in lower Kushik 22-mile (cul-de-sac or intracoastal).  
These areas have remained open to capital fishing when other  
waters have been closed and it is causing a problem with salmon  
and other species. Mr. Wain thought it was the Council's  
responsibility to treat these areas as part of the inside fishery with  
fish counts there counted against the inside quota. He suggested

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an amendment to the Gulf groundfish plan and similar amendments for the salmon troll and Tanner crab plans to avoid these problems.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel urged NMFS to enact an emergency closure of the ongoing FCZ sablefish fishery in Southeast Alaska because of the likelihood of localized overharvesting of sablefish in certain FCZ areas within Southeast Alaska and the potential for significant misreporting of sablefish harvest areas. They asked the Council to develop an FMP amendment to provide a framework season for the Chatham Straits district.

Public Testimony

Tom Stewart, Petersburg Vessel Owners' Assn. Urged Council to do something to avoid this conflict between state and federal waters as soon as possible. There could also be a conflict when the federal Tanner crab season opens because brown king crab could be taken in that area causing misreporting.

Dean Adams, FVOA, Seattle. Seattle longliners would be in favor of any action the Council would take to remedy this problem.

Jake Phillips, Pelican. Alaska Longliners Assn. opposes the fishery as it exists right now. Overfishing in this area could be bad for the stocks. Suggested that rather than managing on the surfline, it could be managed on the continental shelf.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members agreed that their original intent was for these areas to be included in inside waters for the purposes of regulation of the sablefish fishery. Don Collinsworth said he has not received any requests from fishermen who fish in the area to keep the intrusion areas open, however federal administrative processes are keeping McVey from taking action to close them. He suggested the Council vote unanimously to request an emergency closure and follow that up with the FMP amendment.

Jim Branson advised that staff has researched the Council record on this matter and it is evident in the groundfish plan that it was the intent of the Council that the inside waters would include Chatham Straits and Frederick Sound.

Thorn Smith, NOAA General Counsel, suggested that the Council should go on record as to exactly what the emergency is.

Don Collinsworth clarified that corrective action is necessary to conduct an orderly fishery and to manage the fishery in the way in which was originally intended by the FMP.

An amendment to the bill providing for the establishment of a  
for the salmon hatchery and hatchery programs to avoid these  
problems.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel urged WAFS to enact an emergency provision  
the proposed FOR application in Southeast Alaska because of  
the likelihood of localized overfishing of salmon in cer-  
tain FOR areas within Southeast Alaska and the potential for  
significant mismanagement of salmon harvest areas. They asked  
the Council to develop an FOR amendment to provide a framework  
reason for the Oregon Strait district.

Public Testimony

Tom Henson, Federal Fishery Officer, Alaska, urged Council to be  
concerned to avoid this conflict between state and federal waters  
as soon as possible. There could also be a conflict over the  
Federal Fishery Officer's jurisdiction over the area which could be  
taken in that area causing mismanagement.

Don Alford, BVMA, Seattle, Seattle Longshore would be in favor  
of any action the Council would take to remedy this problem.

Jack Phillips, Ketchikan, Alaska Longshoremen's Assn. opposed the  
amendment as it states that now. Overfishing in this area could  
be bad for the future. Suggested that rather than passing on  
the problem, it could be passed on to the commercial shell.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members agreed that their original intent was for these  
areas to be included in hatchery waters for the purpose of regula-  
tion of the salmon fishery. Tom Collinsworth said he had not  
received any requests from fishermen who fish in the area to have  
the hatchery areas open, however Federal administrative pro-  
cesses are being kept from taking action to close them. He  
suggested the Council vote unanimously to request an emergency  
closure and follow that up with the amendment.

The Bureau advised that staff has reviewed the Council record  
on this matter and it is evident in the groundfish plan that it  
was the intent of the Council that the hatchery waters would  
include the area Straits and Frederick Sound.

Tom Henson, WAFS General Counsel, suggested that the Council  
should go on record as to exactly what the emergency is.

Tom Collinsworth advised that corrective action is necessary to  
conduct an orderly fishery and to manage the fishery in the way  
in which was originally intended by the WAFS.



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*Don Collinsworth moved that the Council recommend to the Secretary an emergency regulation to close the federal intrusion areas within the archipaelego and to inform him of the Council's intent to manage the fishery as an inside and outside fishery. The motion was seconded by Jeff Stephan and carried unanimously.*

*It was the concensus of the Council that staff should proceed with amendments to the groundfish, salmon and Tanner crab FMPs to reflect this intent.*

D-5 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

The Council received a memo from NMFS-Central Office disapproving Amendment 6 on December 8. Background information had been sent to the Council prior to this meeting. After discussions with Bill Gordon and Pete Jensen of NMFS, it was determined that the procedural problems had been solved and that the amendment could be resubmitted, as is, for review.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC responded to the points made in the NMFS disapproval letter (a full copy of the SSC minutes is included as Appendix II to these minutes) and reaffirmed their July position, that it is unlikely that additional data exists which would make it possible to estimate the FDZ's benefits in a definitive manner and that the November document (RIR) represents the best information currently available to the Council

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended that the Council resubmit the amendment after review of the Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Impact Review. The AP also expressed concern for the opinion in D.C. that the Council must take into consideration the economic impact on foreign participants when developing regulations such as this one. The AP requested that the Council have NMFS identify the intent of such analysis.

Public Testimony

Barry Collier, NPFVOA. Domestic and foreign industry representatives met and have developed a proposal which would solve the problem without putting Amendment 6 in place at this time.

Essentially, foreign fleets would refrain from directed trawling in the area from June 1 through September 15 and from directed longlining from March 15 through September 15. (Current regulations now close the area to foreign trawlers from December 1 through May 31.) This would allow domestic fishermen the opportunity to develop their fisheries in this area but would not exclude the foreign fleets entirely.

Don Collinsworth moved that the Council recommend to the Secretary an emergency regulation to close the Federal Trustee areas within the jurisdiction and to inform him of the Council's intent to advise the Ministry as an inside and outside fisheries. The motion was seconded by Jeff Steiner and carried unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Council that they should proceed with amendments to the procedural rules and Tanner and Jeff should refer this matter.

D-3 Being Revisited (Amendment 12)

The Council received a memo from WFFS-Central Office regarding Amendment 12 on December 6. Background information had been sent to the Council prior to the meeting. After discussion with Bill Gordon and Pete Tanner of WFFS, it was determined that procedural problems had been solved and that the amendment could be resubmitted, as per the review.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC responded to the points made in the WFFS disapproval letter (a full copy of the SSC minutes is included as Appendix II to these minutes) and reaffirmed their July position, that it is unlikely that additional data exists which would make it possible to restate the SSC's position in a definitive manner and that the November document (RIR) represents the best information currently available to the Council.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended that the Council reaffirm the management plan review of the Environmental Assessment and Review Policy Report. The AP also expressed concern for the option in C.C. that the Council must take into consideration the economic impact on foreign participants when developing regulations such as this one. The AP requested that the Council have WFFS identify the intent of each analysis.

Public Testimony

Henry Collier, WFFWA, Domestic and Foreign Industry representatives, testified and have developed a proposal which would solve the problem without putting Amendment 12 in place at this time.

Essentially, foreign fleets would refrain from directed fishing in the area from June 1 through September 15 and from directed fishing from March 15 through September 15. Current regulations allow close the area to foreign trawlers from December 1 through May 31. This would allow domestic fisheries the opportunity to develop their fisheries in this area but would not exclude the foreign fleets entirely.

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Don Swisher, Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Assn., Hokuten Trawlers Assn. This proposal has the support of the Japanese industry. He pointed out that this is a significant compromise for the Japanese to give up this rich fishing area.

Dennis Petersen, NPFVOA. This particular time of the year is best for the small vessels to fish in that area and it would be of direct benefit to the Akutan processing plant.

John Schmiedtke, Nordstern. Was concerned that the area involved is a trans-shipping zone and wondered if this agreement would affect shipping of cargo in the area. Craig Hammond replied that the shipping zone is farther west.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

John Harville pointed out that in his discussions with Mr. Jensen on the rejection of Amendment 6, it was determined that the needed obligation to address foreign impacts of an amendment would be to include a qualitative statement or indicate that the information simply is not available.

Council members discussed the possibility that the amendment is no longer necessary, especially in light of the industry agreement being proposed. Don Collinsworth was concerned that the Council had not received testimony at this meeting from any of those who supported Amendment 6. He also asked if the staff could advise the Council on the status of stocks in the area because he understood that the cod stocks in that area are declining. Under those circumstances, he feels that it may be important to preserve those stocks through a development zone.

Jeff Povolny reported that the pollock stocks in that area are in excellent condition; however the cod stocks are expected to start a significant decline in 1984.

It was pointed out that if the industry agreement was approved, it would become effective immediately while an amendment could take up to a year to be implemented and would not be in effect for this season. Don Collinsworth noted that Mr. Branson had said that if the amendment package was approved at this meeting, it could be effective by May 31.

*Rudy Petersen moved to table further consideration of Amendment 6 in order to allow a voluntary measure to become effective for the area included within the proposed FDZ. Under the voluntary measure, foreign industry will refrain from direct trawl fishing from June 1 through Sept. 15 and from direct longline fishing from March 15 through Sept. 15. The area will remain closed to foreign trawl fishing from Dec. 1 through May 31 and all existing restrictions on foreign longliners will continue. Industry and*

John Swales, Japan, said that the Japanese industry has the support of the Japanese government. He pointed out that this is a significant compromise for the Japanese to give to the steel industry.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

John Swales pointed out that he has discussed with Mr. Jensen on the rejection of Amendment 6. It was determined that the needed obligation to address foreign imports of an amount would be to include a qualitative statement or indicate that the information simply is not available.

Council members discussed the possibility that the membership is to come necessary, especially in light of the industry agreement being proposed. Don Collinsworth was concerned that the Council had not received testimony of this meeting from any of those who suggested Amendment 6. He also asked if the steel could advise the Council on the status of stocks in the area because he understood that the steel stocks in that area are declining. Under these circumstances, he feels that it may be important to generate these stocks through a development zone.

John Swales reported that the policy books in that area are in excellent condition; however, the cost stocks are expected to start a significant decline in 1984.

It was pointed out that if the industry agreement was approved, it would become effective immediately while an amendment could take up to a year to be implemented and would not be in effect for this season. Don Collinsworth noted that Mr. Jensen had said that if the amendment package was approved at this meeting, it could be effective by May 31.

John Swales moved to table further consideration of Amendment 6 in order to allow a voluntary measure to become effective for the year included within the proposed 1984. Under the voluntary measure, foreign imports will remain from direct foreign shipping from May 1 through Sept. 30 and from direct foreign shipping from March 15 through Sept. 30. The size will remain closed to foreign imports from Dec. 1 through Feb. 28 and all existing restrictions on foreign shipments will continue.

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*Council will review this action early in 1985. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and carried with Don Collinsworth voting against.*

Jay Hastings suggested that the State Department should be advised of the agreement so they could notify any new countries fishing in the area.

E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS, AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Contract 82-2, Crab Observer Program, was before the Council for final approval.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC received a status report from the Council subgroup reviewing the final report of the study on "Social and Cultural Aspects of Halibut Limited Entry." The subgroup requested that the contractor develop a separate document which summarizes the information contained in the report. The contractor has agreed to develop the summary; its due date is being worked out with Council staff.

The SSC reviewed the final report on the Crab Observer Study and found it to be complete. The SSC recommended the Council accept the final report and complete payment on the contract.

The SSC also reviewed the priorities for 1984 programmatic research funding and decided not to change the recommendations at this time. However, the Council may wish to review the individual proposals and their budgets when the actual level of funding is known.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Branson suggested that review of the priorities be delegated to a Council subgroup so that decisions can be made before the March Council meeting if funding is received before that time.

*Bob Mace moved that the Council accept the final report on Contract 82-2, Crab Observer Study, and make the final payments on the contract. The motion was seconded by Jeff Stephan and there being no objections, it was so ordered.*

*John Winther was appointed as the Chairman of the Finance Committee to replace Admiral Knapp.*

Council will review this action early in 1985. The motion was seconded by Bob Ross and carried with Don Collinsworth voting against.

Jay Hastings suggested that the State Department should be advised of the agreement so they could notify any new countries wishing in the area.

CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS, AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Contract 82-2, Data Observer Program, was before the Council for final approval.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed a status report from the Council subgroup reviewing the final report of the study on "Social and Cultural Aspects of Habitat Limited Entry." The subgroup reported that the contractor developed a separate document which summarized the information contained in the report. The contractor has agreed to develop the summary; the data is being worked out with Council staff.

The SSC reviewed the final report on the Data Observer Study and found it to be complete. The SSC recommended the Council accept the final report and complete payment on the contract.

The SSC also reviewed the priorities for the programmatic research funding and decided not to change the recommendations at this time. However, the Council may wish to review the individual proposals and their budgets when the actual level of funding is known.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Bureau suggested that review of the priorities be delayed to a Council subgroup so that decisions can be made before the March Council meeting if funding is received before that time.

Bob Ross moved that the Council accept the final report on 82-2, Data Observer Study, and make the final payments on the contract. The motion was seconded by Jay Hastings and there being no objections, it was so ordered.

John White was appointed as the Chairman of the Finance Committee to replace Andrew Knapp.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no further public comments.

G. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Campbell at 1:45 p.m. on Friday, February 3, 1984.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no further public comments.

G. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Campbell at 1:42 p.m. on Friday, February 3, 1984.