

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

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## SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE PROPOSED AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1980

1. (G-1) Troll Salmon FMP - Report on joint SSC meeting on the management of the West Coast salmon stocks.
2. (G-2) Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP
  - (a) Topics for the proposed annual amendment to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan have been identified by the PDT. Assignments have been made for review at the March meeting.
  - (b) Release of reserves - the first release has been made of all species in the Gulf of Alaska except sablefish in the central area.
3. (G-3) Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP
  - (a) Proposed topics have been identified for the annual amendment of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Plan by the PDT. Assignments have been made for the review at the March meeting.
  - (b) Release of reserves. Release will take place after Council recommendations have been made.
4. (G-4) Tanner Crab FMP - Initial discussion of the "seasons" and "pot storage" issues, and means of obtaining information to make recommendations to the Council at the March meeting.
5. Herring FMP - Initial discussion of the "Trawling north of 56° N latitude," and means of obtaining information to make recommendations to the Council at the March meeting.
6. Request for endorsement of comments on long term objectives in fishery management plans prepared by the Environmental Defense Fund.
7. Review of amendment to 'confidentiality' statute.
8. (H-1) Review of Development of Alaska pollock markets in Japan. Comments to NOAA trade mission for upcoming visit to Japan.

### CONTRACTS AND PROPOSALS

1. (I-1) Amendment to the Domestic Observer Groundfish Contract to expand coverage to the Bering Sea for this season. Informational.

2. (I-2) Approval of a proposal for expansion of the Alaska Catch Data Reporting System by Don Wanie, ADF&G.
3. (I-3) Review the initial draft of a limited entry RFP prepared by Bruce Hart, Extended Jurisdiction, ADF&G.
4. Review proposal to correlate sea surface temperatures and subsurface waters prepared by Al Comiskey of the Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center.
5. Review management strategy and "sea-stead" concept proposed by Don Bevan. University of Washington.

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December 1979

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### ALTERNATES:

Jerry McCrary for Jack Lechner  
Jim Balsiger for Frank Fukuhara  
Jack Robinson for Larry Hreha

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

E-6  
Feb 1980

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## ADVISORY PANEL AGENDA

February 6, 1980

The Advisory Panel will meet in the Aleutian Room of the Anchorage/Westward/Hilton Hotel on Wednesday, February 6, 1980, starting at 9:30 a.m. and adjourning at 5:00 p.m.

### Agenda

#### Council Agenda Item #

- A. Call To Order
- B. Approval of Agenda
- C. Executive Director's Report
- D. Approval of Minutes
- F. Old Business
  - F-3. Public Hearing Schedule/Herring.  
(Bethel, Togiak, Tooksook Bay on Feb. 9; Hooper Bay, Feb.10.)
- G. Fishery Management Plans
  - G-1. Troll Salmon FMP.  
(Proposed amendment, Washington DOF letter & severability clause.)
  - G-2. GOA Groundfish FMP  
(Proposed amendments, comment on Release of Reserves.)
  - G-3. BS/A Groundfish FMP  
(Proposed amendments, comment on Release of Reserves.)
  - G-4. Tanner Crab FMP  
(Discussion on last Amendment & Board of Fisheries Tanner Crab resolution.)

H. New Business

H-1. Fishery Development activities, foreign allocations in return for markets and import/export agreements.

H-2. U.S. incentive to harvest pollock.

H-3. March Council meeting 27-28. (Possible joint meeting.)

H-4. NMFS vessel financing programs.

I. Reports, Contracts, Proposals

I-3. Limited Entry proposals (comparison of systems in effect).

ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

January 9, 1980  
Corrected copy

G-1 TROLL SALMON

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

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

Not all Council have minutes

G-2 TANNER CRAB

AP Action: None

G-3 HERRING FMP

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

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

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

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

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

The Advisory Panel passed the following motion:

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

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

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

The Advisory Panel passed the following motion:

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

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

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

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

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

Following the discussion, the following motion was made:

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

A further motion was made:

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

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

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

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

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

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Robert D. Alverson  
Chairman



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

*Heinberger*

Sept. 1978

Preliminary estimate of 1979 OY

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

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

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

Sept. 1979 Final Estimate of 1979 OY

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

*-4000*

Sept. 1979 Preliminary 1980 OY

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

IF biomass estimate in 1980 same as in 1979  
THEN surplus OY is 8,064 mt

IF domestic food and bait capacity is the same in 1980  
as in 1979, food and bait allocation is 8,000 mt

Maximum available TALFF for Oct-Mar 1980-81 64 mt

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

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

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

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

*9*

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January 1980

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