

Executive Director's Report

Plan Team and SSC Nominations

Item B-1(a) is a nomination from the Alaska Fisheries Science Center to appoint Dr. Craig Faunce to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan Team. You know Craig primarily for his work on the observer program restructuring, and as we move forward with that program his perspectives will be particularly valuable to the Plan Team process. We have received two nominations for the Scallop Plan Team. Item B-1(b) is a nomination from ADF&G for Mr. Quinn Smith, to replace Joe Stratman, based on recent reorganization of the Southeast Alaska shellfish management group. Item B-1(c) is a nomination from Dr. Brad Harris, of Alaska Pacific University, for appointment to the Scallop Plan Team. Dr. Harris brings a wealth of expertise to the table, with extensive scallop experience, both as a fisherman and a scientist. The Scallop Plan Team currently does not have a non-agency scientist. Our SSC will review these nominations and provide recommendations to the Council.

Item B-1(d) is a letter from Commissioner Campbell nominating Dr. Sherri Dressel to serve on the SSC, as a replacement for Doug Woodby who recently retired from the Department. Dr. Dressel has a strong scientific background and currently serves as the Biometrics Supervisor for Region 1, Commercial Fisheries. Dr. Dressel has been approved by Chairman Olson for purposes of this meeting, pending full confirmation by the Council. The Council also needs to confirm Dr. Henry Cheng as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife representative on the SSC, taking over from Farron Wallace. Dr. Cheng was already approved by the Council as WDFW's alternate to Mr. Wallace. Dr. Cheng also currently serves on the Groundfish Plan Teams, so the Council will need to resolve whether an SSC member can also serve on the Plan Teams.

Legislative update

S.2147 (Item B-1(e)), the "Arctic Ocean Research, Monitoring, and Observing Act of 2012", was recently introduced by Senator Begich to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Companion bill S.2154 (Item B-1(f)), the "Arctic Science Endowment Act", was also introduced by Senator Begich to the Committee on Finance. Together these bills would establish and fund a program of Arctic research administered through the North Pacific Research Board and the Arctic Research Commission. If enacted, these bills would establish an integrated, long-term scientific research, monitoring, and observing program for the Arctic. Funding would be provided through a 1 cent per barrel tax on crude oil and petroleum products, apparently establishing an endowment which would generate up to \$20 million per year in research funding. The NPRB is currently reviewing proposals for its Arctic Synthesis Program, which has approximately \$1.4 million available to synthesize existing Arctic research.

S.2184 (Item D-1(g)), the "Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act of 2012" (FIRRA), was introduced March 12 and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Item B-1(h) is a summary of the bill. To summarize the summary, I think the following are the major items the Council needs to be aware of:

-per the Saltonstall-Kennedy (SK) Act, the FIRRA would require the Secretary to apply 30% of the duties of imported fish products to a grant program for research and development (including cooperative research) to benefit the U.S. fishing industry. In 2010, of the \$113 million available, \$104.6 million went to NOAA's operations budget and only \$8.4 million was used by NOAA for the grants program.

-30% of 2013 SK funds is expected to equal around \$115 million. 3% of that amount (or close to \$4 million) would be distributed equally to the Regional Fisheries Management Councils (or about \$.5 million to each Council) to organize a regional investment stakeholder committee, develop regional fishery investment plans, review grant proposals, and make recommendations to the Secretary for grant funding.

-70% of the available funds (or around \$80 million) would be distributed to the Council Regions, half allocated equally, and half allocated "proportionally among the Council Regions based on the combined economic impact of commercial landings and recreational fishing in each region".

-The Secretary would administer the grant program in each Region, and can only award grants which are consistent with the regional investment plan and have been recommended by each regional investment committee and approved by the Council.

-the composition of each regional investment committee may not exceed 13 members, and the FIRRA specifies the disciplinary requirements of the committee composition.

-finally, the FIRRA also contains a Section 5 which requires the Secretary to "conduct a review of regulations and procedures used to implement title III of the Magnuson-Stevens Act", including the identification of redundant and inefficient regulations and procedures, and recommendations for streamlining the process. (This sounds awfully familiar to the 2006 MSA reauthorization provisions to streamline and integrate NEPA and MSA...).

It is my understanding that we may be asked to comment on this draft bill in the near future, and if so I am prepared to draft detailed comments for Council consideration.

Update on IG review

I mentioned in February that the Office of the Inspector General (IG), at the request of Massachusetts Congressmen Barney Frank and John Tierney, is undertaking a review of the controls and processes of NOAA and the Regional Fishery Management Councils in developing fisheries regulations. Item B-1(i) is a copy of a memo from the IG office to Dr. Lubchenco regarding this issue. In February a conference call was convened which included NOAA leadership, the Councils' leadership, and representatives from the IG Office, including Inspector General Todd Zinser. Currently the IG Office is in an information gathering phase, focusing at this time on gathering materials from NOAA Fisheries. At some point in the near future I expect the IG Office to be in direct contact with the Council offices to garner our input into this review.

GAO study

Item B-1(j) is an item of interest and a head's up I want to bring to your attention. This is an email inquiry I received last week from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) who is conducting a study of the proposed move of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) from the Department of Commerce to the US Fish and Wildlife Service within the Department of Interior. They are requesting Council member contacts to discuss the ramifications of the various proposals to reorganizing NMFS and/or NOAA. I have shared this with Chairman Olson, and some of you may be contacted to participate in this study.

House Natural Resources Committee Oversight Hearing

Item B-1(k) is a notice of a hearing by the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Insular Affairs in Anchorage on Tuesday, April 3 at the Loussac Library, titled "Alaska's Sovereignty in Peril: The National Ocean Policy's Goal to Federalize Alaska". Just an FYI – witnesses to be announced.

Halibut Workshop

We have made further progress on finalizing the panelists and presenters for the April 24-25 workshop – Item B-1(l) contains the most recent workshop description, along with the list of panelists and presenters. Please note that if you plan to attend, we have a room block at the Crowne Plaza Hotel which is good through April 2. As of March 23 it appears that only 12 persons are booked under this room block!

NPFMC-IPHC workshop on Halibut Bycatch Estimation, Halibut Growth and Migration, & Effects on Harvest Strategy – April 24-25, 2012 at Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle: MUST CALL 1-888-233-9527 by April 2, 2012. Ask for North Pacific Fishery Management Council rate of \$137.00.

Joint Plan Team Meeting on stock recruitment relationships

On April 4-5 several members of our Groundfish and Crab Plan Teams will meet at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, to follow up on the SSC recommendation to "develop guidelines on how to address environmental changes in stock recruitment relationships into biological reference points and how to model environmental forcing in stock projection models". The meeting is open to the public. A more detailed agenda is pending.

Greenpeace presentation on Zhemchug and Pribilof canyons

On Tuesday evening Greenpeace and associates will hold an open meeting to present research findings relative to their pending proposal to the Council to consider management measures relative to these canyon areas in the Bering Sea. Item B-1(m) is a flyer with the details – it will be held in our AP meeting room at around 5:30 pm and is open to all interested persons.

USCG Command Center Tours – reminder

For those of you who signed up for the tour of the Anchorage Command Center, Lt. Kenne will be leading one group (the AP members) over to the Command Center on Tuesday evening (6:40 pm in the lobby), and the other group (Council members/staff) on Wednesday evening (6:40 pm in the lobby). B-1(n) is the latest list of names I have from Lt. Kenne.

Kudos!

Some congratulations are in order – a manuscript authored by Dr. Diana Evans, Dr. Andre Punt, and other, has been accepted for publication in the ICES Journal of Marine Science, published by the Oxford University Press. The paper is titled "Evaluating the Impact of Buffers to Account for Scientific Uncertainty when Setting TACs: Application to Red King Crab in Bristol Bay Alaska". We will provide you copies of the publication.

The Council itself should be proud of two awards it has recently received. In February, at the second annual Alaska Marine Gala and Alaska Ocean Leadership Awards, you were awarded the 2012 Stewardship and Sustainability Award. Myself, Council members Dersham, Hull, and Lassuy, and a few staff were on hand to accept this award on behalf of the Council. And, in fact today, the Council is being awarded the 2012 Conservation Achievement Award (also in recognition of its overall management

record) from the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society! Because of this Council meeting we could not be on hand to accept the award, but you all should be very proud of the honor and recognition reflected by these awards.

Lastly, but not leastly, I wanted to recognize the participation by a number of our Council members at the recent meeting of the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), who met in Bethel in early March for a statewide summit on Chinook salmon issues. Dan Hull and Sam Cotton attended this meeting to represent the Council, and were there to provide an overview of our Council's efforts to address salmon bycatch and to answer questions. I heard a lot of positive feedback on this outreach effort. Commissioner Campbell was also in attendance at this meeting.

SOPPs revisions

Per your review in February, I have a revised SOPPs for your review in Executive Session this week. Upon your approval we will forward it into the process for review and approval by NMFS.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Alaska Fisheries Science Center
7600 Sand Point Way N.E.
Bldg. 4, F/AKC
Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

MAR 15 2012

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2012

Eric A. Olson
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

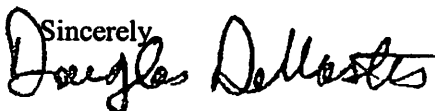
Dear Mr. Olson,

I am writing to nominate Dr. Craig Faunce to membership on the Gulf of Alaska Plan Team. His curriculum vitae is attached for your review and consideration.

Craig joined the Fisheries Monitoring and Analysis Division in February of 2008. He provides analytical advice in support of the accurate collection and interpretation of fishery-dependent data by observers in Alaska. Towards this end, he is currently conducting analyses to evaluate potential sources of bias in catch estimates derived from both observer and industry sources, as well as developing an efficient sampling design to be used as part of the restructured observer program. As a core-team member for the Habitat and Ecological Process Research (HEPR) Program (<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/HEPR/default.php>), Dr. Faunce helps identify emerging issues where critical scientific information will be required in the future, and reviews proposals for funding in order to develop the science before new challenges mature into crises.

Craig has been participating in the plan team process informally in recent years and I believe his participation as a formal member will be helpful to the plan team's efforts.

I appreciate your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,


Douglas P. DeMaster, Ph.D.
Science and Research Director,
Alaska Region

CC: Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director, North Pacific Fishery Management Council



CRAIG H. FAUNCE

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC)
Fisheries Monitoring and Analysis Division
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
Craig.Faunce@noaa.gov
206-526-4188

EDUCATION

Diplomas

2005 Ph.D. (Fisheries) University of Miami
1995 M.Sc. (Marine Biology) Florida Institute of Technology
1992 B.Sc. (Biology) Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Continuing

October 2011 "Oracle Database: Introduction to SQL Ed1." Oracle University.
October 2011 "Oracle Application Express: Developing Web Applications Ed 1". Oracle University.
October 2011 "Value Stream Mapping" American Society for Quality.
May 2011 "Leadership and management skills for non-managers." Management Concepts International.
April-June 2011 "Bycatch: problems and solutions." University of Washington.
February 2009 "Alaska Fisheries Information Network training." NMFS/AFSC.
May 2008 "Computer intensive statistics." University of Washington.
April 2007 "Techniques and topics for standardization of Indices of Abundance." NMFS/SEFSC.

POSITIONS HELD

02/08- present Research Fishery Biologist, AFSC.
07/05 – 02/08 Associate Research Scientist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI).
06/02 – 06/05 Research Assistant, University of Miami.
09/01 – 05/02 Research Fellow, American Institute for Marine Sciences.
09/00 – 05/01 Research Fellow, Perry Institute for Marine Science.
02/96 – 12/02 Biologist, Audubon of Florida's Tavernier Science Center.
05/95 – 02/96 Fisheries Technician, FWRI.
05/94 – 08/94 Research Assistant, Florida Institute of Technology.
06/94 – 08/94 Intern, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution.
09/92 – 12/92 Research Assistant, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 06/11-present Lead, Observer Restructure Analyses Group, AFSC.
05/10-present Principal Investigator, Alternative catch monitoring of Alaskan groundfish, AFSC.
03/08- present Core team member, Habitat and Ecological Processes Research Program, AFSC.
06/07- 01/08 Lead and moderator, Florida East Coast Telemetry Forum, FWRI.
10/07 Guest Instructor, Environmental Biology. Florida Gulf Coast University.
12/06- 02/08 Lead of the life-history sub-group. Southeast Data Assessment and Review 15a: Mutton snapper (*Lutjanus analis*). South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.
12/06- 02/08 Contributor to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan: Northeast fish sub-team.
09/06- 01/08 Co-chair of the Fishing, Diving, and Other Uses Focus Team. Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative.
05/06- 01/08 Contributor to the Fishery Ecosystem Plan: Estuarine Shrub/Scrub (Mangrove) habitat. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.
04/06 Moderator, "Mangrove-fishery linkages" session. 1st International Symposium on Mangroves as Fish Habitat. Miami, Florida.
09/05 - 12/05 Lead of the working group on "variability" for "Back Reef II: The importance of Back Reef Habitats to the Sustainability of Coral Reef Ecosystems", a workshop held by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.
2002 – 2003 Contributor to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan: Biscayne Bay region.
2001 – 2003 Contributor to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan: Florida Bay region.
2000 – 2003 Contributor to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan: Mangrove Estuarine Transition Zone.

Peer review clients

Journal Articles

Marine Ecology Progress Series
Fisheries Research
ICES Journal of Marine Science
Marine Biology
Estuarine, Coastal, and Shelf Science
Coral Reefs

Journal of Fish Biology
Bulletin of Marine Science
Marine and Freshwater Research Southeastern Naturalist
Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Sciences
Jordan Journal of Biological Studies

Grants

NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center
North Pacific Research Board
Florida SeaGrant
EarthWatch

Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
NMFS National Undersea Research Program
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
National Audubon Society

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

19. Faunce, CH. 2011. A comparison between industry and observer catch compositions within the Gulf of Alaska rockfish fishery. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 68:1757-1763. doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsr093.
18. Faunce, CH and Barbeaux, S. 2011. The frequency and quantity of Alaskan groundfish catcher-vessel landings made with and without an observer. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 68:1769-1777. doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsr090.

PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

17. Faunce, CH and CA Layman. 2009. Sources of variation that affect perceived nursery function of mangroves. Pp. 401-421 *In*: I. Nagelkerken (ed.) Ecological connectivity among tropical coastal ecosystems. Springer, the Hague.
16. Nagelkerken, I and CH Faunce. 2008. What makes mangroves attractive to fish? Use of artificial units to test the influence of water depth, cross-shelf location, and presence of root structure. *Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science* 79:559-565.
15. Faunce, CH and JE Serafy. 2008. Growth and secondary production of an eventual reef fish during mangrove residency. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 79:93-100.
14. Faunce, CH and JE Serafy. 2008. Selective use of mangrove shorelines by snappers, grunts, and great barracuda. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 356:153-162.
13. Nagelkerken, I and Faunce, CH. 2007. Colonisation of artificial mangroves by reef fishes in a marine seascape. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 75:417-422.
12. Faunce, CH and JE Serafy. 2007. Nearshore habitat use by gray snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*) and bluestriped grunt (*Haemulon sciurus*): Environmental gradients and ontogenetic shifts. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 80:473-495.
11. Serafy, JE, M Valle, Faunce, CH, and J Luo. 2007. Species-specific patterns of fish abundance and size along a subtropical mangrove shoreline: an application of the delta approach. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 80:609-624.
10. Faunce, CH. 2007. A meta-analysis of snapper and grunt data from mangrove shoreline habitats in the greater Caribbean. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 80:920 (Abstract).
9. Faunce, CH and JE Serafy. 2006. Mangroves as fish habitat: 50 years of field studies. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 318:1-18. (Feature article).
8. Faunce, CH, JE Serafy, and JJ Lorenz. 2004. Density-habitat relationships of mangrove creek fishes within the Southeastern Saline Everglades (USA), with reference to managed freshwater releases. *Wetlands Ecology and Management* 12:377-394.
7. Serafy, JE, CH Faunce, and JJ Lorenz. 2003. Mangrove shoreline fishes of Biscayne Bay Florida. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 72:161-180.
6. Faunce, CH, JJ Lorenz, and JE Serafy. 2002. Size-structure of gray snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*) within a mangrove "no-take" sanctuary. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 70:211-216.
5. Faunce, CH, HM Patterson, and JJ Lorenz. 2002. Age, growth, and mortality of the Mayan cichlid, *Cichlasoma urophthalmus*, from the southeastern Everglades. *U.S. Fishery Bulletin* 100:42-50.
4. Faunce, CH and JJ Lorenz. 2000. Reproductive biology of the Mayan cichlid, *Cichlasoma urophthalmus*, within an estuarine mangrove habitat of southern Florida. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 58:215-225.

PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

3. Faunce, CH 2000. Reproduction of blackchin tilapia, *Sarotherodon melanotheron*, within an impounded mangrove ecosystem in east-central Florida. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 57:353-361.
2. Faunce, CH, and R Paperno. 1999. Tilapia-dominated fish assemblages within an impounded mangrove ecosystem in east-central Florida. *Wetlands* 19:126-138.
1. Taylor, DS, GR Poulakis, S Kupchas, and Faunce, CH. 1998. Immediate colonization of a newly connected impounded salt marsh by fishes in the Indian River Lagoon System, Florida. *Mangroves and Saltmarshes (now Wetlands Ecology and Management)* 2:29-36.

Peer-reviewed reports

- Faunce, CH, J. Tunnell, M. Burton, K. Ferguson, J. O'Hop, R. Muller, M. Feeley, L. Crabtree. 2007. Life History of *Lutjanus analis* inhabiting Florida waters. Data Workshop Report SEDAR15A-DW-15. 35 p.
- Faunce, CH, R. Muller. 2007. Mortality estimates for mutton snapper, *Lutjanus analis* inhabiting Florida waters. Data Workshop Report SEDAR15A-DW-16. 18 p.

Book review

- Faunce, CH. 2008. The Biology of Mangroves and Seagrasses. Second Edition. By Peter J Hogarth. Oxford University Press. *Quarterly Review of Biology* 83:118.

Thesis and dissertation

- Faunce, CH 1995. Population study of blackchin tilapia (*Tilapia melanotheron*) and associated fishes within an impounded salt marsh of east – central Florida. M.Sc. Thesis. Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne.
- Faunce, CH 2005. Reef fish utilization of mangrove shoreline habitats within southeastern Florida. Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Miami, Coral Gables.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Grants

*Grants are not normally sought within AFSC or FWC

- 08/10 - North Pacific Research Board (NPRB 1017). "Alternative catch monitoring in Alaska." Principal Investigators CH Faunce, J Cahalan and J Bonney. \$154,172.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT (Continued)

- 09/01 – 05/02 United States Geological Society - Biological Resources Division. "Utilization of mangrove fringe habitats by exploited fishes in southeastern Florida". Principal investigators: JE Serafy, CH Faunce and JJ Lorenz. \$31,821.
- 09/00 – 05/01 Environmental Defense. "Evaluating the role of mangroves as essential fish habitat within northeastern Florida Bay and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary." Principal Investigators: JE Serafy, JJ Lorenz, and CH Faunce. \$14,500.
- 09/00 – 05/01 University of Miami, RSMAS. "An assessment of mangrove shoreline habitat and associated fishes in southeastern Florida". Principal investigators: JF Barimo and CH Faunce. \$1,050.

Merit-based awards

- 09/03 – 05/04 American Institute for Marine Studies Fellowship. \$25,000.
- 09/03 – 05/03 Captain Bob Lewis Memorial Scholarship. \$3,000.
- 09/00 – 05/01 Perry Institute for Marine Science Fellowship. \$18,500.
- 09/00 – 05/01 Paul Kopp Memorial Scholarship. \$1,000.
- 09/00 – 05/01 Florida Keys Audubon Society Graduate Scholarship. \$2,000.
- 09/99 – 05/00 Audubon of Florida Graduate Student Award. \$9,250.

CERTIFICATIONS

Scientific Diver- American Association for Underwater Divers Standard 2006, 2007
Nitrox Diver- National Underwater Scuba Instructors (180 dives as of Jan. '08)
First Aid- American Red Cross
Adult CPR/AED- American Red Cross
Oxygen Administration- Divers Alert Network

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- 01/12 Faunce, CH, J Cahalan, J Bonney and R Swanson. Alternative catch monitoring of Alaskan groundfish. *2012 Alaskan Marine Science Symposium*, Anchorage, Alaska.
- 08/10 Faunce, CH. Are observer audits of industry data warranted? Lessons learned from early comparisons of catch compositions within the Gulf of Alaska Rockfish fishery. *Fishery Dependent Information Conference*, Galway, Ireland.
- 07/09 Faunce, CH and LM Thompson. How new quota systems aimed at stopping overfishing impact observer programs. *6th International Fisheries Observer and Monitoring Conference*, Portland, Maine.
- 10/08 Faunce, CH. The fish, fisher, and fish biologist: connectivity in tropical seas. Invited speaker, Fishing Headquarters reef fish symposium, Jupiter Community Center.
- 06/07 I Nagelkerken and CH Faunce. What makes mangroves attractive fish habitat – their shallow depth, cross-shelf location, or structure? 33rd Meeting of the Association of Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean Laboratories, St. Thomas, USVI.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

- 04/06 Faunce, CH and JE Serafy. Ontogenetic use of coastal vegetated seascapes by two reef fishes. *1st International Symposium on Mangroves as Fish Habitat*, Miami, Florida.
- 04/06 JE Serafy, M Valle, CH Faunce and J Luo. Distribution and abundance of great barracuda (*Sphyraena barracuda*) and gray snapper (*Lutjanus griseus*) along a subtropical mangrove shoreline. *1st International Symposium on Mangroves as Fish Habitat*, Miami, Florida.
- 01/05 Faunce, CH, PM Chittaro, S Sponaugle, KL Heck Jr., and JA Bohnsack. Variation in the living components of back reefs and their support of coral reef ecosystems. *Back Reef II Workshop: The importance of Back Reef Habitats to the Sustainability of Coral Reef Ecosystems*, Lee Stocking Island, Bahamas.
- 05/02 Faunce, CH, and JE Serafy. Biscayne Bay's mangrove shoreline fishes. *Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Public Workshop*, Deering Estate, Cutler Ridge, Florida.
- 10/00 Faunce, CH, JE Serafy, and JJ Lorenz. Utilization of mangrove-creek habitats by fishes within the Southeastern Saline Everglades. *4th Workshop on Salt Marsh Management and Research*, Vero Beach, Florida.
- 09/00 CC McIvor, JJ Lorenz, JA Ley, JE Serafy, and CH Faunce. Patterns of fish use within mangrove prop root habitats: South Florida, USA. *Benthic Ecology of Mangroves*, Mombassa, Kenya.
- 02/97 Faunce, CH and JJ Lorenz. Reproduction and early life history of the Mayan cichlid *Cichlasoma urophthalmus* (Günther) within the dwarf mangrove zone of Everglades National Park, Florida. *Annual meeting of the Florida chapter of the American Fisheries Society*, Brooksville, Florida.
- 10/96 Faunce, CH. Establishment and status of blackchin tilapia (*Tilapia melanotheron*) within the ichthyofauna of an impounded mangrove marsh. *3rd Workshop on Salt Marsh Management and Research*, Vero Beach, Florida.
- 03/95 Faunce, CH. Population study of blackchin tilapia (*Tilapia melanotheron*) and associated fishes within an impounded salt marsh of east-central Florida. *Annual meeting of the Florida chapter of the American Fisheries Society*, Brooksville, Florida.
- 08/94 Faunce, CH. The feeding and maintenance of American angelfish (Pomacanthidae) in captivity. *Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution*, Fort Pierce, Florida.
- 12/93 Faunce, CH. The affect of prey movement on prey selection of the silver perch, *Bairdiella chrysoura*. *Behavior and sensory biology of fishes symposium*, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Florida.

STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

333 RASPBERRY ROAD
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518-1599
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February 21, 2012
Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. 4th Avenue
Anchorage AK 99501

RECEIVED
FEB 22 2012

Dear Chairman ^{Eric} Olson:

The ADF&G Southeast Alaska shellfish management group has recently been reorganized, and Joe Stratman is no longer the scallop manager and will not continue to serve on the Scallop Plan Team. Quinn Smith has been assigned these duties, and, given these changes, I would like to nominate him for appointment to the Scallop Plan Team. Please see the attached CV for Quinn Smith.

Thank you for considering his appointment at the upcoming March Council meeting.

Sincerely,

Nicole S. Kimball

Nicole Kimball
Federal Fisheries Coordinator
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Quinn Taylor Smith, M.S.

PO Box 240867
Douglas, AK 99824

Phone: (907) 957-6911
E-mail: quinntsmith@gmail.com

Research Interests:

Commercial fisheries ecology, fisheries management, crustacean population ecology, field sampling techniques, larval transport & settlement dynamics, trophic interactions, climatic effects on oceans, arctic marine ecology, marine spatial planning.

Education

M.S.	2008	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Fisheries	GPA: 3.93
B.A.	2004	Earlham College	Biology	GPA: 3.64
	2002	Institute for Tropical Marine Ecology	Semester Program	GPA: 3.83

Employment History

2009-Present	<i>Fisheries Biologist II</i> Alaska Department of Fish and Game
2008 – 2009	<i>Arctic Ocean Science and Mapping Consultant</i> Oceana
2005 – 2008	<i>Research Assistant</i> University of Alaska Fairbanks, SFOS, Fisheries Division
2006 – 2007	<i>Teaching Assistant</i> University of Alaska Southeast, Biology Department
2006, 2007, 2008	<i>Senior Ski Patrol (Seasonal, Part & Full Time)</i> Eaglecrest – City and Bureau of Juneau
2005	<i>Program Manager</i> Adams State College Adventure Programs
2004	<i>Biological Study Areas Property Manager</i> Earlham College Biology Department
2000 – 2004	<i>Trips Manager & Leader (Part Time, Various Positions)</i> Earlham College Wilderness Programs

Publications

Smith Q & Eckert G. (2011) Spatial variation and evidence for multiple transport pathways for Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*) late-stage larvae in southeastern Alaska. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. 429:185-196.

Reports

Smith, Q., B. Davidson, J. Stratman, G. Woods. 2011. 2012 Report to the Board of Fisheries on Region 1 shrimp fisheries. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 11-56, Anchorage.

Smith, Q., C.E. Siddon, and G.H. Bishop. (2011) Southeast Alaska Tanner Crab Survey and Stock Status Report for the 2010/11 Season. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report Series, Douglas, Alaska.

- Smith, Q. (In Press) 2010 Pot Shrimp Survey Report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report Series, Douglas, Alaska.
- Smith, Q., J. McKinney, L. Komoroske, and L. Pettersen. (2002) Dominica coral reef status 2002: Assessment of the sea urchin *Diadema antillarum*, reef fishes, and algae. ITME Research Reports 12:1-4.
- Smith, Q. (2002) Abundance and test size of *Diadema antillarum* along the west coast of Dominica (Lesser Antilles) 2002. ITME Research Reports 12:3-9.

Awards and Fellowships

- 2007 Thesis Completion Fellowship – University of Alaska Fairbanks
- 2004 Lucy Grave Moore Marine Biology Award – Earlham College

Surveys

<u>Year</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Survey</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Role</u>
2012	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	5 days	Scientist
2012	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	5 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	8 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	3 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Tanner Crab Assessment Survey North	10 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Management Survey	11 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey South	17 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey North	12 days	Organizer
2011	ADF&G	District 1 Pot Shrimp Survey	12 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Red King Crab Assessment Survey III	10 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	District 4 Sea Urchin and Cucumber Assessment	9 days	Research Diver
2011	ADF&G	Golden King Crab Observer Program	8 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	Golden King Crab Observer Program	7 days	Scientist
2011	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	5 days	Scientist
2010	ADF&G	NPRB Red King Crab Mark / Recapture Project	7 days	Scientist
2010	ADF&G	Tanner Crab Assessment Survey South	10 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2010	ADF&G	Tanner Crab Assessment Survey North	9 days	Organizer
2010	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey North	10 days	Organizer
2010	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey South	15 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2010	ADF&G	Red King Crab Assessment Survey III	12 days	Scientist
2010	ADF&G	District 3 & 11 Cucumber Dive Assessment Survey	7 days	Research Diver
2010	ADF&G	Red King Crab Assessment Survey II	11 days	Scientist
2010	ADF&G	Golden King Crab Observer Program	6 days	Scientist
2010	ADF&G	Golden King Crab Observer Program	9 days	Scientist
2009	ADF&G	Tanner Crab Assessment Survey South	11 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2009	ADF&G	Tanner Crab Assessment Survey North	10 days	Organizer
2009	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey South	15 days	Organizer
2009	ADF&G	Pot Shrimp Assessment Survey North	10 days	PI & Chief Scientist
2007	UAF	GAK Seward Line Cruise	10 days	Scientist
2006	USGS	Glacier Bay Tanner Crab Tracking	8 days	Scientist

2006

USGS

Glacier Bay Tanner Crab Tracking

5 days

Scientist

Professional Presentations

(Last 5 years)

Board of Fish – Petersburg, AK, 2012

Southeast and Yakutat Shrimp Pot and Trawl Fisheries, Board of Fisheries Oral Report

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2010

Everyone loves SPAM: Southeast Potshrimp Analysis and Management – A Program Redesign

Oak Foundation Arctic Mapping Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2009

Identifying important ecological areas in the Alaskan Arctic

Oak Foundation Arctic Mapping Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2008

Identifying important ecological areas in the Aleutian Islands and the Arctic seas

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2007

Spatial variation and evidence for multiple transport pathways for Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*) late stage larvae in southeast Alaska

Western Society of Naturalists – Ventura, CA, 2007

Spatial variation and evidence for multiple transport pathways for Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*) late-stage larvae in southeast Alaska.

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2006

Depth distribution of Tanner crab, *Chionoecetes bairdi*, larvae immediately after hatching in Adams Inlet, Glacier Bay, Alaska (poster presentation)

International Larval Biology Conference – Coos Bay, OR, 2006

Depth distribution of Tanner crab, *Chionoecetes bairdi*, larvae immediately after hatching in Adams Inlet, Glacier Bay, Alaska (poster presentation)

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2006

Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*) megalopal dynamics in greater northern southeast Alaska

Conferences attended

(Last 5 years)

Board of Fish – Petersburg, AK, 2012

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2011

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2010

Western Groundfish Conference – Juneau, AK, 2010

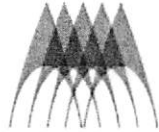
American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter – Juneau, AK, 2010

Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2009

Oak Foundation Arctic Mapping Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2009
Oak Foundation Arctic Mapping Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2008
Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2007
Western Society of Naturalists – Ventura, CA, 2007
Interagency Crab Meeting – Anchorage, AK, 2006
International Larval Biology Conference – Coos Bay, OR, 2006
The Crustacean Society – Juneau, AK, 2006

Professional Certifications

ADF&G Research Diver
ADF&G Boat Husbandry Diver
PADI Rescue Diver
Outdoor Emergency Care Technician
ARC CPR for Professional Rescuer



ALASKA PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

Dear Mr. Olson:

21 March 2012

I am writing to request an appointment to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's Scallop Plan Team.

I am qualified by both education and experience to serve on the team. I am an Alaskan; born and raised in Homer. I have commercially fished salmon in Prince William Sound, and Upper Cook Inlet. From 1995 - 2000 I working for the AK Department of Fish & Game aboard the Research Vessel Pandalus and I twice participated in the Kayak Island weathervane scallop surveys. While in graduate school on the East Coast I commercially fished for sea scallops on Georges Bank. I hold a MSc and a PhD in Fisheries Oceanography from the University of Massachusetts. Both my thesis and dissertation research focused on scallops (Atlantic sea scallops). Presently, I am a Professor of Marine Biology and Director if the Applied Fisheries Science Laboratory at Alaska Pacific University.

My desire to serve on the SPT stems from a belief that my education in fisheries is a privilege which comes with a responsibility to engage and serve the public. As a Research Associate at the Univ. of Massachusetts Grad School of Marine Sciences I was heavily involved in sea scallop fisheries management. Since 2007, I have served on the New England Fisheries Management Council's Habitat Plan Team. I find participation in the council process both challenging and rewarding.

Thank you for your consideration. Attached you will find my CV and a letter from NEFMC's Executive Director Paul Howard regarding my service on the NEFMC HPT.

Best Regards,

Brad

Brad Harris, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Marine Biology

Applied Fisheries Science Laboratory
Department of Environmental Science
Alaska Pacific University
Ph: 907.564.8802
Email: bharris@alaskapacific.edu

B. Harris Short Curriculum Vitae

Bradley P. Harris, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Marine Biology
Department of Environmental Science
Alaska Pacific University
4101 University Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508-4672

Phone: (907) 564-8802

Email: bharris@alaskapacific.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.* University of Massachusetts – Graduate School of Marine Sciences, New Bedford, MA, 2011. (Fisheries Oceanography). Title: *Habitat Conditions in Persistent High-Concentration Sea Scallop (*Placopecten Magellanicus*) Aggregations on Georges Bank, USA.*
- M.Sc.* University of Massachusetts – Graduate School of Marine Science, New Bedford, MA, 2006. (Fisheries Oceanography). Title: *Spatially-specific Shell Growth of Sea Scallops, *Placopecten magellanicus*, in Georges Bank and Mid-Atlantic Waters.*
- B.Sc.* Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, 1999. (Wildlife and Fisheries Science).

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES / CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

- *U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Master: 100 gross tons near coastal license*
- *U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Mate: 200 gross tons near coastal license*
- *U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Able Seaman: Limited*
- *Scientific SCUBA diver: MA Division of Marine Fisheries Certified Scientific Diver*
- *PADI NITROX enriched air diver*
- *ArcGIS Software Training, ESRI training center Danvers, MA. Introductory – Advanced ArcGIS coursework including Spatial Analyst and 3-D Analyst.*

EMPLOYMENT

- 2011 - Present *Assistant Professor, Primary Investigator Applied Fisheries Science Laboratory, Environmental Science Department Alaska Pacific University*
- 2007 - 2011 *Research Associate, Habitat Mapping and Ecosystem Studies, University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth*
- 2001 - 2007 *Program Manager, Marine Fisheries Field Research Group, University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth*
- 2000 *Captain, Oil Spill Response Vessel Harrison Bay- Alaska Clean Seas*
- 1995 - 2000 *Boat Officer, Research Vessel *Pandalus* - Alaska Department of Fish and Game*
- 1991 - 1995 *Commercial Fisherman, Pink Salmon Purse Seine Fishery, Prince William Sound, Alaska. Sockeye Salmon Set Net Fishery, Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska*

SERVICE

- 2011 - Present *Member: Steering Committee on the Northeast Regional Marine Spatial Plan - The Nature Conservancy*
- 2010 - Present *Member: Working Group on the Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries Management - Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization - United Nations*
- 2010 - Present *Member: Working Group on the Northwest Atlantic Regional Sea - International Council for Exploration of the Sea*
- 2010 - Present *Member: Working Group on Fish Ecology - International Council for Exploration of the Sea*
- 2007 - Present *Member: Habitat/ Marine Protected Areas / Ecosystem Plan Development Team, New England Fisheries Management Council*
- 2005 - 2010 *Member at Large: Board of Directors, American Fisheries Society - Southern New England Chapter*
- 2004 - 2010 *Member: Executive Board, Faculty Federation, University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth*

PRESENT RESEARCH FUNDING

- PI: *Spatially-Specific Assessment of Macrobenthos and Surficial Sediments of the Western North Atlantic, NOAA-NMFS, \$26,441*
- PI: *Effects of Mobile Fishing Gear on Geological and Biological Structure: a Georges Bank Closed Versus Open Area Comparison. NOAA-NMFS, \$650,953*
- PI: *Applied Fisheries Science Laboratory, PCCF 2011-2012, \$40,000.*
- PI: *Low habitat-impact demersal walleye pollock trawl feasibility study, PCCF 2011-2012, \$6,688.*
- PI: *Assessment of gear-hangs and the Olex global database to enhance habitat mapping in the Eastern Bering Sea, PCCF 2011-2012, \$8,000.*
- PI: *Pacific halibut size at age, diet composition and flesh condition, PCCF 2011-2012, \$12,000.*

PUBLICATIONS

- McGuire, C.J. and Harris, B.P. 2012. Systems thinking applied to U.S. federal fisheries management: Law and policy considerations. *Natural Resources & Environment*, 26(3): 3 - 6
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., Baker, E.P., Harris, B.P., and Rheault, R.B. 2011 Environmental Impacts Related to Mechanical Harvest of Cultured Shellfish. in: Shumway, S., ed. *Shellfish Aquaculture and the Environment*. Wiley-Blackwell. Pp 247 - 263
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., Carey, J.D., Harris, B.P., and O'Keefe, C.E. 2011 Discard mortality played a major role in the loss of 10 billion juvenile scallops in the Mid-Atlantic Bight: Reply to Hart & Shank (2011). *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 443:299-302
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., Carey, J.D., Harris, B.P., O'Keefe, C.E. 2011. Incidental fishing mortality may be responsible for the death of ten billion juvenile sea scallops in the mid-Atlantic. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 425:167-173
- Adams, C.F., Harris, B.P., Marino II, M.C., and Stokesbury, K.D.E. 2010. Quantifying sea scallop bed diameter on Georges Bank with geostatistics. *Fisheries Research* 106(3): 460-467

- Harris, B.P.** and Stokesbury K.D.E. 2010. The Spatial Structure of Local Surficial Sediment Characteristics on Georges Bank, USA. *Continental Shelf Research* 30(17): 1840–1853
- McGuire, C.J. and **Harris, B.P.** 2010. Some *Back-Ended* Legal and Political Issues in United States Fisheries Management. *Journal of Politics and Law*. 3(2): 52-62
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., **Harris, B.P.**, Carey J.D., and O’Keefe C.E. 2010. High Juvenile Sea Scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*) Densities on Banks and Ledges in the Central Gulf of Maine. *Journal of Shellfish Research*. 29(2): 369-372
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., **Harris, B.P.**, Marino II, M.C. 2010. Using technology to forward fisheries science: the sea scallop example. in: Baxter, J.M., and Galbraith C.A., (Eds.), *Species Management: Challenges and Solutions for the 21st Century*. Scottish Natural Heritage.
- Jacobson, L.D, Stokesbury, K.D.E., Allard, M.A., Chute, A., **Harris, B.P.**, Hart, D. Jaffarian, T., Marino II, M.C., Nogueira, J.I., and Rago, P. 2010. Quantification, effects and stock assessment modeling approaches for measurement errors in body size data from sea scallops (*Placopecten magellanicus*). *Fishery Bulletin*. 108(2): 233–247
- Tian, R.C., Chen, C.S., Stokesbury, K.D.E., Rothschild, B.J., Cowles, G., Xu, Q.C., **Harris, B.P.**, and Marino, M.C. 2009. Dispersal and settlement of sea scallop larvae spawned in the fishery closed areas on Georges Bank. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*. 66(10):2155-2164
- Tian, R.C., Chen, C.S., Stokesbury, K.D.E., Rothschild, B.J., Cowles, G., Xu, Q.C., **Harris, B.P.**, and Marino, M.C. 2009. Sensitivity analysis of sea scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*) larvae trajectories to hydrodynamic model configuration on Georges Bank and adjacent coastal regions. *Fisheries Oceanography*. 18(3): 173–184
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., **Harris, B.P.**, Marino II M. C. 2009 Astonishment, Stupefaction, and a Naturalist’s Approach to Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Studies. In R.J. Beamish and B.J. Rothschild (eds.), *The Future of Fisheries Science in North America*, Fish & Fisheries Series 31, Springer Science + Business Media B.V. 2009
- Tian, R.C., Chen, C., Stokesbury, K.D.E., Rothschild, B.J., Cowles, G.C., Xu, Q., Hu, S., **Harris, B.H.**, and Marino II, M.C. 2009. Modeling the connectivity between sea scallop populations in the Middle Atlantic Bight and over Georges Bank. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 380: 147-160
- McGuire, C.J. and **Harris, B.P.** 2008. Rights-Based Fisheries and Ecosystem-Based Management: Maybe Scientists and Fishermen Know the Way? *American Bar Association - Marine Resource Newsletter*. 12(1):18 – 21
- Harris, B.P.** and McGuire, C.J. 2008. Operational issues in U.S. fisheries management: What are some of the major scientific, political and legal hurdles to implementing ecosystem-based management? *American Bar Association - Marine Resource Newsletter*. 11(2): 5 – 6
- Adams, C.F., **Harris, B.P.** and Stokesbury, K.D.E. 2008. Geostatistical comparison of two independent video surveys of sea scallop abundance in the Elephant Trunk Closed Area, USA. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*. 65(6):995-1003
- Stokesbury, K.D.E., **Harris, B.P.**, Marino II, M.C., and Nogueira, J.I. 2007. Sea Scallop Mass Mortality in a Marine Protected Area, *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. 349:151-158
- Harris, B.P.** and Stokesbury, K.D.E. 2006. Shell growth of sea scallops (*Placopecten magellanicus* Gmelin, 1791) in the southern and northern Great South Channel, USA. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*. 63:811-821

Stokesbury, K.D.E., and Harris, B.P. 2006. Impact of a limited fishery for sea scallop, *Placopecten magellanicus*, on the epibenthic community of Georges Bank closed areas, Marine Ecology Progress Series. 307:85-100

Stokesbury, K.D.E., Harris, B.P., Marino II, M.C. and Nogueira, J.I. 2004 Estimation of sea scallop abundance using a video survey in off-shore USA waters. Journal of Shellfish Research 23:33-44

AWARDS AND HONORS

Best Student Paper Award, American Fisheries Society, Southern New England Chapter Winter Meeting 2007.

Massachusetts Marine Educator Special Service Award, for outstanding service in marine science education outreach, 2005.

Best Use of Technology in a Poster Award, American Fisheries Society, Computer Users Section. Annual Meeting, 2005

Best Student Paper Award, American Fisheries Society, Southern New England Chapter Winter Meeting, 2003.

Robert C. Byrd Scholar, Alaska Department of Education - Robert C. Byrd Scholarships awarded 1994 - 1997.



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John Pappalardo, *Chairman* | Paul J. Howard, *Executive Director*

July 15, 2008

Dr. Frank Muller-Karger, Dean
The School for Marine Science and Technology
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
706 South Rodney French Boulevard
New Bedford, MA 02744-1221

Dear Dr. Muller-Karger:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the contributions SMAST staff members have made to the work of our Habitat Plan Development Team (PDT). In particular, the collaborative approach your staff has taken with respect to incorporating the SMAST video survey data into the Council's analyses, and the efforts of Brad Harris in assisting the PDT with integrating these data with disparate data from other sources, is proving to be invaluable to our efforts.

The high quality of Mr. Harris' work to date with our PDT is greatly enhancing our analytic and mapping capabilities, enabling the PDT to provide our Council with the most rigorous and thorough basis for decision-making we have seen yet. This is a testament to both Mr. Harris's skills and the exceptional quality of data collected by Dr. Kevin Stokesbury and his group at SMAST over the past several years.

Mr. Harris' hard work and the integration of these highly relevant data are proving to be critical elements as the Council continues to refine its approach to minimizing the adverse impacts of fishing on essential fish habitat. Please extend my kind thanks to Mr. Harris, Dr. Stokesbury, and all those who have contributed to the SMAST video survey data collection efforts.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Howard
Executive Director

cc: John Pappalardo, David Preble

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
Commercial Fisheries Division, Homer , Alaska

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

3298 Douglas Place
Homer, Alaska. 99603-7942
PHONE: (907) 235-8191
FAX: (907) 235-2448

March 22, 2012

Ms. Diana Stram, Co Chair
Scallop Planning Team
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Co Chairperson Stram:

I am writing to support the nomination Dr. Brad Harris to the Scallop Planning Team. Dr. Harris is currently an assistant Professor of Marine Biology at the Alaska Pacific University. I first met Brad when he was deck hand on the State's research vessel Pandalus. This was a summer job for him while he was pursuing his undergraduate degree at Texas A & M. Brad was an enthusiastic capable deck hand, who participated in ADF&G Trawl and Scallop Surveys 1996-1999. While working for the Department on research projects that chartered the Pandalus, he met Kevin Stokesbury, professor from University of Massachusetts. Kevin recruited Brad for a master's program using underwater video stock assessment techniques for sea scallops in Georges Bank. After completing the masters he continued his education receiving a Ph.D. from University of Massachusetts, being principal author and coauthor of many papers on sea scallops from Georges Bank. With this education he brings a wealth of knowledge about scallop biology, management, and fishery from the East Coast which would be a great asset to the Scallop Planning Team.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Richard Gustafson
Fisheries Biologist

Email richard.gustafson@alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR
AGENDA B-1(d)
MARCH/APRIL 2012

P.O. BOX 115526
JUNEAU, AK 99811-5526
PHONE: (907) 465-4100
FAX: (907) 465-2332

March 5, 2012

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I would like to nominate Ms. Sherri Dressel to serve on the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council as my preferred replacement for Doug Woodby, who retired from the SSC in December. Ms. Dressel is the Biometrics Supervisor for Region 1, in the Division of Commercial Fisheries. She oversees survey designs, sampling plans, and stock assessments for groundfish, herring, salmon, shellfish, and dive fisheries throughout Southeast Alaska. In addition, she serves as the primary biometrician for Southeast Alaska herring and sablefish.

The attached curriculum vitae demonstrates that Ms. Dressel has a strong background in survey design, statistics, and data analysis, as well as extensive research experience across broad areas of the state. I am confident that she will become a valuable member of the SSC.

Thank you for considering this nomination.

Sincerely,



Cora Campbell
Commissioner

Attachment

cc: Mr. Eric Olson, Chair, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

CURRICULUM VITAE

SHERRI C. DRESSEL

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Region I
Division of Commercial Fisheries
802 3rd Street
P.O. Box 110024
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0024
E-mail: sherri.dressel@alaska.gov
Office: (907) 465-6146

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Fisheries Oceanography, 2004, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks AK
M.S. Statistics, 2003, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks AK
B.S. Biology and Chemistry, 1993, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso IN
Interdisciplinary degree in the Honors College for liberal arts, 1993, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present Biometrics Supervisor, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Region I. Lead and supervise herring and groundfish biometrics. Supervise salmon, shellfish, and dive fishery biometrics.
- 2004-2007 Biometrician (herring and groundfish), Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Region I.
- 2003-2004 Graduate student (Fisheries Oceanography and Statistics), University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- 2001-2002 Thesis Completion Fellow, Institute of Marine Science, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Doctoral research fellowship awarded for academic achievements and prior timely progress in graduate course-work and research.
- 1997-2001 Rasmuson Research Fellow, Institute of Marine Science, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Doctoral research fellowship awarded for academic achievement by the Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center.
- 1994-1997 Research Assistant, Institute of Marine Science, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Doctoral research with Dr. Brenda Norcross to develop a habitat-based survey design and analysis methods for monitoring interannual changes in juvenile flatfish abundance near Kodiak Island, Alaska.
- 1997-1998 Graduate Intern, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Sportfish Division (Fairbanks, Alaska). Designed and conducted computer simulations (Splus programming language) of chinook salmon tower-count escapement data to determine optimum sampling and analysis strategies.
- 1993-1994 Executive assistant to the President, Wohlert Corporation (an international gear manufacturing corporation based in Lansing, Michigan).

AWARDS

Rasmuson Fisheries Research Fellowship, University of Alaska Fairbanks 2000/1, 1999/0, 1998/9, 1997/8
American Fisheries Society 2000 J. Francis Allen Scholarship runner-up for outstanding early career development in the fisheries profession
Arts and Sciences Lumina Award for academic excellence, Valparaiso University
President's Scholarship, Valparaiso University
Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Scholarship, University of Michigan
Karen Lewandowski Sportsmanship Award, Fairbanks Women's Hockey Association 2002/3

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Fisheries Society
American Statistical Association, Alaska Chapter
Phi Lambda Upsilon National Honor Society in Chemistry, Valparaiso University
Mortar Board Honor Society, Valparaiso University

PUBLICATIONS

- Kelley, S., D. Hart, S. Heinl, S. Dressel, W. Davidson, and G. Oliver. 2011. A program for improving management and research of fisheries in the Southeast Region—Southeast/Yakutat salmon fisheries. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 1J11-14, Douglas.
- Mundy, P.R., Allen, D.M., Boldt, J.L., Bond, N.A., Dressel, S., Farley Jr., E.V., Hanselman, D.H., Heifetz, J., Hopcroft, R.R., Janout, M.A., Ladd, C., Lam, R.C., Livingston, P.A., Lunsford, C.R., Mathis, J.T., Mueter, F.J., Rooper, C.N., Sarkar, N., Shotwell, S.A.K., Sturdevant, M.V., Thomas, A.C., Weingartner, T.J., Woodby, D. 2010. Status and trends of the Alaska Current Region, 2003-2008, pp. 142-195 In, S.M. McKinnell and M.J. Dagg [Eds.] Marine Ecosystems of the North Pacific Ocean, 2003-2008. PICES Special Publication 4, 393 p.
- Zador, S. and S. Gaichas [Eds.] 2010. (S. Dressel was contributor for the southeast Alaska herring section). Ecosystem Considerations for 2011. *In* Stock assessment and fishery evaluation report for the Groundfish resources of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands as projected for 2011. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501.
- Boldt, J. and S. Zador [Eds.] 2009. (S. Dressel was contributor for the southeast Alaska herring section). Ecosystem Considerations for 2010. *In* Stock assessment and fishery evaluation report for the Groundfish resources of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands as projected for 2010. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501.
- Dressel, S.C. 2009. 2006 Northern Southeast Inside sablefish stock assessment and 2007 forecast and quota. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Data Series No. 09-50, Anchorage.
- Hulson, P.-J.F. (S.C. Dressel was co-author for Chapter 2). 2007. Analysis and Comparison of Age-structured Assessment Models for Two Pacific Herring Populations. M.S. Thesis, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- M. Pritchett, S. Dressel and K. Monagle. 2007. Berners Bay Herring Research, 2005 and 2006 Research Report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Regional Information Report 1J07-01.
- Boldt, J. [Ed.] 2006. (S. Dressel was contributor for the southeast Alaska herring section). Ecosystem Considerations for 2007. *In* Stock assessment and fishery evaluation report for the Groundfish resources of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands as projected for 2007. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501.
- Dressel, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 2005. Using poststratification to improve abundance estimates from multispecies surveys: a study of juvenile flatfishes. *Fish. Bull.* 103:469-488.

- Boldt, J. [Ed.] 2004. (S. Dressel was contributor for the southeast Alaska herring section). Ecosystem Considerations for 2005. *In* Stock assessment and fishery evaluation report for the Groundfish resources of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands as projected for 2005. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501.
- Dressel, S.C. 2004. Alternative sampling and estimation methods for multispecies trawl surveys. Ph.D. Dissertation, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- Norcross, B.L., B.A. Holladay, A.A. Abookire and S.C. Dressel. 1998. Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska, Volume I: Final Study Report. OCS Study MMS 97-0046. Fairbanks, AK. 131 p.
- Norcross, B.L., B.A. Holladay, A.A. Abookire and S.C. Dressel. 1998. Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska, Volume II: Final Study Report Appendices and Draft Manuscripts. OCS Study MMS 97-0046. Fairbanks, AK. 114 p.
- Norcross, B.L., A. Abookire, S.C. Dressel and B.A. Holladay. 1997. Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska, Annual Report No. 4. OCS Study MMS 98-0005. Fairbanks, AK. p. 39-48.
- Norcross, B.L., B.A. Holladay, S.C. Dressel and A. Abookire. 1996. Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska, Annual Report No. 3. OCS Study MMS 97-0001. Fairbanks, AK. p. 103-117.
- Norcross, B.L., B.A. Holladay, S.C. Dressel and M. Frandsen. 1996. Recruitment of juvenile flatfishes in Alaska: Habitat preference near Kodiak Island, Volume I: Final Study Report. OCS Study MMS 96-0003. Fairbanks, AK. 118 p.
- Norcross, B.L., B.A. Holladay, S.C. Dressel and M. Frandsen. 1996. Recruitment of juvenile flatfishes in Alaska: Habitat preference near Kodiak Island, Volume II: Final Study Report Data Appendices. OCS Study MMS 96-0003. Fairbanks, AK. 538 p.

SELECTED REVIEWS

- Hay, D.E., C. Fort, J.F. Schweigert, L. Hamer and P.B. Carter. 2010 [Invited reviewer]. Factors influencing the variability in Pacific herring egg layers and considerations to stock assessment. Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Centre for Science Advice Pacific (CSAP) Regional Advisory Process (RAP). Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Nanaimo, BC.
- Ma, L., Stein, M. L., Wang M., Shelton, A. O., Pfister, C. A., and Wilder, K. J. 2010. A method for unbiased estimation of population abundance along curvy margins, *Environmetrics* DOI: 10.1002/env.1053.
- Mueter, F. 2010. Evaluation of Stock Assessment and Modeling Options to Assess Sablefish Population Levels and Status in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Management Area. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 10-01, Anchorage.
- Pacific Herring Stock Assessment Model Review, 2010 [Invited participant]. Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Nanaimo, BC.
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PRESENTATIONS (*presenter)

- Quinn*, T.J., II, P.-J.F. Hulson, and S.C. Dressel. 2011. "Time variation in natural mortality, gear selectivity, and maturity in Sitka Sound Pacific herring". American Fisheries Society 141st Annual Meeting – New Frontiers in Fisheries Management and Ecology: Leading the Way in a Changing World. Seattle, WA.
- Green*, K., S. Dressel*, K. Carroll*, and M. Vaughn*. 2011. "Commercial Groundfish Fisheries Region I Overview", Statewide Groundfish Conference. Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007. Sitka Sound herring pre-fishery public meetings. Sitka, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008. Southeast Alaska herring sac roe task force meetings. Sitka, AK.
- Brylinsky*, C. and S.C. Dressel*. 2010. Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) sablefish stakeholder public meeting. Sitka, AK.
- Brylinsky*, C. and S.C. Dressel*. 2010. Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) sablefish stakeholder public meeting. Juneau, AK.
- Brylinsky*, C. and S.C. Dressel*. 2010. Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) sablefish stakeholder public meeting. Petersburg, AK.
- Schweigert*, J., J. Boldt, S. Dressel, R. Watanabe, P. Olesiuk, and L. Flostrand. 2010. "Differing response of herring stocks to ecosystem forcing in the California and Gulf of Alaska Current systems. Climate Change Effects on Fish and Fisheries: Forecasting Impacts, Assessing Ecosystem Responses, and Evaluating Management Strategies. Sendai, Japan.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2008. "Stock Assessment of Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) in Sitka Sound, Alaska", International Herring Symposium. Galway, Ireland.
- Brylinsky*, C. and S.C. Dressel*. 2008. Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) sablefish stakeholder public meeting. Sitka, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and C. Brylinsky. 2008. "Sablefish Stock assessment in Chatham Strait, Alaska", Western Groundfish Conference. Santa Cruz, CA.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2007. "Surveys and stock assessments for herring populations in Southeast Alaska", School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Seminar. Juneau, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2003. "Poststratification: a statistical method for estimating species abundance from multi-species surveys". M.S. project defense, Department of Statistics, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. 2002. "Alternative sampling and estimation methods for multi-species trawl surveys". Ph.D. defense, Institute of Marine Science, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 2001 [Invited speaker]. "Using poststratification to incorporate habitat information into abundance estimates from multispecies surveys". The Joint meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada and the Western North American Region of the Biometrics Society, Burnaby, BC.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 2001. "Recruitment patterns of juvenile flatfish: can they be used as an early indicator of year-class size?" Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center Board, Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 2000. "Habitat-focused surveys for the assessment of interannual changes in juvenile flatfish abundance". Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center Board, Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1999. "Using habitat to increase precision in analyses of multi-species trawl surveys". 17th Lowell Wakefield Symposium: Spatial Processes and Management of Fish Populations, Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1999. "Using habitat to improve estimates of interannual variability from multispecies trawl surveys". Fourth International Flatfish Symposium, Atlantic City, NC.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1999. "Habitat-focused surveys for the assessment of interannual changes in juvenile flatfish abundance". Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center Board, Anchorage, AK.

- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1999. "Incorporating habitat information in the sampling design and analysis measures of bottom trawl surveys". Scientific seminar at the Institute of Marine Science, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK.
- Norcross*, B.L., S.C. Dressel and A.A. Abookire. 1998. "A comparative approach for determining habitat requirements of juvenile groundfishes in Southcentral Alaska". Mote Symposium, Sarasota, FL.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1998. "Constructing multiple abundance indices from juvenile flatfish trawl data: the effects of including habitat information". 16th Lowell Wakefield Fisheries Symposium: Ecosystem Considerations in Fisheries Management and 1998 joint meeting of the American Fisheries Society Western Division, Alaska Chapter, and North Pacific International Chapter, Anchorage, AK.
- Norcross*, B.L., S.C. Dressel* and B.A. Holladay*. 1998. "Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska". Mineral Management Service/Coastal Marine Institute, Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1998. "Habitat-focused surveys for the assessment of interannual changes in juvenile flatfish abundance". Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center Board, Anchorage, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C., A.A. Abookire* and B.L. Norcross. 1998. "Defining habitats for juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska". Coastal Marine Institute, Fairbanks, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1998. "The use of preferred habitat characteristics in multi-species abundance monitoring designs". 10th Western Groundfish Conference, Pacific Grove, CA.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1997. "Utilizing habitat characteristics to improve estimates of juvenile flatfish abundance". 21st American Fisheries Society Annual Larval Fish Conference, Early Life History section, Seattle, WA.
- Dressel*, S.C., A.A. Abookire* and B.L. Norcross. 1997. "The distribution of juvenile flatfishes in relation to habitat characteristics and the implications for survey design". Coastal Marine Institute, Fairbanks, AK.
- Norcross*, B.L., S.C. Dressel*, and A.A. Abookire*. 1996. "Recruitment of juvenile flatfishes in southcentral Alaska". Coastal Marine Institute, Fairbanks, AK.
- Dressel*, S.C. and B.L. Norcross. 1996. "Summer variations in year-class strength of juvenile Pleuronectids near Kodiak Island, Alaska". 9th Western Groundfish Conference, Newport, OR.
- Dressel*, S.C. and P. Myers. 1992. "The effect of water availability and understory cover on the distribution of *Sorex cinereus* and *Sorex hoyi*". University of Michigan Biological Station, Pellston, MI.
- Dressel*, S.C. B. Edinger. 1992. "Defensive behavior in aphids: A component of eusociality". Department of Biology, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 2010-2011 | Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V <i>Kestrel</i> . Line-transect scuba survey for estimating egg deposition of northern southeast Alaska herring stocks. |
| 2007-2011 | Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V <i>Kestrel</i> . Line-transect scuba survey for estimating egg deposition of southern southeast Alaska herring stocks. |
| 2006-2011 | Scientist, Sitka Sound, AK, R/V <i>Kestrel</i> . Assist with management of the Sitka Sound commercial herring sac roe fishery. |
| 2008-2010 | Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V <i>Kestrel</i> . Line-transect scuba survey for estimating sea cucumber biomass. |
| 2010, 2007 | Scientist, Chatham Strait, AK, R/V <i>Zolotoi</i> . ADF&G longline pot survey to mark sablefish. The mark-recapture estimate is the basis of the NSEI sablefish stock assessment. |
| 2010 | Scientist, Sitka Sound, AK, Cessna aircraft. Aerial survey for documenting linear mileage of herring spawn. |

- 2008 Scientist, Hobart Bay, AK, R/V *Medeia*. Assist with management of the Hobart Bay commercial herring gill net fishery.
- 2007 Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V *Kestrel*. Line-transect scuba survey for estimating geoduck abundance and sea cucumber biomass.
- 2006 Scientist, Sitka Sound, AK, R/V *Kestrel*. Sampling of Sitka herring for disease analysis.
- 2006 Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V *Kestrel*. Line-transect scuba survey for estimating geoduck abundance.
- 2005-06 Scientific diver, southeast Alaska, R/V *Kestrel*. Line-transect scuba survey for estimating egg deposition of northern Southeast Alaska herring stocks.
- 2005 Scientist, Sitka Sound, AK, R/V *Kestrel*. ADF&G fecundity sampling of herring.
- 2005 Scientist, SSEO management area - eastern Gulf of Alaska, R/V *Velero IV*. ADF&G submersible survey for demersal shelf rockfish.
- 2005 Scientist, Hoonah Sound, AK, R/V *Kittiwake*. Assist with management of the Hoonah Sound commercial spawn-on-kelp fishery.
- 2005 Scientist, Tenakee Inlet, AK, super cub aircraft. Aerial survey for documenting linear mileage of herring spawn.
- 2004 Scientist, lower Chatham Strait, AK, F/V *Masonic*. ADF&G longline survey for CPUE, and biological sampling. Biological information is used for the NSEI sablefish $F_{40\%}$ harvest rate calculation.
- 2004 Scientist, Chatham Strait, AK, R/V *Ocean Cape*. ADF&G longline pot survey to mark sablefish. Mark-recapture estimate serves as the basis of the NSEI sablefish stock assessment.
- 1996 Chief Scientist, Kodiak Island, AK, 26-foot Boston whaler. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish and crabs, sediment samples, CTD and underwater camera.
- 1996 Scientist, Lower Cook Inlet, AK, F/V *Bering Explorer*. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, sediment samples, CTD and underwater camera.
- 1996 Scientist, Kachemak Bay, AK, 28-ft skiff. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, benthos samples, sediment samples, CTD and underwater camera.
- 1996 Volunteer, Chena River, AK, river sampling with screwtrap. Mark and recapture for chum smolt and chinook fingerlings to determine condition factor.
- 1996 Volunteer, Chena River, AK, river electroshock fishing. Grayling stomach content analysis to determine predation on chum smolt and chinook fingerlings.
- 1995 Chief Scientist, Kodiak Island, AK, 26-foot Boston whaler. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish and crabs, sediment samples, CTD and TOV.
- 1995 Scientist, Shelikof Straight, AK, F/V *Big Valley*. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, sediment samples, CTD and TOV.
- 1995 Scientist, Afognak Island, AK, 26-foot skiff. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, benthos samples, sediment samples and CTD.
- 1995 Scientist, Aleutian Islands to Homer, AK, R/V *Tiglax*. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, midwater trawl, long line, acoustic surveys, sediment samples.
- 1994 Scientist, Kodiak Island, AK, 26-foot Boston whaler. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish and crabs, sediment samples and CTD.
- 1994 Scientist, Afognak Island, AK, 24-foot skiff. Bottom trawl for nearshore fish, benthos samples, sediment samples and CTD.

CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

2007 Cold Water Safety & Survival Training, Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
2005-2012 Oxygen First Aid for Scuba Diving Injuries, DAN
2005-2012 Primary & Secondary Care – CPR/First Aid/AED, Emergency First Response Corporation
2005 Scientific Diver, ADF&G
2005 Rescue Diver, PADI
2005 Enriched Air Diver – Enriched Air Nitrox Max 40% O₂, PADI
2005 Specialty Diver - Dry Suit Diver, PADI
2005 Advanced Open Water Diver, PADI
2001 Open Water Diver, PADI

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2147

To provide for research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic Ocean
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2012

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide for research, monitoring, and observation of the
Arctic Ocean and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Arctic Ocean Research,
5 Monitoring, and Observing Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) The United States is an Arctic Nation
10 with—

1 (A) an approximately 700-mile border with
2 the Arctic Ocean;

3 (B) more than 100,000,000 acres of land
4 above the Arctic Circle; and

5 (C) an even broader area defined as Arctic
6 by temperature, which includes the Bering Sea
7 and Aleutian Islands.

8 (2) The Arctic region of the United States is
9 home to an indigenous population that has subsisted
10 for millennia on the abundance in marine mammals,
11 fish, and wildlife, many of which are unique to the
12 region.

13 (3) Temperatures in the United States Arctic
14 region have warmed by 3 to 4 degrees Celsius over
15 the past half-century, a rate of increase that is twice
16 the global average.

17 (4) The Arctic ice pack is rapidly diminishing
18 and thinning, and the National Oceanic and Atmos-
19 pheric Administration estimates the Arctic Ocean
20 may be ice free during summer months in as few as
21 30 years.

22 (5) Such changes to the Arctic region are hav-
23 ing a significant impact on the indigenous people of
24 the Arctic, their communities and ecosystems, as

1 well as the marine mammals, fish, and wildlife upon
2 which they depend.

3 (6) Such changes are opening new portions of
4 the United States Arctic continental shelf to possible
5 development for offshore oil and gas, commercial
6 fishing, marine shipping, and tourism.

7 (7) Existing Federal research and science advi-
8 sory programs focused on the environmental and so-
9 cioeconomic impacts of a changing Arctic Ocean lack
10 a cohesive, coordinated, and integrated approach and
11 are not adequately coordinated with State, local,
12 academic, and private-sector Arctic Ocean research
13 programs.

14 (8) The lack of research integration and syn-
15 thesis of findings of Arctic Ocean research has im-
16 peded the progress of the United States and inter-
17 national community in understanding climate change
18 impacts and feedback mechanisms in the Arctic
19 Ocean.

20 (9) An improved scientific understanding of the
21 changing Arctic Ocean is critical to the development
22 of appropriate and effective regional, national, and
23 global climate change adaptation strategies.

24 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to estab-
25 lish a permanent environmental sentinel program to con-

1 duct research, monitoring, and observation activities in the
2 Arctic Ocean—

3 (1) to promote and sustain a productive and re-
4 silient marine, coastal, and estuarine ecosystem in
5 the Arctic and the human uses of its natural re-
6 sources through greater understanding of how the
7 ecosystem works and monitoring and observation of
8 its vital signs; and

9 (2) to track and evaluate the effectiveness of
10 natural resource management in the Arctic in order
11 to facilitate improved performance and adaptive
12 management.

13 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this Act:

15 (1) **BOARD.**—The term “Board” means the
16 North Pacific Research Board established under sec-
17 tion 401(e) of the Department of the Interior and
18 Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public
19 Law 105–1608).

20 (2) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission”
21 means the Arctic Research Commission established
22 under the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984
23 (Public Law 98–373; 15 U.S.C. 4102).

1 (3) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means
2 the Arctic Ocean Research, Monitoring, and Obser-
3 vation Program established by section 4(a).

4 **SEC. 4. ARCTIC OCEAN RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND OB-**
5 **SERVATION PROGRAM.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Arctic
7 Ocean Research, Monitoring, and Observation Program to
8 be administered by the Board with input and assistance
9 from the Commission.

10 (b) RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND OBSERVATION
11 ACTIVITIES.—The Program shall be an integrated, long-
12 term scientific research, monitoring, and observation pro-
13 gram consisting of—

14 (1) marine, coastal, and estuarine research, in-
15 cluding—

16 (A) fisheries research;

17 (B) research on the structure and function
18 of the ecosystem and its food webs; and

19 (C) research on the spatial distributions
20 and status of fish, wildlife, and other popu-
21 lations in the Arctic;

22 (2) marine, coastal, and estuarine ecosystem
23 monitoring and observation, including expansion of
24 the Alaska Ocean Observing System in the Arctic;
25 and

1 (3) marine, coastal, and estuarine research,
2 monitoring, observation, and modeling that supports
3 planning, environmental review, decisionmaking,
4 evaluation, impact and natural resources damage as-
5 sessment, and adaptive management with respect to
6 industrial and other human activities, such as ship-
7 ping, in the Arctic, environmental change, and their
8 interactive and cumulative effects in the Arctic.

9 (c) INITIAL PROJECTS.—In initiating the Program,
10 the Board shall make grants under subsection (e)—

11 (1) to support research and monitoring of Arc-
12 tic fisheries, including on the distributions and ecol-
13 ogy of Arctic cod and other forage fishes, for a pe-
14 riod of not less than 3 years;

15 (2) to support research and monitoring of Arc-
16 tic marine mammals, including their responses to
17 loss of sea ice habitats and reactions to disturbance,
18 for a period of not less than 3 years; and

19 (3) to establish the Alaska Ocean Observing
20 System in the Arctic Ocean such that it has suffi-
21 cient capacity to provide comprehensive data,
22 nowcasts and forecasts, and information products in
23 real time and near real time on physical, chemical,
24 and biological conditions and environmental change.

25 (d) ARCTIC OCEAN SCIENCE PLAN.—

1 (1) REQUIREMENT.—The Board and the Com-
2 mission shall jointly prepare a comprehensive, inte-
3 grated Arctic Ocean science plan.

4 (2) RECOGNITION AND COORDINATION WITH
5 OTHER SCIENCE.—The content of the plan required
6 by paragraph (1) shall be developed with recognition
7 of and in coordination with other science plans and
8 activities in the Arctic.

9 (3) INFORMED BY SYNTHESIS OF EXISTING
10 KNOWLEDGE.—Development of the plan required by
11 paragraph (1) shall be informed by a synthesis of
12 existing knowledge about the Arctic ecosystem, in-
13 cluding information about how the ecosystem func-
14 tions, individual and cumulative sources of eco-
15 system stress, how the ecosystem is changing, and
16 other relevant information.

17 (4) REVIEW.—

18 (A) INITIAL REVIEW BY NATIONAL RE-
19 SEARCH COUNCIL.—The Board shall submit the
20 initial plan required by paragraph (1) to the
21 National Research Council for review.

22 (B) PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATES.—
23 Not less frequently than once every 5 years
24 thereafter, the Board and the Commission shall,
25 in consultation with the National Research

1 Council, review the plan required by paragraph
2 (1) and update it as the Board and the Com-
3 mission consider necessary.

4 (5) USE.—The Board shall use the plan re-
5 quired by paragraph (1) as a basis for setting prior-
6 ities and awarding grants under subsection (e).

7 (e) GRANTS.—

8 (1) AUTHORITY.—Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), the Board shall, under the Program,
10 award grants to carry out research, monitoring, and
11 observation activities described in subsections (b)
12 and (c).

13 (2) LIMITATION.—The North Pacific Research
14 Board may not award any grants under paragraph
15 (1) until the Board has prepared the plan required
16 by subsection (d)(1).

17 (3) CONDITIONS, CONSIDERATIONS, AND PRIOR-
18 ITIES.—When making grants to carry out the re-
19 search, monitoring, and observation activities de-
20 scribed in subsections (b) and (c), the Board shall—

21 (A) consider institutions located in the
22 Arctic and subarctic;

23 (B) place a priority on cooperative, inte-
24 grated long-term projects, designed to address

1 current or anticipated marine ecosystem or fish-
2 ery or wildlife management information needs;

3 (C) give priority to fully establishing and
4 operating the Alaska Ocean Observing System
5 in the Arctic Ocean, which may include future
6 support for cabled ocean observatories;

7 (D) recognize the value of local and tradi-
8 tional ecological knowledge, and, where appro-
9 priate, place a priority on research, monitoring,
10 and observation projects that incorporate local
11 and traditional ecological knowledge;

12 (E) ensure that research, monitoring, and
13 observation data collected by grantees of the
14 Program are made available to the public in a
15 timely fashion, pursuant to national and inter-
16 national protocols; and

17 (F) give due consideration to the annual
18 recommendations and review of the Commission
19 carried out under subsection (f).

20 (f) ANNUAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REVIEW BY
21 ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION.—Each year, the Com-
22 mission shall—

23 (1) recommend ongoing and future research,
24 monitoring, and observation priorities and strategies

1 to be carried out pursuant to subsections (b) and
2 (c);

3 (2) undertake a written review of ongoing and
4 recently concluded research, monitoring, and obser-
5 vation activities undertaken pursuant to such sub-
6 sections; and

7 (3) submit to the Board the recommendations
8 required by paragraph (1) and the review required
9 by paragraph (2).

○

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2154

To provide for research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic Ocean
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 2012

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To provide for research, monitoring, and observation of the
Arctic Ocean and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Arctic Science Endow-
5 ment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) The United States is an Arctic Nation
10 with—

1 (A) an approximately 700-mile border with
2 the Arctic Ocean;

3 (B) more than 100,000,000 acres of land
4 above the Arctic Circle; and

5 (C) an even broader area defined as Arctic
6 by temperature, which includes the Bering Sea
7 and Aleutian Islands.

8 (2) The Arctic region of the United States is
9 home to an indigenous population that has subsisted
10 for millennia on the abundance in marine mammals,
11 fish, and wildlife, many of which are unique to the
12 region.

13 (3) Temperatures in the United States Arctic
14 region have warmed by 3 to 4 degrees Celsius over
15 the past half-century, a rate of increase that is twice
16 the global average.

17 (4) The Arctic ice pack is rapidly diminishing
18 and thinning, and the National Oceanic and Atmos-
19 pheric Administration estimates the Arctic Ocean
20 may be ice free during summer months in as few as
21 30 years.

22 (5) Such changes to the Arctic region are hav-
23 ing a significant impact on the indigenous people of
24 the Arctic, their communities and ecosystems, as

1 well as the marine mammals, fish, and wildlife upon
2 which they depend.

3 (6) Such changes are opening new portions of
4 the United States Arctic continental shelf to possible
5 development for offshore oil and gas, commercial
6 fishing, marine shipping, and tourism.

7 (7) Existing Federal research and science advi-
8 sory programs focused on the environmental and so-
9 cioeconomic impacts of a changing Arctic Ocean lack
10 a cohesive, coordinated, and integrated approach and
11 are not adequately coordinated with State, local,
12 academic, and private-sector Arctic Ocean research
13 programs.

14 (8) The lack of research integration and syn-
15 thesis of findings of Arctic Ocean research has im-
16 peded the progress of the United States and inter-
17 national community in understanding climate change
18 impacts and feedback mechanisms in the Arctic
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21 changing Arctic Ocean is critical to the development
22 of appropriate and effective regional, national, and
23 global climate change adaptation strategies.

24 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to estab-
25 lish a permanent environmental sentinel program to con-

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4 silient marine, coastal, and estuarine ecosystem in
5 the Arctic and the human uses of its natural re-
6 sources through greater understanding of how the
7 ecosystem works and monitoring and observation of
8 its vital signs; and

9 (2) to track and evaluate the effectiveness of
10 natural resource management in the Arctic in order
11 to facilitate improved performance and adaptive
12 management.

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14 In this Act:

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16 North Pacific Research Board established under sec-
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18 Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public
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12 term scientific research, monitoring, and observation pro-
13 gram consisting of—

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15 cluding—

16 (A) fisheries research;

17 (B) research on the structure and function
18 of the ecosystem and its food webs; and

19 (C) research on the spatial distributions
20 and status of fish, wildlife, and other popu-
21 lations in the Arctic;

22 (2) marine, coastal, and estuarine ecosystem
23 monitoring and observation, including expansion of
24 the Alaska Ocean Observing System in the Arctic;
25 and

1 (3) marine, coastal, and estuarine research,
2 monitoring, observation, and modeling that supports
3 planning, environmental review, decisionmaking,
4 evaluation, impact and natural resources damage as-
5 sessment, and adaptive management with respect to
6 industrial and other human activities, such as ship-
7 ping, in the Arctic, environmental change, and their
8 interactive and cumulative effects in the Arctic.

9 (c) INITIAL PROJECTS.—In initiating the Program,
10 the Board shall make grants under subsection (e)—

11 (1) to support research and monitoring of Arc-
12 tic fisheries, including on the distributions and ecol-
13 ogy of Arctic cod and other forage fishes, for a pe-
14 riod of not less than 3 years;

15 (2) to support research and monitoring of Arc-
16 tic marine mammals, including their responses to
17 loss of sea ice habitats and reactions to disturbance,
18 for a period of not less than 3 years; and

19 (3) to establish the Alaska Ocean Observing
20 System in the Arctic Ocean such that it has suffi-
21 cient capacity to provide comprehensive data,
22 nowcasts and forecasts, and information products in
23 real time and near real time on physical, chemical,
24 and biological conditions and environmental change.

25 (d) ARCTIC OCEAN SCIENCE PLAN.—

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2 mission shall jointly prepare a comprehensive, inte-
3 grated Arctic Ocean science plan.

4 (2) RECOGNITION AND COORDINATION WITH
5 OTHER SCIENCE.—The content of the plan required
6 by paragraph (1) shall be developed with recognition
7 of and in coordination with other science plans and
8 activities in the Arctic.

9 (3) INFORMED BY SYNTHESIS OF EXISTING
10 KNOWLEDGE.—Development of the plan required by
11 paragraph (1) shall be informed by a synthesis of
12 existing knowledge about the Arctic ecosystem, in-
13 cluding information about how the ecosystem func-
14 tions, individual and cumulative sources of eco-
15 system stress, how the ecosystem is changing, and
16 other relevant information.

17 (4) REVIEW.—

18 (A) INITIAL REVIEW BY NATIONAL RE-
19 SEARCH COUNCIL.—The Board shall submit the
20 initial plan required by paragraph (1) to the
21 National Research Council for review.

22 (B) PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATES.—
23 Not less frequently than once every 5 years
24 thereafter, the Board and the Commission shall,
25 in consultation with the National Research

1 Council, review the plan required by paragraph
2 (1) and update it as the Board and the Com-
3 mission consider necessary.

4 (5) USE.—The Board shall use the plan re-
5 quired by paragraph (1) as a basis for setting prior-
6 ities and awarding grants under subsection (e).

7 (e) GRANTS.—

8 (1) AUTHORITY.—Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), the Board shall, under the Program,
10 award grants to carry out research, monitoring, and
11 observation activities described in subsections (b)
12 and (c).

13 (2) LIMITATION.—The North Pacific Research
14 Board may not award any grants under paragraph
15 (1) until the Board has prepared the plan required
16 by subsection (d)(1).

17 (3) CONDITIONS, CONSIDERATIONS, AND PRIOR-
18 ITIES.—When making grants to carry out the re-
19 search, monitoring, and observation activities de-
20 scribed in subsections (b) and (c), the Board shall—

21 (A) consider institutions located in the
22 Arctic and subarctic;

23 (B) place a priority on cooperative, inte-
24 grated long-term projects, designed to address

1 current or anticipated marine ecosystem or fish-
2 ery or wildlife management information needs;

3 (C) give priority to fully establishing and
4 operating the Alaska Ocean Observing System
5 in the Arctic Ocean, which may include future
6 support for cabled ocean observatories;

7 (D) recognize the value of local and tradi-
8 tional ecological knowledge, and, where appro-
9 priate, place a priority on research, monitoring,
10 and observation projects that incorporate local
11 and traditional ecological knowledge;

12 (E) ensure that research, monitoring, and
13 observation data collected by grantees of the
14 Program are made available to the public in a
15 timely fashion, pursuant to national and inter-
16 national protocols; and

17 (F) give due consideration to the annual
18 recommendations and review of the Commission
19 carried out under subsection (f).

20 (f) ANNUAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REVIEW BY
21 ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION.—Each year, the Com-
22 mission shall—

23 (1) recommend ongoing and future research,
24 monitoring, and observation priorities and strategies

1 to be carried out pursuant to subsections (b) and
2 (c);

3 (2) undertake a written review of ongoing and
4 recently concluded research, monitoring, and obser-
5 vation activities undertaken pursuant to such sub-
6 sections; and

7 (3) submit to the Board the recommendations
8 required by paragraph (1) and the review required
9 by paragraph (2).

10 **SEC. 5. ARCTIC OCEAN RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND OB-**
11 **SERVATION TRUST FUND.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 98 of the
13 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at
14 the end the following new section:

15 **“SEC. 9512. ARCTIC OCEAN RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND**
16 **OBSERVATION TRUST FUND.**

17 “(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is estab-
18 lished in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund
19 to be known as the ‘Arctic Ocean Research, Monitoring,
20 and Observation Trust Fund’, consisting of such amounts
21 as may be appropriated or credited to such Trust Fund
22 as provided in this section or section 9602(b).

23 “(b) TRANSFER TO TRUST FUND.—There are hereby
24 appropriated to the Arctic Ocean Research, Monitoring,
25 and Observation Trust Fund amounts equivalent to the

1 taxes received in the Treasury under section 4461 only
2 to the extent attributable to the Arctic Ocean Research,
3 Monitoring, and Observation Trust Fund financing rate.

4 “(c) EXPENDITURES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts in the Arctic
6 Ocean Research, Monitoring, and Observation Trust
7 Fund shall be available, without further appropria-
8 tion, to carry out the Arctic Ocean Research, Moni-
9 toring, and Observation Program established under
10 section 4 of the Arctic Science Endowment Act in an
11 amount equal to—

12 “(A) for each fiscal year beginning after
13 the date of the enactment of this section and
14 before the endowment achievement date,
15 \$20,000,000, and

16 “(B) for each fiscal year beginning after
17 the endowment achievement date, the amount
18 credited to the Trust Fund under section
19 9602(b) for such fiscal year.

20 “(2) ENDOWMENT ACHIEVEMENT DATE.—For
21 purposes of this section, the endowment achievement
22 date is the date the balance in the Arctic Ocean Re-
23 search, Monitoring, and Observation Trust Fund
24 first equals or exceeds \$400,000,000 after the date
25 of the enactment of this section.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
2 tions for subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Rev-
3 enue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the
4 following new item:

“Sec. 9512. Arctic Ocean Research, Monitoring, and Observation Trust
Fund.”.

5 (c) ARCTIC OCEAN RESEARCH, MONITORING, AND
6 OBSERVATION TRUST FUND FINANCING RATE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section
8 4611 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is
9 amended—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
11 the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the
12 period at the end of subparagraph (B) and in-
13 serting “, and”, and by adding at the end the
14 following new subparagraph:

15 “(C) the Arctic Ocean Research, Moni-
16 toring, and Observation Trust Fund financing
17 rate.”, and

18 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
19 the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the
20 period at the end of subparagraph (B)(ii) and
21 inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the
22 following new subparagraph:

23 “(C) the Arctic Ocean Research, Moni-
24 toring, and Observation Trust Fund financing

1 rate is, in the case of crude oil received or pe-
2 troleum products entered—

3 “(i) before the endowment achieve-
4 ment date (as determined under section
5 9512(c)(2)), 1 cent a barrel, and

6 “(ii) on or after such endowment date,
7 0 cents a barrel.”.

8 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
9 by this subsection shall apply to crude oil received
10 and petroleum products entered after the date of the
11 enactment of this Act.

○

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2184

To provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 2012

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fisheries Investment
5 and Regulatory Relief Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 2(a) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (com-
3 monly known as the "Saltonstall-Kennedy Act") (15
4 U.S.C. 713c-3(a)), is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraph (1) as para-
6 graph (2);

7 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redес-
8 igned, the following:

9 "(1) The term 'fishery investment committee'
10 means a committee of a regional fishery manage-
11 ment council established under subsection (c)(1).";

12 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),
13 and (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7), respec-
14 tively;

15 (4) by inserting before paragraph (4), as redес-
16 igned, the following:

17 "(3) The term 'regional fishery investment
18 plan' means a plan developed by a fishery invest-
19 ment committee under subsection (c)(2)."; and

20 (5) by adding at the end the following:

21 "(8) The applicable definition under section 3
22 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and
23 Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802), shall apply to
24 any term used in this Act that is not defined under
25 this subsection."

1 **SEC. 3. REGIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT GRANT PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) REGIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT GRANT PRO-
4 GRAM AND FISHERY INVESTMENT PLANS.—Section 2 of
5 the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the
6 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3), is
7 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

8 “(c) STRENGTHENING REGIONAL FISHERIES MAN-
9 AGEMENT.—

10 “(1) FISHERY INVESTMENT COMMITTEES.—

11 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Each Council
12 shall establish and maintain, under the author-
13 ity of section 302(g) of the Magnuson-Stevens
14 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16
15 U.S.C. 1852(g)), a fishery investment com-
16 mittee. Each fishery investment committee shall
17 be comprised of not more than 13 individuals.

18 “(B) AUTHORITY.—Each fishery invest-
19 ment committee shall—

20 “(i) develop a regional fishery invest-
21 ment plan under subsection (c)(2);

22 “(ii) review grant applications and
23 projects to implement its regional fishery
24 investment plan; and

25 “(iii) make recommendations, based
26 on its findings, to the Council on grant ap-

1 plications and projects to implement its re-
2 gional fishery investment plan.

3 “(C) MEMBERSHIP.—

4 “(i) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each member
5 of a fishery investment committee shall be
6 an individual who, by reason of the individ-
7 ual’s occupational experience or other expe-
8 rience, scientific expertise, or training, is
9 knowledgeable of the conservation and
10 management of, or the commercial or rec-
11 reational catch of, the fishery resources of
12 the geographical area concerned.

13 “(ii) NOMINATIONS.—Each member
14 of a fishery investment committee—

15 “(I) shall be nominated and
16 elected by the applicable Council dur-
17 ing a public meeting of the Council;

18 “(II) shall serve for a 3 year
19 term; and

20 “(III) may be re-elected for an
21 additional 3 year consecutive term.

22 “(iii) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—A
23 member of a fishery investment committee
24 shall recuse himself or herself from consid-
25 ering any grant application that the mem-

1 ber has a financial interest that would re-
2 quire disclosure under section 302(j)(2) of
3 the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-
4 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
5 1852(j)(2)).

6 “(D) COMPOSITION.—Each fishery invest-
7 ment committee shall be multi-disciplinary, re-
8 flect the geographic balance of the Council, and
9 include at least 1 representative of—

10 “(i) the commercial fishing commu-
11 nity;

12 “(ii) the private recreational angling
13 community;

14 “(iii) the for-profit charter fishing
15 community;

16 “(iv) the public interest in marine
17 conservation who—

18 “(I) does not derive an annual
19 income from commercial or rec-
20 reational fishing; and

21 “(II) is not employed by any per-
22 son who derives an annual income
23 from commercial or recreational fish-
24 ing;

1 “(v) each State government in the re-
2 gion;

3 “(vi) relevant interstate commissions;

4 “(vii) federally recognized tribes,
5 where applicable; and

6 “(viii) research institutions.

7 “(2) REGIONAL FISHERY INVESTMENT
8 PLANS.—Each fishery investment committee shall
9 develop a regional fishery investment plan that iden-
10 tifies critical research, conservation, and manage-
11 ment needs and corresponding actions to facilitate
12 rebuilding and maintaining healthy fish populations
13 and sustainable fisheries over a 5 year period. Each
14 plan shall—

15 “(A) be consistent with the current 5 year
16 research priority plans developed under section
17 302(h)(7) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
18 Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
19 1852(h)(7));

20 “(B) include areas of investment that are
21 critical for rebuilding and maintaining healthy
22 United States fish populations and promoting
23 sustainable fisheries, including—

24 “(i) stock surveys, stock assessments
25 and analysis, and cooperative fishery re-

1 search, in conjunction with NOAA, involv-
2 ing fishery participants, academic institu-
3 tions, and other interested parties;

4 “(ii) efforts to improve the collection
5 and accuracy of fishery catch data, includ-
6 ing—

7 “(I) expanding the use of, and
8 research and development on, catch
9 monitoring and reporting programs
10 and technology, both at-sea and shore-
11 side, including the use of electronic
12 monitoring devices and satellite track-
13 ing systems; and

14 “(II) improving data collection
15 for recreational fisheries, including
16 improvements to the Marine Rec-
17 reational Fishery Statistics Survey in
18 accordance with section 401(g)(3) of
19 the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
20 servation and Management Act (16
21 U.S.C. 1881(g)(3));

22 “(iii) analyzing the social and eco-
23 nomic impacts of fishery management deci-
24 sions;

1 “(iv) providing financial assistance to,
2 and investment in, fishermen and fishing
3 communities through—

4 “(I) fishing capacity reduction,
5 including vessel, permit, and gear
6 buybacks; and

7 “(II) investment in permit banks
8 or trusts and other entities, including
9 community fishing associations and
10 projects designed to help sustain fish-
11 ery dependent communities and small-
12 scale fisheries;

13 “(v) development of methods or tech-
14 nologies to improve the quality and value
15 of fish landed;

16 “(vi) research and development of
17 conservation engineering technologies and
18 methods in both commercial and rec-
19 reational fisheries; and

20 “(vii) habitat restoration and protec-
21 tion;

22 “(C) be revised by the regional fishery in-
23 vestment committee and approved by the Coun-
24 cil at least once every 5 years;

1 “(D) be submitted to the Secretary for re-
2 view to ensure the plan is consistent with the
3 requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
4 Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
5 1801 et seq.), and this section;

6 “(E) be published in the Federal Register
7 and made available for public comment; and

8 “(F) become effective not later than 60
9 days after the date of receipt unless the Sec-
10 retary makes a negative consistency finding.

11 “(3) NEGATIVE CONSISTENCY FINDING.—If the
12 Secretary makes a negative consistency finding
13 under paragraph (2)(F), each portion of the plan
14 that is the subject of the negative consistency find-
15 ing shall not be effective until it is made consistent
16 by the regional fishery investment committee and
17 the Council.

18 “(4) REGIONAL FISHERY INVESTMENT GRANT
19 PROGRAM.—Not later than 30 days after the date of
20 enactment of the Fisheries Investment and Regu-
21 latory Relief Act of 2012, the Secretary shall estab-
22 lish an annual competitive grant program to provide
23 funds for projects, activities, and research that ad-
24 vance the regional priorities that are included in the
25 regional fishery investment plans.

1 “(A) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—State, Fed-
2 eral, regional, or private entities or persons
3 shall be eligible for funding with preference
4 given to public-private partnerships.

5 “(B) AWARDS.—The Secretary may only
6 award a grant for a project, activity, or re-
7 search that—

8 “(i) implements regional fishery in-
9 vestment plans; and

10 “(ii) has been recommended for fund-
11 ing by the respective regional fishery in-
12 vestment committee and approved by the
13 Council.”.

14 (b) NATIONAL FISHERIES INVESTMENT PROGRAM.—
15 Section 2(d) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly
16 known as the “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C.
17 713c-3(d)), is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “research and
19 development addressed to such aspects of United
20 States fisheries (including, but not limited to, har-
21 vesting, processing, marketing, and associated infra-
22 structures) if not adequately covered by projects as-
23 sisted under subsection (c), as the Secretary deems
24 appropriate” and inserting “fisheries research and
25 investment that supports rebuilding and maintaining

1 healthy United States fish populations and promotes
2 sustainable fisheries. The program shall address
3 fisheries needs and problems described under sub-
4 section (e)(1)(B).”; and

5 (2) in paragraph (2)—

6 (A) by striking “, after consultation with
7 appropriate representatives of the fishing indus-
8 try,”;

9 (B) by striking “Merchant Marine and
10 Fisheries” and inserting “Natural Resources”;

11 (C) in subparagraph (A), by striking “de-
12 velopment goals and funding priorities under
13 paragraph (1)” and inserting “investment pri-
14 orities”;

15 (D) in subparagraph (B), by striking “all
16 pending projects assisted under subsection (c)”
17 and all that follows and inserting “the projects
18 funded by the Secretary under this subsection;
19 and”;

20 (E) in subparagraph (C), by striking “each
21 project assisted” and all that follows and insert-
22 ing “how well the project met the fisheries
23 needs described in subsection (e)(1).”.

24 (c) DIVISION OF RESOURCES.—Section 2(e) of the
25 Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the

1 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(e)), is
2 amended—

3 (1) by striking “moneys” each place it appears
4 and inserting “monies”;

5 (2) by striking “purpose of promoting” and in-
6 serting “purposes of investing in”;

7 (3) by inserting “or diverted” following “shall
8 be transferred”; and

9 (4) by striking subparagraph (A) and all the
10 follows, and inserting the following:

11 “(A) The Secretary shall allocate 70 per-
12 cent of these funds available at the beginning of
13 each fiscal year to the 8 Council regions and
14 the Secretary in accordance with the following
15 formula pursuant to subsection (c):

16 “(i) One half allocated equally among
17 the Council regions.

18 “(ii) One half allocated proportionally
19 among the Council regions based on the
20 combined economic impact of commercial
21 landings and recreational fishing in each
22 region.

23 “(B) 20 percent of these funds shall be
24 available to the Secretary under subsection (d)
25 for projects addressing fisheries needs and

1 problems, as identified by the Secretary, as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(i) Up to one fifth shall be allocated
4 to, and apportioned as the Secretary deems
5 appropriate among, the Atlantic States
6 Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf
7 States Marine Fisheries Commission, and
8 the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Com-
9 mission.

10 “(ii) Up to one fifth shall be allocated
11 to seafood promotion and sustainable cer-
12 tification efforts.

13 “(iii) Up to one fifth shall be allocated
14 to improve fisheries management through
15 research, monitoring or evaluation, and
16 modification of regulations and procedures.

17 “(iv) Up to one fifth shall be allocated
18 to fisheries disasters, and shoreside infra-
19 structure and access needs.

20 “(v) Up to one fifth shall be allocated
21 to other special needs, including manage-
22 ment of highly migratory species and inter-
23 national fisheries.

24 “(C) Any amounts remaining after the an-
25 nual fiscal year allocations made pursuant to

1 subparagraph (B) shall remain available to the
2 Secretary without fiscal year limitation for fu-
3 ture such allocations.

4 “(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 10 percent
5 of these funds may be used to offset receipts for the
6 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s
7 Operations, Research, and Facilities account.

8 “(3) ANNUAL NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary
9 shall notify annually each Council of funds available
10 for grants in its region.

11 “(4) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Prior to the al-
12 location of funds under paragraph (1), the Sec-
13 retary—

14 “(A) may reserve up to 3 percent of the
15 funds available in a fiscal year for the adminis-
16 tration of the grant program; and

17 “(B) shall distribute 3 percent of the funds
18 available in a fiscal year equally among each of
19 the 8 Councils for the development and imple-
20 mentation of fishery investment plans and
21 grant review.

22 “(5) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Except as
23 provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary may not re-
24 duce or eliminate funding for any research, survey,
25 monitoring, or assessment activities necessary to

1 meet the conservation and management require-
2 ments of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-
3 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.)
4 as a result of funding provided under this section.”.

5 **SEC. 4. FOCUSING ASSETS FOR IMPROVED FISHERIES OUT-**
6 **COMES.**

7 Section 2(b) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (com-
8 monly known as the “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15
9 U.S.C. 713c-3(b)), is amended—

10 (1) by striking “(1)”;

11 (2) by striking “and ending on June 30,
12 1957,”;

13 (3) by striking “moneys” the first place it ap-
14 pears and inserting “monies”; and

15 (4) by striking “shall be maintained in a sepa-
16 rate fund only for” and all that follows and inserting
17 “and shall only be used for the purposes described
18 under subsection (c).”.

19 **SEC. 5. REGULATION AND PROCEDURE STREAMLINING.**

20 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—For the 2 fiscal years following
21 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Com-
22 merce shall use funds available under section 2(e)(2) of
23 the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the
24 “Saltonstall-Kennedy Act”) (15 U.S.C. 713c-3), to con-
25 duct a review of the regulations and procedures used to

1 implement title III of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
2 servation and Management Act (90 Stat. 346).

3 (b) REVIEW REQUIREMENTS.—The review under
4 subsection (a) shall—

5 (1) identify redundant and inefficient regula-
6 tions and procedures;

7 (2) make recommendations for streamlining
8 such regulations and procedures, including rec-
9 ommendations to eliminate unnecessary paperwork,
10 reduce bureaucratic restrictions, and speed the inclu-
11 sion of new information into management decisions;
12 and

13 (3) ensure that any recommended modifications
14 to regulations or procedures are consistent with the
15 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Man-
16 agement Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), and any
17 other applicable law.

18 **SEC. 6. PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.**

19 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to
21 implement the requirements of this Act.

○

Background on the Kerry-Snowe Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act

The Saltonstall-Kennedy (S-K) Act directs 30% of the duties on imported fish products to a grant program for research and development projects to benefit the U.S. fishing industry. It is estimated that for 2010, the total duties collected on the imports of fishery products was \$376.6 million. The S-K Act directs 30% of that total to be transferred to the Secretary of Commerce. In 2010, that equaled \$113 million. Of that \$113 million, \$104.6 million went to NOAA's operations budget, and only \$8.4 million was used by NOAA for grants for fisheries research and development projects. We believe that we should follow the original intent of Senators Leverett Saltonstall and John F. Kennedy and restore this funding to help the fishermen and communities for whom it was originally intended.

Today, our regional fisheries are facing difficult issues such as the recent Gulf of Maine cod crisis in New England and pirate fishing on the West Coast. With federal funds scarce, each region is in need of a reliable source of federal funding to assist them in responding to the many challenges of managing a fishery. The Fisheries Investment Act ensures that the Saltonstall-Kennedy money is spent in coordination with the Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMC) and focused on key priorities identified by both fishermen and NOAA, restoring the original intent of the S-K Act by involving local stakeholders in determining how funds are used.

How priorities are set:

Seventy percent of the funds from the S-K Act would be used to fund a grant program to implement regional fishery investment plans, which would be developed by stakeholder committees of the RFMCs, released in the Federal Register for public comment and approved by the Secretary of Commerce. Each RFMC would oversee the development of an investment plan that would identify needs in the following areas:

- cooperative research;
- efforts to improve data collection;
- analysis of economic impacts of management decisions;
- economic services to fishermen, including permit banks, and buy-backs;
- preparation of fishery impact statements;
- improving quality and value of fish landed;
- reducing bycatch; and
- habitat restoration.

The investment plans must be consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act five-year research plans and revised at least every 5 years to ensure they include up-to-date critical needs. The plans would be developed by fishery investment committees at each of the Councils. The committees will be made up of no more than 13 members, with at least one spot reserved for a representative from each of the following areas:

- Commercial fishing;
- Private recreational fishing;
- Charter fishing;
- Public marine conservation (may not derive income from commercial or recreational fishing);
- Each state government in the region;
- Relevant interstate commissions;
- Federally recognized tribes, where applicable; and

- Research institutions.

Grants consistent with the investment plans would be given to federal, state and private entities, with preference given to public-private partnerships.

Funding breakdown:

Of the funds S-K funds available, up to three percent (2010: \$3.39 million) is available to NOAA for administration of the program and three percent (2010: \$3.39 million) shall be equally distributed to the RFMCs for administration. Seventy percent of the remaining S-K funds available (2010: \$74.354 million) would be divided between each of the eight RFMC's to carry out the regional fishery investment plans. Half of the 70 percent would be equally divided between the Councils. The other half of the 70 percent would be proportionally divided between the Councils based on the combined economic impact of commercial landings and recreational fishing in each region.

Twenty percent of the remaining S-K funds available (2010: \$21.244 million) would be reserved by the Secretary for a national program of fisheries research and investment that supports rebuilding and maintaining healthy United States fish populations and promotes sustainable fisheries. Of that 20 percent, up to four percent shall be allocated to the interstate fishing commissions, up to four percent shall be used for seafood promotion, up to four percent for improved fisheries management through research, monitoring or evaluation and modification of regulations and procedures, up to four percent for fisheries disasters, shoreside infrastructure and access needs, and up to four percent for other special needs, including highly migratory species and international fisheries management.

The remaining 10 percent of the funds available (2010: \$10.622 million) would remain with NOAA and may be used to offset receipts in the NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities account.

At the end of each fiscal year, the Secretary would prepare a report containing a list of the next year's fishery investment priorities, a description of the projects that had already been funded and an assessment of each project's success. The report would be submitted to the Senate Commerce Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee.

Other provisions:

The bill also contains a provision regarding the streamlining of current regulations and procedures. In the two fiscal years following enactment, the bill directs the Secretary to use funds available from the S-K program to conduct a review of regulations and procedures used to implement the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The review will seek to identify redundant and inefficient regulations and procedures, make recommendations for streamlining procedures and regulations, in particular ways to reduce paperwork, bureaucratic restrictions, and speed the inclusion of new information into management decisions, and ensure that any modifications to procedures or regulations are consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and any other applicable law.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Office of Inspector General


Washington, D.C. 20230

AGENDA B-1(i)

MARCH/APRIL 2012

January 10, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

FROM: Ann C. Eilers 
Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

SUBJECT: Review of Fishery Management Councils and Fishery Rulemaking

We are initiating a review of controls and processes used by NOAA's Fishery Management Councils (FMCs) as related to developing rules for the commercial fishing industry. This review is being conducted pursuant to a joint request made by Massachusetts Congressmen Barney Frank and John Tierney on August 17, 2011.

Our review of FMCs and rulemaking will be conducted in phases and result in interim products produced at several intervals. In this phase of the review, we will evaluate the role of NOAA and the FMCs in the fishery rulemaking process and the transparency of the rulemaking process prescribed under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

We will contact the audit liaison to arrange an entrance conference and will conduct our review at the FMCs and other NOAA locations as necessary. If you have any questions, please call me, (202) 482-2754, or Andrew Katsaros, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, (202) 482-7859. We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this review.

cc: Monica Medina, Principal Deputy Undersecretary for Oceans and Atmosphere
Mary Glackin, Deputy Undersecretary for Operations
Samuel Rauch, Acting Assistant Administrator, NOAA Fisheries
Paul Doremus, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NOAA Fisheries
Lois Schiffer, General Counsel, NOAA
Bruce Buckson, Director, Office of Law Enforcement, NMFS
Mary B. Ward, Deputy General Counsel, NOAA
Ben Friedman, Deputy General Counsel, NOAA
Charles L. Green, Acting Assistant General Counsel for Enforcement & Litigation, NOAA
Edward Horton, Chief Administrative Officer, NOAA
Mack Cato, Audit Liaison, NOAA



Subject: Meeting request with GAO
From: "Bachhuber, Eric A" <BachhuberE@gao.gov>
Date: 3/21/2012 8:21 AM
To: "chris.oliver@noaa.gov" <chris.oliver@noaa.gov>
CC: "Dent, Jonathan" <DentJ@gao.gov>

Mr. Oliver-

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) has initiated a study examining a potential move of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) into the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) within the Department of the Interior. This study is in response to a request from Senator Brown, in his capacity as the ranking member of the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security. Our research objectives are: (1) how federal fisheries and protected species management would potentially be affected by moving NMFS into FWS and (2) what factors should be considered if Congress was to move NMFS into FWS and what management practices could facilitate such a move.

We are also aware of the Administration's January 2012 announcement of a proposed reorganization of the Department of Commerce, which would potentially move all of NOAA, including NMFS, into Interior.

We would like to discuss the various proposals for reorganizaing NMFS and NOAA with individual members of several of the regional fishing management councils. At this point in our study, we are particularly interested in meeting with representatives of the commercial fishing industry in order to discuss their perspectives on their current interactions with NMFS and whether they believe NMFS operations could be improved by moving or restructuring the agency. If there are council members representing other interests who you believe could also offer a good perspective on these issues, we would be interested in talking to them as well. We found a list of the members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on your website and were hoping that you could help us identify a few members that might be available to talk with us. Are there a few members you would suggest as good contacts? We are hoping to schedule a time to talk with them in the next week or so and would appreciate any assistance that you can provide.

Thank you,

Eric

Eric Bachhuber
Senior Analyst, Natural Resources and Environment Team
U.S. Government Accountability Office
206-287-4781
bachhubere@gao.gov

FROM: Natural Resources Press Office [<mailto:naturalresourcesrepublicans@mail.house.gov>]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 4:59 PM

To: Natural Resources Press Office

Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY: Subcommittee to Hold Alaska Oversight Field Hearing on the Effects of the National Ocean Policy on Alaska's Sovereignty

AGENDA B-1(k)

MARCH/APRIL 2012

Committee Action

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN DOC HASTINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 23, 2012

202-226-9019

CONTACT: [Crystal Feldman](#), [Spencer Pederson](#) or [Jill Strait](#)

MEDIA ADVISORY

Subcommittee to Hold Alaska Oversight Field Hearing on the Effects of the National Ocean Policy on Alaska's Sovereignty

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Tuesday, April 3rd the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs will hold an oversight field hearing in Anchorage, Alaska on "*Alaska's Sovereignty In Peril: The National Ocean Policy's Goal to Federalize Alaska.*"

WHAT: Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs oversight field hearing on:
"*Alaska's Sovereignty In Peril: The National Ocean Policy's Goal to Federalize Alaska*"

Witnesses to be announced.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 3, 2012
10:00 A.M. Alaska Daylight Time

WHERE: Z.J. Loussac Library-Main Branch
3600 Denali Street in Anchorage, Alaska

FW: MEDIA ADVISORY: Subcommittee to Hold Alaska Oversight Fie...

Visit the [Committee Calendar](#) for testimony and additional information, once it is made available. The hearing is open to the public.

###

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NPFMC/IPHC Workshop on Halibut Bycatch Estimation, Halibut Growth and Migration, & Effects on Harvest Strategy

March 2012 DRAFT

Background

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is evaluating proposed reductions to the halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) limits for trawl/longline fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). Part of the evaluation should include an estimate of the impacts of halibut bycatch mortality levels on yield (CEY), exploitable and spawning biomass, and the dynamics of the halibut stock. In response to this need, the IPHC staff provided an analysis on these metrics, which was included both in the Council analysis and as an appendix to the GOA Halibut PSC Limit EA/RIR.

Halibut bycatch mortality impacts are a combination of both the level of bycatch mortality and its cumulative impact on yield and spawning biomass, both in total and area-specific based on estimated halibut movements. That is, bycatch impact is not just an issue of halibut biology (movement, growth, mortality), it is also an issue of the *amount* of bycatch mortality, and both components require analysis and evaluation.

On migration, the IPHC staff is preparing a white paper detailing the current understanding of halibut movements, including sources of information and analyses. This white paper may inform the Council's discussion of what the area-specific impacts of bycatch might be, given the available data and assuming the existing bycatch data are accurate. This white paper is anticipated to be made available sometime this winter, and would also be a subject of the workshop discussion. Implications of slow growth currently being observed in halibut, including the relationship to current minimum size limits, would also be reviewed at the workshop.

On bycatch estimation, there is broad agreement that the current levels of bycatch in the GOA are poorly understood, partly because of necessary extrapolations to vessels not subject to observer coverage, and are not subject to high confidence intervals. Recognizing that the groundfish observer program in the GOA is being restructured to address these deficiencies and to provide better use of available observer coverage, a review and assessment of bycatch estimation at this workshop could be very informative to that restructuring process. It could also be informative to the Council's desire to explore more comprehensive bycatch management measures (e.g., IBQs or similar 'rationalized' approaches).

The importance of the absolute level of bycatch mortality is that the Commission staff uses that estimate as one of the elements to calculate the appropriate harvest rate for the halibut stock. Essentially, the harvest rate for the stock is reduced to account for the amount of bycatch mortality that is estimated to occur. If that estimate is too low by a substantial amount, it means that the Commission's harvest rate, and the consequent yield taken from the halibut stock, is incorrect and the stock is being overexploited. However, regardless of uncertainties in total bycatch estimation in any given year, a primary goal of this workshop is to understand the impacts of *a given amount* of bycatch (for example, the current halibut PSC caps) on the IPHC's yield management strategy.

Discussions within the Council, between the Council and the Commission staffs, and between the contracting parties to the Commission would all benefit from a joint understanding of halibut bycatch mortality and its impacts. In addition, the Council desires to better understand the Commission's current view of halibut migration and halibut growth in order to understand both the total and the area-specific impacts of halibut bycatch mortality on halibut stock biomass, yield, and productivity, and the relevance of halibut PSC limits. At its June 2011 meeting, the Council requested a jointly sponsored workshop with IPHC to examine the current understanding of halibut movements and growth.

Workshop Outline

Commission and Council staffs are therefore organizing a public workshop to review the methodology and accuracy of the estimation of halibut bycatch in trawl/longline groundfish fisheries off Alaska, and the impacts of any given amount of halibut bycatch on the halibut stock, both coastwide and by area given the current understanding of halibut migration. The workshop will also discuss general halibut ecology, including recent trends in exploitable biomass, spawning biomass, and length at age, as well as information concerning the causes and implications of halibut slow growth. The staffs believe that the workshop focus should be broader than the GOA because halibut movement is a coastwide phenomenon and the Council has stated its intent to review halibut PSC limits in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) in the future. The workshop would be jointly funded by the IPHC and the Council, and would replace the proposed SSC review of halibut migration (originally scheduled for February 2012).

The workshop is scheduled for April 24-25, 2012 and will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle, WA. These dates were chosen due to current IPHC, NPFMC, and NMFS meeting schedules and staff tasking, the need to develop background documentation and analyses of bycatch estimation, and ongoing discussions between IPHC staff and scientists contracted by the groundfish industry regarding halibut growth, migration, and harvest strategy, which are all subjects of the proposed workshop. These latter discussions, which will extend from mid-February through March 2012, are intended to develop a joint understanding of halibut bycatch and its impacts on halibut stock dynamics and yields. Neither the workshop nor the meeting report would be available to inform the Council on its selection of a preferred alternative for revising GOA halibut PSC limits, unless the Council delays that action until June of 2012, although the significant details of bycatch impact on the halibut stock were included in the September EA/RIR as noted.

The workshop would be comprised of short summary presentations from agency science staffs and invited industry science representatives, with a scientific panel that would be charged with providing a review of the discussion and its findings. The presentations, which would summarize documents that would be available prior to the workshop, would occur on Day 1. Day 2 would be reserved for comments, questions, and summary. The panel would include staff from IPHC, Council, the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center, the Council's SSC, Canada's DFO, independent scientists sponsored by the fishing industry, and two independent, external scientific experts on bycatch issues. Dr. S. Martell and Mr. T. Jagielo are the currently identified independent scientists contracted by the industry. The workshop would be facilitated by an independent moderator, who would also be responsible for producing a workshop summary report to be distributed shortly after the workshop.

(DRAFT) APRIL 24-25 HALIBUT WORKSHOP OUTLINE

Facilitator(s): **Jonathan Raab (Raab Associates, Boston, MA)**
Stephanie Stern (CONCUR, San Francisco, CA)

Panelists:

Dr. Bruce Leaman (IPHC)
Dr. Steven Hare (IPHC)
Jane DiCosimo (NPFMC/BSAI GPT)
Dr. Jim Ianelli (NMFS AFSC/GOA GPT)
Bob Clark (ADF&G/SSC)
Dr. Gordon Kruse (UAA-SE/SSC)
Dr. Robyn Forrest (DFO/IPHC)
Dr. Steve Martell (UBC/Industry)
Tom Jagielo (WDFW (ret.)/Industry)
Dr. Michelle Allen (Biometrics Division, Dept. Ag. & Rural Dev., Ireland)
Dr. John Neilson (DFO, New Brunswick)

WELCOME

INTRODUCTIONS/TIMELINES (Jonathan Raab)

Workshop presentations:

1. Halibut ecology;

Results of the 2011 halibut assessment by Dr. Steven R. Hare, IPHC

Review of IPHC halibut diet studies by Dr. Bruce M. Leaman, IPHC

Halibut in an ecosystem context: 30 years of diet collections and food web modeling by Dr. Kerim Aydin, NMFS AFSC

Growth and observed size-at-age in eastern Pacific halibut: Thoughts on potential mechanisms and investigation by Dr. Tim L. Loher, IPHC

Synopsis of theoretical and empirical evidence concerning the causes of halibut slow growth and potential differences in natural mortality by sex by Tom Jagielo, Industry Consultant

2. Impacts of halibut bycatch;

Catch Estimation in the Alaskan Groundfish Fisheries by Jennifer Cahalan, PSFMC and Jennifer Mondragon, NMFS Alaska Region

Management and Monitoring of Pacific Halibut Bycatch in B.C.'s Trawl Commercial Groundfish Fishery by Barry Ackerman, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Bruce Turriss, Industry Representative

Accounting for bycatch and wastage mortality in the IPHC harvest policy by Dr. Steven R. Hare, IPHC

Potential yield and female spawning biomass gains from proposed Pacific halibut prohibited species catch limit reductions in Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries by **Dr. Steven R. Hare**, IPHC

Size limit effects on halibut CEY, spawning biomass, and wastage by **Dr. Steve Martell**, UBC/Industry Consultant

Current understanding of Pacific halibut migration patterns by **Dr. Juan Valero**, IPHC

Current understanding of halibut migration by **Tom Jagielo**, Industry Consultant

3. Management of halibut bycatch;

Efficacy of changes in catch handling procedures to reduce halibut mortality rates by **John Gauvin**, Industry Representative

TBA by **Lori Swanson**, Industry Representative (T)

Harvest policy considerations for re-evaluating the minimum size limit in the Pacific halibut commercial fishery by **Dr. Juan Valero**, IPHC

Effects of reduced minimum-size limits on halibut biomass, yield, spawning biomass, and wastage by **Dr. Steve Martell**, UBC/Industry Consultant

Planned Changes in the Alaskan Observer Program by **Martin Loefflad** and **Dr. Craig Faunce**, NMFS AFSC

Halibut Individual Bycatch Quota in the Northwest Trawl Catch Shares Program by **Sarah Williams**, NMFS Northwest Region

Management and Monitoring of Pacific Halibut Bycatch in B.C.'s Hook & Line/Trap Commercial Groundfish Fishery by **Chantelle Caron**, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

4. Results and policy implications;

- a. Participant discussion: A facilitator led discussion of the implications of the results for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management where workshop attendees are asked to provide their views on the implications of the results for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management, and during a moderated discussion the panel members provide feedback and-or questions about participant views and suggestions, as well as what additional research may be useful or informative.
- b. Panel discussion: A facilitator led discussion and synthesis of the implications of the results and stakeholder views for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management in the North Pacific by a workshop panel constituted in advance of the workshop.

IS IT TIME TO PROTECT THE LARGEST UNDERWATER CANYONS IN THE WORLD?

Join us for a review of new data from an expedition into Zhemchug and Pribilof Canyons, with discussion of policy implications.

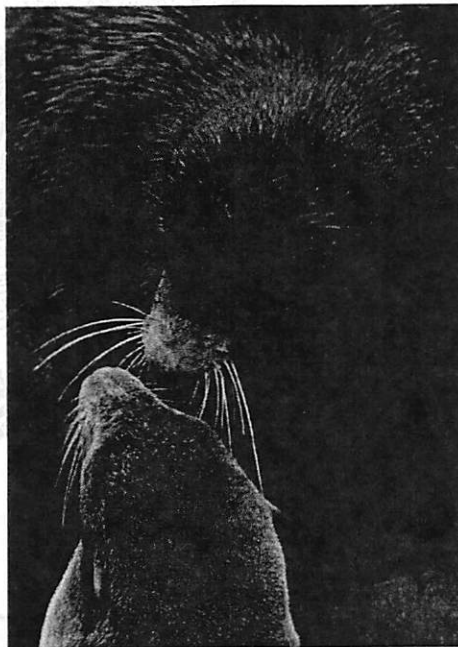
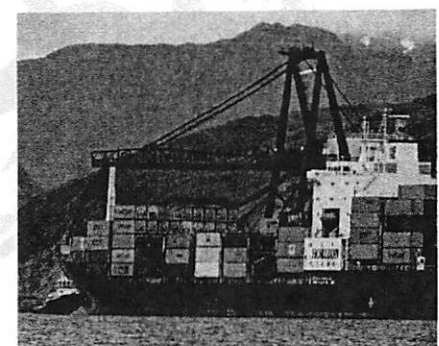
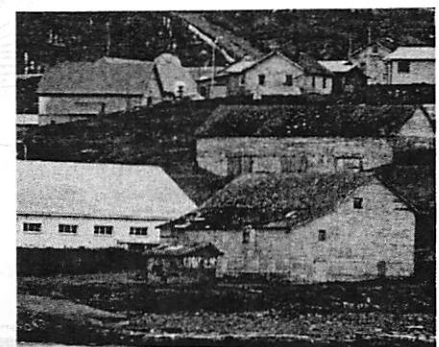
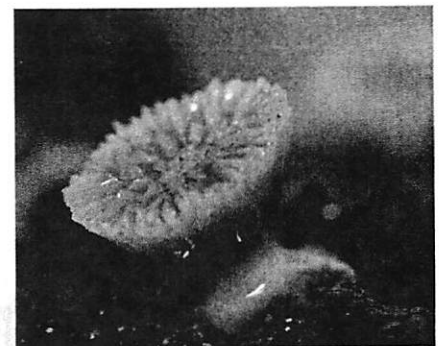
John Hocevar, second author of a new peer-reviewed scientific paper by scientists from UC Santa Barbara, Greenpeace, and NOAA: **Structure-forming corals and sponges and their use as fish habitat in Bering Sea submarine canyons**

Ken Stump, marine policy expert formerly with the Marine Fish Conservation Network and author of numerous technical reports on a wide range of fisheries issues: **Canyon HCAs as Tools to Accomplish Multiple Management Objectives and Promote the Application of Ecosystem Principles in Fisheries.**

Date: Tuesday, March 27

Time: 5:30pm (or as soon as AP is finished)

Location: Advisory Panel room, Anchorage Hilton



Tour on 27 March at 7:00 p.m. - Group leave		
First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Craig	Cross	Advisory Panel
John	Crowly	Advisory Panel
Julianne	Curry	Advisory Panel
Jeff	Farvour	Advisory Panel
Jan	Jacobs	Advisory Panel
Alexis	Kwatchka	Advisory Panel
Edward	Poulsen	Advisory Panel
Becca	Robbins-Gisclair	Advisory Panel
Neil	Rodriguez	Advisory Panel
Lori	Swanson	Advisory Panel
Ernie	Weiss	Advisory Panel

Tour on 28 March at 7:00 p.m. - Group leave		
First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Karla	Bush	ADF&G Staff
Duncan	Fields	Council Member
Dan	Hull	Council Member
Roy	Hyder	Council Member
Denny	Lassuy	Council Member
Sarah	Melton	Council Staff
Kate	Reedy-Maschner	Scientific and Statistical Committee
Maria	Shawback	Council Staff
Bill	Tweit	Council Member

Friday, March 23, 2012 Version

Workshop on Assessment/Management Issues Related to Recruitment

AFSC Seattle Lab (Traynor Room),
 April 4-5, 2012

Agenda

Wednesday, April 4		Speakers
0900	Welcome, purpose of workshop, introductions, rapporteurs	
A. Identification of regime shifts, either for an ecosystem or some subunit thereof		
1. Current policy on identification of regime shifts*		
0920	Estimating B_{MSY} for Tier 4 crab stocks and recruitment for Tier 3 crab stocks: Which years are representative?	B. Foy, D. Stram
0945	Jim Balsiger's memo of September 1999	Grant Thompson
0950	Discussion	
2. Possible improvements to current policy, including consideration of risk*		
1000	A null hypothesis to explain regime-like transitions in ecosystem time series	Emanuele Di Lorenzo
1025	- Break -	
1045	Identification and management of stocks with regime-based recruitment	Cody Szuwalski
1110	Considerations of biological factors affecting potential crab production regimes	L. Rugolo, J. Turnock
1130	Risk-based selection of regime boundaries for a stock managed under a sloping, SPR-based control rule	Grant Thompson
1145	Discussion (if time)	
1200	- Lunch -	
1300	Discussion (continued as needed)	
B. Estimation of parameters (average recruitment, stock-recruitment relationships, σ_R)		
1. Establishing criteria for excluding individual within-regime year classes from estimates*		
1330	Criteria for excluding individual within-regime year classes from estimates: current practice for EBS pollock	Jim Ianelli
1350	Accounting for uncertainty in estimated recruitment when computing stock status reference points: an example from the 2010 BSAI blackspotted/rougeye rockfish assessment	Paul Spencer
1410	Choice of recruitment periods for OFL determination and its impacts on Bristol Bay red king crab	Jie Zheng
1430	Discussion	
1450	Break	
2. Use of "conditioned" stock-recruitment parameters (e.g., $F_{MSY}=F35\%$, $B_{MSY}=B35\%$)		
1510	Deriving steepness from F_{MSY} or F_{spr}	Steve Martell
1530	Discussion	
3. Specification of priors, including hierarchical Bayes and other meta-analytic approaches		
1550	Use of stock-recruit steepness priors based on meta-analysis in West Coast rockfish assessments	Martin Dorn
1610	Preliminary results for developing Bayesian priors for relative cohort strength of groundfishes off the U.S. West Coast using multi-species Stock Synthesis models	Jim Thorson
1630	Discussion	
1700	- Adjourn for the day -	

* Critical items for May 2012 Crab Plan Team meeting

Thursday April 5th

B. Estimation of parameters, continued

4. Alternatives for setting/estimating σ_R

0900 Some problems associated with estimating relative recruitment without first integrating out random effects Grant Thompson

0925 Discussion

5. Determining "reliability" of the F_{MSY} pdf

0945 Environmental factors affecting EBS pollock S-R relationships Jim Ianelli

1010 Discussion

1040 Break

6. Other issues involving the stock-recruitment relationship

1110 Improving ecological validity and linkage among spawner recruitment, mortality, age structure, and harvesting models: An example from western rock lobster fishery neutrality harvesting model Yuk W. Cheng

1130 Comprehensive analysis of the stock-recruitment relationship and reference points Mark Maunder

1200 Lunch

1300 A new paradigm for stock-recruitment relationships: Viewing the stock-recruitment relationship as density dependent survival invalidates the Beverton-Holt and Ricker models Mark Maunder

1320 Discussion

C. Forecasting environmental variability

1. Best practices for incorporating environmental forcing in stock assessments

1350 Multispecies modeling, including projections and effects of temperature variability and predators on mortality estimates Kirstin Holsman

1410 Environmental forcing of recruitment in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska and its use in stock assessments and stock projections Franz Mueter

1430 Discussion

1500 Break

2. How knowledge of environmental forcing changes perceptions of reference points*

1530 F_{msy} and B_{msy} proxies by regime Jim Ianelli

1600 Discussion and wrapup

* Critical items for May 2012 Crab Plan Team meeting

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN DOC HASTINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, March 22, 2012
[PERMALINK](#)

CONTACT: [Crystal Feldman](#), [Spencer Pederson](#) or [Jill Strait](#)
202-226-9019

Recreational, Commercial Fisherman Fear President's Ocean Zoning Plans Will Block Access, Create Conflict in Fishery Management

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held an oversight hearing on “*Empty Hooks: The National Ocean Policy is the Latest Threat to Access for Recreational and Commercial Fishermen.*” Representatives from the charter, commercial and recreational fishing industries testified on the implications of President Obama’s National Ocean Policy. Established by Executive Order 13547, the National Ocean Policy creates a new, top-down bureaucracy that could restrict access for the fishing industry, increase industry overregulation and create conflicts in fishery management.

“The Obama Administration has proposed a National Ocean Policy that will add new regulations and implement closures that will affect fishermen as well as inland activities. Of the nine National Priority Objectives in the National Ocean Policy, four call for closed areas or restrictions on activities - including fishing. To make matters worse, the Policy requires that all of these decisions be made by federal officials behind closed doors. There is no opportunity for direct stakeholder participation in these decisions. At a time of tight budgets, I believe this new Policy is draining resources away from existing missions and duties of a number of federal agencies. Yet this Administration either cannot, or will not, answer questions about where the funding for this far-reaching national zoning effort is coming from,” **said Chairman John Fleming (LA-04).**

The absence of stakeholder involvement in the development of the National Ocean Policy and subsequent Implementation Plan has created uproar throughout the fishing industry. **Captain Robert F. Zales, II**, President of the National Association of Charterboat Operators, expressed his concerns about the lack of transparency throughout the process. *“The current National Ocean Policy process, has from day one, suggested that the Nation’s stakeholders have been actively involved and able to provide input. The true nature of the activity shows this is blatantly untrue. The fast tracking underground, lack of adequate public notice, and haphazard manner where vital stakeholders are left out by the administration is clear indication they want this policy to be fully implemented before anyone is aware of the real impacts of the proposed policy.”* Captain Zales also discussed the current overregulation on the fishing industry and the potential for the National Ocean Policy to exacerbate these regulations. *“The Fishing Industry (recreational and commercial) cannot absorb any more regulatory burden. Many fishermen have left fishing because they have simply been regulated out of business. ... The National Ocean Policy process has the potential and is likely to create new and expanded regulatory requirements in addition to those we have, creating more regulatory burdens and expanding costs to our businesses.”*

Gary Zurn, testifying on behalf of the American Sportfishing Association, spoke of the need for improved scientific data to improve stock assessments. *“What the recreational fishing community sees in the National Ocean Policy is not improved science to drive better fisheries management or efforts to promote getting Americans out on the water; but rather more confusing bureaucracy and the serious potential that public waters will be placed off-limits based on poorly-defined ideas of protection and precaution.”* Mr. Zurn continued, *“The overall lack of quality scientific data, combined with strict legal requirements to end overfishing and set catch limits on all stocks, has resulted in numerous management decisions that have taken anglers off the water, hurt businesses and degraded the public’s trust of NOAA Fisheries. Anglers are willing to make sacrifices for the betterment of the resource, as long as they know decisions are based on sound scientific information. But many of the sacrifices being imposed on the recreational fishing community are instead based on guesswork, the precautionary principle and fear of lawsuits.”*

George J. Mannina, Jr., an attorney with extensive experience with fisheries issues, discussed the legality of the Obama Administration creating and implementing the National Ocean Policy by Executive Order. *“The authority given to the National Ocean Council by the Executive Order to create and to then implement an ocean policy with which every Public Law must be consistent is not found in any Congressionally passed statute.”* According to Mr. Mannina, *“Advocates of the National Ocean Policy will assert that the Executive Branch could promulgate regulations under its existing delegated authority to do some or all of these things. That may or may not be the case, but Executive Order 13547 does not take that approach. Instead, it creates, via the National Ocean Policy, a new set of requirements with which existing statutes are to be consistent, and then places these new standards beyond judicial review. This effectively constitutes the enactment of new legislation that violates the separation of powers set forth in the U.S. Constitution.”*

Justin LeBlanc, representing United Catcher Boats and a coalition of commercial fishermen who account for over 55 percent of the Nation’s annual seafood harvest, stated that the National Ocean Policy’s Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning initiative *“is a unauthorized new regulatory program aimed at imposing a new ocean governance structure which conflicts with successful Congressionally authorized programs such as regional fishery management.”* LeBlanc also noted that the seafood industry has submitted numerous comments, but have been *“disappointed that despite our familiarity with ecosystems, our comments at each step in this process have been ignored.”*

###

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LISA MURKOWSKI
ALASKA

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(907) 225-6880

851 EAST WESTPOINT DRIVE, SUITE 307
WASILLA, AK 99654-7142
(907) 376-7665

AGENDA B-1
Supplemental
MARCH/APRIL 2012

March 26, 2012

Chris Oliver
Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Street, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am requesting the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's review of recently introduced legislation. Senator Kerry introduced S. 2184, the Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act of 2012, on March 12, 2012. The legislation would substantially affect the Regional Management Councils and fisheries research and management in each region. I request your review and comment on the legislation from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's perspective.

I understand the Council begins meeting this Wednesday, which may provide an opportunity for the Council formulate comments. I look forward to receiving any input you are able to provide. Please contact Stefanie Moreland at 202-227-9316 with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

cc: Eric Olson, Chair, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

(DRAFT) APRIL 24-25 HALIBUT WORKSHOP OUTLINE

Facilitator(s): **Jonathan Raab (Raab Associates, Boston, MA)**
Stephanie Stern (CONCUR, San Francisco, CA)

Panelists:

Dr. Bruce Leaman (IPHC)
Dr. Steven Hare (IPHC)
Jane DiCosimo (NPFMC/BSAI GPT)
Dr. Jim Ianelli (NMFS AFSC/GOA GPT)
Bob Clark (ADF&G/SSC)
Dr. Gordon Kruse (UAF/SSC)
Dr. Robyn Forrest (DFO/IPHC)
Dr. Steve Martell (UBC/Industry)
Tom Jagielo (WDFW (ret.)/Industry)
Dr. Michelle Allen (Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute, Northern Ireland)
Dr. John Neilson (DFO, New Brunswick)
Tory O'Connell (ADF&G (ret.)/Industry)

WELCOME

INTRODUCTIONS/TIMELINES (Jonathan Raab)

Workshop presentations:

1. Halibut ecology;

Results of the 2011 halibut assessment by Dr. Steven R. Hare, IPHC

Review of IPHC halibut diet studies by Dr. Bruce M. Leaman, IPHC

Halibut in an ecosystem context: 30 years of diet collections and food web modeling by Dr. Kerim Aydin, NMFS AFSC

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Synopsis of theoretical and empirical evidence concerning the causes of halibut slow growth and potential differences in natural mortality by sex by Tom Jagielo, Industry Consultant

2. Impacts of halibut bycatch;

Catch Estimation in the Alaskan Groundfish Fisheries by Jennifer Cahalan, PSFMC and Jennifer Mondragon, NMFS Alaska Region

Management and Monitoring of Pacific Halibut Bycatch in B.C.'s Trawl Commercial Groundfish Fishery by Barry Ackerman, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Bruce Turris, Industry Representative

Accounting for bycatch and wastage mortality in the IPHC harvest policy by Dr. Steven R. Hare, IPHC

Potential yield and female spawning biomass gains from proposed Pacific halibut prohibited species catch limit reductions in Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries by **Dr. Steven R. Hare**, IPHC

Size limit effects on halibut CEY, spawning biomass, and wastage by **Dr. Steve Martell**, UBC/Industry Consultant

Current understanding of Pacific halibut migration patterns by **Dr. Juan Valero**, IPHC

Current understanding of halibut migration by **Tom Jagielo**, Industry Consultant

3. Management of halibut bycatch;

Efficacy of changes in catch handling procedures to reduce halibut mortality rates by **John Gauvin**, Industry Representative

TBA by **Lori Swanson, Julie Bonney, and Kenneth Downs**, Industry Representatives (T)

Harvest policy considerations for re-evaluating the minimum size limit in the Pacific halibut commercial fishery by **Dr. Juan Valero**, IPHC

Effects of reduced minimum-size limits on halibut biomass, yield, spawning biomass, and wastage by **Dr. Steve Martell**, UBC/Industry Consultant

Planned Changes in the Alaskan Observer Program by **Martin Loefflad and Dr. Craig Faunce**, NMFS AFSC

Halibut Individual Bycatch Quota in the Northwest Trawl Catch Shares Program by **Sarah Williams**, NMFS Northwest Region

Management and Monitoring of Pacific Halibut Bycatch in B.C.'s Hook & Line/Trap Commercial Groundfish Fishery by **Chantelle Caron**, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

4. Results and policy implications;

- a. Participant discussion: A facilitator led discussion of the implications of the results for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management where workshop attendees are asked to provide their views on the implications of the results for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management, and during a moderated discussion the panel members provide feedback and-or questions about participant views and suggestions, as well as what additional research may be useful or informative.
- b. Panel discussion: A facilitator led discussion and synthesis of the implications of the results and stakeholder views for halibut (and halibut bycatch) management in the North Pacific by a workshop panel constituted in advance of the workshop.