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# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

## CHAIRMAN

Mr. Elmer Rasmuson  
P.O. Box 600  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue  
Post Office Mall Building  
Phone: 907-274-4563  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

March 18, 1977

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- First grant money received on March 7 with Kathy Hensley from Washington, D.C. Have set up financial system, paying all new bills from it (54K).
- All bills prior to February 27 -- travel, etc. will be in old Federal system.
- We should be getting a new grant award for \$184K in next two weeks.
- Will draw on it and send in budget period it will carry us. Estimate 2 - 2½ months.
- ITEM 4  
Budgeting - suggest new budget for second half FY 77.  
Careful consideration of budgeting by management plan.  
Consider \$200K request for contracts in light of current budgeting.

-- ITEM 5

Bill for personnel - passed Senate and sent to House on 3/16.

Payroll - Gross payments to Council members.

1. Simpler bookkeeping with FICA and State income taxes - NOAA is recommending.
2. Current Council salary is \$183. With COLA it would be \$228.75. Do you want it?

Insurance -

Have medical and life insurance till July - costing \$270 a month.

Liability, fire, bonding (\$50K for all) - cost \$244 a year for bonding

Fire - \$137 a year (15K)

Workmens' Compensation \$996

Liability \$174.

Should AUDIT books every year, Law requires every two years.

Council should hire firm - completely outside Council and all connections.

Federal auditors will work at least once every five years.

Month following the close of fiscal year probably best for effectiveness.

Need Council authorization for Director and Assistant Director to sign Grant Award.

McKernan  
H Eaton  
Reetz  
Harville

Budget -

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List of Auditors - prepare  
for Council

Grant Awards -

Motion - to authorize Hutton & Branson

Pass -

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Approve Travel - Exec. meeting  
Branson - OK. -

page 3.

- Executive Directors' Meeting in Charleston from March 28 to 30. Agenda mostly nuts and bolts of Council operations. Would like your advice on need for national operating manuals, etc.
  
- Letterhead design - show sample, plus Mid-Atlantic sample. Prices for NP artist \$150.

page 1.

Executive Director, American Telephone and Telegraph Company  
 400 Broadway, New York 10013  
 Dear Sir:  
 I am writing to you regarding the national operating manual  
 for the Model 5000 telephone set.  
 I have reviewed the manual and find it to be a very good  
 one. It is well written and covers all the necessary  
 information for the user.

I am sure that you will find it to be a very useful  
 reference for your customers. I am sure that you will  
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 reference for your customers.

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
Statement of Income and Expense  
from 3/7/77 - 3/18/77  
March 18, 1977

Expenses, before grant money was received, are still an estimate. The Finance Office of NOAA has promised a full itemized list of all expenses by the May 1977 meeting. The following expense sheet reflects income, actual expenses and some accrued expenses as of March 18, 1977.

Income

Grant (received 3/7/77) . \$54,000.00 54,000.00

Expenses

Administrative Staff Compensation	\$ 2,852.38	
Rent (office and equipment)	2,854.48	
Printing	107.35	
Office Supplies	346.22	
Insurance	1,270.50	
Miscellaneous (petty cash, etc.)	<u>124.86</u>	
Actual Expenses	7,555.79	
Payroll Taxes Payable	<u>1,526.13</u>	
Total Expenses Incurred	\$ 9,081.92	9,081.92
Cash Balance		<u>\$44,918.08</u>

Please note that because of the transition period many of our actual expenses are not shown (such as the phone bill and equipment orders). We hope to have these on the next report.

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
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(4)

FY77 Budget Estimate (second 6 months)  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
March 14, 1977

<u>OBJECT</u> <u>CLASS</u>	Proposed Budget <u>4/1/77 to 9/30/77</u>
Salaries:	
Staff	\$ 68
Non-government Voting Members (includes 25% COLA)	52
Benefits:	
25% Staff	17
9.6% Council	<u>4</u>
Total Salaries and Benefits	\$141

Travel	225
Transportation of Things	6
Rents	21
Communications	6
Printing	14
Non-federal Contracts Operational	3
Supplies	3
Capital Equipment	4
Non-Capital Equipment	1
Tax and Insurance	<u>3</u>
Council Operation Subtotal	\$427

<u>Development of Management Plans</u>	<u>1st Draft</u>	<u>Rewrite</u>
Trawl Fishery - Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands	26,560	13,280
Trawl Fishery - Gulf of Alaska	26,560	13,280
Tanner Crab Fishery	18,900	9,450
King Crab Fishery	18,900	9,450
Salmon Fishery	18,900	9,450
Ocean Salmon Plan - High Seas Gillnet Fishery	10,000	
Subtotal Management Plans		\$175
TOTAL		\$602



Budget Estimate  
 NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
 Second 6 months  
 March 4, 1977

Salaries:  
 Staff:

Executive Director	21,125	
Assistant Executive Director	15,200	
Administrative Officer	9,000	
Executive Secretary	10,000	
Clerk-typist	6,300	
Clerk-typist	<u>6,400</u>	
Benefits (25%)	17,006	<u>68,025</u> <u>17,006</u>
Total Staff Salaries		85,031

Non-government Voting Council Members:  
 (GS18 = \$183 per day)\*

6 Council meetings @ 4 days each = 24 days x 183 x 4 paid members =	17,568	
+ 25% COLA =	4,392	
4 public hearings @ 3 days each = 12 days x 183 x 4 paid members =	8,784	
+ 25% COLA =	2,196	
Working time other than scheduled meetings: 15 days x 183 x 4 =	10,980	
+ 25% COLA =	2,745	
Benefits (9.6%)	<u>4,480</u>	

Total Council Salaries 51,145

TOTAL SALARIES AND BENEFITS \$136,176

\*Paid Council Members:

Douglas Eaton - Kodiak  
 Professor Donald L. McKernan - Seattle  
 Harold E. Lokken - Seattle  
 Henry F. Eaton - Kodiak

Backup for FY77 Budget Estimates  
 NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
 Second 6 months  
 March 4, 1977

TRAVEL

Council Members (12 members - all except Mr. Riffe, Mr. Price, and Adm. Hayes)

There will be 6 Council meetings and 15 public hearings. It is estimated that each Council member will attend 6 meetings (6 days each including travel time) and 4 public hearings (3 days each including travel time)

	<u>Travel</u>		<u>Per Diem</u>	
	Council	Public	Council	Public
	Meetings	Hearings	Meetings	Hearings
	6 round	4 round	6 trips-	4 each -
	<u>trips</u>	<u>trips</u>	4 days	3 days
			<u>each</u>	<u>each</u>
			Average Per Diem	
			Rate = \$70.00	
Average air fare:	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
	x 6	x 4	x 24	x 12
	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>800.00</u>	1,680.00	840.00
	x 12	x 12	x 12	x 12
	<u>\$14,400.00</u>	<u>\$9,600.00</u>	20,160.00	10,080.00
		\$24,000.00		\$30,240.00

Special travel of Council members not related to meetings or hearings

	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$26,000.00</u>	<u>\$33,240.00</u>

Advisory Panel (25 members)

	6 round	4 round	6 trips	4 each
	trips	trips	4 days	3 days
			each	each
Average air fare:	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$ 70.00	\$70.00
	x 6	x 4	x 24	x 12
	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>800.00</u>	1,680.00	840.00
25 Panel members:	x 20	x 25	x 20	x 25
	<u>24,000.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>	33,600.00	21,000.00

It is estimated that at each Council meeting 80% or 20 Advisory Panel members attend and it is expected that each will attend an average of 4 public hearings.

TOTAL	<u>\$44,000.00</u>	<u>\$54,600.00</u>
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(continued)

	<u>Travel</u>		<u>Per Diem</u>	
<u>Scientific and Statistical Committee (10 members)</u>	6 round trips	4 round trips	6 trips 4 days each	4 trips 3 days each
Average air fare:	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$ 70.00</u>	<u>\$ 70.00</u>
	x 6	x 4	x 24	x 12
	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>800.00</u>	<u>1,680.00</u>	<u>\$840.00</u>
	x 8	x 10	x 8	x 10
	<u>9,600.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>13,440.00</u>	<u>8,400.00</u>

It is estimated that at each Council meeting 80% or 8 SSC members attend and it is expected that each will attend an average of 4 public hearings.

TOTAL	<u>\$17,600.00</u>	<u>\$21,840.00</u>
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	<u>Travel</u>	<u>Per Diem</u>
<u>Council Staff</u>		
Operational Travel	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00
Public Hearing Travel (15 hearings x 2 staff x \$200 = travel budget; 45 days x \$70 x 2 staff = per diem budget)	6,000.00	6,300.00
TOTAL	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$15,300.00</u>

SUMMARY OR TRAVEL COSTS:  
(rounded to nearest thousand)

	<u>Travel</u>	<u>Per Diem</u>	<u>Total</u>
Council Members	\$ 26,000	\$ 33,240	\$ 59,240
Advisory Committee	44,000	54,600	98,600
Scientific and Statistical Committee	17,600	21,840	39,440
Council Staff	<u>12,000</u>	<u>15,300</u>	<u>27,300</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 99,600</u>	<u>\$124,980</u>	<u>\$224,580</u>

Backup for FY77 Budget Estimates  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
(second 6 months)  
March 14, 1977

Transportation of Things

Household Good for 1 employee	\$ 5,000	
Operational Costs	<u>1,000</u>	
Total		6,000

Rents

Office Space - 1800 square feet	13,392	
Equipment Rental Copier II, Mag Card	3,534	
Computer Head	1,200	
Miscellaneous Meeting Room - Council-public hearings	<u>3,000</u>	
Total		21,126

Communications

8 telephones @ \$15.00/month = \$176.60 + toll charges of \$500.00/month = \$605.00/month x 6 months =	4,056	
Postage	<u>2,000</u>	
Total		6,056

Printing

Printing of Fishery Management Plans - 8 plans x 150 pages x 750 copies	<u>14,000</u>	
Total		14,000

Non-Federal Contracts

Recording of 15 public hearings and 6 Council meetings	2,100	
Janitorial Service \$150 x 6	<u>900</u>	
Total		<u>3,000</u>

TOTAL \$50,182

BACKUP FOR FY77 BUDGET ESTIMATES  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
(second 6 months)  
March 15, 1977

SUPPLIES

Office furniture, stationery \$3,000.00

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (Depreciable items,  
generally over \$200.00)

Typewriters, calculators, vehicle, etc. 4,000.00

NON-CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (Non-depreciable  
items under \$200.00)

Estimated Cost 1,000.00

TAX AND INSURANCE

Estimated costs are included since the  
Councils are non-federal entities and  
are subject to taxation and are not  
self-insured 3,000.00

Supplement to Budget Memo of 8 March, 1977

Cost breakdown of Trawl Fishery Management Plans for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska\*

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost Per Plan*</u>
Travel and per diem	\$ 4,400 <sup>1</sup>
Labor	18,000 <sup>2</sup>
Consultants	1,600 <sup>3</sup>
Contingency	<u>2,560<sup>4</sup></u>
Sub total first draft	\$ 26,560
Rewrite and final plan	<u>\$ 13,280</u>
*Total	\$ 39,840
Sum total both Plans	\$ 79,680

1. Travel and per diem explanation  
Two meetings, 5 days each  
Four persons, 2 meetings each, \$60 per diem each  
\$250 airfare each  
Total \$4,400
2. Labor explanation  
Seven man months work @ \$2000/month  
Two man months meetings @ \$2000/month  
Total \$18,000
3. Consultants explanation  
Two consultants, two trips, \$250 airfare each,  
\$60 per diem (10 days)  
Total \$1,600
4. Contingency explanation  
clerical  
printing  
freight, postage  
telecommunications...  
graphics  
Total \$2,560

TANNER CRAB, KING CRAB, & SALMON TROLL FISHERY

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>COST PER PLAN</u>
Travel and Per Diem	\$ 8,050
Computer Services	5,000
Research Assistant ( 2 months)	3,000
Clerical Overtime (1 month)	1,500
Printing	300
Freight and Mailing	150
Telecommunications	250
Graphic Art and Mapping	<u>650</u>
Sub Total First Draft	18,900
Rewrite and Final Plan	<u>9,450</u>
	\$28,350
Sum Total of Three Plans	\$85,050

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Attachment No. 4a

## CHAIRMAN

Mr. Elmer Rasmuson  
P.O. Box 600  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Anchorage, Alaska 99510

March 15, 1977

Mr. Elmer Rasmuson  
P. O. Box 600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

*and all Council members (15)*

Dear Elmer,

There has been a lot of activity in budgeting matters since the February meeting. I'd like to bring you up to date so we can discuss the subject at the next meeting.

As you will recall, we were told at the February meeting that the request for a supplemental appropriation by NMFS had been turned down by OMB. That 3 million dollar request had been made to supplement Council funding, the observer program, and some needed vessel charter time. Previous to the turn down by OMB, President Ford in his January budget message had deferred for 1977 the 7.5 million in the extended jurisdiction budget earmarked for 2 new research ships. That meant that NMFS had nowhere to go for the additional 3 million dollars needed by the Councils and the observer program that would not disrupt other critical fishery programs.

John Harville had alerted us to this situation prior to the February meeting and on the first day of the meeting went into it in some depth with Council members. He then left early to return to Oregon and thence to Washington, D.C. to campaign for a supplemental appropriation from Congress in the sum of \$3,000,000 for NMFS. Since then I have sent wires and letters to various congressmen and senators on behalf of the Council supporting the supplemental appropriation. The wires, (copies attached), went to Congressman Leggitt and Congressman Slack just prior to a meeting of the House Subcommittee on Appropriations. I also sent copies of that wire to Representative Young. The wires were followed up by more comprehensive letters to Congressman Mahon and Congressman Slack, as well as the Alaska delegation, prior to the meeting of the House Committee on Appropriations on March 10. Copies of those letters are also attached.



The word I have gotten from Don Young's office is that it looks favorable for passage of this supplemental appropriation, and I know that Congressman Young and Congressman Leggitt have been working hard to this end.

In preparation for the closer look at our budgeting process that could be expected from this flurry of activity we have redone the North Pacific Council's budget for the second half of FY 77. You will find those figures with the back-up material attached. Actual Council operational costs are now forecast at \$427,000 rather than the \$481,000 submitted after the Council meeting in October. The figure is lower because we have a much closer estimate of expenses than we did in October, both for Council staff operation and travel and operations costs for Council members and committees.

During this process we figured the expenses for developing fishery management plans on a plan basis, projecting four plans to completion this fiscal year; the two trawl plans, king crab, and tanner crab. One plan, ocean salmon, should be two-thirds completed in FY 77. The figures were furnished by the Management Plan Drafting Teams. Total cost is estimated at \$175,000; this figure includes the expansion of the ocean troll salmon plan to cover the high seas gillnet fishery.

Management Plan development expenses include per diem and travel for members of the drafting team and needed consultants, some salary costs for back-up people if key agency management personnel have to be pulled for the drafting teams, and some consultants fees. No specific contracts are figured in those sums. Management plans seem to lend themselves well to task oriented budgeting and the concept has advantages when preparing grant applications.

Friday, March 11, I received several phone calls from various budgeting types in the Washington office of NMFS, requesting hard "bottom-line" figures on the North Pacific Council's estimated expenditures for the rest of FY 77. I spent quite a bit of time on the phone with Bob Ayres, the Assistant Director for Fisheries Management, and gave him the following figures for the remainder of FY 77.

- 1) I expected that we would spend approximately \$195,000 to \$200,000 in the first half of FY 77 (ends 3/31/77).
- 2) That we expected to spend \$427,000 for Council operations in the second half of FY 77, plus approximately \$175,000 for management plan development by the end of this fiscal year and-

3) told him that we still planned on the \$200,000 contract money submitted with our grant application of October 6, 1976 for the first half of FY 77. I did say that I expected that some of those \$200,000 contract expenditures would probably be included in management plan development budgets, for social-economic information, but that he was not to take that as a sure thing until the Council had had a chance to consider this whole question more fully.

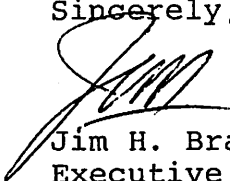
Ayres said that they needed this information by close of business Monday and that it had been requested by Congressman Slack for consideration by the Appropriations Committee. He felt that our request for the \$3,000,000 supplemental appropriation was still in good standing.

In summary, the Council budget looked like this.

1. Expenditures first 1/2 FY 77	- 200 K
2. Council operations second 1/2 FY 77	- 427 K
3. Development of 4 1/2 Management Plans	- 175 K
4. Contract requests	- 200 K
Total FY 77	<u>1002 K</u>

We need to go into the whole budgeting concept in some depth in the near future.

Sincerely,



Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

Enclosures

(4)

February 23, 1977

Mr. Don Young  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Young:

We have sent the following wire to Congressmen Leggit and Slack. Your aid will be greatly appreciated.

"The North Pacific Fishery Management Council during its meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, February 17 and 18 requested support for a 3 million dollar supplemental appropriation to the 1977 Budget of Commerce/NOAA for Regional Council support of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

Presidential deferral of 7.5 million dollars from the original Commerce/NOAA budget for extended jurisdiction and refusal by OMB to forward a request for a supplemental funding have eliminated other options for funding of Council operations in this critical year.

The North Pacific Council has four management plans underway and expects to have four more started by late summer. The Council's work cannot be accomplished at the present level of funding. We urgently need your support and that of your subcommittee in this matter.

Mr. John Harville, Executive Director of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission is coordinating this initiative for the Pacific Coast Councils and is completely familiar with the North Pacific Council's thinking and desires."

Sincerely,

Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

JHB:in

February 22, 1977

Robert L. Leggit  
Chairman  
House Subcommittee on Fisheries & Wildlife  
Conservation and Environment  
Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Leggit:

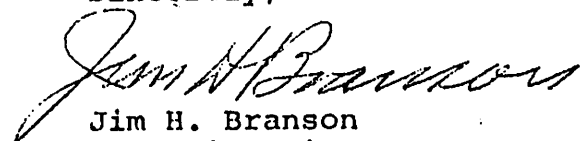
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Sincerely,

  
Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

JHB:in

**DON YOUNG**  
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

COMMITTEES:  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR  
AFFAIRS  
MERCHANT MARINE AND  
FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 10, 1977

*Branson*  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1210 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

DISTRICT OFFICES  
115 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
TELEPHONE 907/279-1587

202 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
TELEPHONE 907/456-6949

Mr. Jim Branson  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, AK 99510

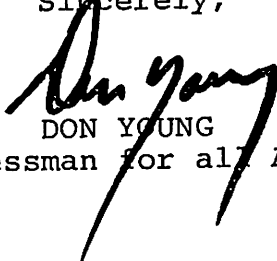
Dear Mr. Branson:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the proposed supplemental appropriation for the Regional Councils.

As you know, I am in full support of this action. The Regional Councils were established under the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to allow local participation in the management of all fisheries within the 200 mile conservation zone. I have publicly expressed my firm belief in this concept on numerous occasions. I have already spoken to Representative Mahon regarding my support for the appropriation and I have sent a copy of the enclosed letter to every member of the Appropriations Committee along with the data sheets. I will continue to monitor this legislation and do what I can to ensure its passage.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me again.

Sincerely,

  
DON YOUNG  
Congressman for all Alaska

DY:rhm

**DON YOUNG**  
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

COMMITTEES:  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR  
AFFAIRS  
MERCHANT MARINE AND  
FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1210 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

DISTRICT OFFICES  
115 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
TELEPHONE 907/279-1587  
202 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
TELEPHONE 907/456-6949

I am writing to you to urge your support for the passage of the supplemental appropriation of \$3,000,000 requested by the National Marine Fisheries Service. This measure is scheduled to come before your Committee on March 10th.

The appropriation will allow the Regional Fishery Management Councils established under the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to continue to operate this coming year. As you know, these Councils were set up to allow coastal states, fishermen, and others to have a voice in the management of fisheries covered by our 200 mile extended jurisdiction. The Councils are responsible for formulating management plans for these fisheries and to oversee the licensing of foreign fishing vessels within our zone. It would be tragic to allow our management plans to fall by the wayside due to lack of funding.

I am enclosing a set of fact sheets which more fully explain the proposed usage of the funds requested. I ask that you study the data contained therein and voice your support for this measure.

4 March 1977

Same letter to Senator Mike Gravel  
and Representative Young.

The Honorable Ted Stevens  
206 Russel Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Stevens:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have written for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to Congressman Slack and Congress Mahon regarding a supplementary appropriation for Regional Council operations during FY77.

The full Appropriations Committee meets on March 10th to consider the 1977 supplemental appropriation. Any help you can give in furthering their favorable consideration of this supplemental appropriation will be greatly appreciated by the Council. Congressman Leggett has been a great help in the initial request for consideration and is continuing to aid the Councils in their campaign for approval of the supplemental.

Initial budget estimates by the Central Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service were unrealistically low for the reasons described in the Council's letter to Mr. Slack and Mr. Mahon. I don't think anyone could have envisioned the amount of work that the North Pacific Council was going to do during its first year of operation, nor the kind of expense it would take to get the Councils into operation. In the case of this Council, extra costs entailed in travel and work in Alaska escaped the original estimates as did the number of people that would be involved in Council operations including management plan development.

As John Harville points out in his detailed budget breakdown and justification of national needs, enclosed with this letter, the states involved, particularly Alaska, have

incurred additional expenses because of their role in developing Council management plans that should not be expected to be paid by the state. As a point of fact, Alaska and its two neighboring states are contributing a considerable amount of time and effort by their scientific and management personnel in developing the Council management plans without expecting any reimbursement for salaries, though they do want some help with unforeseen and unbudgeted travel and other expenses.

The North Pacific Council currently has management plans under development for the groundfish and herring trawl fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska and of the eastern Bering Sea and Aleutians, for tanner crab and for king crab, and have just started an ocean salmon troll fishery plan, all of which to be in effect by the 1978 fishing season must go forward as expeditiously as possible.

Augmentation of the U.S. observer program to provide data on the foreign fishery off the United States is very important. Without a valid check on catches and fishing activity from the observers, the data received by the United States directly from the foreign fleets will be impossible to verify, and its credibility would always be in question.

As John Harville points out, the \$3,000,000 supplemental requested will bring the total extended jurisdiction budget up to the \$25 million originally appropriated for this purpose by Congress, but which has been held to \$22,000,000 by the Office of Management and Budget. Anything you can do to assist us will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jim B. Branson  
Executive Director

Enclosures

JHBranson:fmm and Mar 4/77





March 4, 1977

Honorable George Mahon  
Chairman House Appropriations Committee  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Mahon:

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council requests your support for a \$3,000,000 supplemental appropriation to the 1977 budget of Commerce/NOAA for support of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

Initial budget estimates for Council operation made last summer by the Department of Commerce have proven to be seriously inadequate. In the case of the North Pacific Council, approximately \$360,000 was allocated for operations during FY 1977. Careful budgeting through this point in the fiscal year and estimates of the remainder of FY77 show that the North Pacific Council will in fact need \$650,000 to conduct its operations. In addition the development of four management plans, currently under preparation by the Council, and the addition of at least one more plan to start before the end of FY77, will require an additional \$200,000 in operating costs for the management plan development teams.

The difference between the initial estimate by the Department of Commerce and the actual operation costs of the North Pacific Council has developed for two reasons: 1) Larger advisory bodies in the form of a Scientific and Statistical Committee of ten members, and an Advisory Panel of 25 members, have entailed greater travel expenses than originally envisioned, and 2) The Council's decision to begin immediate development of management plans for fisheries off Alaska has put Council activities considerably ahead of the schedule originally envisioned. Added to these two main factors is an original underestimation of actual travel costs and expenses in Alaska.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council has one of the largest areas in terms of resource of any of the eight regional management councils. Over 70 percent of the foreign fishing off the United States occurs off Alaska.

The Council has identified eight fishery management units for which management plans must be developed, but is concentrating initially on those fisheries which have never been regulated before, such as the ground fish trawl fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska and in the Bering Sea. Those fisheries currently under management by the State of Alaska have been given a lower priority and the Council will probably begin development of plans for those units sometime late this calendar year.

Mr. John Harville, executive director of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, has supplied an explanation of the supplemental budget items needed on a national basis to you in an earlier letter. The North Pacific Council wishes to reiterate its support for those national items listed by Mr. Harville, that is, an additional \$1,802,000 for regional council operations; \$725,000 for support to the 29 states impacted by extended jurisdiction and by Council operation; \$353,000 for an augmented observer program aboard foreign ships, and finally, \$120,000 for vessel charter required because of the loss of the BOWERS from the NOAA vessel program.

The North Pacific Council is determined to fulfill its role as required by the Fishery Management and Conservation Act of 1976, and requests your favorable consideration and approval of the supplementary appropriation requested for the Department of Commerce. The new Act provides an unparalleled opportunity for a rational management scheme of the ocean resources around the United States, and the Council intends to take full advantage of the legislation by moving immediately and appropriately in that direction.

Sincerely,

Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

cc: Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Mike Gravel  
Representative Don Young

JHB:in

This Letter also sent to John Slack

Item 6

Proposal for Increasing the Accuracy  
of Forecast and Evaluating Optimum Escapement  
for Bristol Bay Sockeye

This proposal consists of several elements which when used to compliment existing State of Alaska and University of Washington programs, should lead to substantial improvement in forecast accuracy, the ability to regulate the fishery in-season, and determination of escapement goals to the major Wood River and Kvichak River systems. Because of the relatively small amount of funding, the fact that it will have to be split into small amounts which do not justify separate project contracts, It is recommended that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game administer the total funding which will include sub-contracts to the Fisheries Research Institute, University of Washington.

The amounts requested and the probable agency conducting the work are;

Cost in Thousands of Dollars

<u>Title of Proposal</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>	<u>3rd Year</u>
1. Forecast Data Base Analysis	ADF&G	\$10,000	\$10,000	0
2. Systems Modeling of Kvichak & Wood River Sockeye Production as Basis for Evaluating Consequences of Alternative Management Strategies	FRI	40,000	40,000	\$25,000
3. Ratio Identification of Bristol Bay Sockeye Stock and Prediction of Maturity Schedules	ADF&G	40,000	25,000	0

4. Improvement of In-Season Run Strength Assessment by updating forecast information based on pre-season forecasts Port Mollar test fishing, outside and inside district test fishing, catch per unit effort and escapement information	FRI	10,000	25,000	30,000
5. Improvement of in-season assessment of run strength by expanding test fishing programs including use of sonar in the fishing districts & river mouths		<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Totals		\$100,000	\$110,000	\$75,000