

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*5/24/84*

## MINUTES

59th Plenary Session  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
March 28-30, 1984  
Old Federal Building  
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met with the Alaska Board of Fisheries on Wednesday and Thursday, March 28-29, 1984. The Council met alone on Friday, March 30, 1984.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee and the Advisory Panel met on Monday and Tuesday, March 26-27, 1984.

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

### Council

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

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

### Scientific and Statistical Committee

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

Larry Hreha  
Jack Lechner  
Al Millikan  
John Clark  
Steve Langdon

Advisory Panel

Bud Boddy, Vice-Chairman  
Patricia Barker  
Al Burch  
Barry Collier  
Larry Cotter  
Barry Fisher  
Eric Jordan  
Rick Lauber

John Lecture  
Ray Lewis  
Jim O'Connell  
Dan O'Hara  
Don Rawlinson  
Walt Smith  
Tony Vaska  
Ed Wojeck

NPFMC Staff

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

Doug Larson  
Ron Miller  
Jeff Povolny  
Helen Allen  
Peggy Hough

Support Staff

Pat Travers, NOAA/GC  
Thorn Smith, NMFS  
Cmdr. Choate Budd, USCG  
Steve Pennoyer, ADF&G  
Guy Thornburgh, ADF&G  
Steve Hoag, IPHC

Fred Gaffney, ADF&G  
James Brooks, NMFS  
Craig Hammond, NMFS  
Ron Berg, NMFS  
Mel Seibel, ADF&G

General Public

Flore Lekanof, Sr.  
Alvin D. Osterback  
Phil Chitwood  
Richard Kelso  
Oscar Dyson  
Dennis Petersen  
Don Beeson  
Dave Harville  
Y. Niimi  
V. Hall  
H. Matsumura  
M. Okamoto  
Tadashi Nemoto  
Christopher J. Mackey

Dave Herrnsteen  
Greg Gerhardstein  
Oliver Holm  
Dennis Shongin  
Rod Armstrong  
Arne Aadland  
Brent Gazaway  
F.G. Baker  
J. Schmiedtke  
Chris Blackburn  
Han Mo Kim  
Chu Man Park  
Mark Lundsten

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

The meeting with the Board of Fisheries was called to order at 9:07 a.m. on Wednesday, March 28, 1984 by Jim Campbell, NPFMC Chairman. Mr. Campbell introduced RADM Robert Lucas who has

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replaced RADM Knapp on the Council. The meeting was turned over to Ron Jolin, Board Chairman. *The agenda for the joint Board/Council meeting was approved as submitted.*

The Council, meeting alone, was called to order at 8:44 a.m. on Friday, March 30, by Chairman Jim Campbell. A discussion of proposed amendments to the Coastal Zone Management Act was added to the agenda at the suggestion of Jim Branson. Mr. Branson also asked the Council's approval to add review of several joint venture permit applications from South Korea and Japan and a discussion of a direct allocation for the U.S.S.R. *The agenda was approved as amended.*

*John Harville pointed out an error in the minutes of the February 1984 minutes. On page 5, John Harville was shown as the second to a motion approving staff travel to the bi-lateral meetings in Russia and Japan. The second should have been Rudy Petersen. The minutes of the February 1984 meeting were approved as corrected.*

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Special Reports

Jim Branson introduced Mr. Hidehiko Hirai, the new Anchorage representative for the Japan Fisheries Association. He will replace Kenji Nishihara who has been the Anchorage representative for two years. Mr. Branson also announced that Mr. Han Mo Kim, the Anchorage representative for the Korea Deep Sea Fisheries Association, will also be the West Coast Fisheries Trade Representative for Korea. His office offers help to U.S. industry on customs, tariffs, quota and other matters governing trade with the Republic of Korea.

Mr. Branson reported on two industry working groups, one working on incidental catch in the Bering Sea and the other on joint venture policy and criteria. The industry incidental catch working group submitted a progress report and hopes to have specific recommendations on objective setting for Council consideration in May. The joint venture group plans to make a presentation to the Council at the April policy and planning meeting.

Jim Branson also provided Council members with a description of the marine debris workshop planned for October 29-November 1, 1984 in Honolulu. Mr. Branson is on the steering committee and told Council members that the North Pacific Council is being asked to contribute funds to the workshop.

However, since it occurs in the next fiscal year, he is unable to estimate whether funds will be available.

The Council has received approval of programmatic funding of two projects for FY/84: \$145,000 was approved for domestic groundfish monitoring and \$40,000 for the Phase II study on Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch. Funding may be available in May for the Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis, Part II.

Mr. Branson told Council members that the staff is well underway in updating the FMPs with the latest amendments. Council members should have both groundfish plans by now and the rest should be completed shortly.

B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G

ADF&G reported a harvest of 1.5 million pounds of Tanner crab in the Southeast area, which closed on March 18. As of March 21, the harvest in Cook Inlet was estimated at 0.3 million pounds with all of that area except the Southern District still open. In Kodiak, where most areas were either closed or due to close on April 1, the projected total harvest was 14 to 15 million pounds. Harvests for South Peninsula and Chignik, both closed in March, were 1.6 and 0.7 million pounds, respectively. The Eastern Aleutians, Western Aleutians and Bering Sea were still open with harvests by March 21 of 0.1, 0.3, and 0.2 million pounds, respectively.

ADF&G reported that the first portion of the 1983-84 winter fishery for chinook salmon is similar to the 1982-83 season. Preliminary figures show that 17,085 chinooks, equal to 235,000 pounds, had been reported in 1,724 landings through March 20, 1984.

B-4 Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard

As of March 23, U.S. Coast Guard enforcement effort off Alaska for 1984 has totaled 144 cutter patrol days and 654 aircraft patrol hours resulting in 18 reports of violations and 17 citations.

Citations were issued to nine Japanese vessels and one Korean vessel for not submitting the required cease fishing message 24 hours before leaving the Fishery Conservation Zone. The Japanese vessel, EIKYU MARU, was issued reports of violation for the infraction noted above and for failing to accurately maintain its Daily Cumulative Catch Log. Other violations during this period included the Japanese vessel, TENYOSHI MARU, not properly maintaining its International Radio Call Sign; the Korean vessel, No. 99 TAE BAEK, not transmitting a required shift message; and the Japanese vessel, RYUSHO MARU No. 15, not providing a safe boarding ladder. Two U.S. vessels participating in a U.S.-South Korean joint venture in Shelikof Strait, the ROYAL ATLANTIC and DONA GENOVEVA, were issued reports of violations for fishing without valid federal groundfish permits for 1984.

The Coast Guard also reported that numerous Soviet fishing vessels were sighted actively engaged in fishing east of the U.S./U.S.S.R. Convention Line of 1867. Several were also fishing inside the U.S. Fishery Conservation Zone near the Convention Line. Documentation of these sightings was forwarded to the U.S. Department of State for appropriate action.

#### B-5 Joint Venture Operations

The total joint venture catch off Alaska through March 17 was 156,700 mt. Most of this catch came from Shelikof Strait where 12 companies using 44 U.S. trawlers and 25 foreign processors caught 143,635 mt pollock. Two additional companies have used another nine U.S. trawlers and six foreign processors on cod and flatfish in the Kodiak area. Total joint venture catch in the Gulf of Alaska stood at 146,392 mt on March 17.

The Bering Sea/Aleutians joint venture catch totaled 10,308 mt, mainly cod and pollock, by March 17. Four companies have participated using 29 U.S. trawlers and 10 foreign processing vessels.

#### B-6 Salmon Management Update

##### Inter-Council Salmon Coordinating Committee

Jim Glock summarized the March 8 meeting of the Inter-Council Salmon Coordinating Committee. They reviewed the Statement of Purpose and Objectives for the Committee and recommended that the Committee be expanded to address a broader range of issues of mutual concerns. They approved dropping "salmon" from the Committee's name, so it will now be called the "Inter-Council Coordinating Committee." They asked that the Executive Directors of the North Pacific and Pacific Councils broaden the purpose and objectives statement to address the expanded role of the Committee and suggested that the Committee meet annually, or more often as needed.

The Committee also discussed the U.S./Canada Chinook Technical Team and agreed to encourage both Councils to urge the State Department to keep the Chinook Technical Team active. If the Team is not sponsored by the State Department, the Committee suggested that the Councils should contact the Canadians directly to maintain the Team informally.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the Executive Directors should take a more active role in maintaining the information flow between their respective Councils. They should identify issues and bring them to the Committee for review and discussion.

At the Committee meeting, Don Bevan encouraged the Councils to form a task force to look toward amending the Magnuson Act so

that FMPs and regulations can be implemented in a timely fashion, and that decisions be made and approved regionally.

#### Salmon Catch and Management Update

Jim Glock reported that negotiations between the U.S. and Canada are still stalled. The Canadians have, however, announced their chinook fishing plan which appears very similar to Council action in February. The Canadian season for chinook in the North and Central B.C. has been set for May 23-June 3 and July 1-September 30 with a troll ceiling of 200,000 chinooks. The seasons for West Coast Vancouver Island have been set for April 15-June 14 and July 1-September 30 with the harvest not to exceed that of 1983 (approximately 343,000-350,000).

Details of the winter troll catch for Alaska are reported under Agenda Item B-2.

#### FCZ cul-de-sacs

The Salmon PMT reviewed the cul-de-sac problem and feels that the best approach is a simple amendment that will establish a separate federal zone for those areas inside the surpline. The season would run October 1-September 20 with an anticipated closure April 15-May 15. Field order authority would be used to adjust closures as necessary to address conservation programs and other fishery needs, as currently expressed in the FMP. This separate area would generally be open for the winter troll season as well as the summer season. No separate quota would be established.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP unanimously approved a motion recommending the Council evaluate whether the Canadian actions regarding the chinook fishery are significant enough to justify our managing at the low end of the OY range. In addition, the AP recommended that the Legislature approve the Alaska Board of Fisheries and notify the Council of their action.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

In Council discussion, Harold Lokken said that he would prefer not to endorse Don Bevan's suggestion regarding the Magnuson Act because that subject will be taken up at the Council's policy and planning meeting in April.

Don Collinworth said he feels it is important to have agency directors on the Inter-Council Coordinating Committee. Council members agreed with the suggestion.

*Keith Specking moved that the Council approve, in principle, the suggestion of the Committee to encourage the State Department to continue sponsorship of the U.S./Canada Chinook Technical Team. The motion was seconded by Bob McVey. The motion carried with no objection. The Council directed Jim Branson to write a letter to the State Department outlining the Council's action.*

Although there was no motion to endorse all of the recommendations of the Inter-Council Coordinating Committee, Council members were in general agreement with them.

C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Draft Agenda for April Council Meeting

Council members were provided with a draft of recommended topics for discussion at the April policy and planning meeting.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that seven AP members be allowed to attend the April policy and planning meeting. The AP also recommended that when the next AP vacancy occurs that serious consideration be given to appointing someone from the Alaska Peninsula area because it is a significant fishing area of the state.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC discussed attendance at the April Council meeting and requested that Don Rosenberg, Don Bevan and Bill Aron be invited to represent the SSC.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Campbell suggested a more in-depth discussion of the Council's relationship to the Board of Fisheries be included in the April agenda. John Harville said he would like to see a discussion of the overall objectives and goals in management of fisheries and perhaps some draft objectives formulated at the April meeting. Orientation sessions for new Council, SSC and AP members were also suggested by Bob Mace. Pat Travers suggested that the NMFS procedural guidelines be distributed to Council members for their review prior to the April meeting. Staff will see that this is done. It was also suggested that the meeting should be three days instead of two, beginning on Tuesday, April 24. It was agreed that this would be done if meeting space is available.

The Council discussed attendance by SSC and AP representatives. It was originally agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman or their designees would attend from each group and Council members

indicated they would like to keep this arrangement. If other members wish to attend, they would be free to do so, however not at Council expense.

#### C-2 Soviet Direct Allocation

The Council received a request from Marine Resources Company for support of a directed allocation to the Soviets for 50,000 tons. Of this 50,000 tons, 20,000 tons would come from the Pacific Northwest for Pacific whiting and 30,000 tons from the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska for yellowfin sole, Atka mackerel and other groundfish species. This allocation would be for the purpose of providing for growth in several of Marine Resources' U.S.-U.S.S.R. joint ventures in the North Pacific Ocean. Phil Chitwood of Marine Resources Company testified that any directed allocation for the U.S.S.R. would result in at least a ton-for-ton increase in joint venture purchases.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

Bud Boddy reported that the AP voted 6 to 5 to recommend support of a directed allocation for the Soviet Union.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Harold Lokken suggested that in future discussions of allocations, he would like to see more complete information on the entire allocation picture before making recommendations.

*Keith Specking moved that the Council authorize the Executive Director to prepare a letter to the State Department endorsing this request. Jeff Stephan seconded the motion which carried with no objection.*

#### C-3 Joint Venture Permit Review

The Council received joint venture permit applications from Korea, Japan, and the U.S.S.R.

South Korea applied for four vessels to operate in joint ventures in the Gulf of Alaska in 1984, mainly for Pacific cod: NO. 1 HANSUNG, DAEJIN NO. 52, NO. 215 TAE BAEK, and NO. 315 TAE BAEK. The NO. 215 TAE BAEK was cited in July 1983 for failing to return prohibited species in a timely manner; the boarding party found five halibut in the processing area 17 hours after the last haul back.

Japan submitted applications for five vessels to operate in a yellowfin sole joint venture in the Bering Sea/Aleutians from April to June and August to September 1984: AKEBONO MARU 1, AKEBONO MARU 2, AKEBONO MARU 3, AKEBONO MARU 22, and KAIYO MARU 11. All of these vessels had serious violations in 1983. The



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case involving the seizure of the NIKKO MARU for improper transfer logs was expanded in February 1984 to include these five vessels. Except for the AKEBONO MARU 3, a \$25,000 penalty has been proposed for each vessel for not making their logbooks available. In addition, the AKEBONO MARU NOs. 1, 2, and 3 were cited for other violations in 1983.

Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Review Committee recommended approval of the four permit applications for South Korea. The Committee noted concern over the 1983 violations of the No. 215 TAE BAEK and indicated that their final disposition will be taken into account when reviewing permits for 1985.

The Committee also reviewed Japanese joint venture permit applications and heard testimony from Don Rawlinson of Peter Pan Seafoods. Mr. Rawlinson told the Committee that no replacement vessels are available for this particular joint venture. The Committee voted to recommend approval of the permits for these five Japanese vessels but will hold them accountable if they are found guilty of the pending violations. The Committee also recommended that the permits be revoked if they are found guilty.

The Committee recommended approval for the U.S.S.R. joint venture permit application for the NIKOLAEVSKIY KARABEL to receive fish in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands in 1984.

The Committee deferred making any recommendation on the request for a Soviet directed allocation until the Council could discuss the policy issues involved.

John Schmiedtke reported to the Committee that the joint venture purchase for the West German pollock joint venture in the Shelikof Strait exceeded the 3,000 mt target.

The Permit Review Committee recommended that the Council request the Coast Guard to present a slide show on their activities at some future Council meeting. Staff will look into this.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended approval of the permit applications for South Korea, but noted that they were concerned with the violations of the NO. 215 TAE BAEK and would consider this when reviewing permit applications for 1985.

The AP also approved the joint venture application for the Soviet vessel NIKOLAEVSKIY KARABEL. The joint venture applications from Japan were also approved with the qualification that they are concerned with the seriousness of past violations and will consider this when reviewing the permit applications of these vessels for 1985.

The Advisory Panel also reaffirmed that they want more representation on the Permit Review Committee but would still like to review permits in the AP meeting.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Sara Hemphill said she is concerned with violations of the Japanese vessels and suggested some sort of conditions on future permits indicating that if they are found guilty in the cases now under litigation that their permits would be revoked. John Harville said it is important for the Council to develop a statement on joint venture policy.

*Keith Specking moved to approve the joint venture permit applications for the South Korean vessels, NO. 1 HANSUNG, DAEJIN NO. 52, No. 215 TAE BAEK and NO. 315 TAE BAEK. The motion was seconded by Bob McVey and carried with no objection.*

*Keith Specking moved to approve the joint venture permit applications for the Japanese vessels, AKEBONO MARU Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 22 and the KAIYO MARU 11. Jeff Stephan seconded. There being no objection, the motion carried. Sara Hemphill said she would like to see a qualifier on the applications that if the vessels are found guilty of the violations currently under litigation, that the permits be revoked. It was the concensus of the Council that the approval letter would contain this proviso.*

*Keith Specking moved to approve the joint venture permit application for the Soviet vessel, NIKOLAEVSKIY KARABEL. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and, there being no objections, carried.*

#### C-4 Other Business

Ron Miller reviewed proposed Congressional action to address the recent Supreme Court ruling exempting OCS oil and gas lease sales from the "consistency" requirement of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Some in the fishing industry view the proposed action as a threat to the Regional Council fishery management plan process. After review of the bills, H.S. 4589 and S. 2324, Mr. Miller said he does not feel that either bill raises any new impediment to federal fisheries activities.

Council members were asked to respond to a request from Representative D'Amours regarding the effects of Section 307(c)(1) of the CZMA on Council actions. Jim Branson said that the North Pacific Council has had not problems with conforming to the CZMA.

*Bob Mace moved that the Council respond to Representative D'Amours' request saying that we are having no problems with the consistency regulations as related to our fishery management plans. Don Collinsworth seconded the motion which carried with no objection.*

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Herring FMP

Jim Glock told Council members about a memo from Pat Travers, NMFS-GC, indicating that the Herring FMP cannot be approved as currently written. In the memo, Mr. Travers noted that for three of the past four years the State of Alaska has managed the inshore herring fisheries so that they have substantially exceeded the ABC prescribed in the FMP for the combined inshore and offshore herring fisheries. Implementation of the FMP during these years would have had no impact on these results since the fishery is prosecuted predominately within State waters and would not be subject to Federal preemption under the Magnuson Act. Under these circumstances, Mr. Travers pointed out, there is some question whether the FMP is necessary under the provisions of the Magnuson Act or whether it would conform to the requirements of cost effectiveness under E.O. 12291.

Mr. Travers suggested in his memo that since the January 1983 amendments to the Magnuson Act allow emergency regulations for a fishery in the absence of an approved FMP, the Council's objectives for the herring offshore fisheries could be most effectively carried out through the emergency regulation process.

Council staff submitted a discussion paper outlining options for the Council's involvement in herring management. The options were: submitting the current FMP for Secretarial review although it is not likely to be approved; changing the FMP so that it might be acceptable for Secretarial approval; including herring in the BS/AI groundfish FMP; having no FMP or involvement in managing herring; and recommending a Secretarial Plan (PMP or FMP).

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the alternatives outlined by Council Staff and recommended an additional one which would be to develop a statement of management principles in concert with the Alaska Board of Fisheries and allow management to be carried out by the Board in accordance with those principles with an annual review of the performance of management and status of the resource through a Council committee.

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The SSC also commented on the issue of overfishing by the State raised in Mr. Travers' memo and staff's option paper. The SSC pointed out that current State harvest levels do not constitute overfishing from the conservation standpoint. The state management policy is to carefully monitor spawning stocks to insure adequate spawning and to allow a harvest of 10 to 20 percent of the spawning stock.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP voted 12 to 2 to recommend Council approval of a Herring FMP. On a vote of 8 to 5 with 1 abstention, the AP recommended that the FMP be written to adhere to state policy on herring management.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Several Council members suggested that they needed additional time to consider the status of the FMP and the options submitted at this meeting. It was also pointed out that under the current FMP a experimental fishery in the Bering Sea would not be possible unless there was a surplus of herring.

*Don Collinsworth moved that the Council rescind its previous action to send the Herring FMP forward for Secretarial review and hold the plan on the shelf subject to future discussion of whether to send the plan forward or keep it on the shelf. The motion was seconded by Jeff Stephan and passed 8 to 3 with Bob McVey, Rudy Petersen and Gene Didonato opposing.*

*Harold Lokken moved that the discussions of the options for management of herring in the Bering Sea be put on the agenda for the May 1984 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and there being no objection, it was so ordered. It was the concensus of the Council that the matter would not be up for public hearing at that time.*

Herring Research Request for Proposals

The Council received a draft Herring RFP (included as Appendix I to these minutes) prepared by the Bering Sea Herring Workgroup. The workgroup suggested that the RFP be approved at this meeting.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC concurred with the general direction of research proposed by the workgroup, but suggested that the long range goals for offshore herring research should be to obtain biomass

estimates and information on stock composition and distribution. The SSC recommended the three following modifications to the RFP:

- (1) Page 1, fourth line from the bottom, strike "to obtain a reliable research vessel time may be needed."
- (2) Page 2, strike the last sentence in the first full paragraph.
- (3) Appendix A, Page 1, add to the Payment paragraph after "(approximately January 28, 1985);" "The allocation will be limited in that no more than 1,000 mt may be taken from any one degree latitude by two degrees longitude area." The SSC recommended that a figure be included in the RFP indicating these 1° by 2° areas. The SSC believed that this limitation should be included to provide additional protection in the event discrete stocks are encountered.

The SSC discussed costs associated with providing of vessel time and estimated that the cost of the charter of four vessels for the period indicated would be about \$400,000. The Council should therefore expect bids in the range of 6,000 to 7,000 mt of herring. The SSC determined that there would be little biological risk associated with a one-time harvest of herring of up to 5% (8,400 mt) of the current spawning biomass estimate.

The SSC also estimated that approximately \$50,000 would be required for temporary personnel, supplies and travel for this research although a majority of the scientific personnel could be provided by federal and state agencies. In addition, the second year of the herring scale analysis will need to be funded and may require some additional funds to handle the increasing number of samples.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

On a vote of 8 to 6, the AP agreed with the scientific validity of a highly structured and monitored research fishery proposal on eastern Bering Sea herring to achieve the objectives stated in the proposed RFP. They also agreed to recommend that a maximum of 5% of the most current year's spawning biomass could be taken. The AP encouraged the Council and ADF&G to seek funds for herring research in the Bering Sea.

#### Public Testimony

Henry Mitchell, Bering Sea Fishermen's Assn. Mr. Mitchell reaffirmed the Association's support of Bering Sea research. He said that they could support the experimental fishery if the amount taken is acceptable. He suggested that 1% of the spawning biomass over 80,000 tons would minimize the danger to discrete stocks.

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Barry Collier, NPFVOA. Mr. Collier thanked the Herring Workgroup for their work on the RFP. He pointed out that fishermen will be taking a risk when submitting bids because it will be difficult to estimate the amount of fish required to meet overhead expenses.

Dennis Petersen, NPFVOA. The market for herring is becoming glutted and he thinks fishermen might be reluctant to submit bids because the price of herring has gone down.

Joe McGill, Bristol Bay Herring Marketing Co-op. They support research for herring if it is done on a purely scientific basis. They do not support the concept of a experimental fishery by commercial fishermen. If the RFP is approved, they would request that the harvest be kept at 1% of the current herring spawning biomass.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob McVey said that he would like to see some research done on herring in the Bering Sea and would support the first year under the RFP, but beyond that he would hope that some offshore biomass estimates could be done. Mr. McVey also pointed out that the economics of having a commercial catch operation do not look good and suggested the Council consider the SSC's suggestion of a monetary payoff rather than fish. John Winther said he is concerned because there was no market for the food herring last year and wondered about the impact on shoreside processors.

Don Collinsworth said that public testimony and past Council discussions indicate a need for data and research on offshore herring stocks, but that he still has reservations about developing a quasi-commercial fishery in the Bering Sea and is concerned that the participants intend to develop it into a commercial fishery. The primary fishery should be the near-shore fishery. Mr. Collinsworth was also concerned that a experimental fishery would not get all of the needed data, for instance, biomass estimates. He strongly objected to issuing a RFP at this time and suggested that perhaps the Council could delay approval while another attempt is made to obtain funds for a scientific research project.

*Don Collinsworth moved that the Council hold the issuance of the RFP until it can be determined whether it is possible for administrative agencies to acquire funding to sponsor the research or investigate the use of the State's test fish fund. The motion was seconded by John Winther and passed 6 to 5. Those opposing were Bob Mace, Harold Lokken, Bob McVey, Rudy Petersen, and Gene Didonato.*

Gene Didonato pointed out that current aerial surveys used for inshore fishery do not get the information needed. The RFP is a response to requests for data and he suggested that putting the RFP out for comment at this time does not mean that the Council would have to accept any of the bids received. He also pointed out that with current budget constraints, obtaining the estimated \$400,000 needed for a scientific survey would be difficult.

#### D-2 King and Tanner Crab FMPs

Jim Campbell outlined the procedure for Council decisions on crab proposals during the joint meeting with the Board. In joint session, the Council and Board would hear staff reports and public testimony on the proposals for 1983-84 crab management. While the Council could not take final action on Tanner crab during the joint meeting, they could provide comments and identify problems with any proposal which may make Council or Secretarial approval difficult. Under the Council's proposed King Crab FMP, authority for king crab management in the FCZ would be delegated to the Alaska Board of Fisheries within the framework of the plan and the Magnuson Act and therefore the Council could discuss proposed regulations and give their general agreement on Board action at this meeting.

Although ADF&G staff from each of the State's regions gave detailed reports on their crab fisheries, these minutes will only reflect a brief recap of the current status of the fishery, which is found under Agenda B-2, "Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G." A complete overview statement on king and tanner crab management is included as Appendix II to these minutes and written reports for each Region are available in the Council office.

#### Public Testimony

Public testimony on crab issues is included in Appendix III to these minutes.

#### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC did not review the crab management proposals in detail, but instead concentrated on three general areas: changes in management strategies, exclusive registration area/pot limits and trawl restrictions.

The SSC did not receive any analysis of the implication of the adoption of a 3-S (size, sex, season) management strategy and therefore examined this in concept only. The SSC found the concept of 3-S management acceptable for all species of crab when stocks are not at low levels of abundance and when recruitment is stable or increasing. However, 3-S management increases the risk of handling mortality and should not be applied at present in areas that were closed last year due to extremely low population levels.

The SSC discussed whether exclusive registration areas and/or pot limits would provide the desired protection for small local fleets, but could not come to a conclusion. They stated that the impact of these measures is dependent upon biological and economic conditions at any one particular time. In some cases the measures would achieve the objective while in others they may not. The SSC noted that any benefits realized would be short term in nature. In the long run, benefits would disappear because of open access to the fishery.

The SSC received a presentation by ADF&G staff on the proposed trawl closures. ADF&G indicated that the proposed closures covered 80% of what they consider to be the critical habitat for king crab while in the soft shell condition. The SSC concluded that a conservation problem exists for king crab, but they could not assess the value of the proposed closures. They noted that groundfish trawls capture not only crabs but also predators that may be contributing to the king crab decline. In order to provide more data, the SSC made the following recommendations:

- (1) a mandatory domestic observer program be instituted;
- (2) that State and Federal agencies develop common systems for groundfish data reporting;
- (3) that alternative time/area closures and gear modifications be examined with crab and trawl fishery participants;
- (4) that a study be undertaken on the direct impacts of a trawl fishery on king crab stocks versus the possible benefits of crab predator removal by the trawl fishery; and
- (5) that the cataloging of habitat-species associations be undertaken in these proposed closure areas.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP unanimously approved a motion recommending that the Council and Board look at and evaluate new fisheries management standards for the crab fisheries, not limited to 3-S management. Any new management system should take into account potential problems that may occur with catcher/processors; observer coverage may be mandatory. Other items of significant concern to the AP include possible increased mortality resulting from increased pot lifts and the potential increase of prohibited species catches by the trawl fisheries.

The AP also recommended that the Alaska Board of Fisheries repeal its exclusive area registration regulations inside of 3 miles to allow State and Federal regulations to coincide and also recommended that all seasons and areas shall have concurrent openings whenever biologically possible.



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The AP voted 7 to 4 to support the State's enforcement of pot limit restrictions in the FCZ and recommended that the Council and NMFS should work with the State to develop a legally enforceable program.

The AP voted 9 to 0, with 2 abstentions, to oppose the trawl restrictions as written. They unanimously agreed that all data collected, including data from NMFS should be made available in a timely manner to all management agencies involved. As areas of concern are identified they should be closed, and closed areas should be re-evaluated annually.

COUNCIL/BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

3-S Management

ADF&G staff comments by Marty Eaton indicated that the Department's main concerns with the proposal would be the increased handling mortality of female and sublegal crabs and the added enforcement effort required to strictly enforce the size limit. He also noted that ADF&G is presently managing on a 3-S concept, but with a quota.

Some Council and Board members suggested the possibility of using one particular area as a "test" area for 3-S management before deciding whether it would be feasible for all of the crab fisheries. There was concern about abandoning the quota as a method of protecting returning stocks while they are in a declining state. Don Collinsworth said he did not think it wise to implement this management regime while the stocks are in such poor condition; he might be in favor of a test area in the future but it would have to be structured to avoid a large influx of boats into the area as other areas are closed. Marty Eaton noted that the only area with a fairly stable recruitment is the Kodiak District.

*John Garner of the Board moved to adopt Proposal 21, the Size, Sex and Season Management proposal. Bix Bonney seconded the motion, which failed on a vote of 7 to 0.*

Seasons

A small subgroup of Council and Board members (Jeff Stephan, Chairman; Bob Blake, Ron Jolin) was appointed to work on the

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dates for the 1984-85 crab seasons. The subgroup recommended the following:

Tanner crab opening dates were set as follows:

Kodiak	January 15
Alaska Peninsula/Chignik	January 15
Eastern Aleutians/Dutch Harbor	January 15
Western Aleutians/Adak	November 10
Bristol Bay	January 15
Pribilofs	January 15
St. Matthew	January 15
Norton Sound	January 15
Southeast/Yakutat	January 15

The Westward king crab opening date were set as follows:

Kodiak	September 20
Alaska Peninsula/Chignik	October 1
Eastern Aleutians/Dutch Harbor	November 10
Western Aleutians/Adak	November 10
Bristol Bay	October 1
Pribilofs	October 1
St. Matthew	September 1
Norton Sound	August 1

Problems with early molting and mating of Tanner crabs this season prompted a proposal to set earlier opening dates for the 1984-85 fishery.

*Bix Bonney moved to accept the recommendations of the subgroup. The motion was seconded by Bob Blake and carried unanimously.*

*Bob Mace moved that the Council concur with the Board's action on crab seasons for 1984-85. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth, and carried with no objections.*

Pot Limits and Exclusive Registration Areas

Discussion of pot limits and exclusive registration areas focused on enforceability and whether this type of gear limit and exclusive registration areas would meet the stated objectives of the proposals. Both bodies voted to defer action on these management approaches until they could be more fully examined at a joint Board/Council meeting scheduled for September 26-27 in Anchorage.

Compensation for Aiding Vessels in Distress - Proposal 21.IV.

This proposal would allow vessels aiding distressed vessels to make up lost fishing time at the end of the season.

Although some Council and Board members agreed that there should be some compensation for vessels who have lost fishing time in aiding a vessel in distress, most also agreed that this proposal was not the answer. Rear Admiral Lucas said that the Coast Guard is in a position to handle emergencies and that he didn't think this proposal is necessary. Also, the problem of monitoring vessels fishing after the end of the season might prove difficult. Testimony from fishermen indicated that time added on to the end of the season would not be very helpful because of the poor condition of the stocks at that time.

*Bix Bonney moved that the Board approve this proposal. The motion was seconded by Bob Blake and failed, 7 to 0.*

*Keith Specking moved that the Council concur with this action. Don Collinsworth seconded the motion which carried with Rudy Petersen opposing. Gene Didonato was out of the room at the time of the vote.*

Proposed Trawl Closure

This proposal would prohibit the use of bottom trawl gear from February 1 through June 1 in selected locations in the Westward area to protect soft shell and breeding crab. Board and Council members were concerned with the impact of trawl gear on crab and other non-target species but felt that there were insufficient data at this time to justify placing such an economic restriction on trawlers.

The Board, meeting without the Council, approved a data collection and observer program to identify sensitive areas and monitor the impacts of trawling in those areas. The exact wording of the regulation is included as Appendix IV to these minutes.

*Jeff Stephan moved that the Council agree in concept with the action taken by the Alaska Board of Fisheries on the above proposal (Proposal 23Z) in regard to the need for and collection of trawl data which specifically addresses an observer program and reporting requirements, and that the Executive Director schedule this item for discussion and public hearing at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried with Rudy Petersen objecting.*

John Harville wanted the record to reflect the view that the Council should move as quickly as possible in pushing for data to enable the Council to make prudent decisions in the groundfish fisheries in the future.

E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS, AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

E-1 Contracts and Proposed Projects

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the final report to NMFS Contract 83-ABC-00165, and provided the contractor with comments. The SSC recommended the Council accept the report and notify NMFS of the approval.

The SSC also reviewed the report entitled "Projections of Domestic Fleet and Effort Required to Harvest the Alaska Groundfish Optimum Yield" by Natural Resources Consultants and recommended acceptance of the report.

The SSC also reviewed proposed projects for FY/84 programmatic funds. They recommended that the contract for "Domestic Groundfish Monitoring" not be issued at this time since a workgroup has been formed to assess data needs for management of the groundfish fisheries. The SSC requested that the workgroup complete their evaluation by the May Council meeting and recommended the Council not take action on this contract until this evaluation is complete. The SSC also requested Council staff examine the possibility of using \$10,000 of the the fund allotted for this project to support the Fisheries Management Conference.

The SSC recommended that Part II of the Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch contract be issued and, since it is a continuation of an already funded project, that it be sole-sourced to the University of Washington. The SSC also recommended that the contract for Part II of the Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis study be issued as soon as approval is received. It is important that the sampling start in May.

For FY/85 programmatic funds, the SSC reviewed two proposals, "The Reproductive Biology of Brown King Crab," and "Evaluation of Gear-caused Scars on Salmon." Although they found both proposals to be sound, they did not feel that new scientific information to be generated by these studies was of high enough priority for the Council to start agency review.

The SSC did recommend agency review of a proposal for offshore research on Bering Sea herring for \$450,000 to \$500,000; of this amount, \$400,000 would be required to charter commercial fishing vessels to support the herring research program.

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The SSC expressed concern over the limitation being placed on the programmatic funding with regard to development and continuation of data collection programs. Over the past several years there has been a rapid expansion of domestic groundfish fishing activities in the Gulf of Alaska and eastern Bering Sea. The limited ability to collect data from certain segments of this fishery will hinder management of these fisheries in the future. Given the urgency of this issue, the SSC feels that a monitoring program should be defined and then funded.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee reviewed the FY/84 mid-year administrative budget and noted that there may be a \$7,000 deficit. Several items were discussed for possible reductions and, if needed, action will be taken later.

The Finance Committee approved the final report of the "Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis-Phase I" and also approved payment of the contract for "Domestic Fleet Mix and Effort Required to Harvest the Alaska Groundfish OY."

The Finance Committee received a briefing by Jim Branson on a summer intern for the Council funded by Alaska Sea Grant. The intern would work on updating the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP. If Council funds are available, another person could be hired to do the same update for the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP. Don Bevan will research the possibility of the University of Washington establishing such a position.

Approval for funding of the Herring Scale Analysis, Phase II for \$62,465, was postponed by NMFS until at least May. The Finance Committee recommended that a small amount of funding, borrowed from the groundfish project, be authorized to enable the contractor to be on the grounds during the herring season. The contractor should be notified that there is a possibility that the additional funding will not be available.

The Finance Committee approved the SSC's proposal for \$50,000 to \$100,000 for herring research to be sent out for agency review. Approval was also given to send for agency review the proposal for \$400,000 for vessel time to do the winter herring stock study.

The Finance Committee recommended that the SSC's request to reallocate \$10,000 from the domestic groundfish monitoring program for the Fisheries Management Conference not be approved. The Committee recommended that the Council write Bill Gordon requesting that he place high priority on his agency to provide the required funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m. on Friday, March 30.

Jim Campbell urged Council members to support legislative confirmation of the current Board of Fisheries.

Don Collinsworth told Council members that it is important to consider where they are going in management of the groundfish fisheries. Avoiding overcapitalization before it becomes a problem would be beneficial to all involved.

#### G. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Mark Lundsten, President of the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union, testified before the Council on sablefish apportionments.

#### F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Stephan moved that the Council accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Harold Lokken and carried with no objection.

#### COUNCIL ACTION

The Finance Committee discussed the memo received from Bill Gordon indicating other sources must be found for funding the domestic groundfish monitoring program in the future since it is a long-range project. The Committee felt the responsibility for this data collection rests with both the federal and state governments and recommends that if programmatic funds cannot be used, that the operating costs of such a monitoring program be included in the operating budget for the Council.

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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



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## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC, and AP members  
FROM: Bering Sea Herring Workgroup  
DATE: March 7, 1984  
SUBJECT: Bering Sea Herring Research

In December 1983 the workgroup submitted a report to the Council which concluded that herring research in the Bering Sea could be most expeditiously conducted by commercial vessels under contract to the Council. We further recommended that an allocation of herring be granted in exchange for vessel time. We have attached a copy of the December report for your convenience.

Also attached is a draft "Request for Proposal" (RFP) developed to acquire the vessel time necessary to carry out a detailed survey of herring on the Bering Sea wintering grounds. It should be noted that the RFP was written to support the collection of scientific data and not to support the development of an offshore fishery. Any decision on an offshore fishery should be made after the data are collected and analyzed.

The RFP survey estimates that it will take four vessels approximately 18 days each (or a total of 72 vessel days) to complete a 3,350-mile trackline through a 20,000 square mile area. Fewer vessels could not cover the required survey trackline and still have time to harvest the allotment after completion of the survey. Problems involved with coordinating the research and staffing vessels with qualified scientific personnel preclude the use of additional vessels.

Certain clarification will be needed before the RFP can be completed and released.

1. How will the Council or NMFS make the special allocation? The Council may wish to obtain a legal opinion on the procedure before releasing the RFP.
2. The proposal has been written so that the allocation would be made to domestic fishermen. This does not answer the question regarding joint ventures. Could a foreign processor be issued a permit to purchase herring? If not, the RFP should be modified to specify domestic processing only.
3. A commitment to support the scientific costs is needed before the RFP is released. A cost estimate for collecting, processing and analyzing the scientific data is attached to this memo.

If the Council wishes to proceed with the RFP, vessels should be selected as soon as possible. There are many details pertaining to survey operations which cannot be resolved until vessels are selected and meetings can be held between the scientific party and the vessel captains. A high degree of cooperation and coordination is needed to insure the safety of vessels and personnel and to minimize logistic problems. It must also be recognized that hiring properly trained scientific personnel to carry out the survey work may be a very difficult task.



ESTIMATED SCIENTIFIC COSTS BASED ON 4 VESSEL SURVEY FOR 2.5 MONTHS

I. SALARIES

A. Planning/Organization

Project leader	1.5 m/mo.	\$ 5,300
Biotechnician	1.5 m/mo.	2,800

note: Assumes personnel are Govt. employees with EC = 16.9% and 11.4% leave surcharge. Project leader GS12 and Biotechs GS7.

B. Field Personnel

Project leader	2.5 m/mo.	13,800
Biotechnicians (7)	17.5 m/mo.	58,500

note: Field costs include 300 hrs overtime at \$16.65/hr for project leader and 2,100 hrs overtime for Biotechs at \$12.36/hr.

C. Analysis/Report Preparation

Project leader	3.0 m/mo.	10,600
Biotechnician	3.0 m/mo.	5,600
Age reading	1.5 m/mo.	2,300
Report preparation/reproduction		<u>1,000</u>
		\$ 99,900

II. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Biological sampling equipment, supplies, forms		
4 sets @ \$400.		\$ 1,600
Echo sounder and netsounder paper		1,200
Catch sorting table	4 @ \$300.	1,200
Trawl codend liners	12 @ \$150.	1,800
Catch sampling (Cargo) nets	4 @ \$250.	1,000
Portable XBT system	2 @ loan	--
XBT probes	200 @ \$ 30.	<u>6,000</u>
		\$ 12,800

III. TRAVEL

Air fare/per diem		
Seattle-Dutch Harbor 8 @ \$1,500.		\$ 12,000
Planning-Organizational travel		<u>2,000</u>
		\$ 14,000

Estimated Total \$126,700

DRAFT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RESEARCH VESSELS - HERRING SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

Pacific herring in the eastern Bering Sea have been fished continuously since 1959 first by Soviet and Japanese trawlers on the herring winter grounds northwest of the Pribilof Islands and in more recent years by domestic fishermen in coastal waters during the spawning season. While the trawl fishery was extant, monitoring of the resource was through the trawl catch per unit effort (CPUE). The CPUE series showed an increasing trend through the 1960s followed by a severe downward trend through the early 1970s and then signs of stock increase evident when directed herring trawl fisheries were ended in the late 1970s. As offshore trawl fisheries were restricted, inshore roe fisheries developed and a new monitoring methodology was established for fisheries located on the spawning grounds. This monitoring of herring abundance during the spawning season is accomplished by aerial enumeration of the total surface area of herring schools present with biomass obtained using estimates of the tons of herring per unit surface area. The method has been employed for only a few years, and the validity of the method as a measure of absolute abundance cannot be clearly established at this time. It is likely that the inshore fisheries during the spawning period will continue to be the dominant herring fishery in the eastern Bering Sea, and aerial assessment of the resource will be the primary stock monitoring tool.

It has been proposed that alternative assessment methods be examined. Of the various alternative methods, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) has chosen to pursue hydroacoustic-trawl assessment on the winter grounds. However, previous attempts to survey herring on the winter grounds have indicated that an inordinant amount of research vessel time may be needed to obtain a reliable research vessel time may be needed to obtain a reliable biomass estimate. Consequently, better knowledge of the distribution and behavior of the resource is required before it will be possible to realistically evaluate the potential for implementing a hydroacoustic-trawl survey.

To provide needed background information, the Council is exploring the merits of using commercial fishing vessels to obtain data on the distribution, availability, and behavior of herring in the Bering Sea wintering grounds located northwest of the Pribilof Islands (Figure 1).

Because of limited financial resources the Council is considering providing a domestic allocation of herring in exchange for the required vessel time. This document was developed to solicit proposals from parties interested in participating in the survey in exchange for an allocation of herring. Receipt of proposals by the Council does not obligate the Council to proceed with the survey. The major factor in determining the importance of the scientific data to be gathered will be the amount of herring required to provided the vessel time.

#### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the survey and subsequent observer program are to collect data required to:

1. Estimate the location and range of herring on the winter grounds.
2. Estimate the distribution of herring within the grounds.
3. Estimate the general size and age-length composition of herring schools.
4. Investigate the distribution and schooling behavior of herring schools within the water column during day and night.
5. Assess the amount of mixing with other species.
6. Collect data for studies of stock composition/origin, age composition, and sexual maturation.
7. Evaluate the feasibility of using standard research vessel survey techniques for assessing herring abundance including assessment of the vulnerability of herring to acoustic detection and trawl sampling.

## SURVEY PROGRAM

The survey is not intended to produce an estimate of herring abundance, rather its primary purpose is to locate, delineate, and sample concentrations of herring on the winter grounds.

The survey will be conducted in a 21,000 square nautical mile area northwest of the Pribilof Islands (Figure 1). The area extends from 57°00'N to 60°00'N between the 100 m and 200 m isobaths. Survey operations will be carried out by four (4) vessels along a 3,350 nautical mile zig-zag trackline which has an average distance between adjacent transects of 7.0 miles (14 miles between consecutive transect end points on each side of the trackline).

Each of the vessels will be assigned to cover approximately one-fourth of the trackline during an 18-day period (approximately January 10-27). The basic vessel work day will be about 13 hours (0700 to 2000 hrs). The total of 18 vessel days specified for each vessel's survey work is based on the following: (1) 8 days (13 hour days) required to run an 837 (= .25 x 3,350) nautical mile trackline at 8 knots; (2) 4 days (13 hour days) required to complete trawl sampling while running trackline (assumes approximately 6 hours of trawl sampling and associated activities for each 13 hours spent running transects); and (3) 6 days for weather related and operational problems and to allow for possible opportunities for special sampling efforts.

Standardized echo sounder records will be collected continuously along the trackline. When fish echo sign is detected, midwater trawl sampling will be conducted to determine its species/biological composition. Previous experience suggests this sampling will be limited to between 2 and 3 hauls per day, except when major concentrations of fish are encountered.

Sampling outside the 0600-2000 hour time period will be conducted intermittently to obtain information on diel changes in the behavior and availability of herring. Some sampling will be done using bottom trawls, mainly in areas where off-bottom echo sign is infrequently observed. Because herring are likely to be very patchily distributed within most of the survey area, the amount of time devoted to trawl sampling is expected to vary significantly

between and within vessels. Sampling is likely to be most intensive near the shelf break where mixed schools of pollock and herring are expected to occur.

Completion of the echo sounder/trawl sampling survey of the pre-determined trackline is the first priority of the survey research. It is reasonable to expect that the trackline survey may be completed by one or more of the vessels in less than 18 days, particularly if herring are concentrated at only a few locations and/or if ice covers parts of the area. The use of vessel time in excess of that needed to complete the trackline survey will depend largely on the observed distribution of herring and subsequent judgment made by the scientific personnel in consultation with vessel captains. However, the entire 72 vessel days of survey research will be completed prior to beginning commercial fishing operations. It should be noted that although herring caught during the survey's research trawl sampling may be retained by the vessels as part of their allocation, this may only be done if it does not impede the survey operations.

#### OBSERVER PROGRAM

Upon completion of the survey program, vessels used in the survey will be allowed to fish commercially for herring. During this period one or more scientific observers will remain aboard the vessel. Data on effort, composition of catch, and location will be recorded. Scientific sampling of catch will occur.

#### PROGRAM TERMINATION

All fishing will terminate when the herring allocation is reached or on April 1, 1985, whichever comes first.

PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The NPFMC wishes to engage four (4) U.S. fishing vessels between January 1 and Mach 31, 1985. The Council will consider an allocation of herring to those vessels in exchange for vessel time dedicated to herring research as specified in this document (see sections on survey program and observer program).

Owners or operators of vessels wishing to participate in this fishery should submit to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council a written proposal stating the amount of herring in metric tons required to fish within the terms specified in this document. Vessels must conform to the basic vessel and crew requirements listed in Appendix A. Proposals will not be accepted from individual vessels. Only those jointly submitted by four (4) vessels will be considered.

Proposals should be submitted using the format provided in Appendix B.

Proposals are due at the offices of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in Anchorage, Alaska by 1200 noon on \_\_\_\_\_, 1984. Proposals sent by U.S. postal service should be mailed in time to arrive by that date. The mailing address is as follows:

North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
P.O. Box 103136  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
Attn: Herring Survey

PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION

Proposals will be accepted or rejected within \_\_\_\_\_ days of the due date. The Council reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

EVALUATION FOR AWARD

The offer schedule, vessel specification, and any other pertinent information provided by the offeror will be considered in the evaluation. The following factors and their relative weights will be used to evaluate the proposals:

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Amount of herring requested                                      | 65% |
| 2. Qualification of vessels in excess of minimum requirements       | 30% |
| 3. Optional items -- vessel possesses one or more of the following: | 5%  |

Sonar - either "searchlight" sonar or electronic scanning sonar.  
Cable type netsounder (as opposed to acoustic-link type).  
Color scope interfaced to echo sounder.  
Loran-C plotter.  
Codend catch indicator system.

In the event the Council determines that the overall level of herring being requested is acceptable, the award will be made to the offeror whose proposal receives the highest overall score.

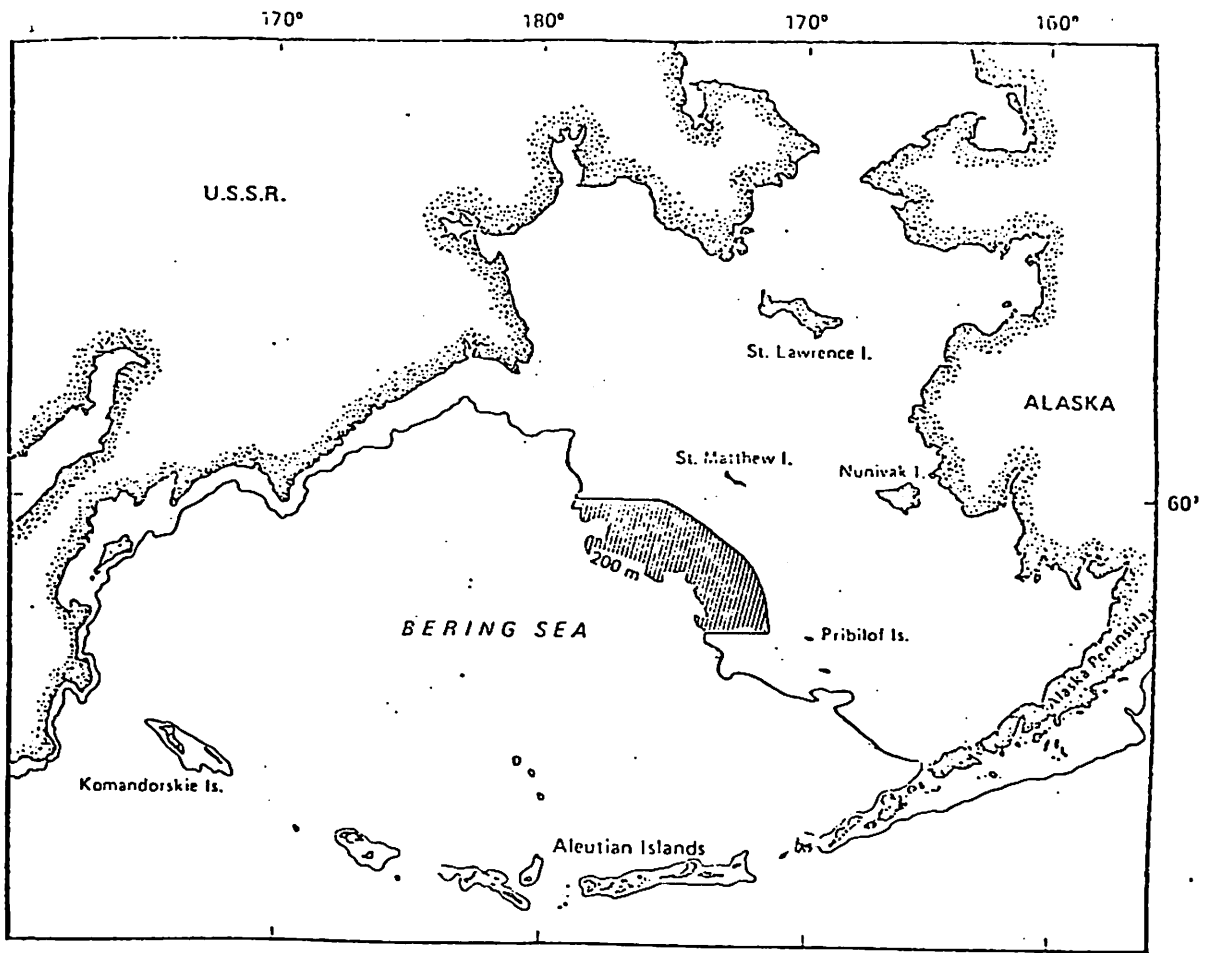


Fig 1. Location of Proposed eastern Bering Sea herring winter Survey  
 Fig 2. Survey Area subdivided for 4 vessels

