

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Date: _____

ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES Anchorage, Alaska May 18, 1982

The Advisory Panel met on Tuesday, May 18, 1982, in the Alaska Room of the Anchorage Westward Hilton from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The following members were present: Al Burch, Larry Cotter, Dick Goldsmith, Joe Kurtz, Ray Lewis, Kristy Long, Dan O'Hara, James O'Connell, Ken Olsen, Don Rawlinson, Harvey Samuelson, Tony Vaska and Bud Boddy (acting as Chairman).

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

The meeting was called to order by acting Chairman Bud Boddy. The agenda was approved by all members. There were no comments on the minutes of the March 22, 1982 Advisory Panel meeting.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report. The Executive Director's Report was presented by Clarence Pautzke. He briefly reviewed the Senate Committee hearings on MFCMA amendments and solicited the AP's comments on the joint venture analysis proposed by Larry Cotter of the Advisory Panel. Larry Cotter explained the purpose of the proposed study. Dick Goldsmith indicated that the study should not be limited to just over-the-side sales but to other types of joint ventures. All concurred that the study would be worthwhile. The Advisory Panel recommended unanimously that the Council commit funds to an in-depth study of joint ventures and that the AP be integrally involved in this study.

B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G. No report was presented.

B-3 Foreign Fisheries Report by NMFS. Phil Chitwood and Craig Hammond presented material on the foreign fisheries and joint ventures off the coast of Alaska.

B-4 Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard. No report was available.

B-5 Joint Venture Operations. John Schmeidtke of Nordstern and Mick Stevens of Marine Resources Company reported on their joint venture operations.

C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Review of Policy for Joint Venture Permit Review. The Advisory Panel reviewed the draft statement on the Council policy on allocations in joint ventures [Agenda Item C-1(a)]. On a vote of 11 to 1 the Panel recommended adopting this policy with the following changes:

1. paragraph 1 on page 1, at the end of the last sentence add, "...and the intent of the MFCMA."
2. paragraph 2 on page 1, at the end of the second sentence add, "..., provided that such joint ventures will not adversely affect the development of totally domestic harvesting/processing operations focused on the same underutilized species."
3. at the end of 2(c) on page 3, add, "...and reasons for failure, if available."
4. last paragraph on page 3, add to the end of the last sentence, "..., and with the intent of the MFCMA."

The one descenting vote opposed the inclusion of 2(h) as a criterion for the review of the permit applications.

C-2 Progress Report on Halibut Moratorium. Clarence Pautzke reviewed progress on the halibut moratorium and limited entry. The Advisory Panel recommended that the public be reassured that the Council has not made a firm and final decision on halibut limited entry and that they will be involved in the process leading to a Council decision on limited entry.

C-3 Other Business. The Advisory Panel heard a report by Paul Sequin from the Alaska Corps of Engineers concerning a proposed statewide study of harbor facilities and the needs for various port developments as they relate to fisheries. Mr. Sequin stated that the Corps was studying such ports as Adak, Akutan, Dutch Harbor, King Cove, Cold Bay, Sand Point and Chignik and they would like to get input from the public and the Advisory Panel on which ports should be given high priorities. Advisory Panel member, Harvey Samuelsen recommended that a study also be done on Togiak. The Panel would like to be kept informed of this study as it evolves.

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Salmon FMP. Jim Glock gave a report on the status of the plan, the regulations and the Confederated Tribes case. The Panel took no action, as this was an informational item only.

D-2 Herring FMP. The Advisory Panel reviewed the State position on herring management and recommended on a vote of 8 to 4 to support the State position.

- D-3 King Crab FMP. The Advisory Panel heard a report by Steve Davis on the Board of Fisheries' actions for the 1982 king crab regulations and on the status of the FMP. No action was taken by the Panel.
- D-4 Tanner Crab FMP. The Advisory Panel heard a report by Steve Davis on the Tanner Crab Symposium and on the plans of the PDT to put together a "housekeeping" amendment to the FMP. The AP had no comment.
- D-5 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP. The Advisory Panel briefly discussed Amendment #11 on sablefish. The Panel had already taken its actions on the various parts of the amendment at the March 1982 meeting. The AP did however, want to reaffirm its recommendation made in March that between Cape Addington and 140°W, pot fishing not be allowed due to gear conflict problems and based on historical deployment of pot gear in the Southeast Alaska region.

The AP addressed Amendment #12 which would increase the DAH for pollock in the Central Gulf. The AP unanimously recommended that enough pollock be provided in the Central Gulf to cover the requirements of the joint venture and U.S. domestic fisheries consistent with conservation needs.

The AP then discussed Part 5 of Amendment #8 which would have allowed the Regional Director to resolve gear conflicts using field order authority. The AP recommended on a vote of 12 to 0 with 1 abstention that the Council proceed with the development of an amendment satisfactory to Washington, D.C. that would allow the resolution of gear conflicts.

- D-6 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP. Concerning Amendment #1, the AP voted unanimously with 2 abstentions to follow the guidelines as submitted by the PMT.

Concerning Amendment #5 which would decrease the prohibited species catch of chinook salmon to 45,500 fish in 1983, the AP unanimously recommended approval with 1 abstention.

The AP reviewed the proposal to develop an amendment for a U.S. Fishery Development Zone in the Bering Sea. The AP reviewed the size of this area and what it would mean as far as transfer of foreign catches outside the proposed zones and the ramifications for prohibited species. One concern that was surfaced is the need for explicitly stated objectives for the zone. The AP recommended on a vote of 7 to 4 with 1 abstention that the proposed amendment be developed around the following points:

1. designate Area B (from Dr. Loh-Lee Low's report) as the zone of interest;
2. decrease the TALFF in the Bering Sea by the amount equal to the current level of foreign harvest in Area B;
3. provide first preference in harvesting rights to the domestic industry that both processes and harvests in that area;
4. make available to the joint ventures any surplus beyond that harvest taken under #3 above; and
5. manage the resource to aide development of a totally domestic bottomfish industry in that area without adversely affecting the existing domestic fisheries.

The AP also voted to ask the sponsor of the concept of the Fishery Development Zone to address the next AP meeting.

Concerning restrictions on domestic fisheries in Area A of the Bristol Bay Pot Sanctuary, the AP voted unanimously to recommend that domestic trawling be allowed to continue in the Bering Sea as it is now on an experimental basis.

E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS, AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The AP took no action.