

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Certified by: Robert Alvenson
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NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
ADVISORY PANEL
MINUTES: January 5-6, 1981
Juneau, Alaska

A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Advisory Panel met on January 5, 1981 at 4:00 p.m. and recessed and met again on January 6, 1981 at 8:30 a.m. All meetings were held in the Elks Lodge in Juneau. Those in attendance were:

Robert Alvenson
Robert Blake
Bud Boddy
Alvin Burch
Larry Cotter
Paula Easley
Richard Goldsmith

Eric Jordan
Raymond Lewis
Alan Otness
Don Rawlinson
Lewis Schnaper
Jeff Stephan
Tony Vaska
DAN O'HARA

C. OLD BUSINESS

C-1 Election of New Officers by Advisory Panel

On January 5, 1981, the AP re-elected Bob Alvenson as Chairman and Bud Boddy as Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Panel.

The Advisory Panel re-assigned members to various fisheries subgroups, the names of the AP members that should be associated with the different management plans can be found on the following page. The Advisory Panel passed the following motion that AP subgroup members be duly notified and invited to participate and attend Plan Development Team meetings.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1 Schedule for Limited Entry Workgroup

The Advisory Panel requests that the Limited Entry Workgroup meet as soon as possible.

D-2 Other New Business as Appropriate

The Advisory Panel approved without objection the requests of West Germany and Marine Resources Company for joint-venture applications.

Current status of teams and subgroups for various NPFMC fisheries.

| Plan | PDT | PMT | Council | SSC | AP | Staff |
|--------------------|---|-----|-------------------------------|---|--|---------|
| GOA Groundfish | Jim Balsiger (NWAFC) Bob Stokes (IMS/UW) Phil Rigby (ADF&G) Steve Hoag (IPHC) Loh-Lee Low (NWAFC) Barry Bracken (ADF&G) | | Harville Skoog Meacham | *Marasco Miles Hreha Aron Burns | Alverson Burch Otness Phillips Stephan Uri | Povolny |
| BS/A Groundfish | Dick Bakkala (NWAFC) Loh-Lee Low (NWAFC) Bob Stokes (IMS/UW) Steve Hoag (IPHC) Phil Rigby (ADF&G) Jim Blackburn (ADF&G) Bill Arvey (ADF&G) | | Harville Skoog Meacham | *Burns Marasco Miles Hreha Aron | Alverson Burch Cotter Goldsmith Stephan Uri | Povolny |
| Herring | Ron Regnart (ADF&G) Rich Randall (ADF&G) Vidar Westpestad (NWAFC) Jeff Skrade (ADF&G) | | Campbell Harville Skoog | *Millikan Burgner | | Glock |
| King Crab | Fred Gaffney (ADF&G) Jerry McCrary (ADF&G) Guy Powell (ADF&G) Jerry Reeves (NWAFC) Dave Somerton (NWAFC) Bob Otto (NMFS) Ray Baglin (NWFS) Marty Eaton (ADF&G) | | Campbell Mace Skoog | *Marasco Lechner Burgner | Cotter Goldsmith Lewis | |

*Chairman

E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

E-1 Salmon Plan

Proposed Objectives

B-1 The Advisory Panel adopted the Plan Development Team Proposed Objective No. 1.

B-2 The Advisory Panel adopted the PDT wording for Proposed Objective No. 2. There were two members in opposition of this. The objection was that additional wording should be added to the effect that any allocation of the Salmon resource among user groups would take place without disrupting present social and economic structures.

B-3 Proposed Objective No. 3 was adopted without any objection.

B-4 Proposed Objective No. 4 was adopted with two members objecting. The objection was that this objective should be withheld until specific regulations were proposed relating to this objective.

B-5 Proposed Objective No. 5 was adopted with one objection. The objection was that it was not specific as to the policy that would be used in harvesting natural runs versus hatchery runs of salmon.

B-6 Proposed Objective No. 6 was adopted with the following additional wording in underlines.

"Manage the coho and chinook salmon fisheries to ensure compliance with U.S.-Canadian fisheries agreements, any international or judicially adjudicated other treaty or resource sharing requirements and conservation obligations."

B-7 Proposed Objective No. 7 was adopted without objection.

B-8 The AP proposes the following in lieu of the Proposed Objective No. 8

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council shall take into account Alaska Board of Fisheries' regulations and policies before enhancement of fishing regulations in the FCZ.

The proposed objective as presented by the Plan Development Team was not felt to be appropriate as a long-term objective as it proposed specific regulations. Also, the AP had difficulty in accepting "principals contained in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Chinook and Coho Salmon Troll Fisheries Management Plan" without knowing what those principles were or if they may conflict with the objectives of the management plan and national standards.

Problem: Continued Increased Effort in Catch of Depressed Chinooks Offshore.

Following considerable debate with input from the PDT and the public, the Advisory Panel took the following actions:

On a motion to keep the status quo harvest range of 286,000 mt to 320,000 mt for chinook salmon the AP voted against the status quo harvest range. The AP then passed the following motion that given the biological conditions of the chinook resources as presented by ADF&G, WDF and the PDT, that a reduction in harvest range was probably warranted. The AP did not have the SSC analysis of these reports and, therefore, did not want to make a decision as to what percentage decrease in the harvest range should be taken. The proposed PDT decrease of 10% was considered by some AP members as possibly not being sufficient considering the condition of some of the stocks of chinook salmon. The AP was informed that this action would be sufficient as a preferred action as final consideration of the chinook OY would be taken in March.

A-2 Chinook Season

The AP moved that the opening date for chinook be May 15 and end concurrently with the coho season.

A-3 Coho Season

The AP voted 5-4 in favor of the June 15 to September 20 season for coho, this is the status quo.

A-4 Area Closure

The Advisory Panel voted to keep the status quo with one opposing vote. The PDT indicated that at the present time it may not be necessary to have a geographic base line measured from the surf line in the outer FCZ. The AP felt that with the harvest ranges proposed and seasonal dates there was adequate regulations to protect the resource.

A-5 Gear Regulations

The Advisory Panel took the following actions regarding gear restrictions.

On a vote of 6-4 the AP voted to keep the status quo for power trollers. The AP also voted on a motion that would allow hand trollers to operate with 6 lines North of Cape Spencer and use 2 gurdies or 4 sport lines for hand trolling South of Cape Spencer. The vote on this was 4-4. The issue concerning this motion was that hand trollers should be treated the same as power trollers in terms of gear restrictions. In regards to maintaining the status quo for power trollers, it was felt that this was not a biological issue and the need to standardize fishing gear was not a sufficient argument to reduce the efficiency of the fishing vessels.

A-5 Treble Hook Ban

The Advisory Panel adopted a motion to eliminate the use of treble hooks by a vote of 5-4. Some members felt that there was insufficient evidence to require the elimination of treble hooks from the troll fishery and other members of the AP felt treble hooks caused unnecessary mortality to juvenile fish.

Reporting Requirements

The Advisory Panel adopted the PDT proposal that all fishermen submit fish tickets or equivalent document before leaving Alaska waters with salmon on board.

Heads-on Landing Requirements

The AP voted to adopt regulation C-2 which is heads will be retained on fin-clipped fish only. This is with the understanding that this regulation will be reviewed at the end of the troll season in 1981 to see how effective the regulation has been complied with. The PDT members felt that regulation C-2 would be sufficient providing that at the termination of the troll fishery in 1981 the issue for landing all troll-caught salmon with their heads on could be reconsidered.

Limited Entry

It was felt that this subject was highly controversial and to be able to implement a troll management plan for 1981 that any limited entry proposal at this time would cause undue delay in the implementation of the troll management plan. The issue of limited entry and how it would effect hand trollers and power trollers was tabled by the Advisory Panel.