

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

411 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99510



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563
FTS 271-4064
9/19/86

DRAFT AGENDA

73rd Plenary Session
North Pacific Fishery Management Council

September 24-26, 1986
Anchorage Sheraton Hotel
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 1986, at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska, and continue through mid-day on Friday, September 26. Other meetings to be held during the week are:

<u>Committee/Panel</u>	<u>Beginning</u>
Scientific & Statistical Committee	10:00 a.m., Monday, September 22
Advisory Panel	10:00 a.m., Monday, September 22
AP Tanner Crab Bycatch Committee	7:00 p.m., Monday, September 22
Permit Review Committee	10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 23
Council as a Workgroup on MFCMA amendment	1:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 23 Federal Building, Room C114
Domestic Observer Committee	7:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 24

The Permit Review Committee will review their past recommendations to NMFS on foreign vessel permit conditions and determine whether changes are needed. The Committee also will review foreign fishing fees for 1987, including recent legislation which requires higher fees under certain circumstances. They will also consider a request from JAC Creative Seafoods for Council endorsement of a custom processing arrangement with a Japanese surimi factory ship.

Other meetings may be held on short notice. The Council will meet in executive session at least once during the week to review ongoing litigation and foreign affairs; all other meetings are open to the public. All meetings will be held at the Sheraton Hotel unless otherwise noted.

MAIN ISSUES

Of the items requiring Council attention in September the following are expected to involve the most discussion and public comment:

Tanner Crab & King Crab FMPs

In June the Council approved for public review a discussion paper describing several long-term alternatives for Council/federal Tanner crab management. The Council will review public comments received on the discussion paper and discuss its future role in crab management and disposition of the current crab fishery management plans.

Groundfish Issues

The Council will review Amendment 15 to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. The amendment includes new goals and objectives for management of groundfish, an administrative framework procedure for setting harvest levels without a plan amendment, redefinition of at-sea processing vessels for purposes of compliance with reporting requirements, establishment of a time/area closure scheme to protect king crab around Kodiak Island, and an expanded field order authority for inseason adjustments. After review of public comments received the Council will approve a final document to be sent to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation.

The Council will also set initial groundfish apportionments for 1987 for the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands after receiving status of stocks reports from the plan teams.

The Council will also review and approve Amendment 10 to the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. The amendment includes four options for implementation of domestic crab and halibut bycatch restrictions, including the emergency rule recommended by the Council in January and March 1986, the emergency rule approved by NMFS in June 1986, closure of the Bristol Bay Pot Sanctuary and a framework which would allow annual adjustment of PSC limits. The amendment also addresses inseason ("field order") authority, at-sea processor reporting requirements, and inseason reapportionment within DAH.

Other Issues

The Council will review a draft MFCMA amendment in a work session Tuesday afternoon, September 23, and possibly act on it during the regular meeting Thursday, September 25. A comprehensive redraft of the Act, changing the thrust of management from fishery management plans and amendments to regulatory action originating in the Regional Councils, has been done at the Council's request by NOAA attorney Pat Travers.

The Council will discuss a regulatory expansion for both groundfish plans that would require all vessels in the U.S. groundfish fishery to have permits, including transports and other support units.

INFORMATION FOR PERSONS WISHING TO TESTIFY AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Those wishing to testify at Council meetings on a specific agenda item must fill out and deposit a registration card in the box on the registration table before public comment begins on that agenda item. Additional cards generally are not accepted after testimony has begun. A general comment period (Agenda Item F) is scheduled toward the end of each meeting for comment on matters not on the current agenda.

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- A. CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
 - A-1 Election of Council Officers and Approval of Interim AP Officers
- B. SPECIAL REPORTS
 - B-1 Executive Director's Report
 - B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G
 - B-3 NMFS Management Report
 - (a) Amendment 14 Update
 - (b) DAP Questionnaire
 - (c) Groundfish Data Monitoring
 - B-4 Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard
 - B-5 Joint Venture Operations
 - B-6 1986 Bering Sea/Aleutians Crab Survey Results
 - B-7 Special Reports
 - (a) Special Report on Marine Debris - Lee Alverson
 - (b) Special Report on NWAFC Marine Mammal Program - Howard Braham
 - (c) Vessel Safety Presentation - John Sabella
 - (d) Special Report on Taiwan Salmon Violations - Rolly Schmitten
- C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS
 - C-1 Legislative Update
 - (a) Report of Reauthorization Committee, including comment on NOAA fishery management study
 - (b) Review draft of amendment to MFCMA
 - (c) Review of recent Congressional action
 - (d) Issues for Council Chairmen's Meeting
 - C-2 Domestic Observer Program

Report of Domestic Observer Committee on funding and proposed policy on placement of observers on domestic vessels.
 - C-3 Permitting U.S. Transport and Support Vessels

Develop Council recommendations on requiring federal permits for U.S. vessels that transport fish or support fishing operations in the FCZ.

- C-4 Foreign Fees and Permit Conditions
 - (a) Council recommendations on two-tier fees for foreign fishing in 1987.
 - (b) Council recommendations on foreign vessel permit conditions.
 - (c) JAC Creative Foods proposal

- D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS
 - D-1 Tanner and King Crab FMPs
 - (a) Council discussion on its future role in crab management and disposition of plans.
 - (b) Council recommendation on 1986 directed C. bairdi pot fishery after reviewing NMFS trawl survey results.

 - D-2 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP
 - (a) Final Approval of Amendment 15
 - (b) Status of Stocks: Resource Assessment Document (RAD) Review
 - (c) Initial Apportionments for 1987

 - D-3 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP
 - (a) Status Report on Eastern Bering Sea Trawl Restrictions
 - (b) Report on Halibut Stock Status
 - (c) Final Approval of Amendment 10
 - (d) Status of Stocks: Resource Assessment Document (RAD) Review
 - (e) Initial Apportionments for 1987

- E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORT
 - (a) Final Approval of Groundfish Data Monitoring Contract
 - (b) RFP for Survey on Groundfish Management Alternatives

- F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- G. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT