

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Certified

*John G. Peterson*  
Chairman

Date

*12-5-88*

## MINUTES

83rd Plenary Session  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
September 28-October 1, 1988  
Sheraton Hotel  
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met September 28-October 1, 1988 at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska. The Scientific and Statistical Committee began meeting on Sunday, September 25, and the Advisory Panel began on Monday, September 26. Members of the Council, Scientific and Statistical Committee, Advisory, staff and general public in attendance are listed below.

### Council

John Peterson, Chairman  
Bob Alverson  
Joe Blum  
Jim Brooks  
Don Collinsworth  
Larry Cotter  
Oscar Dyson  
Bob Mace for  
Randy Fisher

John Winther, Vice Chairman  
Bob Ford  
Tony Knowles  
Henry Mitchell  
Capt. George White for  
RADM Edw. Nelson  
Jon Nelson for  
Walter Stieglitz  
Guy Thornburgh

### NPFMC Staff

Clarence Pautzke, Executive Director  
Steve Davis, Deputy Director  
Judy Willoughby  
Denby Lloyd  
Ron Miller

Terry Smith  
Dick Tremaine  
Helen Allen  
Peggy Kircher

### Support Staff

Dale Evans, NMFS-AKR  
Craig Hammond, NMFS-AKR  
Ray Baglin, NMFS-AKR  
Craig O'Connor, NOAA-GC  
Jay Ginter, NMFS-AKR  
Barry Bracken, ADF&G-Petersburg

Ron Berg, NMFS-AKR  
Pat Peacock, NMFS-AKR  
Loh-Lee Low, NMFS-NWAFRC  
Jim Balsiger, NMFS-NWAFRC  
Bob Otto, NMFS-Kodiak  
Steve Hoag, IPHC

Scientific and Statistical Committee

Richard Marasco, Chairman  
Don Rosenberg  
Larry Hreha  
Don Bevan  
Dana Schmidt

Doug Eggers, Vice Chairman  
Bill Clark  
Terry Quinn  
John Burns  
Bill Aron

Advisory Panel

Nancy Munro, Chair  
Arne Aadland  
Terry Baker  
Al Burch  
John Crowley  
Mark Earnest  
Edwin Fuglvog  
Pete Granger  
Ron Hegge

Pete Isleib  
Rick Lauber  
Dan O'Hara  
Ron Peterson  
Jon Rowley  
Richard White  
Dave Woodruff  
John Woodruff  
Fred Zharoff

General Public

An estimated 125 people attended the Council meeting. Names of those who registered are listed below.

Mark E. Springer, City of Hooper Bay  
Jim Russell, Key Fisheries  
Steve Grabacki, Graystar  
Jack E. Crowley, Seattle  
Mark Walatka, North Start Maritime  
Bill Atkinson, NRC  
Mike Atterberry, Anacortes  
Naomi Manabe, Anchorage  
Dave Smover, CFEC  
Bernt Bodal, Seattle  
Chris Jones, China Pacific Ventures  
Perfenia Pletnikoff, Jr., Central BSFA  
Donald W. Johnson, Kodiak  
Ron Schmell, NPTF  
Rod Swope, Juneau  
Bill Orr, Golden Age Fisheries  
Jim & Rhonda Hubbard, Seward  
Stephen Greene, Clearwater Fine Foods  
David Fraser, Cape Flattery Fisheries  
Woody Knebel, Wards Cove Packing Co.  
E. H. Zeaser, Mrs. Paul's Kitchens, Inc.  
T. Yamamoto, ITABASU, Tokyo  
Arni Thomson, Alaska Crab Coalition  
Jay Stinson, Alaskan Ventures  
John Sevier, Alaska Pacific Seaffods  
Joe Plesha, Trident Seafoods  
Don Johnson, Anchorage

Kay Brown, ODF&W, Oregon  
Peter Block, Seattle  
Paul Clampitt, F/V Majestic  
Paul MacGregor, Mundt-MacGregor  
Jonathan Heifetz, Auke Bay Lab  
O. Bendiksen, Seattle  
Micahel J. Mayo, Sitka  
Henry Swasand, Aleutian Spray  
R.K. Dearborn, Sea Grant  
Oliver Holm, Kodiak  
Kate Wynne, U/A, Sea Grant  
Rick Krueger, Talbot Co.  
Madelyn Walker, Seard  
Dean Paddock, BBDA  
Barry Collier, PSPA  
Alexander Galanin, St. Paul  
John Boyce, Fairbanks  
Kevin Kaldestad, Seattle  
Stephen B. Johnson, Seattle  
John Levy, SWAMC  
Paul Kelly, Anchorage  
Charlene Millimen  
Hugh Reilly, Westward Tralwers  
Mike McCune, Alaskan Fisheries  
Winn Aukman, Dagnet Fisheries  
Bill Sharrow, Rep. Don Young  
Mel Monsen, AFDF

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Steve Drage, F/V Coho  
Jeff Stephan, UFMA  
Robbie Shaw, Nat'l Seafood Products  
Vic Horgan, Jr.  
Li Shanxun, China Fisheries  
William Nicholson, Dillingham  
Douglas Gordon, New Zealand  
Rona Sorensen, Rep. Herrmann's office  
Kay Wallis, Juneau  
DeeDee Jonrowe, Willow  
Rep. Adelheid Herrmann  
John Bruce, DSFU  
Phil Chitwood, Arctic Alaska Fisheries  
Steve Hughes, Seattle  
John Henderschedt, MRC  
Ted West, Key Fisheries  
Diane Woodruff, Kodiak Seafood Processors  
Kent Ruffa, Ker Seas Co.  
Roy Jones, John Cabot Co.  
Karl Ohls, Alaska Legislature/Sen. Zharoff  
Lyle Yeck, Raven Fisheries  
Chris Blackburn, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank  
Steve Rieger, Alaska Legislture  
Dennis Hicks, ALFA  
T. Janikawa, Tokyo  
Mark Pedersen, WDF  
Kate Graham, UFA  
Gordon Jensen, Petersburg VOA

George Jacko, Pedro Bay  
Mark SNigaroff, AFA, Atka  
Chip Dennerlein, Anchorage  
Anton Bowers, Sitka  
Alan Otness, Petersburg  
Mary Brennan, Homer  
Sandra Henry, Anchorage  
Fate Putman, Anchorage  
Chuck Kekoni, Eagle River  
Kathy Grimres, Unalaska  
Laurie Grimres, Palmer  
David Harville, Kodiak  
Rhonda Hubbard, Seward  
Jesse Foster, ABOF  
Phil Wedel, Jubilee Fisheries  
Wm. Gilbert, PSPA  
Daniel Oliver, NETS  
David Little, Clipper Seafoods  
Bob Richmond  
Geo. Herrfurth, NOAA/NMFS-DC  
Steve Freese, NOAA/NMFS-DC  
Linda Kozak, KLVOA  
Rob. Conrad, ADF&G-Anchorage  
Loren Leman, Anchorage  
John C. Cleveland, SeaLand  
Dan Zantek, Anchorage  
Dean Adams, FVOA  
Cliff Davidson, Legislator

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

Interim Chairman John Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. on Wednesday, September 28, 1988. Bob Mace moved to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Bob Alverson and carried with no objection.

Bob Mace moved to approve the minutes of the June 1988 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried with Bob Alverson and Tony Knowles abstaining because they were not in attendance at the June meeting.

A-1 Election of Officers

Henry Mitchell moved to delegate the Executive Director to conduct the election of officers, and that the election be held by roll call vote. The motion was seconded by Larry Cotter and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Joe Blum nominated John Peterson for Chairman. (No second required on nominations.)

Larry Cotter nominated Don Collinsworth for Chairman.

John Peterson was elected chairman by a vote of 6 to 5.



Henry Mitchell nominated Don Collinsworth for Vice Chairman.

Oscar Dyson nominated John Winther for Vice Chairman.

John Winther was elected Vice Chairman by a vote of 7 to 4.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report

Clarence Pautzke briefly updated Council members on the budget. Reduced costs of some committees and postponing the hiring of a new staff member have provided some budgetary relief.

John Peterson asked the Council to approve his interim appointment of John Crowley to replace Bob Alverson on the Advisory Panel. Clarence noted that in December the Council will need to consider appointments to the SSC and AP. John Crowley's appointment to the Advisory Panel through December 1988 was unanimously approved.

Dr. Pautzke reported that the next Chairmen's meeting will probably be held in early January in South Carolina. Magnuson Act amendments will be the main agenda item. Some Council members were concerned that our Council is no longer taking the lead on coordinating the Magnuson Act amendment process for all eight Councils. Joe Blum moved that at the next Chairmen's meeting the North Pacific Council's Chairman and Vice Chairman seek a leadership role in the MFCMA reauthorization process and other national legislative processes affecting the regional fishery management councils. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G

The Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game reports that the exvessel value of Alaska's commercial fisheries in 1987 was \$1.1 billion, the first time it has exceeded the one billion dollar mark. This escalation of value is attributed to continued healthy finfish stocks, increased prices paid to fishermen, and continued development of the domestic groundfish fishery.

The 1988 commercial salmon catch, valued at \$705 million, is estimated to have produced a harvest of 94.6 million fish weighing a total of over 500 million pounds. The exvessel value surpasses last year's record of \$473 million.

For the crab fisheries in southeast Alaska, ADF&G reports that 643,073 pounds of brown king crab were harvested at an estimated value of \$2.3 million. They anticipate an additional harvest of about 200,000 pounds by the end of the season. The Tanner crab fishery opened January 15 and closed February 18, the second shortest season on record. Approximately 1.306 million pounds were taken, valued at \$3 million. Approximately 3.3 million pounds of dungeness crab were landed during the two-segment 1987/88 season with an estimated value of about \$3.68 million.

Assembly Member Michael ...

Assembly Member ...

Assembly Member ...

PROVISIONAL REPORT

Executive Director's Report

Chairman ... requested Council members of the budget. Reduced costs of some committees and postponing the hiring of a new staff member have provided some budgetary relief.

John ... asked the Council to approve the interim appointment of John ... to replace Bob ... on the Advisory Panel. Chairman noted that in addition the Council will need to consider appointments to the SAC and AV. John ...'s appointment to the Advisory Panel through December 1988 was unanimously approved.

John ... reported that the next Chairman's meeting will probably be held in early January in North Carolina. Management Act amendments will be the main agenda item. Some Council members were concerned that our Council is not doing enough to lead in coordinating the Management Act amendment process for all eight councils. Joe ... moved that at the next Chairman's meeting the North Carolina Council's Chairman and Vice Chairman work a leadership role in the Management Act amendment process and other national legislative programs affecting the regional fishery management councils. The motion was carried. Chairman ... and there being no other business, it was so ordered.

Domestic Fisheries Report by ...

The Atlantic Dept. of Fish and Game reports that the overall value of Atlantic commercial fisheries in 1987 was \$1.1 billion, the first time it has exceeded one billion dollars since 1981. This escalation of value is attributed to a number of factors, including a healthy fishery, increased prices paid to fishermen, and continued development of the offshore recreational fishery.

The 1988 commercial salmon crop, valued at \$1.1 billion, is expected to have a harvest of 94.8 million fish weighing a total of over 300 million pounds. The commercial value surpassed last year's record of \$1.1 billion.

For the first time in recent years, Alaska's 1988 record crop of 63,733 pounds of brook trout were harvested at an estimated value of \$7.5 million. They produced an additional harvest of about 300,000 pounds by the end of the season. The 1988 record harvest opened January 15 and closed February 18, the second longest season on record. Appointments to 1,306 million pounds were taken, valued at \$3 million. Approximately 2.3 million pounds of chinook were landed during the two seasons, 1987/88 season with an estimated value of about \$1.68 million.

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Following are the seasons, 1988-89 projected harvests, and the 1987/88 harvests for the various crab species and areas in the Westward Region and Western Alaska:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>1988-89 PROJECTION</u> (millions of pounds)	<u>1987-88 HARVEST</u>
Kodiak	Red	Closed	0	0
	Brown	Permit	0.07	-
AK Peninsula	Red	Closed	0	0
Dutch Harbor	Red	Closed	0	0
	Brown	Sept. 1	1.0	1.4
Adak	Red	Nov. 1-Feb. 15	1.0	1.2
	Brown	Nov. 1-Aug. 15	-	7.2
Bristol Bay	Red	Sept. 25	7.5	12.3
Bering Sea				
Pribilof	Blue	Closed	0	0.7
St. Matthew	Blue	Sept. 1	1.1	1.1
St. Matthew	Brown	Permit	-	1.1
Norton Sound	Red	Aug. 1	0.2	0.33

B-3 NMFS Management Report

By September 17, the U.S. industry had harvested and processed 505,151 mt of groundfish off Alaska. The catch in the Gulf of Alaska was 101,806 mt including 20,968 mt pollock, 25,872 mt Pacific cod, 28,046 mt sablefish, 15,152 mt rockfish, and lesser amounts of other species. The catch in the Bering Sea and Aleutians was 403,345 mt including 301,394 mt pollock, 4,984 mt yellowfin sole, 31,586 mt other flatfishes, 54,220 mt Pacific cod, 6,272 mt sablefish, and lesser amounts of other species. These figures do not include joint venture harvests by U.S. trawlers delivering to foreign processing vessels in over-the-side sales off Alaska.

The Alaska Region is continuing to work with the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game on the redesign of groundfish fish tickets to make the species and species group outline on the ticket more closely reflect the specifications notice.

Dale Evans reported that as a result of the August industry survey they have reapportioned 70,000 mt from DAP and 12,000 mt from reserves in the Bering Sea to JVP for the pollock fishery. There were also some amounts of Pacific cod, yellowfin sole and other flatfish reapportioned to JVP.

Craig Hammond submitted a summary of foreign fishing vessel transshipment data for the second quarter of 1988.

Ted Evans, Alaska Factory Trawlers, brought up the recent closure of the domestic Atka mackerel because JV overran their quota by almost 2,000 mt and

Following are the names, 1988-89 projected harvests, and the 1987-88 harvests for the various crab species and areas in the Western Region and Western Alaska:

AREA	SPECIES	STATUS	1988-89 PROJECTION (Millions of pounds)	1987-88 HARVEST (Millions of pounds)
K. L. 1A	Red	Closed	0	0
	Brown	Partial	0.02	-
A. 20	Red	Closed	0	0
	Brown	Closed	0	0
North Harbor	Red	Closed	0	0
	Brown	Open	1.0	1.4
A. 1A	Red	Nov. 1-Feb. 15	1.0	1.1
	Brown	Nov. 1-Aug. 15	-	1.2
District 10	Red	Open	1.0	1.2
	Brown	Open	0	0.7
District 11	Red	Open	1.1	1.1
	Brown	Partial	0.2	1.1
District 12	Red	Open	0.2	0.2
	Brown	Open	0	0.7

5-3 WEST Management Report

by September 15, the U.S. industry had harvested and processed 205,151 mt of groundfish off Alaska. The catch in the Gulf of Alaska was 141,800 mt including 20,408 mt pollock, 25,877 mt Pacific cod, 20,000 mt sablefish, 10,112 mt rockfish, and lesser amounts of other species. The catch in the Bering Sea and Aleutians was 60,292 mt including 301,294 mt pollock, 4,904 mt yellowtail sole, 31,800 mt other flatfishes, 5,230 mt Pacific cod, 9,271 mt rockfish, and less than amount of other species. These figures do not include fish harvested by U.S. trawlers delivering to foreign processors, vessels in overboard-side sale off Alaska.

The Alaska Region is continuing to work with the 21 other ports on fish and sea on the management of groundfish fish stocks to meet the quotas and species group allocations on the tickets were clearly filled the specifications notice.

Paul Evans reported that as a result of the recent industry survey they have reported 20,000 mt from BVI and 17,000 mt from reserves in the Bering Sea to BVI for the pollock fishery. There were also some amounts of Pacific cod, yellowtail sole and other flatfish responded to BVI.

Chris Hammond submitted a summary of foreign fishing vessel catchment for the second quarter of 1988.

For every Alaska factory trawler, brought up the recent closure of the domestic fish market because of over their quota almost 2,000 mt and



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the 21,000 mt TAC was reached. In this case, TAC equals the ABC. He asked that the Council recommend an additional 1,000 mt be allocated to DAP.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Larry Cotter asked if transshipment data show how many of the vessels which come into the U.S. EEZ to pick up or offload product have also picked up product in the Donut Hole. Craig Hammond said the information they receive does not show whether the product aboard the vessel is from the Donut Hole or not. Mr. Cotter asked whether the reports can require that type of information be reported. Craig Hammond responded that he doesn't know of any reason why they could not, but that he would look into it and if appropriate they would do it.

On the Atka mackerel issue, Dale Evans said that the TAC has been exceeded by about 600 mt, and that ABC can be exceeded as long as there is no evidence of overfishing. Council members were reluctant to set a precedent for future decisions by recommending that the Atka mackerel ABC be exceeded. Jim Brooks pointed out that development of the ABC includes some conservative factors and can be expressed as a range at any given confidence level. The scientists may tell them that there is no, or minimal, risk of taking another 1,000 mt of Atka mackerel. He would talk to the Center and if there was assurance there would be no risk to the stock he would be willing to consider the request.

Larry Cotter moved to take no action - to not exceed the ABC for Atka Mackerel. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried with Jim Brooks and Henry Mitchell objecting.

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

Between June 1 and September 15, seven cutters spent 161 days on Alaska patrol and four patrol boats and five buoy tenders spent 92 days conducting fisheries enforcement operations off Alaska. A total of 683 hours were spent on fisheries enforcement patrols by Coast Guard aircraft and helicopters during the same period. There were 425 foreign fishing/support vessel sightings and 3,296 domestic fishing vessel sightings; 11 foreign fishing vessels and 169 domestic fishing vessels were boarded and inspected for compliance with Magnuson Act, International Pacific Halibut Commission, and International North Pacific Fishery Commission regulations. Three warnings were issued for logbook and reporting infractions, five notices of violation were issued for prohibited species infractions, one for possession of marine mammals, and two for unsafe boarding ladders. All of the incidents involved domestic vessels. The Coast Guard also seized 6,500 pounds of sablefish harvested illegally by the U.S. longliner NANCY K, and issued four reports of violation to the U.S. catcher/processor ALASKA I for an unsafe boarding ladder, possession of prohibited species, improperly reporting catch, and impeding inspection of the catch.

B-5 Joint Venture Operations

The joint venture report was submitted in written form with no oral presentation before the Council.

The \$1,000 mt was reached. In this case, TAC would be the ABC. He stated that the Council recommended an additional \$1,000 mt be allocated to TAC.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Many Council members asked for clarification data show how many of the vessels which come from the ABC are to pick up or offload products from the ABC. Mr. Governor stated that the information they receive from the ABC is from the ABC. Mr. Governor stated that the ABC does not show whether the product should be vessel or from the ABC. Mr. Governor stated whether the reports are showing that type of information be reported. Council members responded that the ABC's law of any reason why they could not, but that he would look into it and let the ABC know.

On the ABC market issue, Mr. Governor stated that the ABC has been exceeded by about 500 mt, and that ABC can be exceeded as long as there is no evidence of overfishing. Council members were concerned to see a precedent for future decisions by recommending that the ABC market ABC be exceeded. Mr. Governor pointed out that development of the ABC includes some conservative factors and can be expressed as a range of risk of catching another 500 mt of fish. He stated that there is no, or minimal, risk of catching another 500 mt of fish. He would talk to the Council and if there was assurance there would be no risk to the ABC he would be willing to consider the request.

Mr. Governor moved to take no action - to not exceed the ABC for Alaska. The motion was seconded by Mr. [Name] and carried with the Alaska Council dividedly opposing.

4-4 Information and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard

On October 15, 1950, seven coast guard cutters spent 181 days on Alaska waters and four patrol boats and five buoy tenders spent 23 days conducting fisheries surveillance operations in Alaska. A total of 107 days were spent in fisheries surveillance operations by coast guard aircraft and helicopter during the same period. There were 422 foreign fishing/supplies vessels sighted and 189 domestic fishing vessels sighted; 11 foreign fishing vessels and 189 domestic fishing vessels were boarded and inspected for compliance with regulations. The International Pacific Fisheries Commission, and International North Pacific Fisheries Commission regulations. Three warnings were issued for foreign and reporting infractions, five notices of violation were issued for prohibited species infractions, one for possession of marine mammals, and two for vessel boarding infractions. All of the infractions involved domestic vessels. The coast guard also seized 8,500 pounds of salmon harvested illegally in the U.S. and issued four reports of violation to the U.S. coast guard. The Alaska coast guard also issued four reports of violation to the U.S. coast guard. The Alaska coast guard also issued four reports of violation to the U.S. coast guard.

4-5 Land Vessel Operations

The Alaska coast guard report was submitted in written form with no oral presentation before the Council.

Larry Cotter asked that Council staff prepare an outline, for use by the Permit Review Committee and Council during their December review of joint venture requests, suggesting how to accomplish "favorable attention" to joint ventures making use of shoreside services.

B-6 1988 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Survey Results

Bob Otto, NMFS-Kodiak, presented an overview of the 1988 status of stocks report for crab in the eastern Bering Sea. The full report was included in the meeting notebooks.

C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Legislative Update

Ron Miller reviewed current legislative matters of interest to the Council.

C-2 Halibut Management

Denby Lloyd reported that the Council received 21 halibut management proposals. The Halibut Management Team and the Halibut Regulatory Amendment Advisory Group reviewed the proposals prior to the Council meeting.

Report of the Halibut Management Team

The Team categorized the proposals into five main groups: (1) Limited access proposals; (2) gear limitation; (3) landing restrictions; (4) a proposal for a series of short openings in Area 4B (Aleutian Islands); and (5) a proposal advocating a trip limit of 10,000 pounds be enforced in Area 4C (Pribilof Islands) until 80% of that area's catch limit is taken. The Team determined that only proposals for short early openings in Area 4B and trip limits in 4C are amenable to analysis during the current amendment cycle. Proposals for limited access were recognized as important, but should be analyzed and reviewed over a longer period of time. Proposals for gear limitation should be deferred to the IPHC and the proposal on halibut quality (landing restrictions) should be deferred to another agency with authority over seafood quality.

Report of the Halibut Regulatory Amendment Advisory Group

The Halibut RAAG concurred with the Management Team's recommendations with one exception. They recommended the proposal for short season openings in Area 4B should be referred to the IPHC without connotation of allocative intent or effect.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP concurred with the Management Team's recommendations, including analyzing the proposal for Area 4B and sending it out for public review. They also strongly urged the Council to do everything possible to initiate some measures that would promote better halibut quality.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

Larry Carter asked that the Council staff prepare an outline, for use by the Review Committee and Council during their December review of joint venture proposals suggested by the "favorable" scenario, to justify various aspects of proposed services.

8-6 1978 Meeting (See Attached) - Draft Survey Results

Bob Gray, RAB's Director, presented an overview of the 1978 status of studies for each of the scenarios being considered. The full report was included in the meeting notes.

0-1 Meeting (See Attached)

Bob Miller reviewed various regulatory matters of interest to the Council.

0-1 Meeting (See Attached)

Darryl Lloyd reported that the Council received 31 public survey comments. The Public Management Team and the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) reviewed the proposals prior to the Council meeting.

Report of the Public Management Team

The Team categorized the proposals into five main groups: (1) limited access proposals; (2) gear limitations; (3) landing restrictions; (4) a proposal for a new area of operation in Area 4B (Albatross Islands); and (5) a proposal to increase a trap limit of 10,000 pounds to 15,000 pounds (Pribilof Islands) with a trap's catch limit to remain. The Team determined that only proposals for gear only openings in Area 4B and trap limits in 4A were suitable for analysis during the current management cycle. Proposals for limited access were recognized as important, but should be reviewed and analyzed over a longer period of time. Proposals for gear limitations should be deferred to the 1980 and the proposal on public fishing (opening to citizens) should be deferred to another agency when authority was received.

Report of the Public Advisory Committee and Public Management Team

The Public Management Team's recommendations with the exception of one exception. They recommended the proposal for short season openings in Area 4B should be referred to the RAB which has jurisdiction of allocation of management of short season openings.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Panel concurred with the Management Team's recommendations, including analyzing the proposal for Area 4B and sending it out for public review. They also strongly urged the Council to do everything possible to insure that resources that would promote better habitat quality.

Public testimony of this agenda item is found in Appendix A to these minutes.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Alverson moved to approve the recommendations of the Halibut RAAG with regard to limited access proposals:

Preliminary, or exploratory, consideration be given to limited access in the halibut fishery, similar to exercises that the Council and other interest groups performed for sablefish. These would include questionnaires to fishermen and processors on appropriate limited access systems and potential workshops to assess industry interest. If sufficient interest is expressed, then halibut limited access could be put on an extended amendment cycle.

The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell. It was suggested that any questionnaire on this subject should include a question asking whether or not the respondent wanted limited access.

The motion carried with Oscar Dyson and Bob Mace objecting. Both felt that this issue will be dealt with as a result of the Future of Groundfish Committee's work and that the issue should be delayed until January when the new FOG committee is appointed.

John Winther moved to adopt the recommendations of the Halibut RAAG with respect to gear limitation proposals. the motion was seconded by Oscar Dyson and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Henry Mitchell moved that the Council endorse the Halibut RAAG recommendation with respect to the landing restriction proposals:

That the Council express concern for the quality of halibut landed and direct staff to correspond with appropriate agencies of the State of Alaska to encourage their pursuit of landing laws or regulations to require that fishermen take appropriate care (i.e., dress and ice) of halibut prior to delivery to processors.

The motion was seconded by John Winther and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

With respect to the Area 4B proposal, Henry Mitchell moved that the Council endorse the AP's recommendation to analyze the proposal submitted by Atka Fishermen's Association and send it out for public review. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried, 7 to 4, with Alverson, Blum, Mace and Peterson voting against.

With respect to the Area 4C proposal, Henry Mitchell moved that the Council endorse the AP's recommendation to analyze the proposal submitted by the Central Being Sea Fishermen's Association and send it out for public review. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried, 6 to 5, with Alverson, Blum, Mace, Peterson and Winther voting against.

Council discussion on these last two items centered around the issue of how to determine what is allocative and what isn't. Also, some Council members felt that, particularly in the case of the Area 4C, last year's Council action already accomplished the goal of giving local residents an opportunity to

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

As discussed above, the Commission moved to approve the recommendations of the Alaska AGA with regard to limited access permits.

Following the Commission's action, consideration should be given to limited access in other areas. It is suggested that the Commission should consider other areas in addition to those mentioned above. These would include areas for oil and gas, mineral resources, and other areas. It is suggested that the Commission should consider these areas in addition to those mentioned above.

The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell. It was suggested that the Commission should consider the question of limited access in other areas.

The motion carried with 6 votes in favor and 2 votes against. Both sides felt that this issue will be dealt with as a result of the future of the Alaska Commission's work and that the issue should be delayed until further when the new AGA Commission is appointed.

With respect to the Alaska AGA, the Commission moved to approve the recommendations of the Alaska AGA with regard to limited access permits. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dixon and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Henry Mitchell moved that the Commission approve the Alaska AGA recommendations with respect to limited access permits. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dixon and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

That the Commission express concern for the quality of wildlife lands and other areas in Alaska is encouraged by the Alaska AGA. It is suggested that the Commission should consider the issue of limited access in other areas.

The motion was seconded by John Winkler and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

With respect to the Alaska AGA, the Commission moved to approve the recommendations of the Alaska AGA with regard to limited access permits. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dixon and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

With respect to the Alaska AGA, the Commission moved to approve the recommendations of the Alaska AGA with regard to limited access permits. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dixon and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Commission members on these issues have two items centered around the issue of limited access to Alaska. Also, some Commission members feel that, particularly in the case of the Alaska AGA, last year's Commission should have considered the issue of limited access in other areas.

develop their industry so they would not be at a disadvantage when competing against the larger vessels from outside the area.

Joe Blum suggested that the Council should explore the possibility of addressing halibut management proposals on a two-year cycle, rather than every year. Council staff was asked to prepare a response on the subject for the December meeting.

#### C-3 Sablefish Management

The Council was scheduled to review public comments on the EA/RIR for sablefish management options and choose a preferred alternative for Secretarial review.

#### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

Upon review of the EA/RIR the SSC felt that the document did not adequately describe the seven identified problems and recommended that it should be improved before forwarding it to the Secretary for implementation. They recommended that after the Council's final selection of a preferred alternative the document be carefully reviewed and improved to ensure that the selected management program is fully described. The SSC noted that of all the alternatives considered, the IFQ management system is the one that best addresses all of the identified problems.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP did not have a majority in favor of any one particular system. After considerable discussion, each member was asked to state their first, second and third choice of alternatives. No consensus was reached, however it was noted that seven of the 18 members present considered open access their first and only choice, and nine members chose one of the other options as their first choice. IQs and license systems were more popular than the multi-species longline system.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Because of the lengthy agenda, Council members felt that there was not enough time to address this subject in the depth required. A delay will also provide for more public comment from those who will be affected by any decision the Council may make.

Bob Alverson moved to delay the sablefish agenda item until the December Council meeting, when it should be placed first on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

#### C-4 Future of Groundfish Management

Council members felt that because of the heavy workload between now and December that a discussion of the future FOG committee and its work should be postponed until January when it can be addressed in more detail. Chairman Peterson will contact Council members after the meeting to discuss the formation of a new FOG committee.

leveling their industry to that which would not be a disadvantage when comparing against the larger vessels in the area.

Bob Linton suggested that the Council should explore the possibility of identifying a management program on a two-year cycle. Linton stated every year a Council staff was asked to prepare a response on the subject for the Council meeting.

C-3 Update on Management

The Council was scheduled to review and choose a preferred alternative for the Council management program and choose a preferred alternative for a general review.

Report of the Board and the Council

Upon review of the Board and the Council did not unanimously describe the early identified people and recommended that the Board be approved before forwarding it to the Council for implementation. They recommended that after the Council's final selection of a preferred alternative the document be carefully reviewed and approved to ensure that the selected management program is fully described. The SSC noted that of the alternatives considered, the management program is the one that best addresses all of the identified problems.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Panel did not have a majority in favor of any one particular system. After considerable discussion, each member was asked to state their first, second and third choice of alternatives. A consensus was reached, however, it was noted that seven of the 13 members preferred their second choice over their first and only choice, and nine members chose one of the other options as their first choice. The and license systems were more popular than the unit-fee system for line systems.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Because of the lengthy agenda, Council members felt that there was not enough time to discuss this subject in the depth required. A delay will also provide for more public comment from those who will be affected by any decision the Council may take.

Bob Linton moved to delay the schedule agenda item until the Board meeting, when it should be placed later on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Bob Linton and there being no objection, it was so ordered.

C-4 Update on Council Management

Council members felt that because of the heavy workload between now and December that a discussion of the future FOI committee and the work should be postponed until January when it can be addressed in more detail. Chairman Peterson will contact Council members after the meeting to discuss the formation of a new FOI committee.



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Public Testimony

Mark Springer, City of Hooper Bay. Because of the importance of fisheries to their community they would like representation on any revised Future of Groundfish Management Committee.

Ted Evans, AFTA. Mr. Evans submitted written testimony from Wally Pereyra, ProFish International. Mr. Pereyra urged continuation of the Future of Groundfish Management Committee. As a member of the committee he felt that good progress has been made in identifying problems and mapping out alternatives but that much more work needs to be done.

C-5 Domestic Observer Program

Ron Dearborn, Alaska Sea Grant College Program provided Council members with a brief summary of his written report on the pilot domestic observer program to date. Since the report to the Council in June, a total of 47 days has been spent on rockfish vessels in the Gulf of Alaska. One male and two female observers were trained for the fishery. Although initial contacts with factory trawl vessels looked promising, only two volunteered to participate, and both required a male observer. However, the schedules of the two vessels did allow the one male observer to cover both.

Total observer employment since September 1987 has been 21.5 man-months, about 59% of the total 36 man-months anticipated by the pilot program. Total costs to date are \$124,868, or 63% of the contract funds. The program will focus on the Pacific cod longline fishery in the Gulf of Alaska this fall, but ADF&G will take the lead in covering this fishery. The Council's remaining 13 man-months in the program will be reserved for Bering Sea fisheries in the spring.

In their report on Gulf of Alaska pollock, the SSC recommended that the remaining funds in the Council's domestic observer program be used to collect information from both the inside and outside Shelikof pollock fisheries.

C-6 Central Bering Sea Fisheries: "Donut Hole"

Dr. Marasco reported on the Scientific Symposium held in Sitka in July. Representatives from the U.S., U.S.S.R., Japan, South Korea, Poland, China, and Canada participated. A report of the results of the meeting should be published soon.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Henry Mitchell moved to endorse the letter to Ambassador Wolfe concerning management of the resources in the international waters of the Bering Sea and for the Council to prepare and send a similar one. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Don Collinsworth suggested the Council correspond with the State Department at the highest level as well as with Ambassador Wolfe to encourage some progress on this issue. The State of Alaska believes it is in the best interest of U.S. fishermen to call for a cessation of all fishing in the international waters of the Bering Sea.

Public Testimony

Bank of America, City of Hooper Bay, because of the importance of fisheries to their economy. They would like to see a study on the future of fisheries in the region.

Mr. [Name], Alaska Fish and Game Commission, writes regarding the future of fisheries in Alaska. He is a member of the Council of Alaska and has been active in the development of fisheries. He has been successful in obtaining funding for various projects and has been instrumental in the development of the fisheries industry in Alaska.

C-5 Economic Development Program

Don Dornburg, Alaska Fish and Game Commission, provides information regarding the economic development program in Alaska. The program is designed to provide funding for various projects in the fisheries industry. The program has been successful in providing funding for various projects and has been instrumental in the development of the fisheries industry in Alaska.

Local observer employment since September 1987 has been 11.5 man-months, about 50% of the total 20 man-months anticipated by the program. Total costs to date are \$124,888, or 63% of the contract funds. The program will fund the facility and ongoing fishery in the Gulf of Alaska until 1993. The program will make the lead in covering this fishery. The Council is remaining in touch with the program and will be involved in the spring.

In their report on Gulf of Alaska policy, the SSC recommended that the remaining funds in the Council's domestic general program be used to collect information from both the inside and outside Shellfisheries.

C-6 Council Action on Fisheries: "Herring" Report

Mr. [Name] reported on the Council's Symposium held in Alaska in 1987. Representatives from the U.S., U.S.S.R., Japan, South Korea, Poland, Cuba, and Canada participated. A report of the results of the meeting could be published soon.

Public testimony on this report is found in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Don Dornburg reported on the Council's Symposium held in Alaska in 1987. Representatives from the U.S., U.S.S.R., Japan, South Korea, Poland, Cuba, and Canada participated. A report of the results of the meeting could be published soon.

Don Dornburg suggested the Council correspond with the State Department on this issue. The State of Alaska believes it is in the best interest of the State to support and fund a similar one. The report was reviewed by the Council and, after being approved, it was endorsed.

The Council discussed the ten actions suggested in the industry proposal submitted by Ted Evans and agreed to incorporate their intent into the Council's letter to Ambassador Wolfe and possibly send letters to other appropriate agencies, i.e., Depts. of Justice, Transportation, etc. They also discussed possible legislation but determined that it is probably too late for this particular legislative session. It was also suggested that the Council should form a "donut" committee to track these issues.

#### C-7 Habitat Policy

The Council sent out a draft Habitat Policy for public review following the June meeting. The two comments received were provided to Council members.

#### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC endorsed development and acceptance of a habitat policy by the Council. The proposed habitat policy, though not entirely appropriate for marine and coastal habitats adjacent to Alaska, provides a useful framework from which a Council policy can be crafted. The SSC suggested several editorial changes. See complete text in SSC minutes, Appendix II to these minutes.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Brooks moved to adopt the habitat policy with the SSC's editorial comments incorporated in the final document. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Council discussed the formation of a Habitat Committee but decided that the Council would act as a Committee of the Whole and assign ad hoc committees for specific habitat issues as they arise.

#### C-8 Foreign Allocations

The Japanese North Pacific Longline Association requested the Council consider allocating Pacific cod to TALFF for their association based on their cooperation in Western Alaska projects and fishery research.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Brooks said that NMFS has determined that there is approximately 12,000 mt surplus cod in the Gulf of Alaska.

Several Council members were concerned about the market implications of allocating excess cod to foreign directed fishing. Oscar Dyson said although there is an excess at this time, there are reasons for that - one being the bycatch of halibut which closed down the joint venture fishery. Also, because of the poor status of pollock in the Gulf, domestic fishing operations will probably be moving into the cod fishery. Bob Alverson said that he has identified at least 20 freezer longliners that will be in operation this fall and into next year and they are capable of harvesting the excess cod. Larry

The Council discussed the ten additional suggested in the January proposal submitted by Ted King and agreed to incorporate their comments into the Council's letter to Ambassador Tamm and possibly send letters to other appropriate agencies, i.e., Dept. of Health, Transportation, etc. They also discussed possible legislative legislation. It was also suggested that the Council should have a "forum" committee to track these issues.

0-7 Habitat Policy

The Council sent out a draft Habitat Policy for public review following the same pattern. The two comments received were provided to Council members.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC endorsed development and acceptance of a habitat policy by the Council. The proposed habitat policy, though not entirely appropriate for marine and coastal habitats adjacent to Alaska, provides a useful framework from which a Council policy can be drafted. The SSC suggested several additional changes. See complete text in SSC minutes, Appendix A to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The SSC moved to adopt the habitat policy with the SSC's additional comments incorporated in the final document. The motion was seconded by [Name] and carried, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Council discussed the formation of a Habitat Committee and decided that the Council would act as a Committee of the Whole and action of non-committees for public habitat issues as they arise.

0-8 Foreign Allocations

The Japanese North Pacific Fishing Association requested the Council consider allocating credits to JAFW for their association based on their cooperation in Western Alaska projects and fishery research.

Public testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix C to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Brooks said that W-8 has determined that there is approximately 12,000 ac surface foot in the Gulf of Alaska.

Several Council members were concerned about the marine implications of allocating surface foot to foreign directed fishing. It was pointed out that there is an excess at this time, there are reasons for that - one being the patch of habitat which close down the joint venture fishery. Also, because of the poor status of pollock in the Gulf, domestic fishing operations will probably be moving into the cod fishery. Bob Alexander said that he has estimated as much as 20 thousand longshore fish will be in operation this fall and that we need plan and they are capable of harvesting the excess cod. James

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Cotter pointed out that denying the 12,000 mt cod to the Japanese longliners is not the way to punish the Japanese for illegal fishing activities since they are not the segment of the fleet that has participated in illegal fishing activities in the U.S. EEZ. NPL has demonstrated good support of the Western Alaska communities over the year and should not be punished.

Don Collinsworth moved that the Council recommend to NMFS that any cod in the Western Gulf of Alaska that is determined to be surplus to DAP and JVP, be transferred to TALFF and released to the Japanese longliners. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried, 6 to 5, with Alverson, Blum, Dyson, Peterson and Winther voting against.

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Salmon FMP

The draft FMP is not yet available for Council review.

D-2 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab FMP

Report of the Crab Management Committee

The Committee met to resolve concerns expressed by the State of Alaska over some portions of the draft plan. Most of those concerns were addressed and can be resolved through minor editorial changes. However, NOAA-GC advised that some of the changes will constitute a significant change from the FMP that was sent out to public review; therefore, any revisions should be sent out for another public review period. The Crab Management Committee made the following recommendations:

1. That the editorial and clarification changes identified by the Committee and passed to the plan team be incorporated into the final draft FMP,
2. that the recommended changes to sex restrictions and bycatch outlined by the State be incorporated, and that observers, minimum size limits, and inseason adjustments remain in their current categories,
3. that for purposes of public review, a final draft FMP and EA/RIR be prepared that contains as alternatives, the original management category for pot limits, registration areas, and closed waters (the two sections to be combined into Category 1), and the recommended categories of the State. The public review draft would contain management measures as outlined in Table 3,
4. that the revised FMP package be sent out for public review this fall with final Council action scheduled for January. This schedule would allow for Secretarial review and plan implementation prior to the fall 1989 king crab season,



5. that the Council request NOAA-GC, in cooperation with the Crab Interim Action Committee, conduct an analysis of current state crab regulations and statutes for determination of consistency with the FMP, MFCMA, and federal law,
6. and, if necessary, that the Committee offers to meet with the State Board of Fisheries in December to review the final draft.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Henry Mitchell moved to accept the recommendations of the Crab Management Committee. The motion was seconded by Larry Cotter and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

#### D-3 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

##### (a) Final approval of Amendment 17a (sablefish seasons).

In June the Council reviewed Amendment 17 to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP which included several alternatives for changes in the longline sablefish season. Based on public comments and recommendations of the Advisory Panel in June, the Council rejected those alternatives and directed the plan team to analyze a new split season alternative as Amendment 17a to the FMP.

Amendment 17a presents two alternatives:

1. Maintain a single season beginning April 1;
2. Implement a split season, with openings on April 1 and September 1, with 25%, 50%, and 75% of the directed longline sablefish quota being apportioned to the fall season.

The plan team prepared a new amendment package, including an EA/RIR/IRFA which was available for public review between August 1 and September 5. Council members were provided with comments received.

#### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the plan team's analyses of the alternatives and prepared a summary of benefits for each alternative. They concluded that the analyses favored an apportionment of 25/75 between spring/fall seasons. They also suggested the Council consider better coordination with IPHC so that the sablefish season can occur simultaneously with halibut openings to avoid bycatch altogether in those periods.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

Based on public testimony and a discussion of several aspects of this amendment, the AP recommended the Council maintain the status quo. Because of lack of data on this issue, the AP encouraged the Council to either conduct a new survey or adapt the current longline survey to provide time-sensitive data on halibut bycatch in the sablefish fishery and on sablefish quality and yield.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

that the Council request NOAA-CC, in cooperation with the Crab  
Industry Advisory Committee, conduct an analysis of current state  
and regulations and statutes for determination of consistency  
with the FIC, IFQMA, and Federal law.

and, if necessary, that the Committee advise to meet with the  
State Board of Fisheries in December to review the final draft.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Henry Mitchell noted to accept the recommendations of the Crab Management  
Committee. The motion was seconded by Larry Gorman and there being no  
objection, it was so ordered.

Re: Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

(a) Final approval of Amendment IV (addition season).

In June the Council revised Amendment IV to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP  
which included several alternatives for changes in the fishing calendar  
season. Based on public comments and recommendations of the Advisory Panel  
then, the Council rejected those alternatives and directed the plan team to  
analyze a new split season alternative as Amendment V to the FMP.

Amendment V's purpose and alternatives:

1. Maintain a single season beginning April 1;
2. Implement a split season, with openings on April 1 and September 1,  
with 25% and 75% of the directed fishing calendar days  
being apportioned to the fall season.

The plan team prepared a new Amendment package, including an EIS/IRVA which  
was available for public review between August 1 and September 1. Council  
members were provided with comments received.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the plan team's analysis of the alternatives and prepared a  
summary of benefits for each alternative. They concluded that the analysis  
showed an apportionment of 75% between spring/fall seasons. They also  
suggested the Council consider better coordination with IFQ so that the  
split season can occur simultaneously with certain openings to avoid  
bycatch together in those periods.

Report of the Advisory Panel

Based on public testimony and a discussion of several aspects of this  
amendment, the AP recommended the Council reject the amendment. Because of  
lack of data on this issue, the AP encouraged the Council to either conduct a  
new survey or to be the current longline survey to provide the alternative data  
on public testimony in the scientific advisory and an advisory panel and  
board.

Public testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.



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COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members felt reluctant to support a split season approach without general industry support. However, they did express the need for collecting data on the fishery.

John Winther moved to maintain the status quo with the opening date of April 1. The motion was seconded by Bob Alverson and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

(b/c) Resource Assessment Document/Initial Apportionments for 1989

The plan team summarized the status of Gulf of Alaska groundfish stocks as follows: Pacific cod, flounders, sablefish, and slope rockfish remain in good condition. The biomass of pollock and demersal shelf rockfish appear to be at low levels. The sum of the preliminary 1989 ABCs is 926,775 mt and the sum of the TACs (260,936 mt for 1988) is equal to the OY for the entire groundfish complex.

The plan team's recommended ABCs for 1989 are:

Pollock	W/C	0
	E	3,375
Pacific cod	W	18,810
	C	73,260
	E	6,930
Flounders	W	152,800
	C	531,400
	E	83,500
Sablefish		30,000-40,000
Slope rockfish	W	3,400
	C	6,100
	E	4,550
Pelagic shelf rockfish	W	550
	C	2,350
	E	400
Demersal shelf rockfish (SE Outside District)		600
Thornyhead		3,750 (Gulfwide)
Other species		N/A

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the RAD and made several suggestions to the plan team regarding clarity of presentation and additional analyses which should be performed and incorporated into the final document. These changes could result in different values for ABC at the December Council meeting. Following are the SSC recommendations for 1989 ABCs. More detailed suggestions are found in the SSC Minutes, Appendix II to these minutes.

		<u>ABC</u>	<u>TAC</u>
Pollock	Western	0	50,000*
	Central		
	1/15-4/15	---	
	Eastern	3,375	

\*See SSC minutes for clarification.

Pacific cod	Western	18,810
	Central	73,260
	Eastern	6,930
Flounders	Western	69,000
	Central	239,000
	Eastern	37,000
Sablefish	Western	5,075
	Central	15,500
	Eastern	14,425
Slope rockfish	Western	6,800
	Central	12,200
	Eastern	9,200
Pelagic shelf	Western	1,100
	Central	4,700
	Eastern	800
Demersal shelf		---
Thornyhead		
rockfish		3,750
Other Species		---

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that the plan team's recommendations of ABC be sent out for public review. The AP declined to recommend preliminary TACs since the ABCs are subject to change between now and the December meeting.

Public Testimony for this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Alverson asked that the plan team develop some other alternative fishing strategies for black cod, subject to time and workload constraints.

Jim Brooks asked for Council discussion on whether or not to release approximately 30,000 mt of pollock to JVP in the Gulf since it has become apparent that DAP will not utilize it. Because of the recent survey information he questioned whether releasing it this late in the year might

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the SAC and made several suggestions to the plan team regarding clarity of presentation and additional analyses which should be performed and incorporated into the final document. These changes could be made in time for SAC at the December Council meeting. Following are the SSC recommendations for 1959 AAGs. More detailed suggestions are found in the SAC Minutes, Appendix II to the SAC Minutes.

Topic	ABG	ABG
Western	0	3,375
Central		
Eastern		
ABG	20,000	

1959-1960 minutes for identification.

Topic	ABG	ABG
Western	18,810	
Central	13,280	
Eastern	6,325	
Western	69,000	
Central	232,000	
Eastern	37,000	
Western	5,075	
Central	18,500	
Eastern	14,425	
Western	6,800	
Central	12,100	
Eastern	2,200	
Western	1,100	
Central	4,700	
Eastern	800	
General Staff		
Threats		
Other Studies		
	2,300	

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that the plan team's recommendations of 1959 be sent out for public review. The AP declined to recommend preliminary TAGs since the AAGs are subject to change between now and the December meeting.

Table 2 summary for this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Alvarado asked that the plan team develop some other alternative planning alternatives for black oil, subject to the same workload constraints.

The Council called for Council discussion on whether or not to table approximately \$0,000 as a policy in the oil price in the survey. Because of the survey information he requested whether releasing it this year in the year which

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have an impact on the 1989 domestic pollock fishery. During Council discussion it was suggested that perhaps it would not be wise to release it at this time because of the uncertainties surrounding the biomass estimates for next year. Mr. Brooks said that based on Council discussion it would be his intention to reduce the TAC for pollock in the Gulf by the 30,000 mt.

Pollock

Henry Mitchell moved to set the ABC for Gulf of Alaska pollock in a range of 0 - 80,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dyson. It was clarified that the 80,000 mt would be split, 77,000 mt for the Western and Central Gulf and 3,000 mt for the Eastern. The motion subsequently failed, 7 to 4, with Brooks, Dyson, Mitchell and Winther voting in favor.

Mr. Mitchell said that this range would get the optimum response and generate public comment and may generate some ideas and information for consideration by the Council in December.

Bob Alverson pointed out that both the plan team and SSC have recommended an ABC of zero and unless there is information to suggest a greater amount, he would go along with the scientists' recommendations. Other Council members were also concerned about sending out a number that is not realistic.

Craig O'Connor said that the Council should present a figure to the public that represents the best available scientific information. Anything beyond that would be a misdirection to the public as to what the evidence is at this point.

Don Collinsworth moved to set the ABC for pollock in the Western and Central Gulf at a range of 0-50,000 and the Eastern Gulf at 3,375 mt. Mr. Collinsworth also suggested that the range be footnoted in the public review document explaining the reason for the range and the fact that there will be a resetting of the ABC to a specific number at the December Council meeting. Bob Mace seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Bob Mace moved to adopt the ABCs for the remaining Gulf of Alaska species as a range using the numbers suggested by the both the plan team and SSC as the lower and upper numbers in the range. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

TACs

Bob Alverson moved to send out for public review the TACs as adopted for 1988 with the exception of pollock, which would be a range of 0-50,000 mt for the Western and Central Gulf and 3,375 mt for the Eastern Gulf. The motion was seconded by Larry Cotter and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

DAP/JVP

Larry Cotter moved to allocate DAP for each species at 100% of TAC. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

have an impact on the 1968 forecast for food safety. During Council discussion it was suggested that perhaps it would be wise to release it as this year because of the uncertainty surrounding the winter estimates for next year. Mr. Hancock said that based on Council discussion it would be his intention to reduce the TAC for pollock in the fall by the 20,000 mt.

Pollock

Henry Mitchell moved to set the AIC for fall of Alaska pollock in a range of 0 - 80,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Robert Young. It was clarified that the 80,000 mt would be split 75,000 mt for the Western and Central Gulf and 5,000 mt for the Eastern. The motion and second were subsequently failed, 7 to 4, with Robert Young, Mitchell and Winters voting in favor.

Mr. Mitchell said that this range would get the optimum response and generate public comment and may generate some ideas and information for consideration by the Council in December.

Mr. Alverson pointed out that both the plan team and SAC have recommended an AIC of zero and unless there is information to suggest a greater amount, he would go along with the scientific recommendation. Other Council members were also concerned about sending out a message that there is no resistance.

Gay O'Donnor said that the Council should present a response to the public that would be a satisfactory scientific information. A response beyond that would be a satisfaction to the public as to what the evidence is on this point.

Don Collinworth moved to set the AIC for pollock in the Western and Central Gulf in a range of 0-30,000 mt and to set the AIC for the Eastern Gulf at 0-20,000 mt. Collinworth also suggested that the range be narrower in the public review document explaining the reason for the range and the fact that there are all the reasons of the AIC to a specific number at the December Council meeting. The motion seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Bob Isaac moved to accept the AICs for the remaining fall of Alaska species as a range using the numbers suggested by the plan team and SAC as the lower and upper numbers in the range. The motion was seconded by Don Collinworth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

TACs

Bob Alverson moved to send out a public review of TACs as requested for 1968 with the exception of pollock which would be a range of 0-80,000 mt for the Western and Central Gulf and 0-20,000 mt for the Eastern Gulf. The motion was seconded by Larry Corbett and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Summary

Larry Corbett moved to allocate TAC for each species at 100% of TAC. The motion was seconded by Don Collinworth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Bycatch Rates

Steve Davis pointed out that the Council does not need to set initial bycatch limits at this meeting. The initial TAC and DAP, and the currently assumed bycatch rates, will be sent out for public review and the Council will determine the limits in December. The Advisory Panel suggested that the halibut mortality goal of 2,000 mt be continued next year.

Bob Alverson moved to adopt the recommendation of the AP to maintain the 2,000 mt halibut mortality goal. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

A table of apportionments as adopted for public review is found in Appendix III to these minutes.

D-4 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands FMP

(a) Amendment 12a (Bycatch Controls)

The Bycatch Committee's proposal for control of bycatch of C. bairdi, red king crab, and Pacific halibut had been referred back to the committee and Council staff after the June meeting to address concerns of NMFS and Council staff. A revised EA/RIR was prepared and sent to Council members prior to the September meeting. Larry Cotter briefed Council members on the revised proposal.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC expressed continued concern about the lack of observer coverage necessary to ensure accounting of bycatch or the establishment of bycatch rates to be used in the future. The SSC also pointed out that the fixed mortality limit for halibut may present future problems if the biomass of the halibut stock fluctuates causing a higher or lower percentage removal from the stock, dependent upon these fluctuations. They also stated that they believe that limiting removals to 1% of the crab biomass for either C. bairdi or red king crab can assure that the bycatch has no measurable negative impact upon the reproductive potential of the crab population although they believe the accounting of bycatch mortality and subsequent controls are necessary for conservation purposes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP found the four options for bycatch control outlined in the EA/RIR to be unacceptable. They developed a framework of a solution for the 1989, and possibly 1990, seasons. The main points of the framework were:

1. Establish a framework procedure for setting bycatch limits in the future.
2. Direct NMFS to design a bycatch system which could account for more specific target fisheries and report to the Council at the June 1989 meeting.
3. Aggregate the trawl fisheries into DAP and JVP trawl for 1989.

Psychic Issues

Devereaux pointed out that the Council has not been able to set initial psychic limits at this meeting. The initial SAC and SAs, and the currently assigned research areas, will be reviewed and approved by the Council (with determination by the Liaison Committee). The Liaison Panel reported that the initial monthly goal of \$1,000 will be continued next year.

Subsequent to the meeting the Liaison Committee of the AI is currently the \$1,000 monthly goal. The Liaison Committee reported by the Liaison Panel that there is no objection, it was so ordered.

A table of appropriate areas as needed for public review is found in Appendix III to these minutes.

1-4 Meeting 22/1/1982 (Liaison Committee)

(a) Amendment 122 (Psychic Council)

The Liaison Committee's proposal for control of psychic of C. Patrick, red king crab, and Pacific halibut has been referred back to the Liaison Committee and Council staff after the June meeting to address concerns of WETS and Council staff. A revised LIAISON was prepared and sent to Council members prior to the September meeting. Many Council members on the revised proposal.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC expressed continued concern about the lack of operational coverage necessary to ensure accounting of psychic on the establishment of psychic rates could be used in the future. The SSC also pointed out that the initial limit for halibut may present future problems if the process of the halibut stock increases causing a higher or lower percentage removal from the stock dependent upon these fluctuations. They also stated that they believe that limiting removals to 1% of the stock should be either C. Patrick or red king crab can assure that the research has no measurable negative impact upon the reproductive potential of the crab population although they believe the accounting of psychic mortality and subsequent concerns are necessary for conservation purposes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP found the basic options for psychic control outlined in the LIAISON to be unacceptable. They developed a framework of a solution for the 1982, and monthly 1983, seasons. The main points of the framework were:

1. Establish a framework procedure for setting psychic limits in the future.
2. Direct WETS to design a psychic system which could account for more realistic target fisheries and report to the Council at the June 1983 meeting.
3. Aggregate the new fisheries into SAC and SAs for 1982.

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4. Keep the crab and halibut protection zone closed (160° and 162°W, south of 58°N), except for the Port Moller 25-fathom exemption for DAP Pacific cod trawling.
5. Divide the bycatch limit of halibut or crab between DAP and JVP based on their apportionment of TAC.
6. (a) Close Zones 1 and 2 when the bycatch limit of C. bairdi is reached.  
  
(b) Close Zone 1 when the bycatch limit of red king crab is reached.
7. Direct the Regional Director to use discretionary authority to allow specific "clean" trawl fisheries to continue fishing in closed areas, except for the crab and halibut protection zone.

The AP also suggested the following specific levels of bycatch:

<u>C. bairdi</u>	456,000 animals in Zone 1
	1,858,000 animals in Zone 2
Red king crab	135,000 animals

These numbers were calculated by comparing the crab population estimates for 1985 and 1988 and applying the factor of population change to the bycatch limits agreed to for Amendment 10.

For halibut bycatch, the AP recommended a limit of 3,500 mt and that when 50% of the bycatch limit is reached in any one area, that area should be closed.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Council discussion on this item was extensive and many motions and amendments made. The following is mainly a report of the final products. A complete transcript (82 pages in length) of the discussion and action is available to Council members from the Council office.

Jim Brooks pointed out several areas of concern in the Bycatch Committee's revised plan. He said that between the Advisory Panel's suggestions and those of an industry group during public testimony (Steve Hughes, et al) a workable plan could be devised for the 1989 season and then they might have a better idea of where to go from there.

The Council discussed the need for specific goals in order to devise a long-term bycatch regime. It was decided to discuss the longer-term solution first, then deal with the 1989 season.

Larry Cotter moved to adopt the Bycatch Committee's "ad hoc" proposal with an effective date of January 1, 1990, with Council reconsideration at the June 1989 meeting. At that time NMFS and the plan team could report to the Council on any technical problems with the program. Bob Mace seconded the motion,



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FINANCIAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

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which subsequently failed 9 to 2, with Cotter and Mace voting in favor. Council concerns were based on Jim Brooks' statement that the proposed plan could not be functional at that time and difficult to enforce.

Don Collinsworth moved that the Council direct NMFS to design a bycatch system during 1989 which could account for more specific target fisheries as in the ad hoc bycatch committee proposal and that NMFS use resources that may be available to them in the industry and other management agencies in the process of designing that system. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and subsequently carried, after amendment, 7 to 3, with Cotter, Mace and Mitchell voting against and Brooks abstaining. The amendment, by Larry Cotter, was to have the NMFS report received in time to implement the program for the 1990 fishing year. The amendment carried with Jim Brooks objecting.

The Council then began discussion on a bycatch regime for the 1989 fishing year.

Bob Alverson moved to:

Adopt that part of the Advisory Panel recommendations, that are found in the RAD as well, that continue the closure in INPFC Area 512 with a northern boundary of 58° latitude, to establish Zone 1 as recommended by the AP and as outlined in the RAD, to establish a Zone 2 which would be modified to reflect the recommendations of Jim Brooks to the Bycatch Committee in August, essentially that area would be smaller than the existing Zone 2, the northern boundary being 58°, the eastern boundary 165°, and the western boundary being 170°. Also include those target species that would be counted, the ones proposed in item 4 of the proposal from Hughes et al, to be JVP flounder, DAP flounder, JVP bottom trawl and DAP other bottom trawl. Also, establish caps for C. bairdi, red king crab and halibut as proposed by the AP. Motion seconded by Don Collinsworth (for discussion).

The actual caps were to be discussed after the main motion was debated.

After some discussion of the various aspects of the motion, it was decided to substitute the actual Advisory Panel "Consensus Framework" document as the basis for discussion and development of a final plan.

The portion of the framework being used for the basis of the motion follows; the paragraphs were numbered for easier reference.

#1 During 1989 bycatch limits will be specified in the regulations:

\_\_\_\_\_ for C. bairdi  
\_\_\_\_\_ for red king crab  
\_\_\_\_\_ for halibut

#2 The bycatch limit for C. bairdi will be apportioned to the JVP and DAP trawl fisheries in proportion to their division of TAC. If a fishery reaches the bycatch limit, Zones 1 and 2 will be closed.



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- #3 The bycatch limit for red king crab will be apportioned to the JVP and DAP trawl fisheries in proportion to their division of TAC. If a fishery reaches the bycatch limit, Zone 1 will be closed.
- #4 The bycatch limit for halibut will be apportioned to the JVP and DAP trawl fisheries in proportion to their division of TAC. If a fishery reaches the bycatch limit, \_\_\_\_\_ will be closed.
- #5 The crab and halibut protection zone (160° to 162° W., south of 58°N.) will remain closed, except for the Port Moller 25 fathom exemption for DAP Pacific cod trawling.
- #6 The AP recommends that the Council direct the NMFS Regional Director to exercise discretionary authority to allow specific trawl fisheries (such as directed fishing for mid-water pollock or POP) which have not encountered significant bycatch to continue fishing in a closed area, except for the crab and halibut protection zone.

Through a series of motions, the following document was unanimously approved:

Bycatch Framework

The Council recommends that NMFS design a bycatch system during 1989 which will account for more specific target fisheries as in the Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee proposal using all technical expertise and resources available. The Council intends to take final action on the NMFS plan at their June or September 1989 meeting such that the plan will be implemented for the 1990 fishery. [This portion was adopted in a previous motion.]

1. During 1989 prohibited species catch (PSC) limits will be specified in the regulations:
  - For C. bairdi: 846,500 crabs in Zone 1
  - 1,988,500 crabs in Zone 2
  - For red king crab: 135,000 crabs in Zone 1
  - For halibut: 3,300 mt catch Bering Sea/Aleutians-wide.
2. The PSC limit for C. bairdi will be apportioned to the following in proportion to their anticipated bycatch:
  1. JVP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  2. Other JVP fisheries;
  3. DAP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  4. Other DAP fisheries.

If a DAP or JVP flatfish fishery reaches its Zone 1 bycatch apportionment, Zone 1 will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP or DAP fisheries reach their Zone 1 bycatch apportionments, Zone 1 will be closed to JVP or DAP directed bottom trawl fishing for pollock and cod.

13 The bycatch limit for Zone I will be apportioned to the VVP and DAF areas in proportion to their respective effort. Zone I will be closed.

14 The bycatch limit for Zone II will be apportioned to the VVP and DAF areas in proportion to their respective effort. Zone II will be closed.

15 The crab and halibut protection zone (160° to 162° W, south of 58°N) will remain closed, except for the 1000 ton exemption for DAF Pacific net trawling.

16 The AF recommends that the Council direct the 1988 Regional Director to exercise discretionary authority to allow specific trawl fisheries to be directed fishing for whitefish or YOF (which have not been previously directed) to continue fishing in a closed area, except for the crab and halibut protection zone.

Through a series of motions, the following document was unanimously approved:

Bycatch Management

The Council recommends that WTS develop a bycatch system during 1988 which will account for more bycatch than is allowed in the 1987 plan. The Council requests that all technical expertise and resources available to the Council be used to take final action on the WTS plan as quickly as possible. The Council also notes that the plan will be implemented for the 1988 fishery. [This document was adopted in a previous meeting.]

1. During 1988 prohibited species catch (PSC) limits will be specified in the regulations:

- For Zone I: 1,000,000 crabs in Zone I
- 1,000,000 crabs in Zone II
- For Zone III: 1,000,000 crabs in Zone III
- For Zone IV: 1,000,000 crabs in Zone IV

2. The PSC limit for Zone I will be apportioned to the following in proportion to their anticipated bycatch:

- 1. VVP (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 2. Other VVP fisheries;
- 3. DAF (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 4. Other DAF fisheries.

If a VVP or DAF fishery reaches its Zone I bycatch apportionment, that fishery will be closed to that fishery. If other VVP or DAF fisheries reach their Zone I bycatch apportionment, Zone I will be closed to VVP or DAF directed bottom trawl fishing for halibut and crab.

If a JVP or DAP flatfish fishery reaches its Zone 2 bycatch apportionment, Zone 2 will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP or DAP fisheries reach their Zone 2 bycatch apportionments, Zone 2 will be closed to JVP or DAP directed bottom trawl fishing for pollock and cod. Zone 2 for C. bairdi is the same as adopted with Amendment 10.

3. The PSC limit for red king crab will be apportioned to the following in proportion to their anticipated bycatch:
  1. JVP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  2. Other JVP fisheries;
  3. DAP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  4. Other DAP fisheries.

If a DAP or JVP flatfish fishery reaches its Zone 1 bycatch apportionment, Zone 1 will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP or other DAP fisheries reach their Zone 1 bycatch apportionments, Zone 1 will be closed to JVP or DAP directed bottom trawl fishing for pollock and cod.

4. The PSC limit for halibut will be apportioned to the following in proportion to their anticipated bycatch:
  1. JVP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  2. Other JVP fisheries;
  3. DAP flatfish (yellowfin sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
  4. Other DAP fisheries.

If a DAP or JVP flatfish fishery reaches its bycatch apportionment, Zones 1 and 2H (Areas 513 and 515) will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP or DAP fisheries reach their bycatch apportionments, Zones 1 and 2H will be closed to JVP or DAP directed bottom trawl fishing for pollock and cod.

5. The Crab and Halibut Protection Zone (160 to 162°W, south of 58°N) will remain closed, except for the Port Moller 25 fathom exemption for DAP Pacific cod trawling. The same provisions adopted with Amendment 10 (50 CFR 675,22 a-d) also apply for 1989.

(b-c) Resource Assessment Document/Initial Apportionments for 1989

The plan team summarized the status of stocks as follows:

Pollock: Although abundance has declined slightly, this stock has been exploited lightly in the past. Based on current exploitation rates for Asiatic stocks and model projections, it appears the pollock resource can be exploited at higher rates without loss in productivity.

Pacific cod: The current biomass has remained very high and is projected to be so in 1989 and later.

If a JVP or JVP fishery reaches its Zone 1 harvest  
apportionment, Zone 1 will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP  
or JVP fisheries reach their Zone 1 harvest apportionment, Zone 1  
will be closed to JVP or JVP directed bottom trawl fishing  
and cod. Zone 1 will be the same as above which  
Amendment 10.

3. The 200 limit for red king crab will be apportioned to the  
following in proportion to their anticipated harvest:

- 1. JVP fishery (yellowish sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 2. Other JVP fisheries;
- 3. JVP fishery (yellowish sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 4. Other JVP fisheries.

If a JVP or JVP fishery reaches its Zone 1 harvest  
apportionment, Zone 1 will be closed to that fishery. If other JVP  
or other JVP fisheries reach their Zone 1 harvest apportionment,  
Zone 1 will be closed to JVP or JVP directed bottom trawl fishing  
for halibut and cod.

4. The 200 limit for halibut will be apportioned to the following  
in proportion to their anticipated harvest:

- 1. JVP fishery (yellowish sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 2. Other JVP fisheries;
- 3. JVP fishery (yellowish sole, other flatfish, rock sole);
- 4. Other JVP fisheries.

If a JVP or JVP fishery reaches its harvest apportionment,  
Zone 1 (Area 213 and 215) will be closed to that fishery.  
If other JVP or JVP fisheries reach their harvest apportionment,  
Zone 1 will be closed to JVP or JVP directed bottom trawl  
fishing for halibut and cod.

5. The Crab and Halibut Protection Zone (180 to 183°W, south of  
58°N) will remain closed, except for the four motor 25 foot  
vessels for JVP fishing. The same provisions for JVP fishing  
adopted with Amendment 10 (29 and 30-31) also apply for  
1989.

(b-c) Resource Assessment Document/Initial Apportionments for 1989

The plan team summarized the status of stocks as follows:

Halibut: Although abundance has declined slightly, the stock has been  
exploited lightly in the past. Based on current exploitation rates for  
Atlantic stocks and other projections, it appears the halibut resource can be  
exploited at higher rates without loss in productivity.

Rock sole: The current biomass has remained very high and is projected to  
be so in 1989 and later.

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Yellowfin sole: Exploitable biomass has been projected to increase from 1.4 million mt in 1988 to 1.53 million mt in 1989.

Greenland turbot: The exploitable biomass of Greenland turbot is probably below average and declining.

Arrowtooth flounder: The resource continues to be in excellent condition and biomass continues to be high and stable, if not increasing.

Rock sole: For the first time, rock sole is separated out from the "other flatfish" category for management purposes. Trawl surveys confirm that the biomass of rock sole is high and continuing to increase.

Other flatfishes: Biomass for this category of flatfishes is high and increasing.

Sablefish: Although the sablefish stocks appear to be in relatively good condition, particularly in the Aleutian region, a sudden decrease in biomass in the Eastern Bering Sea introduces more uncertainty about the stock's ability to produce catches at MSY levels.

Pacific ocean perch: In general, POP stocks continue to remain low but relatively stable compared to biomass levels of the early 1960s. No new data are available, nor is any expected, to change the 1989 ABC levels from the estimates for 1988.

Other rockfishes: Maintenance of ABCs at 1988 levels continues to reflect the relative stability of the stocks.

Atka mackerel: The status of stocks for Atka mackerel is difficult to assess because surveys that cover its range in the Aleutian region are conducted once every three years. The 1986 survey indicated that biomass decreased 74% from 1983 and was even lower than the estimate from 1980. The absolute level of biomass however, cannot be accurately estimated. Since no new information is available to reanalyze data used last year, the 1989 ABC is recommended to be the same as in 1988.

Squid: There is insufficient information to determine abundance and appropriate exploitation rates for squid stocks. The plan team's conservative estimate of ABC is based on historical catches.

Other species: The biomass has essentially remained relatively high. The change in ABC from 1988 to 1989 reflects the change in biomass determined from trawl surveys.

The plan team's recommended ABCs for 1989 are:

Pollock	
EBS	1,340,000 mt
Area 515	230,000
AI	160,000



Alaska stocks: The Alaska stocks are shown in the following table. The Alaska stocks are shown in the following table. The Alaska stocks are shown in the following table.

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Alaska	1,340,000
Alaska	230,000
Alaska	180,000

Pacific cod	370,600
Yellowfin sole	241,000
Greenland turbot	12,600
Arrowtooth flounder	171,300
Rock sole	143,400
Other flatfishes	184,300
Sablefish	
EBS	1,900
AI	5,800
Pacific ocean perch	
EBS	6,000
AI	16,600
Other rockfish	
EBS	400
AI	1,100
Atka mackerel	21,000
Squid	10,000
Other species	59,000

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC noted that during the 1988 eastern Bering Sea trawl survey it was determined that the opening of the net was 2 meters less than assumed. This means that the area swept was less than expected and changes indicated in biomass from 1987 to 1988 might not reflect true increases or decreases in abundance. Therefore, the SSC cautioned that care is warranted in comparing 1988 biomass estimates with those developed for previous years. They recommended that historical biomass estimates be adjusted to reflect this new information. The SSC's recommended 1989 ABCs follow; more specific comments are found in the SSC minutes, Appendix II to these minutes.

Pollock	
EBS	1,340,000 mt
AI	160,000
Pacific cod	370,600
Yellowfin sole	241,000
Greenland turbot	14,100
Arrowtooth flounder	83,000
Rock sole	236,900
Other flatfish	222,600
Sablefish	
EBS	1,538
AI	5,800
Pacific ocean perch	
EBS	6,000
AI	16,000
Other rockfish	
EBS	400
AI	1,100
Atka mackerel	21,000
Squid	10,000
Other species	59,000

370,000	Pacific cod
241,000	Yellowfin sole
11,000	Greenland halibut
171,300	Arrowtooth flounder
143,400	Rock sole
184,300	Other flatfish
	Sablefish
1,900	ERS
2,100	AI
	Pacific ocean perch
0,000	ERS
10,000	AI
	Other rockfish
400	ERS
1,100	AI
11,000	Area marker
10,000	Spine
22,000	Other species

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC noted that during the 1988 season during sea trial survey it was determined that the opening of the net was 1 meter less than assumed. This means that the area swept was less than expected and changes indicated in biomass from 1987 to 1988 might not reflect true increases or decreases in abundance. Therefore, the SSC concluded that care be warranted in comparing 1988 biomass estimates with those developed for previous years. They recommended that historical biomass estimates be adjusted to reflect this information. The SSC's recommended 1987 AAS's follow more specific comments are found in the SSC minutes, Appendix II to these minutes.

1,340,000	ERS	Rock
100,000	AI	
370,000		Pacific cod
241,000		Yellowfin sole
14,100		Greenland halibut
171,300		Arrowtooth flounder
143,400		Rock sole
184,300		Other flatfish
		Sablefish
1,938	ERS	
2,100	AI	
		Pacific ocean perch
0,000	ERS	
10,000	AI	
		Other rockfish
400	ERS	
1,100	AI	
11,000		Area marker
10,000		Spine
22,000		Other species

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Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that the plan team's recommendations for ABCs be sent out for public review. The AP declined to recommend TACs at this time recognizing that the data in the RAD may change between now and the December meeting. The AP also recommended that the Council send out the PSC limits in the RAD for public review, but expressed concern over the small numbers, particularly for sablefish and Pacific ocean perch.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

ABCs

Don Collinsworth moved to adopt for public review ABCs for each Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish species using the lowest number suggested by the plan team or SSC. The motion was seconded by Bob Alverson and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

TACs

Bob Mace moved to approve for public review the same TACs as were used for 1988 with the following exceptions: yellowfin sole - 241,000 mt; rock sole - 70,000 mt; other flatfish - 76,569 mt; sablefish in the eastern Bering Sea - 1,200 mt. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. On Saturday, in discussion of the final figures for public review, the sablefish TAC in the eastern Bering Sea was amended to 1,500 mt.

JVP/DAP

Using the TACs adopted by the Council, staff calculated the apportionments for JVP and DAP and presented it to the Council for final approval.

Henry Mitchell moved to approve the final table reflecting 1989 ABCs, TACs, JVP and DAP for public review. The motion was seconded by Joe Blum and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. The table of apportionments as adopted for public review is found in Appendix III to these minutes.

In response to public testimony and a request from the joint venture industry, Joe Blum moved to request the Secretary of Commerce to take emergency action for 1989 to combine the A & B joint venture pollock fisheries in the Bering Sea, to begin on January 15. The motion was seconded by Larry Cotter and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

As rationale for this request for emergency action the Council discussed the substantial costs which would be placed on the JV pollock fishery and on the JVP yellowfin sole and rock sole fisheries if this action is not taken. Also, most of the justification for originally splitting the season is no longer valid since 40% of last year's initial JV quota for the first half of the season was in the range of what the Council is discussing for the entire season for 1989.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that the plan be revised to meet the requirements of the 1983 Act. The AP also recommended that the Council be notified of the results of the public hearing and the Advisory Panel's recommendations. The AP also recommended that the Council be notified of the results of the public hearing and the Advisory Panel's recommendations.

Public testimony on this subject is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1983

For information moved to adopt for public review the plan for 1983. The plan for 1983 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1983. The plan for 1983 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1983.

1982

For information moved to approve for public review the plan for 1982. The plan for 1982 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1982. The plan for 1982 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1982.

1981

For information moved to approve for public review the plan for 1981. The plan for 1981 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1981. The plan for 1981 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1981.

For information moved to approve for public review the plan for 1980. The plan for 1980 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1980. The plan for 1980 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1980.

For information moved to approve for public review the plan for 1979. The plan for 1979 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1979. The plan for 1979 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1979.

For information moved to approve for public review the plan for 1978. The plan for 1978 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1978. The plan for 1978 was adopted by the Council on January 17, 1978.

(d) Sablefish in the Bering Sea

The Kodiak Longline Vessel Owners' Assn. submitted a proposal requesting emergency action, followed by plan amendment, to reduce retainable sablefish bycatch in the Bering Sea and Aleutians to 4% and allocate the directed sablefish quota between fixed and trawl gear (70/30 in the Bering Sea and 90/10 in the Aleutian Islands).

The BS/AI plan team noted that a preliminary review showed that bycatches of sablefish required by the affected fisheries were substantially below 4%.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC believes that the proposed alternatives to define "targeting" as a resolution to this problem properly reflect the real issue - allocation among gear groups. If the targeting definition is set too high, it will result in a de facto allocation to trawls of sablefish; if the definition of targeting is set too low, it will result in additional discards which will not be measured. Even with an observer program, it is the SSC's view that any definition of targeting will, in some cases, not meet legitimate bycatch requirements, and may constrain a directed fishery. Without a means to measure discards it is impossible to enforce an allocation of the bycatch of these discards.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that the Council take emergency action to change the definition of "directed fishing" for sablefish in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands from 20% to 4%. They recommended that the Council not address the explicit allocation portion of the proposal as an emergency action but place it in the regular amendment cycle.

Public Testimony on this agenda item is found in Appendix I to these minutes.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Don Collinsworth said that this could be considered an emergency because a large segment of the fleet may be disenfranchised unless some action is taken. Craig O'Connor pointed out that a regulatory amendment to change the definition of directed fishing is already in process and that the Council might append it if they wish. There would still be opportunity for public comment and more analysis. Don Collinsworth said that in view of the SSC's comments and concerns of others that making a decision at this time may not be advisable. He suggested more analysis be done and that the Council re-address it in December, by emergency regulation if necessary.

Council members discussed whether it is necessary to declare an emergency now so the Secretary would have advance notice that the Council plans to take action in December after seeking additional advice and alternatives from industry and staff.

Craig O'Connor said this course would be acceptable but reminded Council members that some more permanent regulatory action must be prepared because the emergency regulation will only be in place approximately one-half of the year.



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Larry Cotter moved to declare an emergency exists in the sablefish fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. The motion was seconded by Bob Alverson and carried, 7 to 4, with Blum, Brooks, Mace and Peterson voting against.

Mr. Cotter asked that staff and industry provide assistance to the Council in order for them to act on the matter in December with the best information available.

E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

No reports.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Morimoto, Japan Fisheries Agency, reported on the results of investigations by his government into recent illegal fishing activities of the Hokuten trawlers. Based on their investigations, two vessels were confined to port: the DAIAN MARU NO. 128 for 100 days, and the EIKYU MARU No. 86 for 200 days. To prevent further violations by Japanese trawl vessels operating in the high seas area of the Bering Sea the Japanese Fisheries Agency has instituted the following: (1) Requested owners, captains and fishing masters of Hokuten trawlers to come to its office before every fishing trip and receive strict instruction on the elimination of illegal fishing operations; (2) requested that all Japanese North Pacific trawl fleets notify the agency of their scheduled return to home port so that random inspections of catches can be made; and (3) required all of the Japanese North Pacific trawl fleet to retain and submit complete and precise records.

G. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chairman John Peterson adjourned the meeting at 1:16 p.m. on Saturday, October 1.



Japan's interest in the Bering Sea and Alaska Inland. The matter was handled by Bob Johnson and carried by A. Richman, Brooks, Mass and Johnson working on it.

Mr. Gordon asked that staff and industry provide assistance to the Council in order for them to act on the matter as proposed with the best information available.

F. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

No report.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ishikawa, Japan Fisheries Agency, reported on the results of investigations by his government into recent illegal fishing activities of the Japanese vessels. Based on their investigations, two vessels were confirmed to be in the Bering Sea on the 27th and 28th days, and the 27th and 28th days. To prevent further violations by Japanese vessels operating in the high seas area of the Bering Sea the Japanese Fisheries Agency has instructed the following: (1) Requested owners, captains and fishing masters of Japanese vessels to come to the office before every fishing trip and receive strict instruction on the elimination of illegal fishing operations; (2) Requested that all Japanese North Pacific trawlers notify the agency of their scheduled return to home port so that random inspections of catches can be made and (3) Requested all of the Japanese North Pacific trawlers to retain and submit complete and precise records.

H. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chairman John Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:16 p.m. on Saturday, October 1.