

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC, and AP Members

FROM: Jim Branson
Executive Director

DATE: September 15, 1981

SUBJECT: Tanner Crab Fishery Management Plan

ACTION REQUIRED

None. For informational purposes only.

BACKGROUND

In July the Council reviewed a PMT report on current inconsistencies between the FMP and State regulations. It was the PMT's conclusion that the plan should be updated and modified to allow greater flexibility in management. Both the Council and PMT have acknowledged that the current structure of the king crab framework may be a viable solution to the administrative problems in the Tanner crab plan. Therefore, the Council opted to delay immediate action on the Tanner crab FMP until the development of the king crab framework is completed.

Amendment #6 which makes several minor changes in the FMP is currently being reviewed by DOC. This amendment was delayed due to objections received concerning two reporting requirements [(1) the reporting of deadloss and (2) that floating processors report their intended location of operation] and some language in the text. Corrections to these problems have been made and following DOC review the amendment will be forwarded to OMTS.

Amendment #7 which established new C. bairdi OY's and set C. opilio OY equal to DAH (ie. TALFF = 0) was published in the Federal Register on September 3 as a proposed rule. This amendment will now undergo a 45-day public review before preparation as a final rule.

The Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center Bering Sea Survey is now complete. A report on the status of Tanner crab stocks will be available at this meeting.