

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Clement V. Tillion, Chairman  
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

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November 21, 1980

## DRAFT AGENDA

Thirty-Sixth Plenary Session  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
December 8 - 12, 1980  
Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel  
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will convene on Tuesday, December 9, at 9 a.m. in the Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel and adjourn at approximately 5 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 1980. On Tuesday, December 9th, the Council will meet with the Alaska Board of Fisheries to hear staff reports on various fishery resources and to hear public comments on proposed amendments to the Tanner Crab Fishery Management Plan for 1981, the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fishery Management Plan for 1981, and the High Seas Salmon Fishery Management Plan for 1981. They will also take comments on the proposed King Crab Fishery Management Plan being developed by the Council. The Council will meet on December 10th by itself and jointly with the Board of Fisheries on December 11th to discuss resources of mutual interest. The Council will again meet by itself on December 12.

The Council's Advisory Panel will convene at 9 a.m. on Monday, December 8, in the Kenai/Aleutian Room of the Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel and adjourn at approximately 5 p.m. that day. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene at 9 a.m. on Monday, December 8, in the Council Conference Room in the Post Office Mall Building in Anchorage, Alaska. Additional meetings of the Advisory Panel and the Scientific and Statistical Committee may be scheduled for later in the week. If so, they will be announced at open meetings of those bodies.

All meetings are open to the public.

INFORMATION ON THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Preregistration will be required for all public comments which pertain to a specific agenda topic. Preregistration is accomplished by informing the Agenda Clerk early in the meeting of the agenda item to be addressed and the time required. Public comments may be scheduled for C. OLD BUSINESS, D. NEW BUSINESS, and E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS. There will be a general comment period, agenda item G, scheduled for late afternoon on Friday for testimony on matters not on the current agenda.

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

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report

B-2 Report on Domestic Fisheries by Alaska Department of Fish and Game

B-3 Report on Foreign Fisheries by National Marine Fisheries Service

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

B-5 Reports from AP and SSC on non-agenda items

C. OLD BUSINESS

C-1 Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee appointments

The Council will make new appointments to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Advisory Panel to be effective at the January Council meeting.

The SSC is scheduled to recommend a scientist to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of George Rogers and to ask for confirmation of new officers.

C-2 Council Meeting Schedule for 1981

A recommendation to move the January, 1981 meeting from January 23-23 to January 5-9 in order to meet jointly with the Alaska Board of Fisheries in Juneau.

C-3 Policy on Public Participation at Plan Development Team Meetings

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1 Foreign Permit Applications and 1981 Allocations

Several hundred permit applications for foreign vessels to fish in the FCZ off Alaska in 1981 have been received. The Council will make recommendations on the applications from ships from the People's Democratic Republic of Poland, joint venture applications from two Japanese factory trawlers, an application from the Federal Republic of Germany, and applications from several Republic of Korea, Japanese, and Polish ships with a record of serious violations since enactment of the FCMA in March, 1977.

Council recommendations on allocations to Taiwan, as requested by St. George Tanaq, a request for an increased allocation to the Federal Republic of Germany, and other allocation matters.

D-2 NMFS Proposed Foreign Fishing Fees for 1981

Council comment is requested on the new fee schedule. The comment deadline is December 15.

E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

E-1 Salmon FMP

No formal Council action required. Review Natural Resources Consultants' draft final fishery management plan; a report on public comments to date; report on the winter troll salmon fishery in Southeast Alaska.

E-2 Herring FMP

Final Council review of the Herring FMP; review and make a decision on desired winter closures for herring; final approval of the draft

FMP prior to forwarding to the Secretary of Commerce as the Council's recommendations for the management of the herring fishery in the eastern Bering Sea.

E-3 King Crab FMP

No formal action required. Discuss Draft Fishery Management Plan with Board of Fisheries and review scheduling for the fishery management plan.

E-4 Tanner Crab FMP

Final action on 1981 amendments to the Tanner Crab Plan, which involve elimination of the foreign fishery on Tanner crab and adjustments to guideline harvest levels in some districts.

E-5 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

Consider proposal to close the Eastern Regulatory Area to all foreign trawling and approve to go to public review; 1982 amendment proposals must be in the Council's hands by January 1, 1981.

E-6 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

Discuss proposed 1981 amendments with the Alaska Board of Fisheries prior to formal Council action in February, 1981.

Consider new estimates of U.S. cod catches for the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska in 1981; recommend withholding some amount of allocation of the foreigners to the State Department until both FMP's can be amended.

F. CONTRACTS

F-1 SSC and Council final approval for the following contracts:

- 78-5: "Assessment of Spawning Herring and Capelin Stocks at Selected Coastal Areas in the Eastern Bering Sea"
- 79-3: "Troll Salmon Tag Recovery Program"
- 80-6: "A Study to Determine the Applicability of Limited Entry in the Halibut Fishery Off Alaska"

F-2 Review and approval of the Request for Proposals for "A Study of Data on Feeding Habits and Food Requirements of Marine Mammals in the Bering Sea".

F-3 Preliminary review of draft final contract reports on Contract No. 81-3, "A Comparison of Halibut and Crab Catches in Side-Entry and Top-Entry Crab Pots and Side-Entry Crab Pots With and Without Tanner Boards"; Contract No. 80-5, "A Study of the Offshore Chinook and Coho Salmon Fishery Off Alaska".

F-4 Financial Status Report

Information only.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

H. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

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## SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

### Expanded Agenda

December 8-10, 1980

The SSC will meet initially at 9 a.m. on December 8, 1980 in the Council Conference Room to approve the agenda and make workgroup assignments. The workgroups then should meet starting about 9:30 - 9:45 a.m. At the least, the Herring, Tanner Crab, and GoA/BSA Groundfish workgroups should meet. The Salmon workgroup will meet on December 10th in the morning. The SSC can reconvene in the afternoon on Monday to examine workgroup recommendations. The meeting may spill over to Tuesday.

#### 1. Scientific and Statistical Committee Appointments (C-1)

SSC should nominate someone to fill the vacancy left by George Rogers. IPHC has proposed that they be represented on the SSC also. New officers need to be elected.

#### 2. Policy on Closed Plan Development Team Meetings (C-3)

Some advocacy groups are objecting to PDT's meeting in closed session. Jim Branson will be suggesting policy on this subject. In the SSC paper, "North Pacific Fishery Management Council Operations - A Critique with Suggestions for Improvement," Section C of Annex I states that Team meetings and working sessions may be closed to the public. The SSC may wish to review this policy in light of the latest developments.

#### 3. SSC Operations

Al Millikan has drafted a report and sent it directly to the SSC for review. Discussion of SSC operations was deferred from the September meeting.

#### 4. Salmon FMP (E-1)

The SSC Salmon workgroup (Burgner, Rosenberg, Millikan, Pennoyer) is scheduled to meet in the morning on December 10th to examine the proposed 1981 amendment package for the Troll Plan and possibly discuss the Natural Resources Consultants report. Upon receipt, the NRC report will be sent to the whole SSC.

#### 5. Herring FMP (E-2)

The Herring FMP was mailed to the SSC, AP, and Council by November 14th. The Council may approve the FMP in December to go to Secretarial review.

Al Millikan has called for a workgroup meeting (Millikan, Pennoyer, Burgner) on the morning of December 8. To be discussed are an SSC position on the FMP, ADF&G-NMFS biomass estimates (ADF&G age-length data were sent to the workgroup on November 14 by Alan Kingsbury), current economic circumstances of the fishery and the need for an economist on the PDT, clarification of FMP allocation procedures and time/area closures, and herring research objectives. PDT members have been encouraged to attend the workgroup meeting.

The SSC will then review the workgroup recommendations for presentation to the Council before the Council approves the FMP for Secretarial review. The Board of Fisheries will consider Bering Sea herring on December 5-6.

6. King Crab FMP (E-3)

Though no formal action is required, the Council will be discussing the DFMP with the Board of Fisheries. The Council will discuss latest developments on the DEIS and the need for a preferred option. The Council may request advice from the SSC on a preferred option.

7. Tanner Crab FMP (E-4)

The Council will be discussing the 1981 amendments with the Board of Fisheries and approve them to go to Secretarial review. Summaries of public comments should be available from Dutch Harbor, Kodiak, and Seattle. The SSC workgroup (Pennoyer, Lechner, Burgner, Rosenberg) may want to meet on December 8 to hear arguments from Jerry Reeves, Marty Eaton, and Ray Baglin regarding the amendments. The schedule for redrafting the FMP probably will not be available until February, 1981. The Board of Fisheries will consider Tanner crab on December 9.

8. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP (E-5)

A 1981 amendment to close the Eastern Regulatory Area to foreign trawling was examined by the PDT on November 12-13. A report from that meeting will be distributed to the SSC prior to December 8th, and will be summarized by the PDT chairman on December 8. Two other papers (POP Stock Status Report by Phil Rigby, Incidental Catch by Steve Hoag) also will be sent to the SSC. A third paper, Sablefish Stock Status Report by Barry Bracken, will be available at the December 8 meeting. These analyses should help the SSC and Council decide on alternatives for managing the Eastern Regulatory Area.

9. Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP (E-6)

No decisions will be made regarding the 1981 amendment package until February. The chairman of the incidental species workgroup will give a summary report on its analyses. The SSC may also want to discuss the suit being brought by western Alaska villages against the Departments of State, Commerce, and Transportation on incidental trawl catch of salmon.

10. Contracts (F-1)

- No. 78-5: "Assessment of Spawning Herring and Capelin Stocks at Selected Coastal Areas in the Eastern Bering Sea" (with ADF&G). The infra-red portion, received as Appendix A to the Final Report, was sent in the November 21 mailing to the entire SSC for review and approval prior to the December Council meeting. With approval of this report, the entire contract can be closed.
- No. 79-3: "Troll Salmon Tag Recovery Program" (with ADF&G). George Utermohle sent his revised final report to the SSC Salmon workgroup on November 7th. With SSC and Council approval, this contract can be closed.
- No. 79-4: "Analysis of Southeastern Alaska Troll Fisheries Data" (with ADF&G). A progress report dated October 31, 1980 was sent in the November 21 mailing to the SSC Salmon workgroup for review. Included as an appendix to the report is a preliminary report on spatial and temporal variation in shaker catch rates.
- No. 80-5: "A Study of the Offshore Chinook and Coho Salmon Fishery Off Alaska" (with NRC). This report, when received, will be sent to the whole SSC for general review.
- No. 80-6: "A Study to Determine the Applicability of Limited Entry in the Halibut Fishery Off Alaska" (with TetraTech). A draft final report was sent to the SSC on November 18, 1980 (and to others previously) for review and comment. Depending on the comments received, the contract could be given final approval in December.
- No. 81-3: "A Comparison of Halibut and Crab Catches In: (1) Side-Entry and Top-Entry Crab Pots; and (2) Side-Entry Crab Pots With and Without Tanner Boards". The draft Final Report was sent to the SSC on November 20th for review and comment. It is unlikely that there will be enough time to review the document for the December meeting, but it may be advisable to set up a review committee for review prior to the January SSC meeting.

11. Marine Mammal RFP (F-2)

Request for Proposals for a Study of Data on Feeding Habits and Food Requirements of Marine Mammals in the Bering Sea. This RFP has been sent for review on November 3 to Aron and Burns, among others. Deadline for comments was December 1. With SSC and Council approval of the RFP, we will advertise it on December 20.

12. Other RFP's (F-3)

Don Rosenberg (letter of September 30, 1980) requested these other RFP's be developed: Herring Stock Data (Millikan); Incidental Catch of Salmon (Burgner); Predator/Prey Interaction (Balsiger). These RFP's, once fleshed out, will require about 2-3 months to be translated into a signed contract for research. SSC approval of these RFP's at this meeting would accelerate contract development.



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## AGENDA

BOARD/COUNCIL MEETING  
Alaska Room, Westward Hilton  
Tuesday, December 9, 1980

9:00 a.m.

### King Crab

Status report of plan - Fred Gaffney  
Public Hearing

### Tanner Crab

Status report of fishery - Marty Eaton  
Status report on resources - Bob Otto  
Public Hearing

### Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish

Status report on plan amendment - Loh-Lee Low  
Status report on incidental catch report - Richard Marasco  
Public Hearing

p.m.

### Bering Sea Herring

Status report on fishery and management strategy - ADF&G

DRAFT AGENDA

Alaska Board of Fisheries -  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Juneau Troll Salmon Hearings

- January 5:       Joint Meeting 9 a.m.  
  
                  Staff Reports.  ADF&G - 1980 Season  
  Stock Status  
  State Management Plan  
  
                                  NPFMC - PDT Review - Plan Progress  
  NRC Contract  
  FCZ Limited Entry  
  
                                  CFEC - Hand Troll Limited Entry  
  
                                  NMFS - Legal Questions?  
  
                  Joint Public Hearing - Time Available
- January 6:       Joint Public Hearing
- January 7:       Joint Hearing as Required  
                  Joint Meeting - General discussion on direction
- January 8:       Board/Council meet separately proposal consideration
- January 9:       Proposal consideration  
                  Joint meeting to review results

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CERTIFIED

by \_\_\_\_\_

## MINUTES

Thirty-Fifth Plenary Session  
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
Centennial Building  
Sitka, Alaska  
September 24-26, 1980

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met in Sitka, Alaska, September 24-26, 1980, in the Centennial Building. The Council met on Wednesday, September 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Thursday, September 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday, September 26, from 8 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee met at the Centennial Building on September 22 from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., and again on Tuesday, September 23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Advisory Panel met at the Centennial Building on Tuesday, September 23 from 9:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and again on Wednesday, September 24, 1980, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Council members, Scientific and Statistical Committee members, Advisory Panel members, and the general public in attendance are listed below.

### COUNCIL

Clement V. Tillion, Chairman \*  
Harold E. Lokken, Vice-Chairman  
Robert Mace, for John R. Donaldson  
Gene DiDonato, for Gordon Sandison  
Ray Arnaudo, for Carl Price  
Don Collinsworth, for Ron Skoog  
Henry Wendler, for John P. Harville

Joe Demmert, Jr.  
RADM Richard Knapp  
James O. Campbell \*  
Charles Meacham \*  
Donald Bevan  
Robert W. McVey  
Leroy Sowl, for Keith  
Shreiner

### SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

Steve Pennoyer, Chairman  
Don Rosenberg, Vice-Chairman  
Larry Hreha  
Jim Balsiger

Robert Burgner  
Jack Lechner  
Richard Marasco  
William Aron

\* 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 24th

ADVISORY PANEL

A. W. Boddy, Vice-Chairman  
Robin Chlupach  
Sigfried Jaeger  
Ray Lewis  
Ken Olsen  
Don Rawlinson  
Eric Jordan

Alvin Burch  
Jesse Foster  
Rick Lauber  
Sharon Macklin  
Jake Phillips  
Anthony Vaska

SUPPORT STAFF

Jim McCallum, NMFS  
Paul Larson, ADF&G  
Vidar Wespestad, NMFS  
Aven Anderson, NMFS  
Robert Garrison, ODF&W  
Mike Rubenstein, AG's Office  
Phil Chitwood, NMFS  
Jim Brooks, NMFS  
George Utermohle, ADF&G  
Mel Seibel, ADF&G

Bill Robinson, NMFS  
Carl Rosier, NMFS  
Ronald Regnart, ADF&G  
Jerry Reeves, NMFS  
Patrick Travers, NOAA  
Ron Naab, NMFS  
Fred Gaffney, ADF&G  
Phil Rigby, ADF&G  
Bob Otto, NMFS  
Stephen H. Hoag, IPHC

NPFMC STAFF

Jim H. Branson, Executive Director  
Clarence Pautzke, Deputy Director  
Margaret Duff  
Jim Glock  
Elise Zuspan

Judy Willoughby  
Peggy McCalment  
Jim Richardson  
Jeffrey Povolny

GENERAL PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Bruce Bachen, Alaska Trollers Association  
Pat Pletnikoff, St. George Tanag Corporation  
Michael B. Jones, St. George Tanag Corporation  
N. Tokaj Fujiwaka, North Pacific Longline and Gillnet Association  
Tony Lekanof, St. George Tanag Corporation  
Douglas W. Dompier, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
Norman A. Cohen, Villages of Southwestern Alaska  
Richard Goldsmith, North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association  
Maurice Ingman, Alaska Trollers Association  
Ed Naughton, Natives of Kodiak, Inc.  
Kenneth R. Petersen, Ocean Spray Fisheries, Seattle  
Dennis R. Petersen, Ocean Spray Fisheries, Seattle  
John Schmiedtke, Nordstern, A.G.  
Tori Fukui, Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association  
Ben Grussendorf, Sitka  
Greg Baker, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association  
Stephen B. Johnson, Japanese Trawlers Association  
G. I. Gadschmidt, Mt. Edgecumbe

George Eliason, Sitka  
Donald McCaughran, International Pacific Halibut Commission  
Takashi Azegami, Hokuten Trawlers Association  
Peter Zachara, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association  
Don Martens, Office of Canadian Consul, Seattle  
Gunter Conradus, Seattle  
Werner Muschkeit, Nordstern, A.G.  
Ure Raadvaughn, Nordstern, A.G.  
Midori Ota, Interpreter  
Mel Monen, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Bud Dodson, Sitka, Troller  
Michael Mayo, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association  
Sharon Gwinn, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation  
Scott Stafne, Alaska Trollers Association  
Larry Calvin, Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Panel  
James Rideout, Troller  
Richard Tucker, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association  
Ray Christiansen, Calista Corporation  
Matt Nicolai, Calista Corporation  
Phil Wyman, Sitka  
Henry Mitchell, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association  
Don Bierce, F/V CHARBUS  
Angie Dugick, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.  
William Nygard, D. Mustad & Sons  
Ron Dalton, Sheldon Jackson College  
Mel Seifert, Sheldon Jackson College  
Dave Turriott, Sitka, Troller  
Ralph W. Hazard, Santa Barbara, California  
Marcie Bear, Idaho, student  
Mick Stevens, Marine Resources Company  
Bob Waldrop, Governor's Office, Juneau  
Dale Orbeck, Governor's Office, Bottomfish Program  
Lucinda Hites, Skagway, Hand Troller  
Roberley Potter, Sitka  
Kelly Brennan, Halibut Cove, Longliner  
Kunio Snow, Seattle  
Jim Ferguson, Pelican Cold Storage  
Demarie Wood, Sitka  
Steve Lapreski, Sitka, Fisherman  
Christine Selin, Sitka  
Karl Ohls, ALASKA FISHERMAN, Juneau  
James L. Anderson, Sitka  
Jerry Bawen, Sitka  
Daniel Cushing, Sitka, Fisherman  
Earle Johnson, Sitka, Fisherman  
Ed Scholz, Sitka, Fisherman  
Bill Stokes, Sitka and Southeast Hand Trollers Association  
Walt Pasternak, Sitka, Power Troller  
Garri Constantine, Douglas, Fisherman  
Mary Anderberg, Sitka, Fisherman  
Phillip Roger, CRITFC  
Paul MacGregor, Japan Longline and Gillnet Association  
Lewis Schnaper, Alaska Trollers Association  
Jay Hastings, Japan Fisheries Association

General Public in Attendance, continued

Japanese Delegation representing Hokuten Trawlers Association,  
Japanese Deep Sea Trawlers Association, and Japanese Fisheries  
Association

Harold Sparck, Nunam Kitlutsisti

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

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Harold E. Lokken. Mr. Lokken announced the re-appointment of Clem Tillion to Council membership and introduced new Council member Joseph Demmert, Jr., of Ketchikan. Also introduced were Hank Wendler, (for John Harville) and Dr. William Aron, new Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center Director in Seattle. The Executive Director introduced Aven Anderson and Jim McCallum of the Plan Review Division of NMFS in Washington, D.C.

Vice-Chairman Lokken asked the Council for approval of the Agenda. Council member Don Bevan asked for time to discuss the relationship of the Board of Fisheries to the Council under Agenda Item D-4, New Business.

*Bob Mace moved that the Agenda be adopted with the addition of the discussion of Council/Board of Fisheries relationships under D-4; seconded by Dr. Bevan. There being no objections, the Agenda was approved as amended.*

Vice-Chairman Lokken called for approval of the minutes of the July Council meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director recommended changing the meeting dates for October and December. The Chairmen's Meeting in Puerto Rico interfered with the original October Council meeting. Therefore, the Council should meet October 30-31. Further, the Council should meet jointly with the Board of Fisheries on December 10-12.

A schedule for next year's Council meetings was proposed also. Though some of the proposed meetings may be cancelled, a tentative schedule should be adopted to enable the staff to reserve meeting space.

The Council Executive Directors met in Washington on September 4-5. The meeting was useful but not outstanding. A tentative agenda for the Chairmen's meeting was developed that included plan monitoring, programmatic funding, outside legal services, and joint FMP development.

Mr. Branson introduced the Council's new Plan Coordinator, Jeffrey Povolny, who will oversee the King Crab and Tanner Crab Plans.

A multi-species groundfish management workshop was held in Woods Hole, Massachusetts on September 15-16, followed by a Pacific Council groundfish workshop in Washington, D.C. on September 17-18. Maggie Duff and Don Bevan attended. Both indicated it was a worthwhile exercise.

The Executive Director was visited by a Korean delegation seeking increased groundfish allocations. They indicated they would continue joint venture operations despite the unprofitability. They were told that the Council has little input into the allocations procedure, but were assured that their requests would be passed on to the Council.

In July, the Council requested information on the types of catch reports received by NMFS from foreign and U.S. fishermen. A summary of this information by Phil Chitwood stated that the catch reports received by NMFS consist of the weekly foreign reported catch, the joint venture weekly reported catch, and the daily foreign Tanner crab catch. Additionally, each nation is required to submit detailed annual reports showing catch and effort by vessel class, by gear, by month, by one-half degree latitude and one degree longitude blocks. These data are used by NWAFC scientists for stock assessment. The Region also receives summarized U.S. catch reports from ADF&G.

Dr. Bevan expressed concern regarding the method of data compilation, and cited the Pacific Council's computerized information system as a possible model for our needs. Phil Chitwood responded that our contract with ADF&G will provide for development of a more complete information system.

Chairman Clem Tillion and Jim Branson will be attending the Chairmen's meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico on October 20th and 21st. The Council was asked to give direction to the Chairman and Executive Director in preparation for attending the meeting.

The Executive Director called to the Council's attention a study by Deputy Director Clarence Pautzke on the reserve release procedure. A report of that study is attached to these Minutes as Appendix I.

The Executive Director reported on the Status of Fishery Management Plans. Amendment #5 to the Tanner Crab FMP, sent to D.C. on November 7, 1979, is being reviewed by the General Counsel in Washington. Amendment #6, a series of minor regulation changes, was submitted to Terry Leitzell on June 2, 1980. Implementation is expected on January 15, 1981. A workgroup which met on September 22nd composed a summary of 1981 amendments for Council review and approval for public hearings.

A summary of the King Crab Plan was sent in early September to ADF&G area offices for distribution at tank inspection time. The draft FMP is awaiting revision of the DEIS and the DRA before being sent to public review.

The Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands FMP is in the Washington office of NMFS and implementation is expected January 1, 1981. The 1981 amendment package, which was approved for public review in July, will be sent to Washington shortly. The deadline for 1982 amendment proposals, which would be implemented in January, 1982, is January 1.

The 60-day Secretarial review on Amendment #9 to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP began August 28th. Implementation is planned for late February, 1981. Proposals for the 1982 amendments should be submitted before January 1. Implementation of those amendments is also expected in January, 1982.

Amendments to the Salmon Plan for 1981 were developed by the PDT at their meeting on September 21st and 22nd for Council review and approval for public hearings. A DEIS and DRA will probably be required to accompany the 1981 amendments.

The SSC Subgroup reviewed the Herring FMP on September 22nd. Further revisions are necessary before Council review and approval for public hearings. The FEIS and FRA are being written and will be added to the FMP as soon as possible.

Council action was necessary to resolve the October/December meeting dates.

*Bob Mace moved for adoption of the October and December meeting schedule outlined by the Executive Director; seconded by Joseph Demmert. There being no objections, the October meeting will be held on the 30th and 31st, and the December meeting will be held the 10th through the 12th, with joint public hearings with the Alaska Board of Fisheries scheduled for December 9th.*

In looking to the adoption of a 1981 meeting schedule, the necessity for meetings in locations other than Anchorage was stressed. It was pointed out that Sitka and Kodiak are most often chosen for meetings; however, there are many other fishing communities which have not been utilized. Because of the problem of obtaining adequate hotel and meeting room space in these areas, *Don Bevan moved that the Council adopt the schedule presented by the Executive Director and give further study to the locations of the out-of-town meetings; seconded by Bob Mace. There being no objections, the 1981 meeting schedule, attached to these Minutes as Appendix II, was adopted as presented.*

B-2 Alaska Department of Fish and Game Report on Domestic Fisheries

Fred Gaffney of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game reported that through August, 1980, U.S. fishermen have taken 5,600 mt of groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska and 30,600 mt in the Bering Sea.



The Gulf of Alaska catch included 2,100 mt of pollock and 1,125 mt of flounder and rockfish. The Bering Sea catch included 12,600 mt of pollock, 9,300 mt of yellowfin sole, and 8,000 mt of Pacific cod. A total catch of 85 million pounds is expected by year-end, compared to a catch of 19 million pounds last year. A good portion of the U.S. catch has been delivered to foreign processing ships in joint venture operations.

Inshore abundance estimates for Pacific herring in the Bering Sea have been finalized and were presented to the Council in a written report by Alan P. Kingsbury, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This report shows a total biomass estimate of 82,900 mt, with 62,300 mt from the Togiak District. A significant dead loss of 5,200 mt occurred in that district.

### B-3 National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Foreign Fisheries

Ron Naab reported that the seasonal peak of 517 foreign vessels off Alaska had ended when the Japanese high seas salmon fleet terminated its operations at the end of July. Continuing that decline, as of Wednesday, September 24th there were only 264 foreign vessels operating off Alaska, with no Taiwanese vessels as of that date.

As of September 17th, Japanese vessel concentration consisted of 43 vessels in the Gulf of Alaska fishing for pollock and Pacific cod; 26 vessels off the Aleutians fishing for pollock; and 154 vessels fishing for pollock in the Bering Sea.

Soviet vessels included two in joint venture operations in the Bering Sea fishing for yellowfin sole and Pacific cod; and 12 vessels in the Gulf of Alaska fishing for pollock and Atka mackerel. South Korean concentration consisted of 15 vessels fishing for pollock and flounders and 1 vessel in a joint venture operation in the Bering Sea; 2 vessels fishing for Atka mackerel and pollock off the Aleutians; and 1 vessel fishing for sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska. One West German vessel was located in the Bering Sea and 2 Polish vessels in the Gulf of Alaska, all fishing for pollock. The Taiwanese have left the fishing grounds, probably having reached their annual quota.

As of August 30th, foreign groundfish fishermen have taken 146,000 mt, or 43% of their allocations, in the Gulf of Alaska, and 787,000 mt, or 53% of their allocations, in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands area.

The Japanese have taken almost all of their 7,500 mt allocation of Tanner crab, with only one boat still fishing in the Bering Sea. Catch composition was 83% opilio, 12% bairdi, and 4% hybrids.

Ray Arnaudo addressed the question of the additional allocation for Taiwan. He said that their allocation was withheld due to

whaling operations, and until such time as those whaling operations cease, the Departments of State and Commerce have decided to withhold any further allocations.

With respect to Soviet allocations, Mr. Arnaudo said that the Soviets probably will not receive an allocation for 1981. Their current Gulf of Alaska allocation runs through October 31, 1980.

Dr. Bevan asked if the Council would have the opportunity to advise the State Department on future allocations to Mexico. Mr. Arnaudo responded that the Mexicans are not expected to fish for the remainder of the year. With respect to next year's possible allocation, he said that a reserve will be set aside so that if they request the allocation and show that they intend to fish, a portion of that reserve may be released to them. He also indicated that the State Department would be pleased to have the Council's input regarding decisions on Gulf of Alaska allocations which will be made in October.

Testimony was given by Mick Stevens, International Division Manager of Marine Resources Company, regarding their joint venture operations in the Bering Sea. For 107 days of operation, their total catch was 13,177 mt, consisting of 8,638 mt of food grade yellowfin sole, 3,118 mt of fishmeal grade fish, and 1,421 mt of food grade Pacific cod.

Marine Resources is making plans for a similar operation next year; however, their ability to market the fish will depend on competition from other countries with allocations of yellowfin sole. Their current market has been in several countries -- the Orient, Northern Europe, the Middle East -- and some domestic processors have expressed an interest in their products. Current ex-vessel prices for yellowfin sole have been approximately 6¢/pound; for cod, approximately 9¢/pound.

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

Commander Doug Smith, U.S. Coast Guard, reported to the Council on surveillance and FCMA enforcement. Since the last Council meeting, 4 reports of violation and 8 citations have been issued. Additionally, 5 foreign fishing vessels, all Japanese, were seized for severe FCMA infractions. Four were systematically overlogging less valuable species, primarily pollock, and underlogging more valuable species, such as Pacific Ocean perch and other rockfish. The other vessel was seized for a straight underlogging violation.

Vice-Chairman Lokken asked if the increase in seizures was a result of increased violations or improved surveillance. Commander Smith stated that two of the five violations were probably because of the vessels' remote location; however, the other three seizures can be attributed to increased skill by boarding personnel.

Discussion followed regarding the accuracy of catch reports submitted by the Japanese. Commander Smith stated that there have been substantial differences between the actual ships' catch logs and the figures reported by the Japanese government. This inaccurate reporting has been included in the complaints for two of the recent suits filed. Council member McVey stressed the need for accurate information, as FMP's are based wholly on this data, and noted that the recent violation rate is approaching pre-FCMA levels.

Further discussion centered around the permitting procedure for ships with previous violations. The Executive Director recapped past Council thinking, which was that if litigation on a case has been completed, the Council feels it is unfair to punish a second time by withholding a permit. Patrick Travers explained that permit sanctions of two to four months have been imposed as a result of recent litigation proceedings.

Vice-Chairman Lokken encouraged the Council to look into corrective measures for the foreign data reporting inaccuracies as soon as possible.

B-5 NMFS Report on Tanner Crab Resource Survey in the Bering Sea

Jerry Reeves, Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, and Bob Otto, NMFS - Kodiak, presented results of the assessment of Tanner crab stocks from the 1980 NMFS trawl survey in the eastern Bering Sea. The 1980 trawl survey was conducted from May 12 to July 17, with approximately 360 tows being completed by two vessels. Coverage of commercial and immediate pre-recruit sized Tanner crabs was similar to that of the 1979 survey, but with less coverage on the outer shelf edge.

Dr. Reeves reported that estimates for commercial and pre-recruit sized C. opilio males are down substantially from the 1979 survey, especially in the region south of 58° North, where large males were down almost 50% and pre-recruits were down about 15%. Comparable estimates for crabs north of 58°N have remained unchanged or have increased over 1979 estimates. The total ABC for the 1981 C. opilio fishery is estimated at 91 million pounds, down 28% from the estimate for the 1979 fishery. Of this total, 78 million pounds is estimated south of 58°N and 13 million pounds is estimated north of 58°N.

The 1980 estimated abundance of legal male C. bairdi is about equal to the 1979 estimate, but the estimate of pre-recruit males is up somewhat. The combined estimate of legal and pre-recruit males results in an ABC of 41 million pounds for the 1981 fishery, an increase over the 1979 ABC of 27 million pounds.

Bob Otto reported that the heaviest concentrations of red king crab were found in the South District area, though abundance was

down approximately 20%. Per the 1980 survey, eastern Bering Sea estimates were 36.1 million crabs, and for Area T (Bristol Bay), 35.9 million crabs.

Concentration of blue king crab was heaviest in the St. Matthew area and the Pribilofs, but little or no interest in the fishery exists in the St. Matthew area. Estimates for the Northern District are 2.5 million crabs; in the Pribilof District, estimates are 9 million crabs -- up approximately 33%. Radical water temperature differences may have attributed to the difference in distribution.

Dr. Reeves reported further that opilio catch rates for the Japanese mothership were down 14%; for the Japanese independent fleet, down 21%; and for the U.S. fleet, down 19%.

For bairdi, indicators show that the 1981 catch should be comparable to the 1980 fishery. Highest abundance exists in crabs of 3" carapace width (pre-recruits).

#### B-6 U.S./Canada Negotiations Report by Dr. Lee Alverson

Dr. Lee Alverson reported to the Council that U.S./Canada negotiations are progressing positively, with joint effort to define and solve problems in evidence. Of primary importance are the problems of interception and management of the trans-boundary areas. The negotiating teams are committed to finding a mechanism by which each nation may catch the fish it produces, with joint management effort.

A formula for interception has been potentially agreed upon, using the 1971-74 base period. Both sides are trying to maintain their current levels of interception. The Canadians feel that 75% of the fish heading for Canadian waters belong to Canada; the U.S. suggests that 50% should be the maximum. Both sides have agreed to submit information to a third party with regard to the data base, and will be bound by the third party's decision in the event that one side or the other is substantially out of accord.

The teams are seeking to reach agreement on the establishment of escapement goals whereby each nation would conduct its fishery in the manner necessary to reach its goals. A great deal of the total management process would fall on the State of Alaska.

After four years of joint management, the sides have agreed to make a general accounting of the effectiveness of the method. If either side intercepted more fish than they should have, an adjustment will be made. After another four years' monitoring, readjustment will be attempted. The teams will strive to build into the agreement the requirement for timely information.

Overall, Dr. Alverson indicated that the negotiations are progressing at an acceptable rate, with encouragement for joint management effort in the transboundary areas.

B-7 Report on West German Operations by Nordstern A.G.

Gunter Conradus, President of Applied Economics, introduced Ure Raadvaughn, Vice President of Marketing for Nordstern A.G., Captain Muschkeit, Fleet Captain for Nordstern, John Schmeidtke, West Coast Representative for Nordstern, and Jim Strichartz, General Counsel for 13th Regional Corporation. They reported that the FRIEDRICH BUSSE began fishing in the Bering Sea on August 28th with an allocation of 13,750 mt. Target species are pollock, cod, and other species, with catches to date primarily pollock. The FRIEDRICH BUSSE, 300' long, operates with a crew of 64 and has a complete processing facility.

In return for the allocation, Nordstern had agreed to: (1) purchase U.S. products similar to those they were catching; (2) train U.S. personnel in the fishing industry; and (3) provide space for scientific observers. Mr. Conradus addressed the problems and successes of Nordstern in these areas.

Regarding their purchases of U.S. products, primarily whitefish, Nordstern contacted 17 West Coast firms and received no offers of products. Two tentative offers were received at 40% above the current U.S. market price. Nordstern has signed a contract with Alaska Food Company for groundfish products with delivery beginning January 1, 1981.

Training U.S. personnel aboard the FREIDRICH BUSSE has been disappointing. Only one of the original five is still on board; three additional persons were boarded at Dutch Harbor, but one of those will be dropped due to extreme seasickness. Nordstern proposes to host one or two persons at a time for short periods to give them an idea of what working on a modern catcher/processor entails, and hopes to structure a more comprehensive training program for the future.

The economist/fisheries scientist on board the BUSSE is now gathering valuable data and this phase of the operation was termed very successful.

They reported that the quality of the Bering Sea fish compares favorably to European standards, and the catch rate is such that they need to fish only half a day to keep the processors working full time. They are well satisfied with the operation thus far and look forward to improvement in the training program and the availability of U.S. products for purchase.

B-8 IPHC Report on Halibut Pot Study

Don McCaughran, Director of the International Pacific Halibut Commission, reported the results of a study by IPHC and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, funded by the NPFMC, to determine the catch rates of halibut in various kinds of crab pots. The study showed that standard rectangular, side-entry crab pots took many more halibut than conical, top-loading pots. The study also indicated that the use of Tanner boards on

side-loading rectangular pots resulted in a higher crab catch and a lower halibut catch. Approximately 90% of the halibut caught were in good condition, and the average size of halibut caught with the use of Tanner boards was smaller. Final results of the study should be available in December.

Mr. McCaughran also gave a brief review of the halibut season to date. In the first 3 of 4 periods, the Canadian catch for Area 2 was 6.1 million pounds, while the U.S. catch was 3.2 million pounds. Canadian catch per effort was much higher this year at 70 pounds per skate compared to 47.8 pounds per skate last year. U.S. catch per effort was 77.9 pounds per skate compared to last year's 78.2 pounds per skate.

Total catch for Area 3 was 11.8 million pounds compared to a 1979 catch of 11.3 million pounds. Catch per unit of effort in Area 3 increased significantly, from 87.8 pounds per skate in 1979 to 117.6 pounds per skate in 1980.

Mr. McCaughran said the fish seem to be more available this year. The higher catch per unit of effort occurs more often with older fish, and seems to be increasing during the fishing season.

### C. OLD BUSINESS

#### C-1 Policy and Planning Subcommittee Meeting

The Policy and Planning Subcommittee met on August 27-28, 1980 in Anchorage. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the overall FMP process from the Council's standpoint and establish some preliminary guidelines on Council operations. The Council was asked to review the materials emanating from that meeting and provide direction for future Subcommittee action. With Council concurrence, the Subcommittee should proceed with the development of an annual plan-review cycle, which will become part of the policy document on Council operations.

The SSC reviewed the Policy and Planning Subcommittee's report at their meeting on September 3-4, 1980. The SSC revised the policy on plan development and maintenance contained in its report and suggested that as its answer to several of the issues raised at the Subcommittee meeting. The time required in the Federal regulatory process, the inability of the present review process to match events occurring in the fishery, the lack of a clear-cut annual schedule whereby Council advisory bodies and agencies can plan their activities for the year, and the concept of framework vs. regulatory plans were cited as major problem areas.

The SSC submitted its revised report, "North Pacific Fishery Management Council Operations: A Critique with Suggestions for Improvement", to the Council for their review. That report is made a part of these Minutes as Appendix III.

*As a result of Council discussion on the report of the Policy and Planning Subcommittee, the Council staff was instructed to draft a policy document on plan review and amendment procedures for Council approval.*

Richard Goldsmith, manager of the North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association, testified in favor of placing AP members on Plan Development Teams. Because AP members are chosen for their particular expertise in the fishery, their input can give wider perspective to the Plan. He also stressed that plans should be written in layman's English for greater readability and acceptance by the fishing community. He felt that closed PDT meetings are inconsistent with the FCMA, but agreed that spectators could be limited to listening to the proceedings without opportunity for input.

Bruce Bachen, fisheries biologist for the Alaska Trollers Association, testified that the method used this year on the troll plan did not allow private biologists to contribute. He said that the time for technical input is in the development stage, rather than in public hearings, and feels that private sector participation is necessary in PDT meetings.

#### C-2 FCMA Amendments Workgroup Meeting

The FCMA Amendments Workgroup met on August 28, 1980 in Anchorage to consider needed revisions to the FCMA. A summary of Workgroup discussions was presented to the Council for guidance on further action to be taken.

*Harold Lokken moved to defer action on this item until such time as the Council has had an opportunity to review proposed legislation; seconded by Bob Mace. There being no objections, the Council will defer action on this item until a later date.*

#### C-3 Joint Venture Criteria Workgroup

The Joint Venture Closure Criteria Workgroup met in Anchorage on August 28, 1980 to develop criteria to be used by the Regional Director in closing areas within the FCZ to foreign processing to protect shore-based U.S. processors. A report of the Workgroup was submitted to the Council for its review. Five criteria were suggested by Robert McVey during the Workgroup meeting, a summary of which was presented to the Council for review. Council approval was required to send the suggested criteria to the industry for review.

In the SSC's review of the Workgroup's report, the validity of the third proposed criterion, i.e., conservation basis for closure, was questioned. The SSC felt that if there must be a conservation basis for closure, that criterion becomes most important. The SSC concluded that each case must be evaluated on its own merits.

*It was the consensus of the Council that the five criteria suggested by Mr. McVey should be sent to the industry for comment.*

D-1 Pletnikoff Proposal for Joint Venture with Taiwan

Pat Pletnikoff, St. George Tanaq Corporation, presented a proposal for the development of the fishing industry of St. George Island in the Pribilofs in order to expand the economic base of that island community beyond their dependence on the fur seal harvest, which is presently under a ten-year moratorium. St. George Tanaq's development proposal includes shore-based hair crab harvesting, processing, and marketing, and a larger sea-based groundfish harvesting, processing, and marketing operation in joint-venture with the Highly Enterprise Corporation of Taiwan. The terms of the agreement call for the purchase of American-built vessels to be owned and operated by the joint-venture corporation and a program to train and employ Aleuts in both skilled and unskilled positions.

Because it is estimated that the program to acquire American-built vessels will require up to two years, a two-year allocation to Taiwan of 4,000 mt per year was requested for the operation. It is the intent of the joint-venture corporation to begin leased vessel operations in January, 1981 with a share of the new calendar-year foreign allocation.

Ray Arnaudo explained to Mr. Pletnikoff that there are two problems which can be foreseen: (1) allocations for Taiwan have been withheld due to their whaling operations per Department of Commerce regulations; and (2) allocations are not made on individual company's operations, but to the country as a whole.

Michael Jones, Project Coordinator for St. George Tanaq Corporation, told the Council that the long-range goal is to acquire American vessels; the use of Taiwanese vessels is envisioned only as a beginning. Seventy-five percent of the stock will be owned by St. George Corporation, with an arrangement for sharing the profits.

Patrick Travers interpreted the legal arrangements to be consistent with the arrangements for the FRIEDRICH BUSSE.

Mr. Lokken suggested that the Council should establish a policy to cover this type of request, as it seems that more of them will be received.

*Chairman Tillion asked Mr. Pletnikoff and Mr. Jones to make a formal presentation to the Council at the December meeting, after 1981 allocations are made, at which time the Council will render its decision on the project.*

D-2 Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee Nominations and Reorganization

The current AP and SSC members' terms expire in November. Members were asked at their meetings in Sitka if they cared to serve



another term; a call for nominations, to be received in the Council office by October 15, 1980, was announced in the Council's August newsletter. Nominees will be reviewed prior to the October meeting and new appointments will be announced on October 31, 1980.

Chairman Tillion asked the Council to consider granting authority to the Chairman to fill interim AP vacancies by appointment. The general consensus of the Council was that this was acceptable with the stipulation that all appointments be ratified by the Council. Patrick Travers said that the concept was legally sound.

*Hearing no objections, the Chairman of the Council will be granted the authority to fill interim vacancies on the Advisory Panel by appointment with final approval by the Council.*

Regarding their charter, the SSC recommended no change at this time. They felt there was no need to formalize membership quotas by agency or discipline, and adhered to the view that members should be appointed according to need for expertise.

The SSC will recommend new nominations, as required, to the Council at the October meeting with appointments to become effective at the December meeting. The SSC unanimously recommended that Dr. William Aron, Director of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, fill the unexpired term of Bert Larkins.

*Council member Bevan moved that the Council accept the recommendation of the SSC and appoint Dr. William Aron to fill the unexpired term of Bert Larkins; seconded by Mr. DiDonato. There being no objections, Dr. Aron will assume his place as a member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee.*

#### D-3 Election of Council Officers

Terms of office for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman expired on August 10, 1980. It was necessary for the Council to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the next one-year term.

*For the office of Chairman, Don Bevan nominated Clement Vincent Tillion; seconded by Jim Campbell. By unanimous consent, Clem Tillion was elected to serve as Council chairman for the coming year.*

*Bob Mace nominated Harold Lokken for the office of Vice-Chairman; seconded by Jim Campbell. By unanimous consent, Harold Lokken was elected to serve as Council Vice-Chairman for the coming year.*

#### D-4 Nominations for Council Seat to be Filled by Representative of the Alaska Board of Fisheries

The Policy and Planning Subcommittee recommended that a representative of the Alaska Board of Fisheries be designated to sit with the Council as a means of further coordinating Council and Board activities.

Don Bevan moved that the Council ask the Alaska Board of Fisheries to nominate a consultant to work with the Council, and that this consultant be paid a fee, travel, and expenses; seconded by Jim Campbell, with the stipulation that the Finance Committee should consider the additional expense of the position in their meeting scheduled for Thursday morning, September 25th.

In their meeting, the Finance Committee discussed the funding of a representative from the Board to attend Council meetings. It was the conclusion of the Committee that funds are not available in the FY 81 budget, and supplemental funding would have to be requested should the Council desire to fund the position.

After reviewing the Finance Committee's recommendation, Don Bevan amended his motion to ask the Alaska Board of Fisheries to nominate a representative to participate in Council meetings, deleting any reference to funding of expenses; seconded by Vice-Chairman Lokken. There being no objections, Chairman Tillion asked the Executive Director to contact the Board of Fisheries with the Council's request.

#### E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

##### E-1 Tanner Crab FMP

Fred Gaffney, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, presented a summary of the 1981 Tanner Crab FMP amendments prepared by the PDT in their meeting on September 22, 1980. A copy of that summary is attached to these Minutes as Appendix IV. The PDT considered the results of the NMFS Bering Sea crab survey; a report by Jim Richardson, NPFMC Economist, entitled "Market Aspects of the Foreign Allocation of C. Opilio Tanner Crab in the Bering Sea Under the Framework of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976"; the 1980-81 DAH report for C. opilio Tanner crab; the ADF&G staff recommendations of changes in Tanner crab guideline harvest levels for the Fall 1980 Board of Fisheries meeting; and the 1980-81 Tanner crab FMP amendments proposed by the Team.

The Team supported the calculations of ABC contained in Dr. Reeves' report on the crab resource survey, as well as the conclusions drawn in the marketing report by Richardson. Further, the Team agreed that the DAH report by Sig Jaeger presents a realistic appraisal of the current domestic ability given the present pricing of C. opilio. The team recommended, given the marketing problems experienced in the C. opilio fishery, the desire and intent of the domestic industry to utilize the entire OY for Tanner crab, and the excess physical capacity of the domestic industry, that DAH should be set equal to OY; therefore, TALFF should be zero.

The Team also recommended that the Council request public comment on changes in guideline harvest levels for 1980-81 similar to those presented to the Board of Fisheries. Because of the

impracticality of amending both the Plan and the Federal regulations in time for the 80-81 season, the Team recommended that the Council instruct the Regional Director to implement any changes in guideline harvest levels through his Field Order authority. The Team also plans to present a schedule for redrafting of the Tanner Crab FMP into a multi-year framework document similar to the current draft of the King Crab FMP. Submission to the Council of the redrafted Tanner Crab FMP is tentatively scheduled for March, 1981.

In their review of the Tanner Crab amendments and related materials, the SSC recommended that the amendments should go to public review; that guideline harvest level amendments cannot be enacted through the normal process and, therefore, should be implemented through the Regional Director's Field Order authority; and that the framework approach should be pursued for the Tanner Crab FMP.

The Advisory Panel accepted the PDT's recommendation that DAH equals OY up to the limits of ABC, and agreed that development of a framework plan should begin. The AP recognized that DAH=OY may not reach the limits of ABC in the next year or two, but felt that it was necessary in order for the domestic fishery to fully expand and utilize their resources.

Richard Goldsmith, manager of the North Pacific Fishing Vessel Owners' Association, testified that members of his organization own the majority of the Tanner crab vessels fishing in the Bering Sea. They feel that the document prepared by Jim Richardson offers a reasonable explanation of how the market operates and they support his conclusion that TALFF should be reduced to zero. It is their hope that this will allow the price to rise enough to make it profitable for them to fish north of 58°N.

Jay Hastings, representing the Japanese Fisheries Association, requested that the Japanese position be included as an option for public review. That position is that TALFF be maintained at 7,500 mt with the agreement that the Japanese will fish north of 58°N and south of 58°N west of 173°W. The justification for this option is that they do not believe that the U.S. industry will utilize the resource. He stated that the resource appears to be adequate south of 58°N for the domestic harvest; the resource west of 173°W and north of 58°N is adequate to sustain foreign fishing at the 7,500 mt TALFF level.

With regard to the Richardson report, Mr. Hastings said that they have many questions which they will address to the Council after the document has been translated. They do not believe that the Japanese fishing industry has any control over the Japanese Tanner crab market.

Mr. Shoji Nagata, representing the Japanese Tanner Crab Industry, testified through his interpreter against the proposed zero TALFF. He said that the Japanese industry wants to maintain utilization of its vessels and provide work for its employees.

Dr. Bevan and Mr. Meacham requested more detailed information on the Japanese position. Mr. Hastings agreed to submit information on the Japanese position in writing to the Council during the Tanner crab public comment period.

*Harold Lokken moved that the Council tentatively set TALFF at zero with the final decision subject to approval at the December meeting after the public hearings on the Tanner crab amendments have been completed. This will be an indication of the Council's view. If, in the ensuing time, additional evidence is strong enough to change that view, the Council can take other action. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bevan, who stipulated that the Council is indicating a preferred option by this action. By unanimous consent, the Council tentatively set TALFF at zero, thereby indicating their preferred option for the 1981 amendments.*

Mr. Gaffney reminded the Council that the PDT had recommended announcement to the public that guideline harvest levels are going to be changed and are open to discussion.

*It was agreed by the Council that information regarding the change in guideline harvest levels which directly affect the Plan should be sent to the public with the rest of the package.*

#### E-2 King Crab FMP

A summary of the Draft King Crab Fishery Management Plan was mailed to ADF&G stations in Kodiak and Dutch Harbor for distribution during tank inspections at the beginning of the king crab season. The Plan has been printed and distribution is scheduled to begin on September 30th.

The first hearings in October will be on the DFMP only. The EIS is expected to catch up with the process so that hearings in early December will be on both the DEIS and the FMP. Preliminary plans are to schedule the first hearing for Dutch Harbor on October 21st. Other suggested hearing dates and locations are Nome on October 21st or 22nd, Seattle and Kodiak around the 4th of December, and Anchorage the week of the December Council meeting. Council action was required for finalizing the hearing schedule.

*It was the consensus of the Council that the Executive Director should finalize the hearing schedule at his discretion, and so instructed him.*

#### E-3 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for two documents, the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP and the 1981 amendment, has been printed. Distribution of the DEIS may begin after notice of availability is published in the Federal Register. The 1981 amendment package is completed except for final documents

and revision of the Regulatory Analysis. Public hearings on the amendment can begin in conjunction with the king crab hearings in October, and combined DEIS/amendment hearings can be held in December in conjunction with the king crab hearings.

The Executive Director recommended that the Council call for proposed amendments from the public and industry for the 1982 fishing year at this meeting, setting a cut-off date for proposal submission of January 1, 1981.

The Domestic Annual Harvest for 1980 has been a great deal higher than was expected, almost totally in the joint venture fishery. If these fisheries are to continue at their present levels, or to expand in 1981, the FMP must be revised immediately to reflect a higher DAH for yellowfin flounder and other flounder. A proposed amendment was presented to the Council, and is attached to these Minutes as Appendix V.

In their review of the DAH amendment, the SSC recommended that the proposed amendment be released for public review. The subgroup recommended, however, that the SSC examine 1980 incidental catch data for joint venture operations prior to taking a final position on the issue.

The Advisory Panel recommended that public hearings be held in conjunction with hearings for the King Crab FMP. A cut-off date for receipt of amendment proposals for the 1982 season was recommended. In their review of the proposed DAH amendment, the AP concurred that the amendment should be released for public review.

*It was the consensus of the Council that the proposed amendment to increase DAH in the Bering Sea in 1981 should be approved for review and final action at the October meeting.*

Ray Christensen, Matt Nicolai, Robert Denham, and Angie Dugick, representatives of the Calista Corporation and Cook Inlet Region, Inc., testified regarding a proposal for a joint venture with Norway. Bob Denham told the Council that no action was requested at this time, but Calista and CIRI merely wished to advise the Council of their plans.

Because shareholders of Calista and CIRI have a long history and tradition in the fishing industry, the corporations have looked at the bottomfish industry as a target for large-scale investment. Angie Dugick, CIRI, told the Council that a joint venture agreement between CIRI and Calista was signed in August of 1980. A catcher/processor has been considered first choice for investment purposes because it would be the most viable form of early entry into bottomfishing. After considerable research, it was decided that the Norwegians would be most compatible in doing a demonstration to obtain data. The demonstration is envisioned as a two to three year project with observers aboard to gather data. If the first year is profitable, the Norwegians will be training Americans aboard the vessels in the second year. Norway

has contacted the State Department to begin the process for obtaining a GIFA, and hopes to receive an allocation in the vicinity of 30,000 mt for 1981. The ultimate objective of Calista and CIRI is the construction of one or two catcher/processors.

Matt Nicolai told the Council that the companies they are working with have a world-wide market. The Norwegians would be underwriting the risks involved in the operation; however, it may be necessary for the native corporations to seek funding for the observer program.

Norman Cohen, representing 15 villages and 5 organizations of Western Alaska, reported to the Council on the current status of the incidental catch amendment (closure of INPFC areas I and II to foreign trawling to prevent incidental catch of salmon) presented at the July meeting. Because the FMP will not be in effect this fall, NMFS was petitioned to effect the closure under the PMP. On September 3, 1980, NMFS responded that they would decide in 120 days on the proposed regulations. On September 18, 1980, a group of Western Alaska citizens attended the Congressional sub-committee hearing on the subject held in Washington, D.C. Mr. Cohen asked the Council to recommend to NMFS that they go forward with the petition and begin proposed rulemaking in this area.

Aven Anderson, Plan Reviewer for NMFS, Washington, confirmed the status of the advance notice of proposed rulemaking, which was scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on Monday, September 29, 1980, and noted that processing of the paperwork has been the cause of the bottleneck on this petition.

*The Council instructed the Executive Director to write a letter to Terry Leitzell to encourage the Department of Commerce to complete action on this petition, stating that 120 days without action constitutes negative action on the petition.*

#### E-4 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

Proposals for 1982 amendments were requested, with a cut-off date suggested at December 15, 1980 or January 1, 1981. Following that cut-off date, the Plan Development Team should begin work on the amendment package with implementation scheduled for January 1, 1982.

The Advisory Panel requested that the Council instruct the PDT to consider the appropriateness of amendments for 1981 which would close the Eastern regulatory area to foreign trawling and/or reduce the OY and incidental catch limitations for species of groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska. The request was based on the following:

- (1) Longliners' inability to comment on the 1981 amendments at the May meeting because of halibut opening and cancellation of May AP meeting.

- (2) Prevention of further depletion of sablefish and POP stocks.
- (3) Expected new information relative to the biological status of groundfish stocks.
- (4) Elimination of gear conflicts between foreign trawlers and U.S. fishermen.

It was suggested by the Council that, rather than opening the subject to public testimony now, a proposal be drafted by the PDT with testimony to be taken at the next Council meeting. Bud Boddy, AP Vice-Chairman, concurred that this would be acceptable. Additional documentation will be submitted to the Council dealing with gear conflicts, sablefish, and POP stocks for their use in making a determination.

Garri Constantine, owner of a commercial salmon troller and crewman on a black cod boat, testified before the Council regarding the removal of Japanese trawling from the Coast of Alaska, and supported closure of Southeastern waters west of Cape Suckling during troll salmon season to foreign trawling.

Scott Stafne, Roberley Potter, and Jake Phillips testified in favor of the closure of the eastern regulatory area east of 140°, and suggested a reduction in OY and incidental catch limitations on the Gulf as possible amendments.

Ms. Potter addressed the importance of the fishing industry to the Sitka area, citing the supportive measures taken by the city and borough on behalf of the industry. She endorsed closure of the area to foreign trawlers, citing the biological depletion of sablefish and economic depletion of Pacific Ocean perch as primary reasons, in an effort to make domestic fishermen's investments more profitable.

Jake Phillips said that he believes sablefish are being removed from the area undetected, and proposed 100% observer coverage of the foreign fishery to obtain information on stock status.

Michael Mayo, longliner in the eastern district of the Gulf of Alaska, testified regarding his experience with stock depletion, and stated that the time is appropriate to close the area to foreign trawling because the number of foreign trawlers there now is at a low level.

Kelly Brennan, longliner, testified regarding his experiences in 1980 with substantial gear losses from Japanese trawling occurring 35 miles southwest of Cape Spencer.

Greg Baker, fisherman, offered to present domestic catch per unit of effort data to support his assumption of the decline in sablefish stocks, and says that Japanese trawlers may be targeting on sablefish.

John Marr, a new longliner in the eastern regulatory area, said that foreign trawlers are coming inshore as close as 4 miles in the evenings, passing over domestic gear, and then returning to outlying areas in the mornings. He expressed concern not only over the size of these vessels, but the fact that they refuse to communicate. He also believes that sablefish stocks are at approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  the level of last year.

Peter Zachara, longliner and black cod fisherman, testified that support by the Council is necessary for domestic fishermen even if it means moving the foreign trawlers out of the area entirely. He said that after the trawlers pass through the area, catch per set drops drastically.

Jay Hastings, general counsel for the Japan Fisheries Association, spoke to the Council regarding the communication system currently in effect for Japanese vessels. Mr. Hastings said that he would be available to anyone who had questions on the communication system, and would help in any way he could to resolve these problems.

*After listening to the public testimony, the Council unanimously agreed to go forward with the call for proposals for 1982 amendments to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP with a cut-off date of January 1, 1981 and directed the staff and PDT to develop background material for a 1981 amendment to solve the problem of foreign trawling, low sablefish and POP populations, and gear conflicts in the Eastern Regulatory area. The Council would consider the proposed amendment at its next meeting.*

#### E-5 Salmon FMP

Major proposed revisions to the High Seas Salmon FMP for 1981 have been completed and the document is ready for public comment. The limited entry analysis by John Garner was submitted to the Council for review. The public hearing schedule established for other FMP's can also be used for public input on the Salmon Plan amendments; however, additional hearings in Southeast Alaska were suggested.

Mel Seibel, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, served as primary spokesman for the Salmon Plan Development Team. He presented the PDT's recommendations for the salmon troll fishery in the FCZ for 1981, including suggestions for a minimum reduction of 10% of the 1980 OY; limited entry; a shortened offshore troll season; restrictions on expansion of the troll fishery offshore by establishing a baseline beyond which no fishing would be allowed; limiting the number of gurdies to 4 for power trollers and 2 for hand trollers; and more stringent reporting requirements. A copy of the PDT's recommendations is attached to these Minutes as Appendix VI.

The SSC Salmon Subcommittee met with the Council and AP Salmon Subcommittees and the Plan Development Team to review the recommendations of the PDT. As a result, the SSC recommended that the



Council review the proposed objectives from the standpoint of their appropriateness as objectives of a revised FMP, and that the regulatory proposals alone be submitted for public review as proposed 1981 amendments to the existing FMP with supportive documentation from the 1980 fisheries to be made available to the public as soon as possible. The SSC reserved comment on the appropriateness of the regulatory amendments pending review of the entire redrafted FMP being completed by Natural Resources Consultants.

In their consideration of the Salmon FMP, the Advisory Panel moved to forward the PDT's recommendations to public review with the addition of 3 proposals submitted by AP member Eric Jordan:

1. Reducing coho season to July 1 - September 10.
2. Allow fishing to continue for other species when one species is closed, i.e., allow coho fishing if chinook season is closed.
3. Outlaw treble hooks.

In their actions, the AP did not endorse Jordan's proposals; rather they recommended that the proposals be sent to the public for review.

Wilbur Johnson, member of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, (CRITFC) testified before the Council regarding the Indians' views on the depletion of the natural chinook salmon stocks of the upper Columbia River.

Doug Dompier, fisheries biologist and manager of fisheries technical services for CRITFC, gave an update on the chinook fishery for 1980. Spawning escapement should normally be in the range of 120,000 fish, but this year it was less than 54,000. The fall chinook run this year is projected at less than 50% of the normal run, with seasons of 1 day for non-Indian fishermen and 5 days for treaty fishermen. Five years ago, treaty fishermen had a 45-day season. As a result of the evidence indicating serious depletion of the natural chinook stocks, Mr. Dompier suggested as a possible option for the amendment package closure of the FCZ from Cape Suckling south.

Lewis Schnaper, Alaska Trollers Association, testified that the long-term goal of the Council should be stabilization of the fishery, expressing concern that the PDT's recommendations seemed to reduce the size of the fishery. He noted the importance and uniqueness of the Alaskan troll fishery to the market place. Mr. Schnaper suggested as an alternative to heads-on landings that heads-on should be continued for boats which ice fish, but not for freezer boats. He indicated that ATA would present evidence to the Council in support of the existing 4-line and 6-line gear limits.

Bruce Bachen, fisheries biologist for the Alaska Trollers Association, encouraged the Council to urge timely release of supporting information so that the public will be able to evaluate it before major hearings. As a proposal for improving the reporting by fishermen, Mr. Bachen suggested use of a mail-in form.

Scott Stafne, counsel for Alaska Trollers Association, reviewed the current status of the hand trollers' court suit. He also requested that data used to determine OY be made available to the public at least 10 days before voting on the amendments.

Chairman Tillion addressed the representatives of the Alaska Trollers Association on the position of limited entry vs. no trolling in the FCZ. He said that fishermen cannot go on taking a larger and larger share of fish not raised in Alaska without having repercussions from areas where the fish are raised. Further, if the Council must side with either the fisherman or the fish, it will be with the fish.

Eric Jordan, hand troller and NPFMC Advisory Panel member, testified before the Council in support of his suggestions for additions to the PDT's recommendations for amendments. With him was Larry Calvin, Chairman of the Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Panel, who further supported these recommendations.

Testimony was heard from Southeastern trollers Lucinda Hites, Bill Frost, Maurice Ingman, Bill Stokes, Orville Anderson, Don Beirce, and James Rideout, concerning the detrimental effects of the PDT's recommendations on their way of life.

Upon completion of the public testimony, the Council was required to decide which of the options presented would be sent to the public for review.

*Chairman Tillion presented an option proposing a limited entry policy for the FCZ which would be established parallel to the state system. A lower number of permits would be available than under the state system, but they would be available to both hand and power trollers meeting the following criteria:*

*1. Any person currently holding an Alaska or FCZ permit who made at least two deliveries from an outer district in each of two years from 1973 to 1978, and also made two or more deliveries from an outer district in 1979 or 1980 will be eligible for a fully transferable FCZ permit. This permit would be tied to the existing Alaska permit and would not be severable.*

*2. Any person currently holding an Alaska or FCZ permit who made two deliveries from an outer district during both 1979 and 1980 will be eligible for a non-transferable FCZ permit.*

*Eligibility will be based primarily on fish tickets. Affidavits alone are not enough.*

A buy-back program shall be instituted to reduce fishing pressure.

The percentage of the total West Coast salmon production which has traditionally been harvested off Southeast Alaska (based on the 1970-1979 average or some more appropriate period) will be the guideline for future salmon harvest levels. Any increase in production from non-Alaskan sources will be subtracted from the total biomass estimate before OY is computed. Thus, an increase in production in Canada, for example, will not be included in the OY for the Southeast Alaska fishery.

In considering which of the options presented to the Council would be included in the package going to the public for review, Chairman Tillion stressed that the Council should attempt to present the broadest possible range of options to the public. Dr. Bevan suggested addition of an option to retain heads-on for fin-clipped fish only. Hank Wendler suggested setting the FCZ catch at zero as another option.

Dr. Bevan moved that all the options presented be included in the package to go the public for review; seconded by Gene DiDonato. There being no objection, the Council unanimously agreed that all options presented should be sent to the public for review.

The Council agreed that public hearings for the salmon amendments should be held concurrently in Juneau and Sitka on November 13, 1980, and in Ketchikan on November 14, 1980; and that testimony on the salmon amendments will also be received at the king crab/groundfish hearings scheduled for Dutch Harbor, Nome, Kodiak, and Seattle.

#### E-6 Herring FMP

The Herring Plan Development Team has revised the draft FMP to incorporate several options which were directed by the Council during the April meeting. The FEIS and FRA will be available in early October. Council action was required to review, and possibly approve, the Herring FMP draft.

The SSC reviewed the September, 1980 draft FMP with the Plan Development Team and found it to be complete and generally acceptable for Secretarial review with only two exceptions: (1) The SSC suggested that the Team prepare a diagram of the procedures to allocate the preliminary and final OY's between the various fisheries. The diagram will supplement the description of the allocations procedures in the Plan and will provide an easily understood single page illustration of the allocation process. (2) The SSC found the discussion of herring time/area closures and the Team's recommendations in the Plan to be somewhat unclear. The Team was requested to revise this section to clarify the issue of time/area closures and the Team's position.

With regard to the Bering Sea Herring biomass estimates, the SSC received two conflicting reports. Spawning ground and aerial survey data indicate a precipitous decline in the status of stocks, while projections based on age composition, growth, mortality, and recruitment indicate the 1980 herring biomass in the Bering Sea to approximate that of 1979. The SSC discussed the conflicting biomass estimates with the Team without resolving differences. The SSC subgroup on herring is scheduled to meet prior to the October SSC meeting to review the two estimates in detail, and the SSC will report its findings to the Council at the October Council meeting.

The Advisory Panel concurred with the SSC and approved the body of the Herring Plan with additional clarification of the allocations scheme and herring savings areas in the FMP as recommended by the SSC.

The Executive Director told the Council that the best course of action would be the addition of the Herring FMP to the October Council agenda after the Plan Development Team has had an opportunity to incorporate the SSC/AP recommendations for clarification.

Steve Johnson, representing Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association and Hokuten Trawlers Association, testified before the Council regarding the public's entitlement to review the biomass estimates and make comments thereon. He also expressed concern over the language in the Plan regarding time/area closures and suggested that the public be able to review the clarified language before the Council acts on the final draft Plan.

Norman Cohen, representing 15 villages and 5 organizations in Western Alaska, discussed the herring/savings area. He asked the Council to direct the Plan Development Team to review the situation and include in the Plan provisions for the herring savings area during the winter months.

Mick Stevens, Marine Resources Company, pointed out deficiencies in the draft FMP with respect to the proposed allocation scheme, stock status, and other facets which he believes were not closely addressed by the Plan Development Team. Mr. Stevens agreed to provide additional information to the Council on these points of discrepancy.

*Chairman Tillion asked for approval by the Council to place the Herring FMP on the agenda for the October meeting at which time the recommendations of the Plan Development Team will be heard. The Council agreed unanimously in favor of this action.*

#### F-1 Contracts

Council approval was required on the final reports for Contract 77-5, "An Observer Program for the Domestic Groundfish Fishery in the Gulf of Alaska (and in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands

Area)"; Contract 78-4, "The Development and Enhancement of a Computerized Fisheries Information System"; Contract 79-3, "Troll Salmon Tag Recovery Program; and Contract 80-2, "Keypunching and Analysis of Halibut Fish Tickets".

The SSC recommended approval for final payment on Contracts 77-5, 78-4, and 80-2. However, with respect to Contract 79-3, the contractor had not completed the redraft of the final report as of that time and has scheduled the final draft to be available in November. The SSC noted that the confusion in getting the final report amended was not the fault of the contractor.

The Finance Committee met on September 25, 1980 to review the subject contracts for final payment. Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting are attached to these Minutes as Appendix VII.

Upon recommendation of the SSC, the Finance Committee recommended approval for final payment on Contract 77-5 in the amount of \$15,718.28; on Contract 78-4 in the amount of \$49,799.74; and on Contract 80-2 in the amount of \$10,000.

*Finance Committee Chairman Jim Campbell moved for acceptance of the Finance Committee's recommendations for final payments on the subject contracts; seconded by Bob Mace. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

#### F-2 New Contract Proposals

Action on this item is contained in F-3, Review of FY 81 Programmatic Funding Requests.

#### F-3 Review of FY 81 Programmatic Funding Requests

The SSC reviewed its previous actions on the proposals which had been received for consideration for FY 81 funding and the actions of the Finance Committee at their July, 1980 meeting. The SSC ranked the proposals for presentation to the Finance Committee. A copy of the SSC's priorities for research funding is attached to these Minutes as Appendix VIII. Project descriptions will be available by the next meeting so that Council staff may start development of the necessary RFP's or contracts.

The Finance Committee recommended acceptance of the research priorities developed by the SSC in concept, in an amount up to \$580,000. It was noted that some of the studies could probably be funded and/or administered by other agencies, and the Executive Director was requested to pursue these possibilities. The Finance Committee recommended that any funds saved should be protected for the "rapid response, unforeseen data need" line item.

*Finance Committee Chairman Jim Campbell moved for acceptance of the Finance Committee's recommendations with regard to requests for programmatic funding; seconded by Bob Mace. There being no objections, it was so ordered.*

F-4 Financial Status Report

For Council review only; no action taken.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Walt Pasternak, Sitka power troller, testified before the Council in support of the ban on treble hooks, efforts to enhance the coho and salmon stocks, and elimination of the foreign high seas trawl fishery east of 140°.

Testimony was received again from Don Bierce, who supports limited entry as the key to the buy-back program and the salvation for people who are going to remain part of the fishery.

H. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Lokken reported that the State Department has been requested to follow up investigations on the high number of recent Japanese violations in an effort to control and reduce the incidences of future violations.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Thirty-Fifth Plenary Session of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council adjourned on September 26, 1980 at 11:55 a.m.

APPENDICES TO MINUTES  
September, 1980

- APPENDIX I Study of Reserve Release Procedures by Clarence Pautzke
- APPENDIX II Approved 1981 Council Meeting Schedule
- APPENDIX III "NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL OPERATIONS: CRITIQUE WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT"
- APPENDIX IV Tanner Crab Plan Development Team's Summary of Proposed Amendments
- APPENDIX V Proposed DAH Amendment to Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Fishery Management Plan
- APPENDIX VI Salmon Plan Development Team Recommendations for Proposed Amendments
- APPENDIX VII Finance Committee Minutes
- APPENDIX VIII SSC Research Priorities for FY 1981