



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20235

11 APR 1977

Mr. Elmer Rasmuson
Chairman
North Pacific Fishery
Management Council
P.O. Box 3136DT
Anchorage, Alaska 96813

Dear Mr. Rasmuson:

NOAA and the National Marine Fisheries Service, in cooperation with the Regional Fishery Management Councils, are co-sponsoring a National Workshop on the Concept of Optimum Yield in Fishery Management. The workshop will take place June 6-10 at the downtown Sheraton in Houston, Texas.

The workshop will consist of two sessions: a technical session (June 6-7) and a Council session (June 9-10). The technical session will be comprised of formal presentations on various aspects of optimum yield and a panel discussion. The program will be structured to allow substantial general discussion of the issues raised by the presentations and the panel. The Council session will be made up of summaries of the technical session material and discussions of the management and decision-making processes which will transform the optimum yield concept into a dynamic management tool. Between these sessions, on June 8th, a small group will meet to prepare a report on the technical session and a detailed agenda for the Council session.

We would like to invite you as Chairman of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, your Council's Executive Director, a representative of your Scientific and Statistical Committee, and one other member of your Council if you so desire to attend the Council session of this workshop on June 9 and 10. We would also like you to ask one of your Scientific and Statistical Committee members to attend the technical session on June 6 and 7 and participate in the panel discussion on problems in preparing fishery management plans and the specification of optimum yield. NOAA will pay the travel and per diem expenses for these four representatives. The workshop is open to all others who may be interested, and they may attend either or both of the sessions at their own expense.

APR 18 1977

We hope that participation by you and your representatives, along with representatives from State and Federal agencies and experts in various fields of fishery science, industry, and recreation, will result in a rigorous and productive discussion of the concept of optimum yield and its applications to fishery management.

A preliminary program for the workshop is enclosed. Please let us know if you will be able to attend these portions of the workshop, and who your representatives will be so that we can make the necessary arrangements. If you have any questions concerning the workshop, please contact either of us or Dr. Mike Orbach (Fisheries Management Operations Division, NMFS, F31, Washington, D.C. 20235, (202) 634-7454).

We look forward to seeing you in Houston.

Sincerely,



Henry Lyman
Chairman, New England Fishery
Management Council

Brian Rothschild
Director, Office of Long Range Planning
and Policy Development, NMFS

Enclosure

OPTIMUM YIELD WORKSHOP

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Houston, Texas - June 6-10, 1977

I. Technical session, June 6 and 7

A. Monday, June 6th:

- 1) Introduction and opening remarks
- 2) The Concept of Optimum Yield and the Fishery Management Plan
- 3) The interpretation and analysis of optimum yield

(technical presentations)

B. Tuesday, June 7th:

- 1) Optimum Yield - Applications and case studies
(technical presentations)
- 2) Problems in preparing fishery management plans and the specification of optimum yield; Panel discussion by members of the Scientific and Statistical Committees of the Regional Councils and industry and recreation representatives.

(A small group will meet on Wednesday, June 8th, to prepare a report on the technical session and a detailed agenda for the Council session.)

II. Council Session on Optimum Yield, June 9 and 10:

A. Thursday, June 9th:

- 1) Introduction

II. Council Session on Optimum Yield, June 9 and 10:

A. Thursday, June 9th: (continued)

2) Presentation of the results of the technical session:

- a. The Concept of Optimum Yield and the Fishery Management Plan
- b. The interpretation and analysis of optimum yield
- c. Applications and case studies
- d. Problems in the preparation of fishery management plans and the specification of optimum yield

3) Discussion following the agenda developed on Wednesday, June 8th.

B. Friday, June 10th:

- 1) Continuation of discussion
- 2) Summary and closing remarks