

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 19, 1985

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Finance Committee met May 19, 1985 in the Sheraton Hotel with the following in attendance: John Winther (Chairman), John Harville, Fred Gaffney, Robert McVey, Jim Branson, and Judy Willoughby. *+ John Peterson*

The Councils were notified by Bill Gordon that they would receive additional administrative funds. The NPFMC is supposed to receive an additional \$84,558. A revised budget for the total of \$1,067,200 was reviewed and passed with an objection by Robert McVey for the proposed foreign travel by staff members to the INPFC.

The Council's FY86 budgets should be submitted to the Central Office in July. As there are no scheduled Council meetings until September, a budget was reviewed and accepted for a total of \$1,179,144. Of this total, \$40,000, was included for the rewrite of the Gulf of Alaska FMP, \$8,000 for a required annual audit, and \$12,000 increase for telephone expenses to cover the numerous conference calls planned.

A tax deferred plan (403b) for the staff was reviewed. This will be a "no cost" benefit to the Council.

*Winther move adopted  
Save second. -*

*Pass no objection*

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC, and AP Members  
FROM: Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director  
DATE: May 13, 1985  
SUBJECT: Status of Contracts and Programmatic Funds

ACTION REQUIRED

1. Final contract approvals:
  - (a) Contract 83-4: Joint Venture Trawl Logbook Program
  - (b) Contract 84-1: Sea Lion Pup Census
  - (c) Contract 84-3: Origin of Chinook Salmon - Part II
  - (d) Contract 84-6: Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis - Part II.
2. Review of programmatic funds.

BACKGROUND

Current Council contracts are listed below with information on the contractor, funding amount, percent expended to date, duration, objective, and status.

Current Council Contracts

83-2: ADF&G Plan Maintenance  
(ADF&G, \$60,000, 88%, July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1985)

Objective: To support liaison between ADF&G and the Council by funding personnel travel to Council activities and providing support for such other activities as computer compilation and data analysis, etc.

Status: Work is proceeding satisfactorily; no progress reports are required.

\*83-4: Joint Venture Trawl Logbook Program  
(ADF&G, \$33,400, 23%, September 1, 1983 to June 30, 1985)

Objective: To provide interview coverages at three major ports (Kodiak, Akutan, and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor) to support the joint venture logbook program.

Status: A draft final report has been given to the SSC for approval.

\*Requires Council action at this meeting.

\*84-1: Sea Lion Pup Census Adjacent to Shelikof Strait  
(ADF&G, \$16,548, 0%, October 1, 1983 to February 28, 1985)

Objective: To provide an estimate of the total number of sea lion pups produced at the major sea lion rookeries in and adjacent to Shelikof Strait for comparison with similar counts made in 1978 and 1979.

Status: A revised draft final report has been given to the SSC for approval.

\*84-3: Origin of Chinook Salmon Incidentally Caught in Foreign Trawls  
- Part II (FRI/UW, \$40,000, 84%, July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985)

Objective: To provide additional information on stock separation of chinooks caught incidentally to the foreign trawl fisheries.

Status: A draft final report has been given to the SSC for approval.

84-4: Domestic Groundfish Data Monitoring  
(ADF&G, \$145,000, 0%, March 1, 1985 to April 30, 1987)

Objective: To enhance the ability of ADFG to provide timely, high quality fisheries catch data from shore-side deliveries and offshore catcher/processors of groundfish. The information will be aggregated by ADF&G and input to PacFIN for reporting to state, federal and Council groundfish managers.

Status: Contract specifications by the Groundfish Data Workgroup have been drawn up and a contract has been submitted to ADF&G for signature.

\*84-6: Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis - Part II  
(FRI/UW, \$62,465, 56%, April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985)

Objective: To provide additional information on stock composition of herring stocks in the Eastern Bering Sea, North Alaska Peninsula and Aleutians using scale pattern characters.

Status: The draft final report has been given to the SSC for approval.

\*Requires Council action at this meeting.

Review of Programmatic Funds

In December the Council forwarded to NMFS the following projects, in order of priority, for programmatic funding for FY/85:

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|---|-----------|
| 1. <u>Halibut Management Options Workshops</u>  | \$ 90,000 |
| Conduct workshops in the major fishing ports to explain halibut management options available to the Council.                                    |           |
| 2. <u>Fishery Data Coordinator</u>  | \$ 90,000 |
| Design, implement and maintain an Alaska groundfish data reporting system responsive to Council, state and federal groundfish management needs. |           |
| 3. <u>ADF&amp;G FMP Development</u>   | \$ 60,000 |
| Provide support for ADF&G personnel to participate in Council activities.   |           |
|   | <hr/>     |
|   | \$240,000 |

NMFS recently approved augmentations to the eight Councils' administrative budgets. Ours was for \$84,558 (see agenda item E-2). These funds, plus contributions from Alaska Sea Grant and the National Coastal Resources Research and Development Institute (in Newport, Oregon), will enable the halibut workshops to go forward. Funding for the other two programs above appears remote at best. NMFS concluded that the Data Base Coordinator should be funded through the NMFS Region and NWAFC, and FMP Development funds should come from the administrative budget.

NMFS still has \$47,000 available for FY85 programmatic grants in the next few weeks. It's hard to say where these funds will be applied or whether additional funds will be available for FY86.

We have had an additional request for research support. It involves an analysis of the stock composition of chinook and chum salmon caught by groundfish trawlers in the FCZ. The chinook portion alone is estimated to cost \$60,000-\$70,000 if done by FRI (see item E-1(a)). The extent of the research and funding needed for the chum portion can't even be estimated at this time. Don Collinsworth's letter has been given to the SSC for review and recommendation.

RECEIVED MAY 10 1985

AGENDA E-1(a)  
MAY 1985

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

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May 8, 1985

Mr. Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery  
Management Council  
P.O. Box 103136  
Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Mr. Branson:

Thank you for your letter of April 11, 1985, concerning salmon bycatch from domestic and foreign trawlers operating in the Fishery Conservation Zone (FCZ) off Alaska. We need to address this situation as rapidly as possible by adopting FCZ management measures eliminating or significantly reducing the wasteful salmon bycatch in the groundfish fisheries.

Since the March council meeting, my staff has been working with the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center (NAFAC) staff to define the magnitude of the salmon bycatch problem. We have determined that 10,393 chinook scale samples taken from the Gulf and Bering Sea are available for analysis. However, the time area strata for these samples will not be fully defined by the NAFAC until this summer and expansions of samples to actual catch estimates by stock would not be possible until this is done.

There does not appear to be any sampling design deficiencies which would limit the analysis of the chinook data. Such is not the case, however, with the chum salmon scale samples taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service observer program.

Only 2,685 chum salmon scale samples were taken in 1984, most of these from the Japanese joint venture and directed fisheries. There does not appear to be sufficient samples upon which to base definitive analytical conclusions. Beyond the limitations of sample size is the broader question of availability of scales of known chum stocks from the Pacific Rim. This is an exceedingly complex research question.

As you are aware, we have just completed a contract with the Fisheries Research Institute, University of Washington, to identify the continent of origin of high seas gill net interceptions of chinook salmon. They successfully established

Mr. Jim H. Branson

-2-

May 8, 1985

regional standards and estimated interception levels in the Japanese mothership and landbased salmon fisheries. I understand that they will be conducting some follow-up research in this area, including more work on regional standards. This could lead naturally into an analysis of chinook stock composition in other fisheries.

While I would like to be able to grab this project and get the job done quickly, I have determined that my agency is fully committed to inshore fisheries stock separation studies and does not have the manpower or fiscal resources to fully address chinook and chum salmon bycatch impacts with FCZ groundfish fisheries. Mr. Scott Marshall, Research Supervisor of our Stock Biology Group, suggests that the chinook analysis be done by the University of Washington's Fisheries Research Institute (FRI), because of their expertise. Mr. Marshall estimates that the research would take about one year to complete and may cost approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000.

The chum salmon research, as I indicated above, is much more difficult to address. Chum salmon are among the most far ranging of the Pacific salmon. You will remember that the SSC, during their March meeting, were told of a Bering Sea caught chum salmon with a coded wire tag from the Hood River! A chum salmon stock analysis would require scales from most Pacific Rim stocks and development of an analytical model. As a first step, I recommend that FRI be contracted to examine the availability of data and determine the feasibility of successfully addressing the issue.

I encourage the council to budget and secure funds for these important salmon research projects. Until the available data are analyzed, it is difficult to fully determine the biological and socioeconomic costs of the salmon bycatches in the groundfish fisheries.

Sincerely,



Don W. Collinsworth  
Commissioner

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council *Clayton*  
FROM: Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director  
DATE: May 14, 1985  
SUBJECT: FY85 Administrative Budget

ACTION REQUIRED

Approve FY85 revised budget and FY86 administrative funds.

BACKGROUND

The Council was informed by Bill Gordon on April 29, 1985 that our FY85 administrative budget will be increased by \$84,558. The Finance Committee will review a revised budget incorporating this augmentation, a projected administrative budget for FY86, and the four contracts discussed in item E-1 at this meeting. The Council needs to give final approval to these items.