

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman
Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

411 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99510



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563
FTS 271-4064

Certified 
J.O. Campbell, Chairman

Date 12/7/84

MINUTES

62nd Plenary Session
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
September 25-28, 1984
Old Federal Building
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met September 25-28, 1984 at the Old Federal Building, Anchorage, Alaska. On Tuesday, September 25, the Council met with the Advisory Panel. On Wednesday, September 26, the Council met with the Alaska Board of Fisheries to discuss Tanner crab fishery management measures.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee met in the Old Federal Building September 24-25 and the Advisory Panel met September 24-26.

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

Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman
Rudy Petersen
Don W. Collinsworth
Charles Walters for
Ray Arnaudo
Gene Didonato for
Bill Wilkerson
RADM Robt. Lucas
Jon Nelson for
Robert E. Putz

Robert U. Mace for
John Donaldson
Robert W. McVey
Henry Mitchell
Jeff Stephan
John Harville
Sara Hemphill
John Peterson
John Winther

NPFMC Staff

Jim H. Branson, Executive Director
Clarence Pautzke
Judy Willoughby
Steve Davis
Jim Glock

Doug Larson
Ron Miller
Jeff Povolny
Ron Rogness
Helen Allen

Support Staff

Choate Budd, USCG
Ron Berg, NMFS
Craig Hammond, NMFS
Pat Travers, NMFS
Thorn Smith, NMFS
Janet Smoker, NMFS
Donna Turgeon, NMFS

Gary Stauffer, NMFS-NWAFC
Loh-Lee Low, NMFS-NWAFC
Fred Gaffney, ADF&G
Daphne White, NMFS
Fritz Funk, ADF&G
Marty Eaton, ADF&G

Scientific and Statistical Committee

Don Rosenberg, Chairman
Bill Aron
Robert Burgner
John Burns
William Aron
John Clark

Richard Marasco, Vice-Chairman
Don Bevan
Jack Lechner
Steve Langdon
Al Millikan
Larry Hreha

Advisory Panel

Robert Alverson, Chairman
Pat Barker
Alvin Burch
Larry Cotter
Barry Fisher
Eric Jordan
James O'Connell
Harvey Samuelson
Tom Stewart

Joseph Kurtz
Richard Lauber
Barry Collier
Dan O'Hara
Don Rawlinson
Bud Boddy
John Lecture
Walter Smith
Anthony Vaska

General Public

Oliver Holm
Ken Kobayashi
Evan Haynes
Ed Zeaser
Han Mo Kim
Masao Tamura
Spike Jones
Chris Blackburn
Chris Mitchell
Danny Graham
Robert J. Gustafson
Mel Monsen
Gary Painter
Walter Sargent
Oscar Dyson
Alan D. Guimond
Mike Zacharaof
Nick Delaney
Sig Mathiesen
Jim Hubbard

John Filey
Alvin Osterback
Ted West
Dennis Petersen
T. J. Harrington
Ken Ogato
Bill Jacobson
Steve Heimel
C. Riley
David Woodruff
Eric Manzer
Ole Harder
Kevin O'Leary
Pete Hannah
L. Dochtermann
John Schmiedtke
Paul Jones
Richard Thummel
Ken Tisen
Dave Harville

Executive Staff

John S. Gandy, Chief Clerk
John L. ...
Fred ...
Richard ...
...

Charles ...
Bob ...
Walt ...
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Scientific and Special Staff

Richard ...
Don ...
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Don ...
Bill ...
Robert ...
John ...
William ...
John ...

Advisor Staff

Joseph ...
Richard ...
Harry ...
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Robert ...
Pat ...
Alvin ...
Harry ...
Barry ...
Eric ...
James ...
Harvey ...
Tom ...

General Staff

John ...
Alvin ...
Ted ...
Thomas ...
T. J. ...
Ken ...
Bill ...
Steve ...
C. ...
David ...
Eric ...
Ola ...
Levin ...
Felix ...
H. ...
John ...
Paul ...
Richard ...
Ken ...
Lore ...

Oliver ...
Ken ...
Evan ...
Ed ...
Jim ...
Mason ...
Philip ...
Chris ...
Glen ...
Barry ...
Robert ...
Mel ...
Gary ...
Walter ...
Gordon ...
Alan ...
Mike ...
Jack ...
...

DRAFT MINUTES
September 1984

Carl Christensen
D. Molenkamp
Al Osterback, Jr.
Kurt Schelle
H. Park
Norman Stadem
Chris Terpak-Malm
John Chatham
H. Mauritzen
R. Ford
Terry Reeve
Ron Hegge
Cynthia Wentworth
Neil Huff
Kelly Brennan

Al Cratty, Jr.
Phil Chitwood
Tadashi Nemoto
Terry Thomas
D. C. Harrison
Dave Clausen
Dennis Lodge
Donald Swisher
Keith Gotz
Andy Wikan
Dennis Wagner
Warren Westfall
Mark Lundsten
David G. Barrow
John Coyne

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

The meeting was called to order by Jim Campbell, Chairman, at 9:05 a.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 1984. The minutes of the May 1984 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

Mr. Campbell introduced new Council members John Peterson and Henry Mitchell and Ray Arnaudo's alternate, Chuck Walters.

Jim Branson presented the agenda and explained that the Advisory Panel would sit with the Council to hear reports on Tuesday and meet alone Wednesday to formulate their recommendations for the Council.

Chairman Campbell made the following committee assignments and asked Council members to let him know if they had specific requests for additional assignments: John Peterson - Finance Committee, Halibut Committee; Henry Mitchell - Advisory Panel Nominating Committee, Permit Review Committee; Bob Mace - Permit Review Committee.

A-1 Election of Officers

Bob Mace moved to elect Jim Campbell as Chairman and Rudy Petersen as Vice-Chairman for the coming year. The motion was seconded by Jeff Stephan and carried unanimously.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report

Jim Branson summarized the ED report found in the Council notebooks. He reminded Council members that the Council offices would be moved the week following the meeting. Council members were asked to submit travel expense claims as soon as possible, because the fiscal year ends on September 30.

Mr. Branson told Council members of current work by the Marine Mammal Commission, Auke Bay Lab, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service concerning discarded and lost fishing gear. The Council is coordinating a debris and gear reporting system that will tie in Coast Guard and NOAA ships and, as soon

Al Grady, Jr.
Bill G. Wood
Richard Brown
Tony Brown
H. W. Hamilton
Ivan Johnson
Donald Lodge
Donald Palmer
Earl Cook
Andy Miller
Donald Wagner
Harold Westall
Mark Wadsworth
Levin L. Brown
John Cooper

John G. Hamilton
H. Johnson
Richard Brown, Jr.
Tony Brown
H. W. Hamilton
Ivan Johnson
Donald Lodge
Donald Palmer
Earl Cook
Andy Miller
Donald Wagner
Harold Westall
Mark Wadsworth
Levin L. Brown
John Cooper

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Campbell, Chairman, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 1964. The minutes of the May 1964 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

Mr. Campbell introduced new Council members John Wagner and Harry Mitchell and Ray Arnold's alternate, Clark Wadsworth.

The Chairman presented the agenda and explained that the Advisory Panel would sit with the Council to hear reports on Tuesday and meet alone Wednesday to formulate their recommendations for the Council.

Chairman Campbell made the following committee assignments and called Council members to let him know if they had special requests for additional assignments: John Peterson - Finance Committee; Henry Mitchell - Advisory Panel Meeting Committee; Harry Wadsworth - Finance Committee; Ray Arnold - Finance Committee.

1-1 Director of Operations

Bob Rose would be elected as Chairman and Andy Peterson as Vice-Chairman for the coming year. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and carried unanimously.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

1-1 Executive Director's Report

The Director summarized the 80 report found in the Council records. He reminded Council members that the Council office would be moved to the new building following the meeting. Council members were asked to submit special reports that are due at present, because the fiscal year ends on September 30.

The Chairman introduced members of current work by the Board - Board Chairman, Auke Ray Lal, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, including a discussion and cost sharing gear. The Council is coordinating a debate and some reporting system that will be in cost share and 50/50 share and, as soon

as possible, vessels engaged in oil industry activities and the fishing industry through the use of a standard reporting form. Information will be funneled into the Auke Bay Lab for compilation and analysis. Congress has appropriated an additional \$1 million to NMFS in 1985 for work on entanglement problems.

Council members were provided with information on insurance coverage for observers on domestic vessels in the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery. The Finance Committee will review the information and make recommendations to the Council.

B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G

The 1984 troll salmon fishery harvested approximately 240,000 chinook salmon; 33,000 in the winter fishery and 207,000 in the summer fishery. Another 31,000 chinook were taken in net fisheries targeting on other species of salmon. The 1984 catch of chinook was 20,000 less than in 1983 and the summer troll chinook season was 45 days, 25% shorter than the 60 days in 1983. In 1984 Southeast Alaska coho salmon continued the pattern of strong returns experienced during the last several years. The 1984 commercial harvest is expected to reach 1.8 million fish, the third largest since statehood. The troll coho harvest accounted for about 60% or 1.1 million, down somewhat from the 1983 catch of 1.3 million.

A total of 25,989 mt of herring was harvested in the eastern Bering Sea sac roe commercial fishery and Aleutian Islands food and bait fishery during 1984. Wasted herring, mostly because of gear loss, were estimated at less than 300 mt for all fishing districts. Spawn-on-kelp fishermen harvested 202 mt. Value to the fishermen was estimated at \$8.9 million, with 45 buyers participating. The number of fishermen increased from 1983 levels in Togiak, Goodnews Bay, and Cape Romanzoff districts but decreased in Security Cove and Norton Sound. Biomass for spawning herring from Togiak to Norton Sound was estimated at 139,000 mt. The commercial exploitation rate was 16.4%. Approximately 70% of the run was ages 6 and 7 fish and recruitment was poor. The 1984 Aleutian Islands herring fishery was prosecuted by 9 seiners who harvested 3,246 mt in state waters near Dutch Harbor and Akutan. The ex-vessel price was \$200-\$300 per ton for the food and bait fishery.

All 1983/84 Tanner crab fisheries are now closed except for the Bering Sea opilio fishery north of 58°N. latitude; preliminary catch statistics indicate a total Tanner crab catch of 46 million pounds.

The only Gulf of Alaska sablefish fishery still open is the Western District. Preliminary harvest figures are 994 mt for Southeast inside, 2,654 mt for Southeast outside/East Yakutat, 1,600 mt for West Yakutat, 2,830 mt for the Central Area, and 156 mt for the Western Area, with a total Gulf catch of 8,234 mt.

B-3 Foreign Fisheries Report by NMFS

By September 15 foreign fleets in the Gulf of Alaska harvested 63,622 mt of groundfish, or 32% of the current foreign allocation for that area. The catch included 45,228 mt pollock, 12,718 mt Pacific cod, 2,389 mt Pacific ocean perch, and 403 mt sablefish.

as possible, vessels engaged in all industry activities and the fishing industry through the use of a standard reporting form. Information will be furnished into the Alaska Sea Grant computer and analyzed. Fisheries have approached an estimated \$1 million in 1983 for the year on commercial grounds.

Council members were provided with information on industry surveys for observers on domestic vessels in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. The Council will review the information and make recommendations to the Council.

5-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADFG

The 1983 total salmon harvest averaged approximately 200,000 salmon; 12,000 in the winter fishery and 188,000 in the summer fishery. Another 21,000 fish were taken in net fisheries ranging on other species of salmon. The 1983 catch of chinook was 20,000 less than in 1982 and the winter fishery season was 45 days, 27% shorter than the 60 days in 1982. In 1984 Southeast Alaska also averaged the pattern of strong returns reported during the last several years. The 1984 commercial harvest is expected to reach 1.3 million fish, the third largest since 1980. The total harvest amount for about \$60 million, down somewhat from the 1983 catch of 1.3 million.

A total of 21,000 mt of halibut was harvested in the winter fishery and was commercial fishery and Alaskan inland food and bait fishery during 1984. Mosted because of poor luck, were estimated at least 100 mt. Value of the fishery was estimated at \$1.9 million, with 45 mt of participation. The number of fishermen increased from 1983 levels in Bristol Bay and Cape Smyth but decreased in Puget Sound and other areas. Harvest for species ranging from logan to winter ground was estimated at 122,000 mt. Commercial exploitation rate was 12.4%. Approximately 70% of the run was used for fish and equipment was poor. The 1984 Alaskan halibut fishery was projected to be estimated to have harvested 2,246 mt in state waters near Dutch Harbor and other. The average price was \$200-300 per ton for the fish and bait fishery.

All 1984 winter and fishery are now closed except for the Bering Sea and the fishery north of 68°N latitude; preliminary catch estimates indicate a total winter catch of 40 million pounds.

The only Gulf of Alaska seabird fishery still open in the Eastern District. Preliminary harvest figures are 994 mt for Central Inside, 2,664 mt for Southeast outside, 1,600 mt for West Outside, 2,132 mt for the Central Area, and 156 mt for the Western Area. A total catch of 8,146 mt.

5-3 Foreign Fisheries Report by ADFG

In September 15 foreign fleets in the Gulf of Alaska harvested 10,000 mt of groundfish, or 20% of the current foreign allocation for that area. The catch included 42,718 mt pollock, 12,118 mt Pacific cod, 7,382 mt haddock and 409 mt salmon.

In the Bering Sea and Aleutians they harvested 691,068 mt, about 58% of the current foreign allocation. The catch included 562,198 mt pollock, 24,162 mt Pacific cod, 61,336 mt yellowfin sole, 36,837 mt flatfish, and 734 mt sablefish.

There were 193 foreign vessels off Alaska on September 19, 158 from Japan, 18 from South Korea, 6 from the U.S.S.R., 5 from Poland, 4 from Taiwan, and one each from West Germany and Spain. Last year at this time there were nearly 250 foreign vessels off Alaska.

Special Enforcement Report

Dave Flanagan of the Enforcement Branch of NMFS gave a special report to the Council on documents seized from Japanese fishing vessels which indicate organized measures have been used by Japanese fishing associations to frustrate U.S. observer programs and at-sea enforcement. The documents seized cover the years 1981-82 and indicate the same system was in effect in 1980. According to the translated documents, tactics included purposeful reductions in catch and restricting fishing areas to bias observer data, allowing foreign vessels to avoid payment of poundage fees and resulting in inaccurate estimates of fish stocks by fishery managers.

Council members expressed concern that the violations eroded their confidence in the data base for all groundfish fisheries since they are derived in large part from observer reports and foreign catch figures. They also felt that the Japanese had not been living up to the agreements they had made for reciprocal trade in fisheries and that their commitment to direct purchases from American processors and in joint ventures had not been fulfilled.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Winther made the following statement:

We have heard that Japanese fisheries associations which we have trusted and worked with for years have been engaged in a scheme to under-report their catches. They have confused and frustrated the U.S. observer and enforcement programs and in doing so have greatly increased their catches and profits. Based on that information, I move that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council recommend that the Department of State not allocate any more fish to Japan to catch off Alaska. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Winther added the following statement:

The two Japanese fisheries associations implicated in this conspiracy to steal fish say they can explain the documents found aboard their ships last year. I am willing to reassess my motion once that explanation is brought before the Council. Council members agreed.

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

The U.S.C.G. reported that enforcement effort through September 24, 1984, totaled 648 cutter patrol days and 2,714 aircraft patrol hours for over 450,357 patrol miles.

In the Bering Sea and Aleutian Sea they have caught 60,000 mt, about 1% of the
total catch of 6,000,000 mt. The catch included 500,000 mt of halibut, 20,000 mt
of salmon, 20,000 mt of yellowfin sole, 20,000 mt of tautog, and 700 mt
of lingcod.

There were 103 foreign vessels off Alaska on September 19, 1984 from Japan, 18
from South Korea, 6 from the U.S.A., 5 from Iceland, 4 from Taiwan, and one
each from East Germany and Spain. Last year at this time there were nearly
200 foreign vessels off Alaska.

General Information Report

Dave Winters of the Enforcement Bureau of NMFS has a special report on the
Council on documents seized from Japanese fishing vessels which indicate
organized resources have been used by Japanese fishing vessels to
harvest U.S. halibut resources and sea-lice infestation. The documents seized
cover the years 1981-82 and indicate the same vessels were in effect in 1983.
According to the statistical documents, vessels included commercial vessels
in each and restricting fishing gear to black ocean perch, allowing foreign
vessels to avoid payment of portage fees and resulting in increased
catches of fish which by higher numbers.

Council members expressed concern that the violations created their confidence
in the data base for all grounds of fisheries since they are derived in large
part from observer reports and foreign catch figures. They also felt that the
violations had been lying up on the agreements they had made for reciprocal
trade in fisheries and that their comments to direct purchases from American
processors and the total resources had not been utilized.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Winters made the following statement:

We have heard that Japanese fisheries associations which we have contacted
and worked with for years have been engaged in a scheme to under-report their
catches. They have concealed and falsified the U.S. observer and processor
reports and to date we have greatly increased their catches and profits.
Based on this information, I move that the North Pacific Halibut Management
Council recommend that the Department of State not allocate any more fish to
Japan to catch off Alaska. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
Mr. Winters added the following statement:

The two Japanese fisheries associations implicated in this conspiracy to
cheat felt that they can explain the documents found aboard their ships last
year. I am willing to release my motion once that explanation is provided
before the Council. Council members agreed.

U.S. Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard

The U.S.C.G. reported that enforcement effort through September 14, 1984,
totalled 685 cutter patrol days and 1,714 aircraft patrol hours for over
427,000 miles.

Enforcement effort since May resulted in 14 reports of violation and 53 written warnings issued to foreign fishing vessels. The infractions included failure to submit required activity reports upon beginning or ending fishing, to maintain legible International Radio Call Signs, to properly maintain cumulative catch logs, and to promptly return prohibited species to the sea.

The Coast Guard seized three Canadian salmon trollers for trolling or processing salmon north of the A-B convention line.

B-5 Joint Venture Operations

The total joint venture catch off Alaska through September 1, 1984 was 525,631 mt. In the Gulf of Alaska joint ventures harvested 187,803 mt including 179,608 mt pollock, 3,021 mt Pacific cod, 1,707 mt flatfish, 1,460 mt Pacific ocean perch, 248 mt sablefish, and 1,759 mt other species. The Bering Sea and Aleutians harvest was 337,828 mt including 225,529 mt pollock, 40,520 mt flatfish, 36,537 mt Atka mackerel, 31,855 mt Pacific cod and 3,387 mt other species. Of the 20 different joint venture arrangements in 1984, eight were still operating at the time of the Council meeting employing 29-35 U.S. trawlers.

B-6 1984 Bering Sea/Aleutian Crab Survey Results

Bob Otto, NMFS, summarized the preliminary results of the 1984 Eastern Bering Sea crab survey. The survey, conducted between June 9 and August 10, consisted of 434 successful trawl tows covering the geographic ranges of all commercially exploited segments of crab stocks except for golden king crab. Abundance of legal and pre-recruit males in all of the fisheries covered remains low with little indication of improvement for the next two or three years.

C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1 Halibut Fishery Management

At the December 1983 Council meeting staff was directed to prepare material on methods (other than a moratorium on new entry) for achieving the halibut management goals adopted at that meeting. Ron Miller prepared a report on possible management options which was mailed to Council members prior to the meeting.

Don McCaughran, IPHC, gave a brief report on the 1984 halibut season. He said that this season the quality of fish was worse than ever before because of the glut of product coming into the processors within such a short period of time. Processors are concerned with the quality of the product. Many fishermen fishing the one- or two-day openings did not gut the fish before bringing them in and sometimes not even on ice. Halibut stocks may increase next year, but Dr. McCaughran thinks the number of vessels participating in the fishery will also increase. The only action the IPHC could take which might alleviate some of the pressure would be to go to a series of one- or two-day openings every couple of weeks or every month and not have areas opened at the same time,

Information of fish stocks in the region of Alaska and the
other waters issued to foreign fishing vessels. The fisheries
to which fishing vessels are permitted to fish in Alaska
to maintain fishery resources upon beginning or ending fishing
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to maintain fishery resources upon beginning or ending fishing

It is noted that the Commission has been authorized to
conduct a survey of the fisheries of Alaska and the
other waters of Alaska and the other waters of Alaska

7-1 Alaska Fisheries Resources

The total fishery resources of Alaska through September 1, 1957, are
estimated to be 1,100,000 mt. The total fishery resources of Alaska
through September 1, 1957, are estimated to be 1,100,000 mt.
The total fishery resources of Alaska through September 1, 1957,
are estimated to be 1,100,000 mt. The total fishery resources
of Alaska through September 1, 1957, are estimated to be
1,100,000 mt. The total fishery resources of Alaska through
September 1, 1957, are estimated to be 1,100,000 mt.

7-2 Alaska Fisheries Resources

Top level, 1957, summarized the preliminary results of the 1954-1957
fishery survey. The survey, conducted between June 9 and August 30,
of 1957, was successful in covering the geographic range of all
commercially exploited species of fish stocks except for golden king
crab. Abundance of legal and pre-legal species in all of the fisheries covered
remains low with little indication of improvement for the next two or three
years.

7-3 Alaska Fisheries Resources

7-4 Alaska Fisheries Resources

At the December 1957 Council meeting there was discussed the progress
of the survey. A memorandum on new entries for collecting the fishery
resources was submitted at this meeting. Mr. Miller prepared a report on
the management of fish which was mailed to Council members prior to the
meeting.

Mr. McLaughlin, IHQ, gave a brief report on the 1957-1958 season. He said
that the season the quality of fish was worse than ever before because of the
high of product owing to the processor which had a short haul of fish.
Processors are concerned with the quality of the product. Many fishermen
thinking the one- or two-day operators did not put the fish before buying them
and sometimes not even at all. Harvest stocks may increase next year but
Mr. McLaughlin thinks the number of vessels participating in the fishery will
be increased. The only action the IHQ could take which might affect the
of the season would be to go to a series of one- or two-day operators every
year of weeks or every week and not have vessels entered at the same time.

generally spreading the catches over the whole summer which would create some hardships on certain groups of fishermen.

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

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the Council take an active role in the management of the halibut fishery. It was felt that there are problems within the industry that the IPHC may not be able to address. The AP stressed that this recommendation should not be construed as a vote endorsing limited entry.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

There was some discussion on Goal #5 for halibut management. It was felt that the goal should be expanded and clarified to make the need for longer seasons more explicit.

It was the general consensus of the Council that they should be actively involved in the management of the North Pacific halibut fishery. It was recommended that a special Council subcommittee be appointed to address specific recommendations to be brought before the Council at the December meeting. The following Council members were appointed to the subcommittee: Henry Mitchell, John Harville, John Peterson, Jeff Stephan, John Winther, and Jim Campbell. Mr. Campbell will act as chairman of the subcommittee. Bob McVey suggested the need for industry advice when the options are being studied and recommendations developed.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Winther moved to change the wording of Goal #5 to read as follows: "Extend the length of the halibut season to make available high quality fresh and frozen halibut to the consumer over as long a period as practicable and thereby maximize the economic return to the fishing industry and to maritime communities." The motion was seconded by John Peterson and, there being no objections, it was so ordered.

John Winther moved that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council take an active role with the IPHC in the management of the halibut fishery and exercise its option to implement regulations in the North Pacific halibut fishery in accordance with §5(c) of the North Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 and that the Council staff and a special Council subcommittee prepare material on management options in the North Pacific Halibut Fishery to be presented to the Council at its December 1984 meeting. The material should put emphasis upon, but not be limited to, exclusive area registration; license limitation, and share quotas. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and carried, 9 to 2.

Rudy Petersen and Jeff Stephan were opposed.

The Subcommittee was also asked to consider the sablefish fishery when they are formulating management options for the halibut fishery.

C-2 Comprehensive Fishery Management Goals

Written comments and public testimony received on the Council's proposed comprehensive fishery management goals were available for Council review prior

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Report of the... 1981

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COUNCIL... 1981

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COUNCIL... 1981

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1982 - General... of... 1982

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to and during the meeting. Sara Hemphill reviewed the general concerns expressed during the public comment period and outlined the revisions made as a result of the comments.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the addition of a goal to monitor effects by the U.S. industry to artificially enhance existing fishery habitats and stocks and introduce non-native species, with full consideration for possible impacts on existing fisheries and interactions with other elements of the ecosystem. There were also some specific suggestions on Goals 5, 7 and 8. Bob Alverson suggested that the Council might want to wait until after the reauthorization of the MFCMA.

Public Testimony

Oliver Holm, Kodiak. Goals should not be looked at in the context of the economics of the fishery.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

John Peterson said he had some difficulty in working with two sets of goals - the Council's and the MFCMA. Bob Mace cautioned against locking the Council into certain procedures by adopting specific goals. There was some concern that Council members had not had enough time to submit their comments on the goals. Action on this item was delayed to give Council members until November 1 to submit any additional comments. The Strategic Planning Subcommittee will then meet and develop a final recommendation for the December Council meeting. It will not be necessary to reopen the subject for public hearing in December.

C-3 FMP Plan Teams

The Council was asked to approve agency recommendations for plan teams.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC submitted their recommendations for plan team appointments (included as APPENDIX II to these minutes)

COUNCIL ACTION

Bob Mace moved to approve the plan team appointments as recommended by the SSC with the understanding that the appropriate agencies will be notified. John Peterson seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

C-4 Joint Venture and Foreign Allocations Policy

The Council's workgroup on Joint Venture and Foreign Allocations Policy submitted a draft policy (included in Council notebooks) for Council consideration.

to and during the meeting. Some people received the general concept
expressed during the public comment period and outlined the reasons why as
a result of the comments.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AD recommended the addition of a goal to further efforts in the U.S.
industry to substantially enhance existing laboratory facilities and stocks and
introduce non-ferrous species, with full consideration for possible benefits to
existing fisheries and interaction with other elements of the ecosystem.
There were also some specific suggestions on Goals 7 and 8. The Advisory
expressed that the Council might want to wait until after the report of the
of the NRC.

Public Testimony

Oliver John, Boston. Goals should not be looked at in the context of the
economics of the fishery.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

John Peterson said he had some difficulty in working with two sets of goals -
the Council's and the NRC's. Bob Mace mentioned species lacking the Council's
into our own procedures by adopting specific goals. There was some concern
that Council members had not had enough time to submit their comments on the
goals. Action on this item was delayed to give Council members more
time to submit any additional comments. The Strategic Planning
Subcommittee will then meet and develop a final recommendation for the
December Council meeting. It will not be necessary to reopen the subject for
and the meeting to be held.

Goal 7 - Fish Plan Issues

The Council was asked to approve agency recommendations on plan issues.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC endorsed their recommendations for plan issue amendments (S-1-1-54
in Appendix II of these minutes)

COUNCIL ACTION

Bob Mace moved to approve the plan issue amendments as recommended for the SSC
with the understanding that the appropriate agencies will be notified. The
Secretary recorded the motion and there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Goal 8 - Joint Ventures and Foreign Allocations Policy

The Council's working group on Joint Ventures and Foreign Allocations Policy
submitted a draft policy (included in Council minutes) for Council
consideration.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP suggested that categories A and B of the draft policy be dropped as they basically represent a domestic operation. Categories C and D should be treated equally due to problems of verification and varying degrees of involvement in marketing that may be only a subterfuge. The AP submitted their own revised draft policy which included recommendations from Larry Cotter and Barry Collier.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the criteria in Table 1 of the proposed policy and recommended that three items be moved to the higher priority category or that the priority levels be removed and each item allowed a maximum of 5 points. The SSC did not feel that the willingness of U.S. vessels to take observers is a high priority. The SSC also identified two items which the Council might wish to address: potential net economic contribution of the joint venture to the fishing industry; and the possible elimination of Categories A-D in the policy since A&B do not relate to joint ventures and because C&D do not seem to be a useful separation tool.

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

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Council workgroup met during Council week to rework the policy in light of public comment and recommendations of the AP and SSC and resubmitted a revised draft.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Peterson moved to adopt the amended Interim Policy on Joint Ventures and Allocations. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. (A copy of the adopted policy has been mailed to all Council family members.) It was the consensus of the Council that the policy be called "Interim" to allow for review after the Council has had some experience with the policy.

Council Policy on Permit Review

A draft proposed policy on review of foreign fishing vessel permit applications was also submitted for Council consideration by the Council workgroup. The policy outlined the criteria for delegation of authority to the Executive Director for recommendations of applications for directed fishing under certain circumstances. The previous policy was changed to allow the Executive Director to act on applications for vessels with previous assessed civil penalties of \$10,000 or less. The make-up of the Permit Review Committee will include two non-voting Advisory Panel members to be designated by the AP Chairman.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP suggested that categories A and B of the draft policy be dropped as they basically present a domestic question. Categories C and D should be treated equally as to problems of verification and control because of involvement in marketing that may be only a subtlety. The AP suggested that one certain draft policy which included recommendations from James Cotton and Larry Collier.

Report of the Statistical and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the criteria in Table I of the proposed policy and recommended that three items be moved to the higher priority category for the policy levels be removed and each item allowed a maximum of 5 points. The SSC did not feel that the elimination of U.S. vessels to enter waters in a high category. The SSC also identified two items which the Council might wish to address: potential net economic contribution of the joint venture to the fishing industry; and the possible elimination of Categories A-F in the policy since A-B do not relate to joint ventures and because C-D do not seem to be a useful separation tool.

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

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Council workshop met during Council week to review the policy in light of public comment and recommendations of the AP and SSC and submitted a revised draft.

COUNCIL ACTION

Joint testimony moved to adopt the amended Alaska Policy on Joint Ventures and Fisheries. Sara Hendrickson seconded the motion and there being no objection, it was so ordered. (A copy of the adopted policy has been mailed to all Council family members.) It was the consensus of the Council that the policy be called "insertion" to allow for review after the Council has had some experience with the policy.

Council Policy on Permit Review

A draft proposed policy on review of foreign fishing vessel permit applications was also submitted for Council consideration by the Council workshop. The policy outlined the criteria for delegation of authority to the Executive Director for recommendations of applications for directed fishing under certain circumstances. The previous policy was changed to allow the Executive Director to act on applications for vessels with previous gear and catch penalties of \$10,000 or less. The repeal of the permit review Committee will include the non-voting Advisory Panel members to be conducted by the AP Chairman.

COUNCIL ACTION

Don Collinsworth moved to adopt the Permit Review Policy as drafted under Agenda item C-4(a) with the changes noted (Permit Review Committee make-up). The motion was seconded by Rudy Petersen and approved with Henry Mitchell abstaining.

(Council members have received copies of the revised Joint Venture and Permit Application policies by mail for inclusion in their Reference Books.)

C-5 Groundfish Data Monitoring

The Council's Interagency Workgroup on Alaska Groundfish Fishery Data Collection met in May to review fishery data bases, develop a consensus on data needs, and give further direction on how to improve the U.S. domestic data base in light of the eroding foreign data base. The Committee recommended that a technical team composed of the two groundfish plan teams combined and several economists meet to examine data needs species by species, fishery by fishery. The technical team met in June and reviewed state and federal data programs. A report on economic data needs was drafted at an earlier meeting of economists. The Council was provided with a report of the technical team's meeting.

The Team recommended fish tickets, logbooks, observers, and processor reports as primary methods of obtaining data needed for managing the groundfish fisheries and recommended expanding the domestic data gathering program immediately.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC agreed with the Team's recommendation that two people each from the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, NMFS Regional Office, and ADF&G, and a Council staff member be brought together to facilitate development of a data collection plan.

This was explained to the Council and there were no objections voiced to this approach.

C-6 Advisory Panel Operations

Sara Hemphill, Chairman of the Ad-hoc Committee on Advisory Panel Operations, briefly summarized several alternative structures they had discussed. In addition to the status quo, a modified version was suggested which would utilize a 25-member panel but broaden the representation. This group would have a permanent core group from each interest sector plus several "satellite committees" for shellfish, groundfish/halibut, and salmon which would be called to meet with the core group when appropriate. Another suggestion which was not included in the original report suggested the option of reducing the number of permanent members on the panel to 12-15 and keeping 6-8 slots open to call in advisors to discuss particular items.

Report of the Advisory Panel

COUNCIL ACTION

The Council noted the report of the Panel Review Policy on draft...
Agency (see page 2) which the Council Review Committee...
The motion was seconded by Andy Peterson and approved with Henry Mitchell...
Chairman.

Council members have received copies of the revised letter version and...
Application policies by mail for inclusion in their Reference Books.

6-5 Commercial Fish Mortality

The Council's Interagency Working Group on Alaska Commercial Fishery Data...
Collection and in May to review fishery data bases, develop a consensus...
data needs and also further discussion on how to improve the U.S. Domestic...
Data Base in light of the existing foreign data base. The Committee...
recommended that a technical team composed of the two governmental teams...
combined and several consultants were to examine data needs by species...
fishery by fishery. The technical team met in June and reviewed...
fishery data program. A report on economic data needs was drafted as an...
earlier meeting of consultants. The Council was provided with a report of the...
technical team's meeting.

The team reviewed fish tickets, logbooks, observers, and processor reports...
as primary means of obtaining data needed for managing the groundfish...
fishery and recommended expanding the domestic data gathering program...
the fishery.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC agreed with the team's recommendation that two people each from the...
Northwest and Alaska Wildlife Center, NMFS Regional Office, and DFWA, and a...
Council staff member be present together to facilitate development of a data...
collection plan.

This was explained to the Council and there were no objections voted to the...
agreement.

6-6 Advisory Panel Operations

Gene Beaphill, Chairman of the Ad-hoc Committee on Advisory Panel Operations...
initially submitted several alternative structures they had discussed. In...
addition to the status quo, a modified version was suggested which would...
utilize a 25-member panel but broaden the representation. This version would...
have a permanent core group from each interest sector plus several "ad-hoc"...
committees for specific, grant-related issues, and salmon which would be...
called to meet with the core group when appropriate. Another structure which...
was not included in the original report suggested the option of reducing the...
number of permanent members on the panel to 15-18 and keeping 6-8 slots open...
to call in advisors as discuss particular issues.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel favored a group similar to the existing AP and recommended against decreasing the number of panel members. It was felt that a core group concept could tend to polarize decisions within a small AP. The AP felt it is important that they represent the major geographical areas involved in the NPFMC, the gear types, harvest sectors, financing and consumer affairs. They also felt that representation of the oil and gas industry is not necessary because of an existing oil fishery group which represents all major participants in the fishing industry and 15 major oil companies. The AP had no problem with the concept of staggered terms and suggested that three-year terms might be considered to maintain continuity. AP members felt that provisions should be made to replace individuals who change professions or fail to participate. AP members also suggested that the Council may wish to change its original direction to the AP in regard to participating in the Council process after the AP adjourns. If business has been completed for the Advisory Panel, they should be dismissed.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

It was suggested that the Ad-hoc Committee on Advisory Panel Operations meet again to formulate a recommendation for Council action at the December meeting. Bob Alverson and Rick Lauber were asked to participate in the process.

Sara Hemphill moved to extend terms of Advisory Panel members for 30 days, to January 31, in order to allow time for the Committee to return to the Council with their recommendations. John Winther seconded the motion. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

C-7 NMFS Habitat Policy & Effects on Council FMPs

Bob McVey reviewed the NMFS Policy on Habitat Conservation which included provisions for inclusion of habitat considerations in FMPs. The Region has indicated that they would take the responsibility for drafting appropriate amendments for the Council's FMPs to include the suggested information.

Public Testimony

David Benton, United Fishermen of Alaska. He's currently working with the UFA Oil & Gas Committee to review the data base available on the North Aleutian Shelf and to identify data gaps that might exist concerning fisheries, oceanography, weather and other things that would affect oil field trajectory analyses. He urged the Council to get involved.

Oliver Holm, Kodiak Halibut Assn. Identification of critical habitats for fisheries should be a high priority, particularly for crab and other threatened species.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

It was pointed out that these provisions are optional and not mandatory in Council FMPs. It was the consensus of the Council to accept the Region's offer to take on this project as long as it would not detract from other Council projects. In response to a question about funding for this, Bob McVey

The Advisory Panel found a group similar to the existing AP and recommended that the number of panel members be increased. It was felt that a core group of about 10 members would be sufficient to represent the major geographical areas involved in the program. The AP felt it is important that they represent the major geographical areas involved in the program. The AP also felt that representation of the oil and gas industry is not necessary because of the existing oil industry group which represents all major participants in the fishing industry and is open to all companies. The AP had no problem with the concept of staggered terms and suggested that three-year terms might be considered to maintain continuity. AP members felt that provisions should be made to replace individuals who change professions or fail to participate. AP members also suggested that the Council may wish to change the original election to the AP in regard to participating in the Council process after the AP adjourns. If business has been completed for the Advisory Panel, they should be thanked.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

It was suggested that the 66-man Committee on Advisory Panel Operations report to the Council a recommendation for Council action in the interim meeting. Bob Adams and John Fisher were asked to participate in the process.

John Fisher moved to extend the term of Advisory Panel members for 18 days, to January 31, in order to allow time for the Committee to return to the Council with their recommendations. John Fisher seconded the motion. The motion being so seconded, it was so ordered.

(C-1) NRS Initial Policy & Objectives of Council FMA

John Vevey reviewed the NRS Policy on Habitat Conservation which included provisions for inclusion of habitat considerations in FMA. The Region has indicated that they would take the responsibility for funding appropriate amendments for the Council's FMA to include the suggested information.

Habitat Testimony

David Berman, United Fishermen of Alaska, is currently working with the USFWS & USGS Committee to review the data base available on the North Alaskan Shelf and to identify data gaps that would exist concerning fisheries, oceanography, weather and other things that would affect off-shore industry and fisheries. He urged the Council to act decisively.

Clayton Hulse, Habitat Habitat Area, indicated that habitat information for fisheries should be a high priority, particularly for crab and other commercial species.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

It was pointed out that these provisions are optional and not mandatory in Council FMA. It was the consensus of the Council to send the Habitat Area to take on this project as long as it would not detract from other Council projects. In response to a question about funding for this, the Habitat

told Council members that some funding had been made available to each Region for this work. Jim Branson was asked to review the FMPs and recommend priorities for the development of this information; any amendments would be handled in the appropriate Council annual management cycle. Bob McVey said work on this project would probably not begin until after the first of the year.

C-8 Joint Venture Permit Restrictions

The Regional Director asked the Council for advice on two joint venture permit restrictions which apply to foreign vessels receiving fish from U.S. fishermen: (1) all joint venture fishing in a management area must cease when the JVP for any species has been caught; and (2) the amount of sablefish which may be retained by a foreign processing vessel may not exceed 1.5% of all fish received in the FCZ from U.S. vessels.

Thorn Smith, NMFS, gave a brief presentation on the two issues. The Interim Action Committee had addressed the question of whether to modify or remove the 1.5% restriction for sablefish retention and felt that it should be taken up in the regular annual groundfish cycle.

As more species become completely utilized by U.S. fisherman, the problem of whether all joint venture fishing in a management area should cease when the JVP for any species has been caught will arise again as it did this year in the Atka mackerel fishery.

Janet Smoker, NMFS, presented a discussion paper on joint venture closures when the JVP for any species has been caught. One option included in the discussion paper was to eliminate the restriction on joint venture permits with suboptions for revising domestic regulations or assigning quotas for each species to each joint venture. Another option suggested was to revise the language of the permit restrictions.

Public Testimony

Richard Thummel, fisherman, Kodiak. Domestic sablefish fishermen are supposed to have first priority and he doesn't want their capabilities in the Gulf underestimated again this year. He doesn't want any TALFF or JVP for sablefish.

Bob Gustafson, fisherman, Kodiak. He agrees with Richard Thummel; he would like to see all sablefish go to domestic longline fishermen.

Ron Hegge, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Assn. They feel sablefish is a fully utilized species by the domestic industry. They recognize the need for joint ventures to have bycatch but ask that the levels be determined through observer programs and the history of the fishery. Domestic fishermen should not have to compete with foreign fishermen.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended approval of Option IIb in the NMFS JV Discussion Paper which suggested revision of the permit restriction language to state that ". . .no further fish of that species may be received in that fishing area

Joint Council members that some funding had been made available to each party for this work. The Bureau was asked to review the JCF and recommend guidelines for the development of this information; any amendments could be included in the appropriate Council annual management cycle. Bob Kovey was included in this project and would probably not begin until after the first of the year.

0-3 Joint Venture Permit Restrictions

The Regional Director asked the Council for advice on two joint venture permit restrictions which apply to foreign vessels receiving fish from U.S. fishermen: (1) all joint venture fishing in a management area must occur when the JCF for any species has been caught; and (2) the amount of catch which may be retained by a foreign processor vessel must not exceed 1% of all fish received in the U.S. vessel.

There is a brief presentation on the two issues. The Income Action Committee had addressed the question of whether to study or revise the 1% restriction for foreign processors and said that it should be taken up in the annual annual management cycle.

As more species become completely depleted by U.S. fishermen, the number of other joint venture fishing in a management area should decrease when the JCF for any species has been caught. It was noted as it did this year in the Alaska fisheries.

Janet Spoker, NMFS, presented a discussion paper on joint venture fisheries when the JCF for any species has been caught. One option included in the discussion paper was to eliminate the restriction on joint venture permits which applies to retaining domestic regulations on foreign vessels and each vessel to each joint venture. Another option appeared was to revise the language of the permit restrictions.

Public Testimony

Richard J. Hildebrand, Kodiak, Alaska, testified that Hildebrand was opposed to have joint permits and he doesn't want that established in the JCF. He doesn't want any JCF or JCF for underdeveloped areas this year. He doesn't want any JCF or JCF for Alaska.

Bob Gustafson, Kodiak, Alaska, testified that he agrees with Hildebrand. He would like to see all Alaska go to domestic fishing.

Jan Hogg, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Assn., testified that he is a full-time fisherman by the domestic industry. They recognize the need for joint permits to have foreign but ask that the level be determined through observer program and the history of the fishery. Domestic fishermen should not have to compete with foreign fishermen.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Panel recommended approval of Option III in the NMFS 72 Management Plan which suggested revision of the permit restriction language to state that "... no further fish of that species may be retained in that fishing area

from U.S. vessels except in bycatch amounts, (those amounts to be specified by the Regional Director)." The AP also recommended that all aspects of the processor preference amendment be enforced regarding sablefish as it is totally utilized by the domestic industry and recommended that NMFS prepare an appropriate bycatch amount for joint venture and foreign catches in other fisheries for the Council's December meeting.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC also felt that Option IIb of the NMFS JV Discussion paper was the most viable option. However, they feel a major problem with implementation may exist since the target species are not allocated on an individual joint venture basis making it difficult to calculate a bycatch amount to be allocated to each joint venture. The SSC had no recommendation on the amount of sablefish bycatch. They did, however, recommend that the Council not take any action on an amount or rate until they have reviewed the estimates of OYs or TAC for sablefish, the DAP and JVP survey results, and the proposed DAPs and JVPs.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Because the sablefish fishery is pretty much fully utilized by domestic fishermen, the 1.5% restriction on joint venture permits for retention of sablefish is no longer an issue. Bob McVey agreed that this is true for most of the areas in the Gulf but he isn't sure that they have looked at the issue for the Bering Sea. He agreed that no further action is necessary at this time.

With regard to the restriction in the permit that closes down an entire fishing area when the JVP for a given species has been taken, Bob McVey said they would prefer Option IIb which would revise the language in the permit (stated above in the AP report). Thorn Smith pointed out that under the Council's newly adopted joint venture policy, the Region will likely be dividing up the bycatch amounts among individual JVPs which would probably eliminate the problem. He asked that staff be given more time to work on this before any action is taken. The Council concurred.

C-9 Foreign Permit Review

The Council received vessel applications for directed fishing and joint ventures from Portugal. Four of the permits were for vessels using sunken gillnets for Pacific cod in the Bering Sea. The Council also reviewed the West German directed fishing allocation due to be released even though West Germany has only purchased about half of the 8,000 mt in joint ventures previously committed to.

Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Committee recommended against approving the use of sunken gillnets by the Portuguese vessels. They also recommended against issuance of the eight directed fishing permits until such time as NMFS is satisfied and has written evidence that Portugal will meet the terms negotiated in its fish 'n chips agreement. They recommended approval of the FCZ joint venture permits between

Alaska Contact and Portugal provided that (1) an import license is granted by the Portuguese government to bring fish into Portugal, and (2) there is written evidence provided to NMFS of a firm contract to purchase product from U.S. processors.

The Committee also reviewed a requested 5,000 mt pollock joint venture between Quest Export Trading Company and Poland for the remainder of 1984 and a request by Poland for an additional 5,000 mt in direct allocation of pollock in the Gulf of Alaska. The Committee recommended approval of the 5,000 mt joint venture and the additional 5,000 mt directed allocation, but stated that they were very concerned with part of the product coming back into U.S. markets.

The Committee also discussed a request for directed fishing permits for the U.S.S.R.; however the permits had not yet been published in the Federal Register. It was suggested that the Executive Director could recommend approval when they had been published. The Committee also suggested the Soviet Attache, G. Chursin, be invited to attend the December Council meeting.

The Committee reviewed requested augmentations for the South Korean joint venture and had no objections although they were concerned with payment problems associated with the FPA/Korea Wong Yang Fisheries joint venture.

The Committee also recommended that no further direct allocations be made to West Germany until an additional 4,000 mt joint venture is completed.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that no permits should be provided to the Portuguese until they live up to their agreements. They also recommended that absolutely no bottom gillnet operations be allowed. The AP advised against the use of sunken gillnets for both domestic and foreign purposes and recommended that the Council adopt an amendment that would establish legal gear off Alaska similar to those adopted by the Pacific Council.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

John Winther moved to adopt the recommendations of the Permit Review Committee. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. Sara Hemphill was excused from voting by Chairman Campbell.

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Herring FMP

The Council discussed the possibility of requesting the Secretary of Commerce to implement a data collection program for the development of the herring fishery management plan under §303(e) of the Magnuson Act. It was pointed out that the Secretary may say that there are no funds for this research or may take funds away from other projects to respond to a request for a data collection program. Don Collinsworth suggested that if funds were available for research, it may not be in the best interest of the Council to use them on

Alaska Contract and foreign provided that (1) an import license be granted by the Portuguese Government to bring into Portugal, and (2) there is sufficient evidence provided to WPT of a firm contract to purchase products from U.S. producers.

The Committee also reviewed a request for an additional \$1,000 in direct allocations of political funds for the remainder of 1954 and a request by Poland for an additional \$2,000 in direct allocations of political funds for the fall of 1954. The Committee recommended approval of the \$1,000 in direct allocations and the \$2,000 in direct allocations, but stated that they were very concerned with part of the product contract with the U.S. Government.

The Committee also discussed a request for direct allocations for the U.S.S.R.; however, the committee had not yet been published in the Federal Register. It was suggested that the Executive Director could recommend approval if they had been published. The Committee also suggested the cover of the book, be invited to attend the October Council meeting.

The Committee reviewed various suggestions for the Polish Government for various and had no objection although they were concerned with payment problems associated with the PTA's - see page 10 of the report.

The Committee also recommended that no further direct allocations be made to West Germany until an additional \$1,000 in direct allocations is completed.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that no further direct allocations be made to the Portuguese until they live up to their agreement. They also recommended that absolutely no direct allocations be allowed. The AP advised against the use of similar allocations for both domestic and foreign purposes and recommended that the Council adopt an amendment that would establish legal limits on direct allocations to those adopted by the Executive Council.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

John A. ... moved to adopt the recommendations of the ... Committee. The motion was seconded by ... and there being no objection, it was so ordered. ...

1. FUTURE AGREEMENT PLANS

1-1 Germany

The Council discussed the possibility of requesting the Secretary of Defense to implement a date collection program for the development of the ... they cannot plan under 1303(c) of the ... Act. It was pointed out that the Secretary may say that there are no funds for this request or may take funds away from other projects to respond to a request for a date collection program. ... suggested that if funds were available for such work, it may not be in the best interest of the Council to use them on ...

herring at this time. Rudy Petersen said he would like the Council to petition the Secretary to determine if there are funds available for research in this area. The Council asked Jim Branson to draft a letter to the Secretary asking him to start formal proceedings for a data collection program for the herring fishery. The Council will review the draft at the December meeting.

Bob McVey commented on a recent request by industry for a Secretarial FMP for the herring fishery off Alaska. Mr. McVey recently met with representatives of the industry group making the request. He has asked the Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center to provide the most up-to-date biomass estimate and then will try to advise Bill Gordon about how the Secretary should respond to this petition.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC noted that a data collection program would be very expensive and such a request might result in reprogramming of resources from existing programs. They also noted that some of the foreign data sources in the groundfish fisheries are about to be lost and U.S.-supported programs are going to be needed to provide information on which to maximize existing fisheries. The SSC expressed concern that a Council request to implement the herring data collection program could result in a loss of some existing programs and, although they agreed that the information is needed, did not support the Council making such a request.

D-2 Tanner Crab FMP

On Wednesday, September 26, the Council met with the Alaska Board of Fisheries to review and discuss regulatory proposals on Tanner crab before the Council and the Board.

Bob Otto, NMFS, provided a brief summary of the current status of stocks for crab in the Eastern Bering Sea.

Marty Eaton, ADF&G, also provided a report on king and Tanner crab stocks for the Gulf of Alaska.

Steve Davis, NPFMC, reviewed state and federal regulations on Tanner crab and provided the Council and Board with a summary of a report prepared by staff members of NMFS, ADF&G and NPFMC on exclusive registration areas and pot limits. The full report had been mailed to Council/Board members before the meeting. Doug Larson, NPFMC, explained the model developed for the report and Steve Davis reviewed the enforcement section.

There were five proposals before the Board of Fisheries:

Proposal 1 to re-establish Southeast Alaska as a super-exclusive registration area in the Tanner crab fishery.

Proposal 2 to classify Southeastern-Yakutat, South Peninsula and Chignik Tanner crab districts as non-exclusive Tanner crab fishing areas.

hearing at this time. Bob Turner said he would like the Council to
petition the Secretary to determine if there are funds available for research
in this area. The Council asked Jim Hansen to draft a letter in this
Secretary asking him to start formal proceedings for a data collection program
for the hearing industry. The Council will review the draft at the next
meeting.

Bob Turner commented on a recent request by industry for a declaratory ruling
the hearing industry of Alaska. Mr. Turner recently met with representatives
of the industry group making the request. He has asked the Secretary to Alaska
Fisheries Council to get the best up-to-date business estimates and then will
try to advise Bill Gordon about how the Secretary should respond to this
petition.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC noted that a data collection program could be very expensive and could
a request might result in reprogramming of resources from existing programs.
They also noted that some of the foreign data sources in the program
fisheries are about to be lost and U.S.-supported programs are going to be
needed to provide information on which to maintain existing fisheries. The
SSC expressed concern that a Council request to implement the program and
collection program could result in a loss of some existing programs and,
although they agreed that the information is needed, did not support the
Council making such a request.

D-2 Turner (Lab 11)

On Wednesday, September 10, the Council met with the Alaska Board of Fisheries
to review and discuss regulatory proposals on Tanner crab before the Council
and the Board.

Bob O'Connell, NMFS, provided a brief summary of the current status of crabs for
area 1, the Eastern Bering Sea.

Marty Hansen, ADFG, also provided a report on King and Tanner crab stocks for
the OIE of Alaska.

Steve Davis, DFO, reviewed state and federal regulations on Tanner crab and
provided the Council and Board with a summary of a report prepared by staff
members of NMFS, ADFG and AFWA on existing regulatory programs and pro-
posals. The full report had been mailed to Council/Board members before the
meeting. Doug Larson, NMFS, explained the model developed for the report
and Steve Davis reviewed the enforcement section.

There were three proposals before the Board of Fisheries:

Proposal 1 to re-establish Southern Alaska as a super-exclusive regulatory
area in the Tanner crab fishery.

Proposal 2 to establish Southeastern-Alaska Super-Exclusive Regulatory Area
in the Tanner crab fishery.

Proposal 3 set out proposed season dates for the 1984-85 Tanner crab fisheries.

Proposal 4 to eliminate the pot limits for the Kodiak district Tanner crab fishery.

Proposal 5 to correct an administrative error by changing the Tanner crab pot storage areas in the Bering Sea District to conform with the king crab pot storage areas.

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

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP voted 10-5 to recommend against exclusive registration areas in the Peninsula area. They were evenly split, 7-7, on a pot limit for Kodiak. Some felt that pot limits provide a conservation benefit by helping to slow down the rate of harvest by reducing the number of boats on the grounds and by reducing handling mortality on sublegal crab. On the other hand, vessels are not using the large number of pots as in the past due to the low abundance of crab. Some members felt that a 100-150 pot limit would not affect the current number of pots now being used in the Kodiak Tanner crab fishery.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the report prepared by NMFS, ADF&G and NPFMC staff members on exclusive registration areas and pot limits. The SSC stated that the assessment of the merits of these two measures is difficult by the lack of well defined goals. It was further concluded that neither measure addresses a conservation issue and that the major impact of the measures would be allocative in nature.

COUNCIL/BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Both Board and Council members were concerned about inconsistent state and federal regulations which can confuse fishermen. Based on those concerns, the Board made the following revisions to state regulations:

Repeal the exclusive area designation for Chignik, South Peninsula and Yakutat Districts.

Suspend the 200-pot limit in the Kodiak District until January 1, 1986.

Change the Yakutat Tanner crab opening date to January 15 from February 10. The Southeast District will still open on February 10.

Except for the state designation of the Southeast district as an exclusive area and a needed season adjustment in Yakutat, federal and state Tanner crab regulations are the same for 1985. Since the Tanner crab harvests in the Southeast district have historically been taken within state waters, the exclusive area designation should not present a problem to federal management.

Proposed 2 set out proposed assessment rates for the 1964-65 season and
February.

Proposed 1 to allocate the net limits for the 1964-65 season and
February.

Proposed 3 to correct an administrative error in calculating the 1964-65 net
storage area in the 1964-65 season and February.

Public testimony for this agenda item is given in APPENDIX I to these minutes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel to recommend specific regulatory changes in the
Pesticide Act. They were originally split 7-3 on a proposal for 1964. Some
felt that the Act provides a conservative approach by placing a low down
the rate of harvest by reducing the number of loads or the amount and by
reducing handling capacity on subject crops. On the other hand, several
not using the same number of pots as in the past due to the low volume of
crop. Some members felt that a 1964-65 pot limit would not affect the
current number of pots now being used in the 1964-65 season and February.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the report prepared by HERS, HAWK and HITE staff members on
exclusive registration areas and pot limits. The SSC agreed that the
assessment of the nature of these two measures is difficult by the lack of
well defined goals. It was further concluded that neither measure addresses a
conservation issue and that the major impact of the measures could be
allocative in nature.

COUNCIL BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Both Board and Council members were concerned about the raised rate and
exclusive registration which was confirmed. Based on these concerns, the
Board made the following resolution to state regulators:

Report the exclusive area designation for 1964-65, 1965-66 and
Yakima District.

Respect the 1964-65 limit in the 1964-65 season and February 1, 1964.

Change the Yakima District crop opening date to January 15 from
February 10. The 1964-65 District will open on February 10.

Except for the above designation of the Yakima District as an exclusive
area and a raised season adjustment to Yakima, Federal and State Tobacco and
regulations are the same for 1964. Since the Tobacco and State Tobacco and
Tobacco District have historically been taken with state tobacco, the
exclusive area designation should not present a problem to Federal management.

Don Collinsworth moved that the Council request Bob McVey to adjust the federal seasons in Yakutat to match those of the state for 1985 and that the Council support the Board request to provide Council staff to work with the state in developing a set of management objectives and goals for the combined state/federal Tanner crab fisheries. Bob Mace seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

D-3 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

NOTE: Public testimony on all issues under this agenda item are found in APPENDIX I to these minutes.

D-3(a) Incidental Catch Ceilings for the Domestic Trawl Fishery

The emergency regulation approved in December 1983 to raise the halibut bycatch limits on the domestic trawl fleet from 26 mt and 52 mt to 270 mt and 768 mt in the Western and Central areas, respectively, expired on May 31.

A workgroup of Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula fishermen met in Kodiak to formulate recommendations on the emergency rule for the Council. A written report with recommendations was in the Council notebooks.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended adoption of the workgroup's recommendations on halibut bycatch limits.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC suggested that internal water joint venture permits be conditioned for halibut bycatch limits in the same manner as federal permits. The SSC was concerned about two aspects of the DAP part of the bycatch limit: 1) enforceability, and 2) allocation of the bycatch limit among various DAP participants. At present the ability to monitor incidental catch of prohibited species is limited. With respect to allocation, the current draft recommendation does not specify how the bycatch limit will be allocated among various DAP participants. The SSC recommended that the Council approve an emergency regulation that is consistent with recommendations 1 and 2 of the draft workgroup report. They also recommended that the Council request that NMFS-RO start to use ADF&G observer information in its management of the halibut bycatch and that the Council ask the State of Alaska to condition their internal waters joint venture permits.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Winther moved that the Council approve an emergency regulation for the period December 1, 1984 to May 31, 1985, which exempts pelagic gear from the halibut bycatch regulations, and sets the halibut bycatch limits at 270 mt and 768 mt in the Western and Central Gulf of Alaska, respectively. The motion was seconded by Rudy Petersen and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Council accepted the recommendations of the workgroup.

Jeff Stephen moved to approve for action items 2(a) and (b) of the working group's report:

- (a) the halibut bycatch limits be apportioned to the JVP and DAP fisheries according to their projected harvests available prior to implementing the emergency rule and the best estimated DAH plus reserves for the period December 1, 1984 to May 31, 1985.
- (b) specific halibut bycatch amounts should be attached to federal joint venture permits.

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

Mr. McVey said there will be a great deal of work involved in implementing these two suggestions but that NMFS should be able to implement the Council's motions.

D-3(b) Emergency rule to close sablefish fishery in the federal culs-de-sac of Southeast Alaska.

The plan amendment to resolve the problems with the opening dates of the sablefish fishery in Southeast Alaska will not be in effect by January 1, 1984 when the emergency rule closing the areas expires. An emergency rule is necessary to keep the fishery closed until the amendment is in place.

Thorn Smith pointed out that an emergency regulation would only be in effect through June which would not help in the northern areas which do not open until September 1. He suggested that the Regional Director use his field order authority instead of an emergency regulation. They would draft the order and put it out for public review. If there are any problems in using this method, the Council could act on an emergency regulation at the December meeting. The Council agreed with this suggestion.

D-3(c) Set 1985 DAP, JVP and OY for Gulf of Alaska

Gary Stauffer, NWAFC, briefly summarized the status of stocks report prepared by the Gulf of Alaska Plan team and mailed previously to Council members.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended the Plan Team's suggested numbers go out for public review.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the DAP and JVP values in the survey and adjusted the values suggested by the Plan Team taking into consideration the regulation that requires that initial DAH be set at either the value obtained by the survey or the catch for the previous year, whichever is greater. Where necessary, the values were further reduced to be consistent with the proposed OYs. (See Table 2, APPENDIX III to these minutes)

with the following provisions:
Section 1000

- (a) The following provisions shall be applicable to the following:
- (b) The following provisions shall be applicable to the following:
- (c) The following provisions shall be applicable to the following:

The following provisions shall be applicable to the following:

Mr. Kovey said there will be a great deal of work involved in implementing these two suggestions but that WDFG should be able to implement the Council's recommendations.

Section 1000

The plan agreement to resolve the problems with the current laws in the subtidal fishery in Southeast Alaska will not be in effect by January 1, 1984 when the emergency rule allowing the vessel expansion. An emergency rule is necessary to keep the fishery closed until the agreement is in place.

There is a concern that an emergency regulation would only be in effect through the winter which would not help in the northern areas which do not open until September. He suggested that the regional director use his authority to issue an emergency regulation. They would handle the order and put it out for public review. If there are any problems in order this could be resolved. The Council could set an emergency regulation at the December meeting. The Council agreed with this suggestion.

Section 1000

Gene Swartz, WDFG, briefly summarized the status of stock report prepared by the Gulf of Alaska Fishery Council and related previously to Council members.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended the plan team's suggested numbers for our fishery.

Report of the Subcommittees and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the WJ and JV values in the survey and reviewed the values suggested by the plan team taking into consideration the recommendation that requires that initial PAF be set at either the value obtained by the survey or the catch for the previous year, whichever is greater. Where necessary, the values were further reduced to be consistent with the proposed OY. (See Table 1, ANNEXIX IV to these minutes.)

The SSC also noted that joint ventures occurring in internal waters are being reported as DAP in the catch statistics and in the estimates of DAH when the catch occurred in state waters.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Bob Mace moved to send the DAP, JVP and OY estimates for the Gulf of Alaska for 1985, as revised by the SSC, out for public review. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Amendment 12 - Southeast Alaska Sablefish Pot Ban

Because of problems encountered with Amendment 12 during the initial review by NMFS and changes in regulatory and documentation requirements since the preparation of the amendment, it may be difficult to get the amendment approved as currently written. The Council was presented with three possibilities for action: rescind their approval of Amendment 12 and give the Plan Team an objective for the amendment so they can prepare a new amendment in the regular groundfish cycle; rescind approval and drop it entirely; or reaffirm the Council's original position and submit the package for Secretarial review.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP felt that there is adequate rationale for Amendment 12 and recommended that the Council prepare necessary supporting documents.

COUNCIL ACTION

John Winther moved to rescind Council approval of Amendment 12 as now written and give the Plan Team direction for preparation of a new amendment for the regular groundfish cycle. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and carried unanimously.

Don Collinsworth said that the Plan Team needs to look at gear conflict issues for the whole Gulf.

Sunken Gillnets

The Council received two written reports on the use of sunken gillnets for groundfish, particularly sablefish, off Alaska and Washington. No action was required.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP does not endorse the use of sunken gillnets.

Observer Regulations

Jeff Stephan asked about the status of observer regulations for the domestic fisheries.

Thorn Smith said that the FMP provides that the Regional Director can assign observers to foreign vessels and that ADF&G can assign observers to domestic

The EPA also noted that joint venture contracts in international waters are being executed as FAR 12. The catch statistics and the estimates of FAR when the catch occurred in international waters.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND ACTION

For 1977, the Committee moved to send the FAR, VWP and OV estimates for the Gulf of Alaska for 1977, as revised by the ESC, and for public review. The Committee also recommended that the report be sent to the Secretary of the Interior.

Amendment 13 - Northwest Alaska Fisheries Program

Because of the joint venture contracts with Amendment 13 during the initial review by the Committee and because of the joint venture and documentation requirements of the Amendment, it may be difficult to get the Amendment approved as currently written. The Committee was presented with three possibilities for action: (1) sending their approval of Amendment 13 and the Committee's objective for the Amendment to the Secretary of the Interior for his review; (2) the regular groundfish quota; (3) sending approval and draft of Amendment 13 to the Committee's original position and enter the package for Secretary's review.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Panel felt that there is adequate rationale for Amendment 13 and recommended that the Council prepare necessary supporting documents.

COMMITTEE ACTION

John Weather moved to send Council approval of Amendment 13 as now written to the Secretary of the Interior for his review. The Committee also recommended that the report be sent to the Secretary of the Interior.

John Galloway said that the Panel's recommendation to look at joint venture contracts in the Gulf.

Advisory Panel

The Council received two written reports on the use of joint venture contracts for groundfish, particularly in Alaska and Washington. The action was recommended.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Panel did not endorse the use of joint venture contracts.

Observer Regulations

John Stepan asked about the status of observer regulations for the domestic fisheries.

John Smith said that the EPA provided that the Regional Director can issue orders to the observer vessel and that NOAA can issue orders to the observer.

vessels. However, the regulation in the Gulf plan provides that the Regional Director can assign observers to domestic vessels. The question of liability insurance has come up and at this point NMFS does not have funds to provide that. It might be a good idea to talk with some industry association groups to see if they can come up with a cooperative agreement on this subject.

D-4 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands FMP

The Council was scheduled to release for public review preliminary 1985 TACs and estimates of groundfish needed for JVP and DAP for the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish fishery.

A brief review of the status of stocks was provided by Loh-lee Low, NWAFC.

Public Testimony for this agenda item is found in APPENDIX I of these minutes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP questioned the accuracy of NMFS reports of the anticipated levels of harvest for sablefish in the Bering Sea for 1985. They recommended that all sablefish should be put into a reserve category or DAH category in the BS/AI area, eliminating TALFF entirely. The NMFS survey greatly understated the interest in the sablefish fishery last year and in light of that, the AP recommended against TALFF from any district in 1985.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC received an update of the status of stocks from the NWAFC which indicated that the EY values for some species were different than those which the team used in developing its recommendation. Therefore, the SSC recommended that the proposed TACs for those species which changed be revised. The SSC submitted their recommendations of TAC, JVP and DAP in Table 3 (attached to these minutes as APPENDIX IV).

COUNCIL ACTION

Bob Mace moved to send the TAC, JVP and DAP estimates for the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands for 1985, as revised by the SSC (Table 3), out for public reivew. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Finance Committee reviewed the budget request for FY/85 in light of the Council's decision to pursue the management of halibut. The Committee instructed Jim Branson to immediately request the necessary operating funds from NMFS. Should these funds not be available in the regular NMFS administrative budget, a request will be made to reprogram programmatic monies. The Committee also discussed the state pass-through funds which will now be administered through the Council's budget. The Committee recommends these funds continue to be given to each state as in the past. No recommendations were made on research projects pending review by the SSC at the December meeting.

Director can assign someone to contact vendors. The amount of difficulty
Director has come up and at this point DPH does not have funds to provide
them. It might be a good idea to talk with some industry associations groups
to see if they can come up with a cooperative agreement on this subject.

Re: Funding for Vermont Laboratory

The Council was scheduled to release for public review preliminary 1985 FACS
and estimates of expenditures needed for DPH and HAF for the Vermont Laboratory
Laboratory (Vermont Laboratory).

A table review of the status of funds was provided by John Low, WNET.

Public Testimony for this agenda item is found in APPENDIX I of these minutes.

Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel's report of the status of the proposed levels of
funding for DPH and HAF for 1985. They recommended that all
activities should be put into a separate category of HAF agency in the HAF
area, separately. The HAF money would be used to fund the
invest in the Vermont Laboratory last year and in the future. The
recommended amount for DPH from any budget for 1985.

Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed an update of the status of funds from the HAF which
indicated that the FY values for some special were different than those which
the team used in developing the recommendations. Therefore, the SSC
recommended that the proposed FACS for those special which changed be revised.
The SSC accepted their recommendations of FACS, DPH and HAF in Table 2
(attached to these minutes as APPENDIX IV).

CONCURRENCE

Bob Rice moved to send the HAF, DPH and HAF estimates for the funding
for Vermont Laboratory for 1985 as revised by the SSC (Table 2), and to public
review. Sara Hargrave recorded the motion which carried unanimously.

CONTRACTS, PROGRAMS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Finance Committee reviewed the budget request for 1985 in light of the
Council's decision to pursue the management of health. The Committee
discussed the request to transfer funds to meet the need for funding funds
from WNET. Should these funds not be available in the regular 1985
substantive budget, a request will be made to transfer programmatic
funds. The Committee also discussed the state general fund which will
now be administered through the Council's office. The Committee recommended
that funds continue to be given to each state as in the past. No
recommendations were made on research projects pending review by the SSC or
the Finance Committee.

DRAFT MINUTES
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Don Collinsworth moved to adopt the Finance Committee Report and its recommendations. The motion was seconded by Rudy Petersen and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harold Sparks addressed the Council on habitat conservation.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Jim Campbell adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m. on Friday, September 28, 1984.