

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

AGENDA F-3
 July 1981

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue
 Post Office Mall Building



ATTENTION	ROUTE	TELEPHONE
	Exec. Dir.	(907) 271-4563
	Deputy Dir.	FTS 271-4064
	Admin. Off.	
	Exec. Sec.	
	St. P. Council	
	North Pacific	
	South Pacific	
	Alaska	
	California	
	Oregon	
	Washington	
	British Columbia	
	Canada	
	International	

[Signature]

JUN 11 1981

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: June 8, 1981

TO: SSC Members

FROM: Don Rosenberg, Chairman

SUBJECT: Programmatic Research Funding

Enclosed is a list of projects which result from our meeting as modified by the Council Finance Committee. Also enclosed is a letter from Jon Karpoff regarding a possible research project which I forgot to give you at the last meeting.

With a copy of this memo, I am asking Jim Richardson to send this list of Programmatic Research Projects out to team members and other interested parties for their comment and recommendation of other projects. Comments and recommendations should be available for SSC consideration at the July meeting.

During the July meeting, the SSC must be prepared to finalize our recommendations to the Council and to provide a prioritized list.

DHR:mk
 Enclosure
 cc: Jim Richardson

DRAFT
PROGRAMMATIC RESEARCH PROJECTS

Not in priority order.

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| 1. | <u>Rapid Response, Unforeseen Data Needs</u> | \$ 80,000 |
| 2. | <u>Analysis of Southeastern Alaska Troll Fisheries Data</u> | 40,000 |

A continuation of the study just completed under Contract 79-4 to conduct the analyses of at least one or more year of data (1980) to examine consistency of catch rates and of time/area distribution. This would allow the results of these two studies in time/area closure decisions to control stock interception rates by area of origin.

- | | | |
|----|---|--------|
| 3. | <u>Southeastern Salmon Scale Pattern Analysis and High Seas Tagging of Salmon</u> | 85,000 |
|----|---|--------|

To undertake a study to determine the origin of stock contributing to the Alaskan troll fishery. This study would use two methods, the first is a repetition of offshore tagging studies and the second is to use scale pattern recognition to determine areas of origin.

4. Evaluation of Incidental Catch of Halibut Mortality
in Commercial Crab Pots 100,000

To establish a domestic observer program aboard commercial crab vessels to collect data on the incidental catch of halibut and to estimate to mortality of that by-catch. The results would form a data base on which future management decisions could be based.

5. Herring Stock Separation Method 120,000

To undertake a study on the development of herring scale analysis methods to identify Bering Sea Herring stocks. Information on the identity of herring stocks at specific locations and times will enable the design of management strategies to harvest individual stocks at appropriate optimal levels.

6. Economic and Social Characteristics of the Bering
Sea King Crab Fishery 50,000

The purpose of this study is collection and summarization of information on the Bering Sea king crab fishery (exclusive of Norton Sound). This study will require examination of fish ticket and vessel characteristics information collected by ADF&G.

7. Marine Mammal Studies

120,000

Funds to enable the Council to respond to identified data needs resulting from the Marine Mammal RFP.

8. Herring Stock Data

60,000

A study to design an experiment to evaluate the accuracy of the aerial survey for biomass estimates of herring in the Bering Sea.

JUL 14 1981

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July 1981

ACTION	ROUTE TO	INITIAL
	Exec. Dir.	
	Deputy Dir.	
	ASST. DIR.	
	Asst. Sec.	JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR
	Sec. 1	
	Sec. 2	
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	Sec. 6	
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	Sec. 50	

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SUPPORT BUILDING
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

July 10, 1981

Jim H. Branson, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
P. O. Box 3136DT
Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Jim:

We regretfully wish to inform you that the elimination by the Legislature of the FY 82 Bottomfish Industry Development budget request with the Department of Commerce and Economic Development has eliminated all existing funding for management and research of the groundfish resource by the Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Division (\$522,600). This loss includes five existing permanent fishery biologists, several of whom have been developing our groundfish research and management capability since 1978 when the Governor supported a \$100,000 special general fund appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game for the initiation of a groundfish management program.

The Department feels that the continuation of our groundfish program is critical to the health of the developing groundfish fishery and to the health of the State's historical fisheries which will be impacted as growth continues. Without sources of additional funding the Department will be forced to discontinue its groundfish program. The Department is attempting to reprogram part of its potential Federal grant money from shellfish resource assessment to cover some of the basic groundfish program needs. These funds are not assured due to Federal budget cuts and uncertainty whether the proposal would be approved. This will result in some loss in shellfish management potential (reduced surveys, some fisheries not adequately monitored--Southeastern shellfish, Prince William Sound king crab, hair crab) and would only fund three key permanent personnel with essentially no operating funds and no seasonal employees. Permanent assistant positions in Petersburg and Kodiak would be lost.

The reduced program will provide only basic monitoring of the catch through the fish ticket system, allow the collection of a minimal amount of biological data from the commercial fishery and the continuation of the State's participation in the Federal and State regulatory processes. Management of sablefish and flounder fisheries will continue in Southeastern based only on catch data. The observer, logbook, and resource assessment programs will have to be terminated.

Jim H. Branson

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July 10, 1981

In an attempt to salvage part of the groundfish management and research program the Department will present a funding proposal describing our needs for the continuation of the observer, logbook, and catch compilation programs to the SSC and the Council. We would appreciate it if you would place this issue under the appropriate item of the agenda for the July meeting. We are continuing to pursue all possible funding alternatives, and will provide the Council with a full review of any progress we make prior to the meeting. We did, however, feel we should document the total magnitude of the problem since the total loss of this capability will adversely affect both State and Federal management of this fishery.

Sincerely,



Steven Pennoyer, Director
Division of Commercial Fisheries
(907) 465-4210

Proposal to the North Pacific Fishery
Management Council for

Domestic Groundfish Fishery Monitoring

Period of Contract:	September 1981 to September 1982
Costs:	\$301,600
Contractor:	Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Commercial Fisheries Support Building Juneau, Alaska 99801

Presented July 1981

Homer, Alaska

Introduction

Alaskan waters provide one of the world's largest groundfish fisheries. Foreign vessels have dominated this fishery for the past two decades, but in recent years, a domestic fishery has emerged. This fishery in Alaska has steadily increased since 1978. In 1979 the catch increased about twofold to 19 million pounds and increased fivefold in 1980 with a catch over 100 million pounds. At the present catch rate the total domestic catch in 1981 will more than double that landed in 1980. Although large domestic offshore trawlers are responsible for the majority of this increase, new fisheries using longline and jigging gear for sablefish, Pacific cod, and rockfish are also developing. With this increase comes the responsibility of managing a new and expanding domestic fishery and its interaction with other fisheries.

The management of the groundfish fishery in Alaska is jointly shared by the Federal government and the State of Alaska. The Federal government through the Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (MFCMA) has the management authority, in cooperation with the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, for the Fisheries Conservation Zone (FCZ) while the State manages the resource within the territorial sea and collects data from the domestic groundfish fishery within both zones.

Although historically groundfish research has been conducted in both the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea the collection of data for the domestic fishery represents a new and extensive challenge. Both the Federal and State management regimes including the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Alaska Board of Fisheries are in need of data on the domestic groundfish fishery. The joint venture fishery is presently responsible for the major portion of the catch. However, the non-joint venture fishery which takes between 12% and 20% of the U.S. catch is also growing rapidly. The vessels within this fishery component often fish in areas not historically fished by the foreign fleets and which may be sensitive areas with respect to other historic Alaskan fisheries. Therefore this component should also be monitored to obtain biological and prohibited species data.

Objectives

Domestic groundfish fishery monitoring off Alaska will be expanded. The groundfish fishery sampling program developed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game over the past four years will remain essentially intact, the observer program will be enhanced slightly, and a domestic trawler logbook program will be initiated. The funding requested for one year will prevent the termination of effort, directed toward groundfish monitoring and continue biological data collection from the domestic fleet.

Statement of Work

1. Continue detailed editing of fish ticket data and preliminary summarization and reporting of monthly groundfish catches, providing accurate catch data on a real-time basis.
2. Continue the domestic groundfish vessel observer program with expanded coverage in the Bering Sea.

3. Expand dockside sampling of landed groundfish, supplementing data collected by the observer program.
4. Implement a trawler logbook program within the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska for all U.S. fishermen and begin the development of a logbook for longliners.

Schedule

One year continuation of present groundfish fishery monitoring activities conducted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Quarterly reports to be given to Council.

Program Costs

	<u>Cost (thousands \$'s)</u>
Fisheries Biologist, 67 mm	\$188.7
Biometrician/Programmer, 12 mm (1)	<u>41.3</u>
Subtotal	229.0
Travel, per diem and vessel meal allowance	19.1
Computer rental/lease	11.0
Air charter	4.0
Other	<u>3.0</u>
Subtotal	18.0
Sampling gear	4.0
Rain gear, etc.	1.8
Office supplies	<u>2.3</u>
Subtotal	8.1
10% Overhead	<u><u>27.4</u></u>
TOTAL	\$301.6

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

JULY 24, 1981

Agenda Item I

Reviewed FY82 Administrative Budget as submitted.
An additional \$4,000 was added to the request to
cover increased costs in health insurance and
retirement costs.

Final Figure \$937,000

Agenda Item II

Reviewed Programmatic Budget and priority ranking
as prepared and submitted to the Council by the SSC.

Accepted as presented with the recommendation that
we explore with the State of Alaska and NMFS the
possibility of their sharing in the costs of the
Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska groundfish studies.

Added two additional requests for funding:

- (1) \$80,000 ADF&G annual contract to cover expenses
for the development of management plans.
- (2) \$100,000 Limited Entry-Halibut Study.

FY82 Total Request \$968,000

Agenda Item III

Postponed action on award of a contract to the
University of Washington for a study of the
origins of Incidentally Caught Salmon in Alaska
FCZ.

Reasons:

- (1) RFP - Perhaps too restrictive.
- (2) Other techniques may be available.

Report due next Council meeting.

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Certified By: _____

Date: _____

ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

Elks Hall
Homer, Alaska
July 22, 1981

The Advisory Panel met on Wednesday, July 22, 1981, at the Elks Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The following members were present: Richard Goldsmith, Joseph Kurtz, Richard Lauber, Raymond Lewis, Ken Olsen, Don Rawlinson, Lewis Schnaper, Jeff Stephan, and Chairman Robert Alverson.

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Alverson. The agenda was approved by all Advisory Panel members. Minutes of the May 27th Advisory Panel meeting were approved as read.

B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report. The Executive Director's Report was presented by Clarence Pautzke and Jim Branson. Under this agenda item a motion to support extending port privileges to Polish vessels in Seward for fueling and obtaining supplies was approved. It was felt that port privileges such as this would give Seward additional commerce.

The motion was passed with two in opposition. Their objectives were:

1. Port privileges reduce the true cost of foreign distant water fishing activities thereby giving foreign fishing activity a competitive advantage over shoreside facilities.
2. Polish fish products from Alaska are delivered through Mexico and British Columbia to Mrs. Paul's Kitchen which compete with the domestic white fish market. Port privileges would further give the Poles a competitive advantage on such enterprises as the Arctic Trawler.

B-2 ADF&G Report on Domestic Fisheries. This report was presented by Mark Miller.

B-3 NMFS Report on Foreign Fisheries. This report was presented by Ron Naab and Phil Chitwood.

B-4 U.S. Coast Guard Report on Enforcement and Surveillance. There was no representative from the Coast Guard to present this report.

B-5 Update on Joint-Venture Operations. John Schmiedtke gave an update on the West German/U.S. joint-venture. The AP then discussed problems with the Korean joint-venture in the Gulf of Alaska and other related fishing conflicts with the Koreans. The AP then adopted the following motion.

The Advisory Panel is concerned about reports of misconduct in the Korean joint-venture and of delays encountered by American fishermen in receiving compensation for crab pots lost to Korean fishing activities in the FCZ. The AP asks the Council to investigate these reports, and if these claims are substantiated and the problems not immediately rectified, to recommend to the Secretaries of State and Commerce that Korean allocations of fish be reduced. Although the AP does not believe that the Council should normally concern itself with private business arrangements, these incidents, if true, demonstrate that the Republic of Korea is not meeting the Magnuson Act's Criteria for allocating fish to a foreign nation.

B-6 AP and SSC Reports on Non-Agenda Items. No action taken.

C. OLD BUSINESS

C-1 Report on the Economist's Workgroup on Halibut Limited Entry. The AP reviewed the report on limited entry on halibut by the economist's workgroup and adopted the following motion.

It is recommended that the Council should determine as soon as possible if it wants to consider limited entry for the halibut fishery. If it does, the Council should commit the resources necessary to develop options and distribute them to the public for public comment as soon as possible.

This motion passed 8 for, 1 against.

C-2 Confirmation of PMT Memberships. The Advisory Panel passed a motion to have the members of the Troll Salmon Advisory Panel Workgroup represented on a similar workgroup for the Inter-Council Salmon Committee.

The AP wishes to review its memberships on its fishery plan subgroups at the next council meeting when high percentage of its members may be present.

C-3 Other Old Business as Appropriate. The Advisory Panel discussed the benefits and problems of the Capital Construction Fund and Fishing Vessel Obligation Guarantee programs. The AP adopted the following motion.

We request the Council to advise the Secretary of Commerce to curtail financial assistance programs such as the CCF and FVOG financing programs to potential vessel owners where those new vessels would be used in fisheries where sufficient harvesting capacities exist (such as crab, halibut, salmon, etc.).

The AP also request the information generated by the Council on vessels using these programs be further developed and any other information to fully assess the value of these programs.

D. NEW BUSINESS AS APPROPRIATE

No action was taken.

E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

E-1 Salmon FMP

E-1(a), (b). The Advisory Panel heard a report of the Salmon FMP by Jim Glock and were advised that proposals for the 1982 troll salmon fishery were being requested.

E-1(c). The Advisory Panel reviewed the option paper on limited entry for troll salmon and reaffirmed a motion made by the AP at the May meeting. That motion was:

The Advisory Panel does not endorse limited entry for the troll salmon fishery, as the harvest is regulated by means of a quota and the elimination of fishing units will not result in a reduction in the total harvest.

E-1(d). The AP recommended that the Salmon Limited Entry Workgroup be augmented by adding the five people nominated in Agenda Item E-1(d).

E-2 Herring FMP. There was no action taken. The Advisory Panel heard an update from Steve Fried from ADF&G on the western Alaska herring fishery.

E-3 King Crab FMP. The AP heard a report from Steve Davis on the Draft King Crab FMP and its schedule of implementation.

The AP recommended adoption of Schedule #1 (item E-3(b) for implementation of the FMP). This schedule allows more comprehensive input from the industry.

The AP passed a motion 5 to 4 to include Kodiak and the Peninsula in the FMP. Those opposed feel the current management regime by the State is adequate and has done a good job of managing the resource, and do not wish to have federal management.

The AP took no further action on the Draft FMP because Schedule #1 will allow time for the AP members to read and make comment of the Draft prior to the Council's final action at the September 25th meeting.

E-4 Tanner Crab FMP. The Advisory Panel heard a report from Steve Davis on possible future revisions to the FMP. The AP unanimously passed a motion to accept Option #3, which would amend the FMP by changing it into a multi-year FMP not requiring annual amendments.

E-5 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP. Mark Miller gave a report on further steps in revising the GOA FMP. The PMT recommends on changing the sablefish OY followed by the drafting of the prohibited species amendment and a possible redraft of the FMP into a multi-year plan.

The AP generally concurred with those procedures but took no formal action.

E-6 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP. The Advisory Panel heard an extensive report on Amendment #3 by Dr. Loh-Lee Low.

The AP course of action was as follows:

A motion was put forward to recommend adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the PDT, after incorporating the alternative PDT proposal for in-season implementation of PSC (Part IV on p. 10).

This motion was tabled.

The AP discussed the need for further Council policy guidance on linking the foreign fishery to the domestic catch of prohibited species, lacking that guidance the AP voted 5 to 3 to table the original motion.

F. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS, AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

F-1 Status of Contracts and RFP's. The Advisory Panel supports full funding for the University of Washington proposed research on determinations on stock origins of chinook incidentally caught in foreign trawls in the Alaska FCZ.

The Advisory Panel then passed a motion to adjourn.