

A. CALL TO ORDER

The NPFMC Meeting was called to order by

Harold Lokken
vice Chairman

December 12, 1979, at 8 45 a.m.

January 10, 1980 8 30 ~~PM~~ a.m. by Dem. Tillwin

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

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



807.
HP
24 Jan 84

January 2, 1979

MEMORANDUM

To : Council, SSC, and AP

From : Jim H. Branson
Executive Director

Subject : Continuation of December Council meeting on January 10 & 11

Five subjects remain to be considered from the December Council agenda (I have listed them below by number followed by the agenda item).

1. (H-5) The applications from foreign processing ships for joint ventures with American catcher boats were approved in principle on December 14. The only restriction that was added to them at that time was a limit on the bycatch of sablefish of one and one-half percent of the total catch. Other permit restrictions were discussed briefly but no conclusions were reached during the first part of the meeting. Restrictions were considered in two areas:
 - a. Should a directed joint venture fishery for herring be allowed in January, February, and March and if so, what amount of herring would be available?
 - b. Closures or "windows" around shorebased processors in which foreign processing and/or fishing would not be allowed.
2. (G-1) Salmon FMP.
The only action needed on this agenda item is a formal motion from the Council to again ban handtrolling in the FCZ.
3. (G-2) Tanner Crab FMP

The Council did not have an opportunity to discuss pot storage in the Bering Sea, whether it should be random, restricted to certain areas, certain depths?

All the other action required in this FMP had been taken by the Council before it recessed with the exception of establishing a season for C. opilio. They deferred that decision to the February meeting, pending further discussions with the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

4. (G-3 - H-5) Bering Sea Herring

Can be combined with Item 1. A judgement needs to be made on whether enough herring will be available for a directed offshore U.S. fishery this year (till April 30, 1980). Having made that decision, what restriction needs to be placed on the joint venture permits as far as the amount of herring that can be taken

The foreign allocation under the PMP is apparently going to be 6,000 m.t. for 1980. That decision has been made and the allocation has been given to the foreigners at this time.

5. (G-6) Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands FMP

Three items remain to be considered.

1. Request from American fishing boat owners to ease the catch restrictions in the "winter halibut savings area".
2. Request for closures to protect chinook salmon from the foreign trawl fishery in the area northwest of the Pribilofs.
3. Amend the FMP to establish inseason emergency authority for the Regional Director.

The Council acted on 31 items before they recessed on December 14. Since the meeting has not adjourned, those agenda items and decisions can be reconsidered when we reconvene on January 10. They are as follows:

1. (H-5) Appointed Council member Jim Campbell and Advisory Panel member Joe Kurtz to the Foreign Permit Review Committee.
2. (D-5) Ordered a letter over Chairman Tillion's signature thanking Jan Murray for her work with the staff and recommending her to future employers.
3. (E-2) Both groundfish plans need to be amended to lump the five red Sebastes species with Pacific ocean perch for reporting purposes.

4. (H-3) Set the next Council meeting date for February 7th and 8th with public hearings on the Herring FMP at Togiak, Tooksook Bay, Hooper Bay, and Bethel for February 9th and 10th so that Council members can stay over to attend those hearings.
5. (H-2) Appointed John Burns, ADF&G, as the marine mammal scientist member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee.
6. (H-2) Confirmed Larry Hreha as a member of the SSC from Oregon and designated Jack Robinson as his alternate.
7. (H-10) Directed the Executive Director to take the following action on the proposed confidentiality regulations:
 - a. Ask for an extension of the comment period.
 - b. Write to the Associate Administrator for Fisheries, Terry Leitzell expressing the Council's concern over the regulations as now written.
 - c. Advise the Congressional Delegation and the House Subcommittee for Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation of the problem those confidentiality regulations will give the Councils, asking that the confidentiality problem be considered in any amendment package developed by that Subcommittee.
8. (H-8) Directed the Executive Director to write a strong letter supporting full funding for the NMFS "World Fisheries Report"
9. (G-2) Made a motion to not reconsider the Tanner crab TALFF decision made by the Council at the October meeting.
10. (H-1) a. Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alaska Board of Fisheries (This Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Chairman Tillion and Chairman Szabo.)
11. (H-1) Established a committee to develop procedures for future joint Board/Council meetings, proposing one at the spring Board meeting which begins March 25th. Members of the Committee were designated as Greg Cook, Jim Branson, Steve Pennoyer.
12. (F-1) Appointed four new Advisory Panel members, Alvin Burch, William H. Scott, Sharon Macklin, Anthony Vaska.
13. (F-1) Advertised two more vacancies on the Advisory Panel (resignations of Oral Burch and Joe Demantle). Nominations will be open until the February 7 and 8 Council meeting with appointments to be made at the March meeting.

14. (F-1) Confirmed Bob Alverson as the new Advisory Panel Chairman, A. W. "Bud" Boddy as 1st Vice Chairman, and Charles Jensen as 2nd Vice Chairman.

✓ 15. (G-1) Adopted the Alaska Board of Fisheries proposals on the Troll Salmon fishery as amendments to the FMP as follows:

a. A 10-day midseason closure to all trolling unless the resource is exceptionally strong, time to be determined by the Commissioner of ADF&G and the Regional Director of NMFS, probably in early July. Provide whatever additional inseason adjustments are necessary to stabilize the offshore troll catch and directed the PDT to establish criteria for such closures.

b. Require delivery of all king and coho salmon with heads on.

c. Make it unlawful to possess any species of salmon in an area or time when the taking of that species is prohibited.

d. Prohibit any mutilation of king salmon that might prevent its size (length) from being determined.

e. Change the boundaries of regulatory districts 13, 14, and 16.

f. Prohibit the use of more than 4 lines south of Cape Spencer or more than 6 lines north of Cape Spencer, with only 6 gurdies being permitted on any licensed power troller.

✓ 16. (G-1) Asked the Salmon Plan Development Team to prepare a summary report on the status of northwest Chinook stocks, containing the existing information on their contribution to the Southeast Alaska fishery and identify any new information that we can expect to be available within the next two years in the light of existing or proposed research programs. The report should identify any additional research and data needed to manage that fishery and an estimate of the manpower and funding needs for developing a comprehensive plan for the west coast troll salmon fisheries, with a schedule for the development of that plan.

✓ 17. (G-1) Extended the FMP through 1980 and established another year's moratorium on power troll limited entry.

18. (F-2) Appointed Clem Tillion and Gordon Jensen to the Limited Entry Workgroup. Fishermen members of that group will be nominated by Harold Lokken (one person from the Seattle fleet), Gordon Jensen (one person from the Petersburg fleet), Clem Tillion (one person from the Cook Inlet area), and Bart Eaton (one person from the Kodiak area).

19. (H-4) Identified as a subject for discussion at future Council meetings the possibility of making foreign allocations contingent on an agreement with that nation to buy a certain amount of processed groundfish from U.S. industry.
20. (H-7) Moved to support the amendment to the FCMA proposed by Don Young (H.R. 5611) insofar as it gave Alaska a voting seat but made no comment on the other seat for the Pacific Council proposed in the Bill.
21. (H-9) Approved attendance at the State/Federal meetings in San Diego and Alexandria, Virginia, by the Executive Director and the Chairman.
22. (I-1) Approved a proposal to study "The Seasonal Use and Feeding Habits of Walrus in the Proposed Bristol Bay Clam Fishery Area" contingent on the contractor getting a permit to take enough walrus for a valid sample.
23. (I-2) Approved release of a research proposal on "A Halibut Limited Entry Study" to prospective bidders.
24. (I-3) Acknowledged receipt of the draft final report on Contract 78-5 "Herring Spawning Stock Assessment Studies." The report now goes to the SSC for comment, back to the contractor for final revisions, and back to the SSC and Council for final approval and payment.
25. (G-4) Directed a letter to NMFS and the State Department commenting on the draft enabling legislation for the renegotiated Pacific Halibut Convention, asking the State Dept. to get it to Congress so it would be ready when the Senate acts on ratification of the Convention.
26. (G-2) Made a motion to take the following actions on the Tanner crab FMP:
 - a. Repeal the tank inspection requirements.
 - b. Allow sale after the season closes of crab by owner of a vessel lost through sinking
 - c. Require reporting of deadloss and other crab not sold or purchased on the fish tickets
 - d. Divide the south Peninsula District into two subdistricts.
 - e. Retain the OY range for bairdi in the Bering Sea, developed by the Council at the October meeting, rather than change to conform to the somewhat different figures established by the Alaska Board of Fisheries at their December meeting.

f. Defer a decision on the season closing date for opilio until the February meeting, after trying to adjust it with the Board of Fisheries.

27. (G-5) Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

a. Made a motion to leave the sablefish OY at the present 13,000 mt for 1980.

b. Referred the problem of area closures to prevent gear conflicts and area closures to prevent conflicts between joint venture processors and shore based processors to the SSC and PDT for study to report back to the Council at the February meeting.

c. Ask that the table showing allocations by nation and species for 1980 in the Gulf of Alaska be modified to show the comparable 1979 figures (to enable further Council comment).

✓ 28. (H-5) Permit Applications

a. Moved to make "no recommendation" on permit applications from ships with violations in 1979 and to establish a working group to develop long term policy on penalties for ships, captains, or countries who commit serious violations. (Chairman needs to establish a working group for this purpose.)

29. (H-5) Permit Applications

Approved joint venture permits for the Koreans and Soviets with the restriction on the incidental blackcod take of not more than one and one-half percent of the total catch. Other possible restrictions on the Permits were postponed until the meeting reconvenes on January 10.

30. (H-6) Made no comment on the foreign fee schedule established by NMFS for 1980. Concurred with the Executive Director's recommendations on that fee schedule.

31. (C) Approved the minutes of the October 4-5, 1979 meeting subject to any changes proposed before the end of the December meeting.