

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

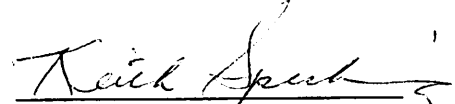


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CERTIFIED:


Keith Specking, Chairman

Date: 24 Aug 79

ADVISORY PANEL REPORT
Meeting of August 22, 1979
Anchorage, Alaska

The Advisory Panel to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council was called to order by Chairman Keith Specking at 9:40 a.m. in the Kenai Room of the Anchorage Westward Hilton. The following Panel members were present: R. Alverson, A. W. Boddy, O. L. Burch, R. Chlupach, S. Gross, C. Jensen, J. Kurtz, R. Lauber, R. Lewis, K. Olsen, A. Otness, J. Phillips, D. Rawlinson, J. Foster, J. Stephan, and Chairman Specking. Truman C. Emberg.

The Panel was briefed by Mark Hutton on the new format and activity plan that the Council will follow in its deliberations. The Panel was advised that its report should be structured to be presented as the Council took up various items. Panel members expressed some reservations as to the efficiency of the new format in that they felt that it might engender more discussion and be more time consuming than the present system.

There were two items not on the Council's agenda that were discussed by the Advisory Panel. The Panel would like for the Executive Director to send a letter of commendation to Shari Gross expressing the Panel's appreciation for her participation and wishing her well in her new job.

Another non-agenda item was a presentation by Southeastern longline fisherman Mike Mailo. The Panel listened as he described the problems he encountered while fishing 16 miles offshore for Black Cod in Southeastern Alaska. A Japanese trawler was working near the area where he had made his set and refused to reply to his radio inquiry. Additionally, he described to the Panel that he had learned from National Marine Fisheries Service that the foreign trawler was not required to keep a record of the prohibited species that were discarded. He urged that Sablefish be designated as a longline species in Southeast Alaska.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. New appointments to various Council subcommittees.

Chuck Jensen was appointed to the DAH Working Group.

- c. Draft environmental impact statement for the Fur Seal Convention.

The Panel recommends that the Fur Seal Convention be extended.

The Panel recommends that the Council oppose any legislation at the Federal level that would change the way fur seals have been traditionally managed. The Panel expressed concern for the economic welfare of those residents that participate in the fur seal harvest.

- e & j. Oversight Hearings.

The Panel asks that Ray Lewis, Joe Kurtz and Bud Boddy be appointed to the Working Group on the FCMA Oversight Hearings.

- VI. - 1 Economic Impact Analysis of Bering Sea Crab Regulations and Tanner Crab Regulation Inconsistencies.

The Advisory Panel recommends that the Council institute an economic regulatory analysis of the Bering Sea crab regulations.

- VI. - 2 Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) and Council Cooperative Policy.

The Panel recommends that the Council reiterate its policy with regard to the role of its staff members with AFDF.

- VI. - 3 The Socioeconomic Data Needs of Fishery Management Plans -- A Report.

The Panel expressed no disagreement with the report or in it being used as a policy working paper.

- VI. - 4 Incidental Species Report.

The Incidental Species Report was discussed by Director Branson. The Panel made no recommendation.

- VI. - 5 A Reciprocal U.S./U.S.S.R. Fishing Agreement.

The Panel took no action as they have not heard Ray Arnaudo's presentation.

VI. - 6 Membership on the Scientific & Statistical Committee and the Advisory Panel.

The Advisory Panel members were advised that they were welcome to make recommendations. However, at this point no new names have been submitted. It is noted that two members have missed the last five meetings and it is presumed that the Council will remove them from the Advisory Panel.

VII. - 1 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP.

The Panel recommends that the 24,600 m.t. DAH figure be adopted as well as the 1,500 m.t. figure for bait and subsistence.

The Panel adopted a motion recommending that the SSC proposal on JVP in the Bering Sea be adopted. This would reduce the 104,600 m.t. to 30,000 m.t.

The Panel adopted a motion concerning joint venture permits issued in the Bering Sea and operation within the 3-12 mile zone by joint venture processors. These permits should be taken on a case by case basis with the operating conditions set forth in the permit issued. Joint venture target species and operations may be different and have different effects on domestic fishermen. It may be possible to prevent conflicts with the domestic fishery in some instances by denying the operation in the 3-12 mile zone.

The Panel adopted Option #2 approving the concept of a salmon savings area and time closure. Additionally, the Panel recognizes that there is a substantial problem relating to the incidental take of salmon.

The Panel heard presentations by Bert Larkin and Steve Johnson.

VII. - 2 Tanner Crab FMP.

The Panel recommends that the Council 1) approve an amendment extending the Tanner Crab Fishery Management Plan "as is" beyond its current expiration date -- October 31, 1979, and 2) recommend to the Department of State that no Tanner Crab be allocated to Japan pending an amendment to be submitted in early October.

VII. - 3 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP.

Part 1

The Panel recommends that the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan be extended through October 31, 1980.

Part 2

The Panel moved to adopt Part 2 a, b & d as is but recommends that Part c be amended to change the JVP of 97,000 m.t. to 25,000 m.t.

Parts 3, 4 & 5

The Panel recommends adoption of Parts 3, 4 & 5.

Part 6

With respect to Part 6 c, the Panel expressed concern about the confidentiality problems inherent in the regulations. Further, the Panel did not believe that the processors were the appropriate ones to comment on changes in availability of groundfish by species. The Panel advises that the present method of determining future catches by canvassing processors and fishermen is satisfactory.

After listening to a presentation by Jay Hastings, the Panel recommends that the SSC consider establishing a single OY in the Gulf of Alaska for Atrina Mackerel, Other Rockfish, Squid, Sebastolobus, and Other Species.

VII. - 4 Bering Sea Herring (Draft) FMP.

The Panel heard a presentation on the Draft Bering Sea Herring Fishery Management Plan from Vidar ~~Westag~~. No specific recommendation was made.
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IX. - 4 Funding Proposal: Eastern Bering Sea Surf Clam Fishery
Legal Analysis of Leasing Proposal.

The Panel recommends that the Council do not approve any funding for a study to analyze the leasing alternatives proposed as a management option for the Bering Sea Clam Draft FMP. The Panel further recommends that leasing not be identified in the Plan.

The Advisory Panel meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.