

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 1, 1978

TO: Advisory Panel

FROM: Jim H. Branson, Executive Director *JHB*

SUBJECT: Advisory Panel Proposed Agenda

- hold* 3. Executive Director's Report
- hold* 4. NMFS Budget and Process
- hold* 10. Incidental Species Working Group Report
- hold ok* 11. Advisory Panel Membership, end of two-year term on December 31, 1978
- ok* 12. High Seas Salmon fishery Off the Coast of Alaska East of 175° East Longitude
- hold ok* 13. Halibut off the Coast of Alaska
- ok* 14. Tanner Crab Fishery off Alaska
- ok* 15. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery *Bert Barker presentation*
- ok* 19. Research Contracts Progress Reports --

- (a) An Observer Program for the Domestic Groundfish Fishery in the Gulf of Alaska (#77-5)
- (b) The Development of a Computerized Fishery Information System (#78-4)
- (c) Troll Salmon Tag Recovery (#78-7)
- (d) Pilot Observer Program for the Troll Salmon Fishery off Alaska (#78-9)
- (e) A Study to Determine the Effects of Hydraulic Clam Harvesting in the Bering Sea (#78-10)
- (f) Graphical and Printed Summaries of Troll Salmon Fishery Data from the Alaska Trollers Association 1977 Troll Logbook Program (#78-8)

dc 20. Research Proposals:

- (1) Projection of Biological and Economic Impacts of Alternative Management Strategies for the Alaska King Crab Fishery (Katz)
- (2) "The Study of Fishing as a Way-of-Life" (Konisberg)
- (3) "Stock Identification of Troll-caught Chinook Salmon off Southeastern Alaska by Scale Pattern Analysis" (Rogers, FRI, U. of Washington)
- (4) "Investigations on the Continental Origin of Sockeye Salmon in the Area of the Japanese Landbased Fishery" (Rogers, FRI, U. of Washington)

md 21. Proposed Joint Venture Applications by "KORMEX"

Five applications from Mexico to fish jointly with South Korea

ok 23. Small-boat Fishermen Workshop, sponsored by NMFS

ok 24. Bering Sea Clam Report, by Steve Hughes, NMFS

dc 25. P.L. 95-354, Amendments to the FCMA

ok 26. Progress Report on proposed World Shrimp Workshop

.27 Japanese request to SBC (Longlines)
Append item #15

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ADVISORY PANEL REPORT

The Advisory Panel of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council met on November 1, 1978 in the Portage Room of the Anchorage Westward Hilton, and again in the Council office on the mornings of November 2 and 3. A list of Advisory Panel members attending is attached.

The Panel discussed the following Council agenda items.

Agenda Item 11 - Advisory Panel Membership

After reviewing the Advisory Panel attendance list, the Panel recommended on the basis of their attendance record that Knute Johnson and Emil Berikoff not be reappointed. The Panel acknowledged a letter of resignation received from Robert Moss.

Additionally, Panel member Carlene Welfelt announced her resignation to the group.

Agenda Item 12 - Troll Salmon Plan Decisions to be Made

Management Measures

The Panel recommended that the management measures contained in the plan dealing with (A) size limit, (B) sex, (C) landing requirements, (D) sport bag limit, (E) seasons, (F) area, and (H) sportfishing be retained.

Regarding item F, the proposed closure west of Cape Suckling, the Panel recommended "retaining the closure west of Cape Suckling until meaningful biological evidence is obtained to change the boundary and until a meaningful Limited Entry program for the area is implemented."

Under item G, Gear, the Panel recommended retaining the (2) Prohibition on net fishing and the (3) No-line limit. On (1) the Panel recommended retaining the power troll only provision noting that it appears consistent with the intent of the plan. The Panel felt that the matter requires coordination and consultation with the Board of Fisheries.

Quotas

The Advisory Panel agreed with the Scientific and Statistical Committee's statement: "...that insufficient scientific data existed to justify management by quota for the FCZ. OY should be addressed as a total probable harvest level for all of S.E. Alaska with the entire OY and not just the subquotas proposed by the Plan. FCZ proportion should be specified only in general terms."

Area/Trip Registration

The Panel rejected the Area/Trip Registration management measure. They felt that the concept was unworkable, impractical, and in the absence of a quota, unnecessary.

Federal Limited Entry

The Panel recommended a Federal Limited Entry program which would adopt the State of Alaska power troll Limited Entry system of 950 licenses. Additionally, the Panel felt that the small number of non-Alaska freezer boats currently fishing the FCZ without Limited Entry licenses should be allowed to fish.

Management Objectives

The Panel recommended retaining all six management objectives.

Agenda Item 13 - Halibut Off the Coast of Alaska, Decisions to be Made

1. Management Measures

The Panel agreed to retain four management measures listed: (A) size limit, (B) gear, (C) sport bag limit, and (D) area designation.

2. Enforcement Requirements

The Panel had no objection to Option C in the plan if it is clearly defined as "...by the Secretary of Commerce or her designee."

3. Proposed FMP Options

On November 3 the Panel heard testimony from Dick Meyers and Donald McCaughran of the halibut commission and made the following recommendations:

- that the Council begin analysis of a Limited Entry system for halibut.
- that the Advisory Panel reiterates its stand opposing trawling for halibut and urges continued analysis of methods of reducing incidental catch of halibut by trawlers.

4. MSY-ABC-OY-EY Determinations

The Panel recommended that the halibut quota be reduced by 2 million pounds with the U.S. catch in area 2N to remain at 3 million pounds and the U.S. catch in area 3 to be 10 million pounds.

5. Seasons

The Panel agreed that it would support dates determined by the IPHC in January with an understanding that the language in the plan allowed a decision at that late date.

6. Proposed Closures

The Panel would like to retain the existing closed area.

Agenda Item 14 - Tanner Crab Fishery Off Alaska

After reviewing the proposed amendments to the 1979 FMP, the Panel adopted the following two motions.

Regarding foreign fishing, the Panel moved to recommend "Maintaining the status quo for 1979 in the Bering Sea." In general the Panel felt that any ice problem should be handled by an in-season adjustment. The Panel also felt that no allocation should be given to Korea as requested.

Regarding the domestic proposal 4, the Panel concurred with the SSC and supported amending the Tanner crab OY in the Kodiak district up to 35 million pounds.

The Panel heard a report from the Japanese Tanner Crab Association supporting their request made during the September Council meeting to expand the foreign fishing area. Members of the association had prepared a chart showing harvest information for the area in the Bering Sea south of 58° N Lat. of C. bairdi and C. opilio which they reviewed with the Panel.

Agenda Item 15 - Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery

The Advisory Panel discussed with Bert Larkins agenda item 15(d), a chart on sablefish 1977 CPUE (foreign) in the Gulf of Alaska.

In pointing out the relationships used (in the past) to incorporate CPUE data trends in the derivation of ABC and OY, Larkins told the Panel continuing declining trends evidenced in the 1977 data would indicate the stocks were not capable of producing the 1978 PMP ABC of 17,400 m.t. (OY = 15,000 m.t.).

The Panel felt a certain amount of frustration in learning that the 1977 CPUE data from the Japanese longliners completely substantiated the Panel's earlier recommendations for a 10,000 m.t. OY for blackcod in the Gulf. They wished to convey this to the Council.

Agenda Item 19 - Research Contract Reports

The Panel acknowledged receipt of the reports and as requested will read them in the ensuing month.

Agenda Item 20 - Research Proposals

After considerable discussion on (1) Projection of Biological and Economic Impacts of Alternative Management Strategies for the Alaska King Crab Fishery, the Panel adopted the following motion: "The Advisory Panel does not believe any funds spent for the research proposed by Dr. Katz would be in the best interest of the public and therefore should not be endorsed. The Panel furthermore believes there are more meritorious research efforts worth pursuing."

The Advisory Panel reassembled at 8 a.m. November 3 and reconsidered its recommendation of the Katz proposal. On the basis of additional information presented, the Panel gave its approval to the Katz proposal.

Regarding proposal 2, the Panel did not endorse the research or the concept of "The Study of Fishing as a Way-of-Life."

The Advisory Panel strongly supported endorsement and funding for proposals 3 and 4. ((3) "Stock Identification of Troll-Caught Chinook Salmon Off Southeastern Alaska by Scale Pattern Analysis" (Rogers, FRI, U. of Washington), and (4) "Investigation on the Continental Origin of Sockeye Salmon in the Area of the Japanese Landbased Fishery" (Rogers, FRI, U. of Washington)).

The Panel further recognized the constraints of funding research projects related directly to an FMP but hopes the Council will strongly pursue funding for proposal 4.

Agenda Item 21 - Proposed Joint Venture Applications by KORMEX

The Advisory Panel discussed the Mexican applications, joint ventures in general and their overall impact on the U.S. fishing and processing industries.

Ray Lewis advised the Panel that the State Department is considering revising its criteria for allocation of foreign fishing among various nations. (See attached copy of letter from W. V. Yonker, Pacific Seafood Processors Assn., to Ambassador Negroponte.) Mentioned specifically was a proposed arrangement between Mrs. Paul's Kitchen, Korea, and Poland whereby Poland and Korea might receive part of a redistribution and reallocation of a Japanese quota for pollock.

After discussing various aspects of the allocation process, the Panel recommended the following: "That the North Pacific Council strongly object to any change in allocation for preferential treatment to any country whose products may come back into the U.S."

Agenda Item 23 - Small Boat Workshop

The Panel briefly addressed the small boat workshop proposal and recommended the Council not fund anyone to attend and further raised serious dissension to this kind of federal project.

Agenda Item 25 - P.L. 95-354, Amendments to the FCMA

After reviewing the proposed amendments to the Act, the Panel wished, as a general comment, to express its concern that confidentiality requirements of the Act be maintained.

The Panel had the following specific comments.

On the proposed addition of a new subparagraph B after subparagraph 602.3(b)(8)(iv)(A) which would read

"(B) Describe and enumerate the amount of tonnage of any transfers, or proposed transfers, of the stock(s) comprising the management unit from U.S. harvesters to foreign vessels."

the Panel agreed that this is very important as transfers may be made by vessels of several nations to vessels of one nation.

Regarding the addition of subparagraphs (A) and (G) to follow paragraph 602.3(b)(8), the Panel proposed on (A) which reads

"(A) Any contracts or other agreements for the purchase of U.S. harvested fish by U.S. fish processors;"

that this is not acceptable and should be deleted. On subparagraph (G) which would read

"(G) Availability of U.S. harvesting vessels to supply the stock(s) comprising the management unit taking into consideration such things as capability of vessels to fish the species in the fishery, seasonal schedules, and relative availabilities and prices of alternative fisheries."

the Panel felt that the word "prices" should be deleted from the last line.

Regarding proposed substitution for subparagraph 602.3(b)(9)(ii) which would read

"(ii) Domestic processing sector. Describe the wholesale products and their values. Specify the degree of dependence of the processing sector upon products from the fishery."

the Panel recommended that data on wholesale products and their values must be obtained from available government information such as pink sheets, and, seeing no purpose in it, that the last sentence be deleted.

Regarding proposed substitution of the following subparagraph for subparagraph 602.3(b)(14)(iii)

"(iii) Processors. The plan shall specify the data that shall be submitted by fish buyers, processors, etc. who purchase, transport, and process the catch of the stock(s).

The data specified shall include, but are not limited to:

- (A) The amount or tonnage of fish purchased, transported, and/or processed, by species.
- (B) Locations at which fish are received and/or processed, by species.
- (C) Limitations as to seasons, quantities, or quality standards of fish which apply to fish received and/or processed, by species.
- (D) Disposition of the fish received or processed, by species.
- (E) Prices paid for fish received, by species.

the Panel agrees with the proposed addition of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) provided the data is obtained from fish tickets. On subparagraph (D) the Panel proposed substituting the words "Final form" for the first word "Disposition" and deleting the words "or processed." The Panel recommended deleting subparagraph (E) altogether, or assuring that price information is obtained from fish tickets.

ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS ATTENDING November 1, 1978 meeting

Bud Boddy
Jon Jacobson
Bob Alverson
Carlene Welfelt
Chuck Jensen
Oral Burch
Harry Wilde
Al Otness
Don Rawlinson
Shari Gross
Bob Blake
Keith Specking
Ray Lewis



*See/oc
Secretary for*

PACIFIC SEAFOOD PROCESSORS ASSOCIATION
1600 South Jackson Street
Seattle, Washington 98144
(206) 323-3540

Attachment 2

October 27, 1978

Ambassador John D. Negroponte
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Oceans & Fisheries Affairs
Bureau of Oceans & International
Environmental & Scientific Affairs
Department of State, Room 7831
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear John:

We have just been advised that the Department of State is considering revising its criteria for allocation of the foreign fishing in this country's 200-mile zone among various applicants. In the past such foreign allocations have taken into account cooperative research programs, conservation, etc. We now understand that preferential treatment is being proposed for countries such as South Korea and Japan who import fish they catch and process in the FMCZ into the United States.

It is our view that this is a very serious mistake. Such preferential treatment would:

- a. Inhibit the development of a U. S. fishing and processing industry as intended under the FCMA and its amendments.
- b. Add to the balance of payment problem.
- c. Interfere with arrangements which were made for the import of U. S. fishery products which have just been worked out with Japan through the efforts of your office and that of Secretary Kreps.
- d. Create problems with Japan on special arrangements for high seas fishing for salmon.

We feel very strongly that special consideration should not be given in allocation of TALFF to countries on the basis that such countries

Ambassador John D. Negroponte
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will import its products into the United States. We urge that
you take all necessary steps to resist such an allocation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. V. Yonker", with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.

W. V. Yonker
Executive Vice President

WVY/kw