Report of Meeting of Advisory Panel of The North Pacific Fishery Management Council March 21, 1977

The Advisory Panel of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council convened its meeting at 11:00 a.m. to consider and discuss agenda items. The following members of the Advisory Panel were present:

- Mr. Jack Cotant, Chairman
- Mr. Nick Szabo, Vice-chairman
- Mr. Keith Specking
- Mr. Robert Alverson
- Mr. Oral Burch
- Mr. Harry Wilde
- Mr. Paul Guy
- Mr. William Burke
- Mr. Kenneth Olsen
- Mr. Rick Lauber
- Mr. Ray Lewis
- Mr. Truman Emberg
- Mr. Knute Johnson
- Ms. Judith Ayres
- Mr. Robert Starck

The Advisory Panel then proceeded to discuss the agenda items listed below:

- 1. Roll Call
- Minutes of Last Meeting
- 3. Reports from various committees
- 4. Conditional fisheries
- 5. High Seas Salmon
- 6. Fifty-foot keel law
- 7. Halibut issues
- 8. Role of the Advisory Panel
- 9. Appointment of the Advisors to the various drafting management plan teams
- 10. Other new business
- 11. Items for future discussion
- 12. Public to be heard
- 13. Items to be presented to the Council by Chairman

Mr. Chairman:

The Panel discussed the foreign ownership questions and will make a formal presentation to the Council at the April meeting.

Research

The AP was dismayed to learn of the intention by the U.S. Government to discontinue the research efforts of the R/V OREGON. This vessel has been conducting research on trawl stocks in the Bering Sea. The AP requests that the Council take immediate action to push for more and continuing U.S. research efforts in waters under this Council's auspices.

Marketing

The AP strongly urges the Council to initate a comprehensive study plan of the U.S. Marketing capabilities as related to fish stocks now being supplied largely by foreign imports. It is fact that this study should have a high priority and there are several of the members of the AP interested in being a part of such an endeavor.

Public Relations

The Advisory Panel would like to suggest to the Council that a need exists for a public information program to more adequately fulfill the Council's mandate in keeping the public informed about its proceedings. The Panel suggests that the present staff does not have the time available to fully implement such an education and information program for the benefit of the public. Yet the public surely has a right to expect such.

When the opportunity to create such a position in Communications was before the subcommittee, the consensus of the group at that time was that such a position in Public Affairs might be cause for criticism as some might view the job as a public relations veneer operating to "make the Council look good."

The suggestion now coming from the Advisory Panel is made not in the spirit of advocacy but in the spirit of information and education for the Council's constituency which, to this date many feel is not being adequately informed.

The Advisory Panel hopes that the Council will take this suggestion under advisement and investigate the possibility of implementing such a public information program to enhance the operations of the Council in doing the public's business in a public way.

The Advisory Panel adjourned and broke into separate groups for the 1:30 p.m. scheduled subcommittees.

Jack Cotant

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Carl Rosier, Director
Division of Commercial Fish

DATE: March 14, 1977

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM:

G.K. Gunstrom
Region I Research Supervisor
Division of Commercial Fish
Department of Fish & Game - Juneau

SUBJECT:

Outside Trip Report

On March 10 & 11, 1977 I attended a technical meeting of the Pacific Management Council's Ocean Salmon Management Plan Development Team with Canadian Federal Fisheries officials as a representative of the North Pacific Council, in Vancouver, B.C., at the Executive Director's request. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible implications of the Pacific Council's Plan on Canadian salmon troll fishery effort and catch levels in relation to past levels, especially in light of the "Reciprocal Fisheries Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada" recently signed in Washington, D.C. (copy attached).

The latest draft of the plan, dated March 9, 1977 (copy attached), was submitted to the Canadian representatives on March 10. Discussion revolved about four proposed regulations for North of Tillamook Head, Oregon:

- 1. May 1 season opening (April 15 in past years).
- 2. Total or partial season closure in June (all of June open in previous years).
- 3. Use of Barbless hooks during any early season chinook fishing prior to July 1.
- 4. A 28-inch total length minimum size limit for chinook salmon.

The issues stated above are not the exact wording of the proposals in the new draft, but constituted the four main areas of discussion. The exact proposals and various alternatives are stated in the draft beginning on p. 32.

The Canadian officials* expressed concern over the proposed regulations stating that in their view they would constitute changes in Canadian

* Canadian Delegation

Iian Todd - CDE, spokesman
Rod Hourston - CDE
Jack MacDonald - CDE

U.S. Delegation

Ken Henry - NMFS, spokesman Sam Wright - WDF Pat O'Brian - CDF Malcom Zirgis - ODC Gary Gunstrom - ADF&G (observer) Mark to be

fishing effort and catch levels off Washington State as well as enforcement problems.

After a thorough review of the Plan draft by the Canadian delegation the meeting was re-convened on March 11. The Canadian spokesman stated that the proposed regulations were not in accord with Article II, Section 3, of the new Reciprocal Fisheries Agreement which states that "Fishing by nationals and vessels of each party in the zone of the other shall continue in accordance with existing patterns, with no expansion of effort nor initiation of new fisheries". They stated that they would submit this view to a higher (political) level for consideration and possible action.

They would not comment on the U.S. view that the proposed regulations would provide more salmon to Canadian fishermen in Canadian waters but did request data from Washington State for which to conduct their own analyses.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon with no further discussion.

Attachments

cc: James Brooks
Ed Huizer
Steve Pennoyer
James Branson
Dave Cantillon
Don Collinsworth