

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
15th PLENARY SESSION
May 25-26, 1978
Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel
3rd and E Streets
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Kenai Aleutian Room in the Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel. It is expected that the meeting will recess at approximately 5 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. May 26 when the meeting will resume in the same place. The meeting is expected to adjourn at approximately 5 p.m. May 26.

There will be a period for public testimony, beginning at 3:30 p.m. May 25.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee of the Council will meet beginning at 10:00 a.m. May 24, 1978 in the Council offices, Suite 32, 333 W. 4th Avenue, and the Council's Advisory Panel will meet beginning at 9:30 a.m. May 24 in the Commodore Room of the Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel. In addition to these meetings of the Council's advisory groups, the SSC and AP will meet in conjunction with the Council on May 25 and May 26.

All of the Council and Council subcommittee as well as advisory body meetings are open to the public. It is expected that the Council will hold a short closed session beginning at 1:30 p.m. May 25 to discuss classified matters concerning on-going negotiations with foreign nations involved in fisheries off Alaska. Only Council and Council advisory group members with proper clearances may attend that closed session.

AGENDA

1. Approve agenda.
2. Approve minutes of March 24, 1978 Council Meeting.

The minutes of this meeting were mailed to the Council group on May 11th.

3. Executive Director's Report.

A written report is included under this tab. We need a meeting of the Finance Committee to reevaluate the FY78 budget, consider ship charters, a request from FRI for additional funding, recommend decisions on travel advances and ownership of equipment acquired by contractors with Council funding. A preliminary report from the auditors is available for review. Delegates should be appointed to the Limited Entry Conference in Denver at this meeting.

4. Report from the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

The main subject of the SSC's May 24th meeting will be the draft of the high seas salmon plan (troll salmon).

5. Report from the Advisory Panel.
6. Review draft of the FMP for the High Seas Salmon Fishery off the Coast of Alaska East of 175° East Longitude During 1979.
 - a. We should consider a joint committee of the North Pacific Council and Pacific Council to work with Canada on an overall troll salmon plan for the Pacific Coast.

b. Copies of the troll salmon plan were mailed to all Council people on May 8th with a letter outlining the decisions that will have to be made on OY and MSY for the troll fishery.

7. Update on Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP and Tanner Crab FMP.

Both FMP's have been published in the Federal Register and copies are available. In addition, we are having clean copies printed of these FMP's for future reference. They are much easier to read and work with than the Federal Register copies.

8. Review regulations proposed for FMP's.

a. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery:

The comment period closes June 6th on the changes to the foreign regulations and the proposed domestic regulations for this FMP. We should have a set of recommendations on these proposed regulations from a work group prepared for this Council meeting.

b. Tanner Crab off Alaska.

The comment period on the proposed Tanner crab regulations closes June 30, 1978.

We have retyped and reproduced the proposed regulations for both plans to make them more readable. Copies are in your agenda books and extra copies are available.

9. Management Plan Scheduling and Report on Seattle Subcommittee Meeting.

The Council subcommittee met in Seattle on May 3rd. A copy of their proposed plan development schedule is in your agenda book.

10. Incidental Catch of Halibut by Foreign Longline Fishery for Pacific Cod.

The Fishing Vessel Owners Association and the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union have written to the Council suggesting additional control and monitoring of the proposed foreign Pacific cod fishery west of 157° W. in the Gulf. Observer reports from a longline Pacific cod fishery in the Bering Sea in February indicate very high incidental catches of halibut. The proposal in this agenda item provides some control for the fishery in the Gulf.

12. Finance Committee Report.

- a. Revised FY78 budget.
- b. Travel advances and contract equipment.
- c. A request for additional funding for scale analysis and clam study vessel charter.

13. Appoint and confirm two Council members as members of the Pacific Panel of the U.S./Canada Consultative Committee.

Temporary appointment of two members of this Consultative Committee has been made by Chairman Lokken. Primary members are Lokken and Meacham with alternates Jensen and Skoog respectively. One meeting of this group has been held in Seattle.

14. Update on current fisheries.

- a. U.S. groundfish fishery and observer program.
- b. Tanner crab fishery in the Bering Sea - U.S. and foreign.
- c. Herring fishery in Togiak area - herring subsistence contract with Dames & Moore.

15. Guidelines for approval/disapproval of permit applications.

Guidelines for the approval/disapproval of permit applications have been sent to us for comment by NMFS. While recent joint venture policy changes may make that proposed guideline moot, the others still deserve consideration by the Council.

16. Invitation to Executive Director to sit as an ex-officio board member of the Alaska Fisheries Development Corporation.

Needs Council consideration of the relationship and type of input they desire with this organization.

17. S-2762, a Bill on aquaculture introduced by Senator Gravel.

Senator Gravel has asked for Council comments on this proposed legislation.

18. HR 9708 - Commerce Reorganization Act.

Congressmen Leggett has requested Council comment on this proposed legislation.

19. Generic approach to FMP's.

Burt Larkins will explain an approach to FMP's that may reduce the delay in revising or amending FMP's.

20. Consideration of cost to industry of management measures and regulations proposed in FMP's.

This request was originally submitted by Sig Jaeger for the North Pacific Vessel Owners Association. He would like to have the cost to the fishing industry of proposed management measures and regulations assessed and detailed in the FMP's.

21. Resolution from the Alaska Board of Fisheries regarding cooperative law enforcement effort.

This particular problem is currently being tackled by NMFS, ADF&G, Department of Public Safety and the U.S. Coast Guard. We should be able to get a report from one or all of those agencies on its current status.

22. NMFS report on foreign fishery activities.

23. Coast Guard Report on enforcement activities.

24. Miscellaneous correspondence.