

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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## DRAFT AGENDA

81st Plenary Session  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council

April 13-15, 1988  
Anchorage Sheraton Hotel  
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13, at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska, and continue through at least Friday morning, April 15. Other meetings to be held at the Sheraton during the week are:

| <u>Committee/Panel</u>                                   | <u>Beginning</u>               |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Scientific and Statistical Committee                     | 10:00 a.m., Monday, April 11   |
| Advisory Panel   | 10:00 a.m., Monday, April 11   |
| Crab Management Committee                                | 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 12  |
| Jim Branson Retirement Dinner                            | 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 12   |
| Council & AP Review of Sablefish<br>Management Workshops | 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 13 |
| Finance Committee  | 7:00 a.m., Thursday, April 14  |

The Council will meet in executive session at noon on Wednesday to be briefed on foreign relations. All other meetings are open to the public.

## MAIN ISSUES

Of the items requiring Council attention in April the following are expected to involve the most discussion and public comment:

### Groundfish Issues

The Council will approve for public review proposed amendments to the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP. Proposed amendments to the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP now include:

1. Implement controls on trawl bycatch of halibut, Tanner crab, and red king crab.
2. Revise reporting requirements for processing vessels.
3. Establish JVP and TALFF bycatch/PSC framework.

4. Change the July 1 deadline for the Resource Assessment Document (RAD).
5. Revise upper limit to the optimum yield range.
6. Prohibit joint venture targeting on roe-bearing rock sole.

Proposed amendments to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP now include:

1. Delay the opening of the sablefish longline season to coincide with the first halibut opening.
2. Revise reporting requirements for processing vessels.

The Council will review a regulatory amendment reducing the percentage of sablefish allowed as incidental longline catch in the Gulf of Alaska. There will be reports on the Senate Commerce Committee hearings on Bering Sea enforcement, NMFS pollock survey in the donut, and progress in initiating management controls for the international waters of the Bering Sea.

The Council will receive a summary of the sablefish workshops held in Kodiak, Sitka, Petersburg, Homer and Seattle, and give direction for further development of management strategies. Wednesday evening has been set aside for the Council and AP to receive an overview of the workshops.

The NMFS Management Report (B-3) will include a recap of the yellowfin sole/ other flatfish fishery in Zone 1 as it was curtailed by the bycatch limits on crab, Council discussion of DAP releases to JVP in the groundfish fisheries, and a report on problems of excessive bycatch of pollock by joint ventures in the Bering Sea after the first season.

The Future of Groundfish Committee will report their progress in developing recommendations on groundfish management.

#### Crab Issues

The Council will receive recommendations of the Crab Management Committee and consider further action on the draft Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab FMP. They will also receive a summary of the public hearing in Seattle on Alaska Board of Fisheries crab proposals.

#### INFORMATION FOR PERSONS WISHING TO TESTIFY AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Those wishing to testify at Council meetings on a specific agenda item must fill out and deposit a registration card in the box on the registration table before public comment begins on that agenda item. Additional cards generally are not accepted after testimony has begun. A general comment period (Agenda Item F) is scheduled toward the end of each meeting for comment on matters not on the current agenda.

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- A. CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
- B. REPORTS
- B-1 Executive Director's Report
  - B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G
  - B-3 NMFS Management Report
  - B-4 Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard
  - B-5 Joint Venture Operations
  - B-6 Special Reports
    - (a) Pacific Salmon Commission Meetings
    - (b) Industry trip to USSR
- C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS
- C-1 Legislative Update
  - C-2 MARPOL ANNEX V Proposed Regulations  
Review measures proposed to implement marine discard provisions of MARPOL ANNEX V.
  - C-3 Non-profit Fishery Research Foundation  
Status Report. ...
  - C-4 Bering Sea International Waters
    - (a) Preliminary results of NMFS/NWAFRC pollock survey.
    - (b) Senate Commerce Committee hearings on Bering Sea enforcement.
    - (c) Management initiatives for the international waters.
    - (d) Review NMFS proposed rules on the definition of "fishing" and controlling foreign fishing in the international waters.
  - C-5 Domestic Observers
    - (a) Status report on pilot domestic observer program.
    - (b) Review of NMFS draft observer policy.
  - C-6 Sablefish Management
    - (a) Report on sablefish workshops.
    - (b) Council direction for further development of management strategies. ...

C-7 Halibut Management

Status report on the 1988 halibut fishery.

C-8 Future of Groundfish Management Committee

Progress report.

C-9 U.S. Service Support Industry Proposal

- (a) NOAA-GC opinion
- (b) Report on meetings of maritime support group.
- (c) Council direction on further development of proposal.

C-10 Other Business

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

D-1 Salmon FMP

Status report on draft FMP.

D-2 King and Tanner Crab FMP

- (a) Crab Management Committee reports and recommendations.
- (b) Council action on draft FMP package.
- (c) Summary of Seattle public hearing on Alaska Board of Fisheries crab proposals.

D-3 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

- (a) Approve proposed Amendment 17 and associated decision documents for public review.
- (b) Review proposed regulatory amendment to reduce the percentage of sablefish allowed as incidental longline catch.
- (c) Preliminary results from the Shelikof hydroacoustic survey.

D-4 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

Approve proposed Amendment 12 and associated decision documents, including the SEIS for OY range, for public review.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

G. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT