

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTUpcoming Meetings

The next meeting involving Council members will be in Chicago on June 4-5 when Don Bevan, Ron Skoog, John Harville and I will meet with representatives from other regional councils to discuss amendments to the Magnuson Act and other matters in preparation for the Council Chairmen's meeting later in June. Terry Leitzell and Roland Finch have been invited to attend the Chicago meeting.

The Council Chairmen's meeting will be in Homer on June 22-24. So far about 40 people have indicated they will attend. NMFS will be sending most Pacific Coast regional and center directors plus Bill Gordon, Roland Finch, Bill Stevenson, and Jay Johnson from the Washington office. Ted Kronmiller, the designate for Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries Affairs at the State Department, will also attend. The Chairmen's meeting conflicts with a conference on The U.S. Fishing Industry and Regulatory Reform scheduled for June 21-24 in Rhode Island. This conference focuses squarely on the effects of MFCMA on the industry and comes at an inopportune time for Council representatives to attend.

Our Council's meeting schedule for the rest of 1981 is as follows:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| July 23-24                                     | Homer      |
| August   | No Meeting |
| September 24-25                                | Anchorage  |
| October 29-30                                  | Sitka      |
| November                                       | No Meeting |
| December 2-4                                   | Anchorage  |
| (place and time depends on Board of Fisheries) |            |

Sometime in the near future we need to hold a meeting of the Council's Scheduling Subcommittee to work up an annual schedule for processing plans and amendments. Suggestions on the meeting date are requested.

Marine Mammals

The Marine Mammal Protection Act was reported out of the Senate Commerce Committee with a two-year reauthorization and a provision that parties concerned with possible changes in the law achieve substantial progress towards agreement by July 31 or the bill would be amended on the Senate floor to a one-year reauthorization. The House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee reported out with a one-year reauthorization backed by Breaux and Young.

In other marine mammal news, on May 14 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee signed the protocol extending the four-nation Interim Convention on Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals. Senator Stevens overcame a move by protectionist groups such as Friends of the Animals, Inc. that would not have allowed the U.S. to take its 18,000-animal share of the annual harvest.

Finally, NOAA has granted a three-year permit to the Japanese to take 5,500 Dall's porpoise annually incidental to the salmon gillnet fishery within the FCZ.

#### EEC Moves to Decrease U.S. Salmon Imports

The European Economic Community has proposed increased taxes on salmon imported from the Pacific Coast. The proposal would establish a reference price and compensatory tax system on imported U.S. Pacific salmon to protect markets for Atlantic salmon, specifically salmon from Ireland and the United Kingdom. The Pacific Council has written Ted Kronmiller at the Department of State protesting this new trade policy and indicating that the Pacific Council would look unfavorably at future requests for foreign allocations or joint ventures by EEC countries. See item B-1(a).

#### State/Federal Fisheries Funds

The Pacific Council has written Terry Leitzell about its concern over proposed reductions in federal funding for regional state-federal fisheries programs. They indicate that reducing funding for programs that yield badly needed research and fishery monitoring information could negatively impact their ability to manage and that some FMP's would require restructuring. We may want to send a similar letter requesting that funds be restored. See item B-1(b).

#### OMB Has Lengthened the Review Process

EO 12291, with its required review by the Department of Commerce and OMB, has made the plan amendment process even more cumbersome. The schedule for Gulf of Alaska Amendment #10 [shown under item E-5(a)] indicates that a non-significant amendment will now require 252 days from the start of Secretarial review to implementation of final regulations. This includes two complete reviews by DOC and OMB. Adding on about 90 days for the Council to review, approve, and process an amendment and 60 days for the PDT or PMT to generate it, about 400 days or over 13 months would be needed for the full process.

In addition, OMB is now requiring a complete cost analysis of every amendment including a cost breakdown of staff time and travel, PDT costs, printing and mailing, public hearings, research, and Council meetings, etc.

#### New Staff

We are pleased to have on board a new bookkeeper/receptionist, Becky Wetzler. She has taken over for Elise Zuspan who has enrolled in the University of Alaska to work toward her CPA.



under consideration would have to be viewed as a breach on the EEC's part of the spirit of free trade in fisheries. In response to such trade restrictions, the Pacific Fishery Management Council would have to look unfavorably on any future requests by EEC countries for joint venture fisheries or foreign catch allocations within the PFMC's jurisdiction. We would be prepared to recommend that all other Councils support our initiative.

I hope you will convey our concerns to the appropriate EEC authorities and forestall the adoption of this harmful fisheries trade policy.

Yours Sincerely

Lorry M. Nakatsu  
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Les Aucoin  
Hon. John Breaux, Chairman Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee  
Hon. Don Clausen  
Hon. Alan Cranston  
Hon. Slade Gorton  
Hon. Mark Hatfield  
Hon. S.I. Hayakawa  
Hon. Henry Jackson  
Hon. James McClure  
Hon. Bob Packwood  
Hon. Joel Pritchard  
Hon. Steven Symms  
Terry Leitzell, National Marine Fisheries Service  
Nancy Adams, Office of U.S. Trade Representative  
Regional Fishery Management Councils  
Council Members

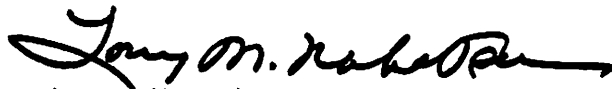
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Discussions with the three states reveal that some \$800,000 of that total cost can be funded under the two fisheries grant-in-aid programs (P.L. 88-309 and P.L. 89-304) if those programs continue to receive adequate federal support in FY 1982. The Pacific states believe that shared federal-state funding of those programs is appropriate in accordance with the cost-sharing formulas mandated by the Acts, and they are prepared to commit the necessary state matching funds if the federal government continues to maintain its share of the support responsibility.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council therefore urges that you take all possible steps to assure continued federal support for regional fishery monitoring, data collection, and research programs addressing management requirements of Council plans. The ideal mechanism appears to be continuance of the two federal grant-in-aid programs.

Sincerely,



Lorry M. Nakatsu  
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Les AuCoin  
Hon. John Breau  
Hon. Don Clausen  
Hon. Alan Cranston  
Hon. Slade Gorton  
Hon. Mark Hatfield  
Hon. S.I. Hayakawa  
Hon. Henry Jackson  
Hon. James McClure  
Hon. Bob Packwood  
Hon. Joel Pritchard  
Hon. Steven Symms  
Mr. Bud Walsh  
Pacific Council Members  
Regional Fishery Management Councils

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STATUS OF FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

1. Salmon FMP.

Amendment #2 for the 1981 season was approved by the Council in March. Secretarial review began on April 6. The commercial fishery in Alaskan waters opened May 15.

2. Herring FMP.

The Regulatory Impact Analysis/Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, FMP, and FEIS have been edited and are ready to go to the Secretary of Commerce for review.

3. King Crab FMP.

The Council will give final consideration to the Draft Joint Statement of Principles and the King Crab Management Framework at this meeting.

4. Tanner Crab FMP.

The Council will consider inconsistencies between federal and state regulations and determine if the FMP should be amended.

Amendment #7, setting new OY's, was approved by the Secretary of Commerce on March 10. A cost analysis is being prepared for OMB so the review can proceed.

Amendment #6, making minor technical changes to the FMP, is being held from publication as a Notice of Final Rulemaking for lack of a cost analysis, now being prepared, for OMB.

5. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP.

Amendment #10, curtailing foreign trawling in the Eastern Regulatory Area, began Secretarial review on April 20. Final regulations should become effective December 27.

Amendment #9, implementing the Lechner line around Kodiak, will be published as a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on June 16 and should be implemented by the start of king crab season on September 15.

6. Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP.

At this meeting the Council will give final consideration to Amendment #3 which provides protection for incidentally-caught prohibited species.

The FMP and Amendment #2 are in final review stages awaiting implementation. Amendments #1 and 1-a were recently sent to Washington to begin Secretarial review.

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# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue  
Post Office Mall Building



Telephone: (907) 274-4563  
FTS 271-4064

April 24, 1981

Mr. Terry L. Leitzell  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
3300 Whitehaven Street, Page Bldg. 2  
Washington, D.C. 20235

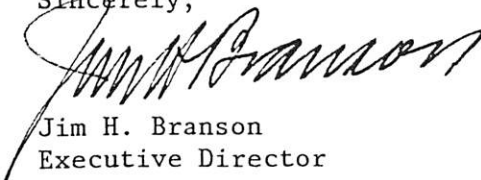
Dear Terry:

Under the authority delegated to me by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, which includes authority to review applications from foreign ships wishing to work with joint ventures previously approved by the Council, I recommend approval for the following permit applications.

|      |            |               |
|------|------------|---------------|
| 6LZT | KS-81-0001 | GAE YANG HO   |
| 6MME | KS-81-0002 | SEO YANG HO   |
| 6LZV | KS-81-0003 | CHEOG YANG HO |
| 6MLB | KS-81-0004 | PUNG YANG HO  |

These four ships are applying for revisions to their permits, which already allow them to engage in a directed fishery off Alaska, in order to support the existing Korean/U.S. joint venture in the Gulf of Alaska. U.S. fishermen have been exceeding the processing capacity of the foreign processors available and these ships are intended to be used when additional processing capacity is required.

Sincerely,

  
Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

cc: Dick Cashdollar  
Fred Bilik  
Ron Naab



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May 12, 1981

Mr. Phil Chitwood  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
P. O. Box 1668  
Juneau, AK 99802

Dear Phil:

Confirming our telephone conversation today, total estimated costs of the 1981 salmon amendment for the period August 20, 1980 through May 8, 1981 are listed below.

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Research   | \$153,000        |
| Six (6) public hearings                                | 16,000           |
| Plan Development Team                                  |                  |
| State travel   | 7,225            |
| PDT-Council  | 1,245            |
| Council Meetings                                       | 63,000           |
| Staff (administrative)                                 |                  |
| Extra Travel   | 1,000            |
| Plan Coordinator                                       | 18,000           |
| Support Staff  | 9,000            |
| Pass-through funds, ADF&G staff                        | 7,000            |
| Printing and mailing costs for<br>3 mailings to public | 3,000            |
| Communications   | 1,000            |
| Miscellaneous, supplies                                | <u>500</u>       |
| Total  | <u>\$234,970</u> |

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Willoughby".

Judy Willoughby  
Administrative Officer

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

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April 17, 1981

Mr. Stephen H. Hoag  
Senior Biologist  
International Pacific Halibut Commission  
P. O. Box 5009  
University Station  
Seattle, WA 98105

Dear Steve:

I think we're going to have trouble going ahead with crab pot modifications to reduce the incidental halibut catch if we don't have an accurate estimate of the incidental halibut catch in crab pots. As you point out, all the evidence indicates that the catch is substantial; but it also indicates that it is very uneven in time and area. There are probably some crab fisheries that don't catch very many incidental halibut, whereas others do, although not necessarily consistently.

To go ahead with any expensive or elaborate program of pot modification before we have the problem thoroughly identified is probably a waste of time and money. It is going to take a good argument to force modifications of the crab pots now in use and a good economic justification. Even if we could come up with a good modification to reduce the incidental catch of halibut for only \$25 per pot, it would be a direct expense to the Bering Sea crab fleet of almost \$2 million. At the moment, we don't know what the catch of halibut is in the Bering Sea fishery. Questions that will have to be answered are:

Is the catch large in the king crab fishery, or is it just in the Tanner crab fishery? Or is it both?

Does it occur in all areas of the Bering Sea, or is it localized?

What time of year is the worst?

Is the incidental catch bait related?

And I'm sure there are other questions that are going to be asked.

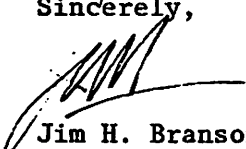
It might be appropriate to ask the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, which has some gear technology capability in-house, and perhaps the University of Alaska as part of their proposed technology center in Kodiak, to start some work on pot modification. I would expect that something could be worked out with ADF&G to do some of the test work in the course of their normal resource assessment work with crab pots.

Mr. Hoag  
April 17, 1981  
Page Two

I would urge you not to give up on the observer program. It still looks like the only way to identify the problem in any detail, and I think that is critical before we can ask the crab fishing industry to seriously consider modifying their fishing techniques.

By copy of this letter, I am asking the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee to consider the suggestions in your letter of April 10.

Sincerely,



Jim H. Branson  
Executive Director

cc: Steve Pennoyer, ADF&G  
Don Rosenberg, University of Alaska-Sea Grant  
Dr. Bill Aron, NWAFC



Afternoon Session (2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) - Trade and Development

Chairman: *Joel Dirlam, Professor, Economics, URI*

Trade and Development Issues: *Lee Weddig, Executive Vice President, National Fisheries Institute*

Panel: *Ian Dore, Fisheries Broker, Greenlawn, New York; Sarah Hemphill, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, Anchorage, Alaska; William Lewis, Seacrest International Trading Co., Inc., Saugus, Massachusetts; Robert Tobin, President, Ralboray, Inc., New London, Connecticut*

Dinner Cruise and Seafood Buffet (6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)

Address: "Seafood Marketing in Rhode Island" - *Ralph Boragine, Executive Director, R.I. Seafood Council*

Wednesday, June 24

Morning Session (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) - New Directions

Moderator: *Jack Botzum, Editor, Ocean Science News*

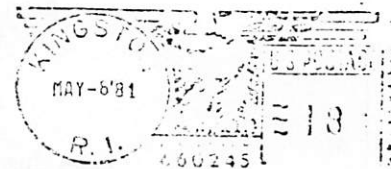
Panel: *Earl Conrad, President, Zapata Protein, Houston, Texas; Theodore G. Kronmiller, Legislative Analyst, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, U.S. Congress; Brian Rothschild, Professor, University of Maryland, Solomons, Maryland*

# THE U.S. FISHING INDUSTRY AND REGULATORY REFORM

June 21-24, 1981

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University of Rhode Island

Center for Ocean Management Studies  
University of Rhode Island  
19 Upper College Road  
Kingston, RI 02881



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Anchorage, AK 99510



Address Correction Requested