


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, AP and SSC Members

FROM: Clarence G. Pautzke   
Executive Director

DATE: November 26, 1990

SUBJECT: International Fisheries

**ACTION REQUIRED**

None. For information only.

**BACKGROUND**

Item C-2(a) is a summary of activities on the international front since the beginning of the year. Next week in Ottawa, there will be a PICES meeting that could result in signing of a charter to establish a North Pacific Marine Science Organization. It will lay the foundation for international cooperative research in the North Pacific. Canada, China, Japan, the U.S., and U.S.S.R will be charter members. Seattle and Sidney, B.C. have been suggested as places for the Secretariat.

For 1991, several meetings have been tentatively scheduled and are listed in the attachment. Of particular interest are the following:

- Jan. 28-31: International Pacific Halibut Commission Meeting, Vancouver, B.C.
- Feb. 4-8: Bering Sea pollock stock assessment workshop, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.
- April/May: U.S./Soviet Intergovernmental Consultative Committee for Fisheries, USSR.
- June: North Pacific Driftnet Review, Vancouver, B.C.
- Nov. 4-6: INPFC Driftnet Symposium and annual meeting, Tokyo, Japan.

Donut Policy

Item C-2(b) is the Secretary of Commerce's response to our policy on Donut Hole fisheries, approved in September.

MEETINGS ON NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES  
ACTIVITIES SINCE JANUARY 1, 1990

- Jan. 18 U.S.-Canada Meeting on Proposed Salmon Convention in Washington, D.C., to review preliminary U.S.-Soviet draft salmon convention text.
- Jan. 29-  
Feb. 1 International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting in Seattle. Quotas left unresolved until informal agreement reached Feb. 27.
- Feb. 1 U.S.-Canada Meeting in Ottawa to review East and West coast fisheries issues, including driftnets and proposed high seas Pacific salmon convention.
- Feb. 5-10 Pacific Salmon Commission meets in Seattle. No agreement was reached on a management regime for 1990.
- Feb. 5-6 U.S.-Canada Enforcement Meeting in Seattle to coordinate measures to address high seas salmon interceptions and uncover/track salmon smuggling activities.
- Feb. 12-16 U.S.-Japan-Canada Consultations on 1990 high seas driftnet fishery scientific monitoring and enforcement programs as well as Japanese salmon mothership conversion proposal in Washington, D.C. Talks are inconclusive and the next round is scheduled for Tokyo in March.
- Feb. 20-23 Taiwan Driftnet Fishery Talks in Rosslyn, VA, results in ad referendum agreement on 1990 logistical arrangements for deployment of scientific observers (14 U.S. and 10 Taiwan observers aboard 24 commercial vessels, etc.) and outlines enforcement procedures (Final agreement concluded on March 29).
- Feb. 27 U.S. North Pacific and Bering Sea Advisors meet in Seattle to discuss recommended positions for the March U.S.-Soviet fisheries talks.
- Mar. 5-10 U.S.-Korean Fishery Scientists Meeting in Korea to design and work out scheduling details for deployment of U.S. and Korean scientific observers aboard Korean driftnet vessels in 1990 (13 U.S. and 12 Korean observers aboard 36 Korean driftnet vessels). final details to be worked out through diplomatic channels (still pending as of 4/16/90).
- Mar. 16-23 U.S.-Soviet 3rd Intergovernmental Consultative Committee (ICC) on Fisheries meets in Washington, D.C. and agrees on a joint draft Pacific salmon convention text. further agrees to text's formal presentation to Japan and Canada. ICC receives report of the U.S. and Soviet fisheries scientists who participated in the Bering Sea Fisheries Advisory Body Meeting in Seattle in November 1989. The two sides explore principles and elements for a conservation and management regime for the donut area. Further bilateral meetings on this issue planned for the near future.

- Mar. 26-30 U.S.-Japan-Canada Driftnet/Conversion Talks in Tokyo result in an ad referendum agreement for 1990 observer and enforcement programs for Japan's driftnet fisheries in the North Pacific as well as agreement on Japan's mothership conversion proposal.
- Marc. 26-30 The 8th round of U.S.-Canada Yukon Salmon Negotiations is held in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. 9th Round is planned for April 23-25 in Juneau.
- Apr. 2-3 INPFC Working Group on alternate fishing technologies meetings in Tokyo to discuss tests of modified driftnets in 1990.
- Apr. 2-5 2nd Multilateral Scientific Symposium on Bering Sea Fisheries Resources held in Khabarovsk, U.S.S.R.
- Apr. 3-4 U.S.-Canada Enforcement Meeting in Ottawa on Pacific salmon high seas interceptions and smuggling issues.
- Apr. 5-6 Formal Presentation of U.S.-Soviet Draft Pacific Salmon Convention made to the Governments of Japan and Canada on April 5 and 6, respectively, by Ambassador Ed Wolfe. A multilateral session on this draft test was requested for May.
- Apr. 9-13 Pacific Salmon Commission meets in Seattle.
- Apr. 23-25 The 9th Round of U.S.-Canada Yukon River Salmon Talks held in Juneau.
- Sept. 27 U.S. Section to the INPFC meets in Anchorage to discuss probably issues during upcoming INPFC meeting.
- Oct. 17-19 Pacific Salmon Commission meets in Executive Session in Kamloops, B.C.
- Oct. 23-24 Quadrilateral Meeting to discuss conservation of Pacific salmon in Ottawa.
- Nov. 6-8 37th Annual Meeting of INPFC in Vancouver, B.C.
- Nov. 19 Interim Meeting of the Int'l Pacific Halibut Commission in Seattle. Talks were held on the high seas squid driftnet fishery and exchange of biological information pertaining to salmon and groundfish.
- Nov. 26-30 Fall Meeting of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC), Vancouver, B.C.

**International Meetings Planned for 1991.**

- Jan. 22-24 Salmon Draft Meeting (Quadrilateral), Washington.
- Late Jan.-early Feb. Japan 1991 Driftnet Programs and Mothership Conversion, Vancouver, B.C.(?).
- Late Jan. IPHC Annual Meeting, Vancouver, B.C.
- Feb. 4-8 PSC 6th annual Meeting, Bellevue, WA

- Feb. 4-8 Bering Sea pollock stock assessment workshop in Seattle. Focus on "donut hole" pollock.
- Feb. 4-20 Driftnet Research Coordinating Meetings, Tokyo/Pusan, Korea/Taipei, Taiwan.
- Jan/Feb/  
or March Korea/Taiwan 1991 Driftnet Programs, either in Asia or U.S.
- Apr/May U.S./Soviet Intergovernmental Consultative Committee for Fisheries. Somewhere in USSR.
- May/1 week INPFC Working Group on Joint Surveys. Probably in Seattle, focus on hydroacoustic surveys on Bering Sea pollock.
- June North Pacific driftnet Review Meeting in Vancouver.
- Late June 2nd Quadrilateral Meeting on Pacific salmon Conservation, Washington, D.C.
- Nov. 4-6 INPFC Driftnet Symposium, Tokyo.  
INPFC Symposium on the Biology, Distribution and stock Assessment of species caught in High Seas Driftnet fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean.

AGENDA C-2(b)  
DECEMBER 1990



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
1335 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
THE DIRECTOR

NOV 27 1990

NOV 23 1990

Mr. Don W. Collinsworth  
Chairman, North Pacific Fishery  
Management Council  
605 West 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. <sup>Don</sup> Collinsworth:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary Mosbacher regarding the policy adopted by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to prohibit all fishing activity in the Central Bering Sea outside the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

As you know, I have supported efforts to establish a management regime for fishing in the "donut hole." We have reviewed and commented on drafts provided by the State Department designed to be used as a basis for a multilateral agreement to control such fishing. I believe you have also reviewed and commented on these drafts. We will continue to work toward the adoption of such an agreement.

In the interim, we have requested public comments on the issue of permitting transshipments in our EEZ in 1991 of fish harvested in the "donut hole" and whether carrying observers should be made a condition of issuing such permits. Copies of such public comments will be forwarded to the Council in the near future, in order to assist the Council in its deliberations regarding the permit applications.

Sincerely,

William W. Fox, Jr.

THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
FOR FISHERIES



Jay Hastings

JAPANESE REGULATIONS FOR THE NORTH PACIFIC TRAWL FISHERY  
(Including the International Waters of the Bering Sea)

1. Fishery License.

The Japanese trawl fishery within the international waters of the Bering Sea is included within the Japanese regulation of the North Pacific Trawl Fishery under the Fisheries Law. This fishery can operate, in conformity with international laws and treaties, in all waters of the North Pacific beyond the 200-mile zone of Japan.

The North Pacific Trawl Fishery is classified as one of 17 "designated fishery" under the Fisheries Law. This means that a license is required to participate in the fishery. The license must be issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. A vessel license for the North Pacific Trawl Fishery must be renewed annually.

The purpose of the licensing system is to impose a restriction on effort in the fishery for the purpose of resource conservation and/or maintaining an orderly fishing operation. The number of licenses to be issued is based upon a number of criteria related to the conservation of the resource and the public interest. The North Pacific Trawl Fishery is categorized by gross tonnage as an indicator of fishing effort. The number of licenses issued for the fishery over the past several years is shown below.

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	1975	1980	1985	1990
North Pacific Trawl Vessels				
15 - 660 tons	10	14	13	8
660 - 1000	0	1	0	2
>1000	32	25	27	27
Converted Trawl Vessels				
15 - 660	-	16	16	13
Hokuten Trawl Vessels				
15 - 259	<u>154</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>54</u>
Total trawl vessels	196	153	110	104
Mothership Vessels	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>
Total vessels	211	159	116	104

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## 2. Fishery Regulation and Restrictions.

The North Pacific Trawl Fishery is regulated and enforced pursuant to the Ministerial Ordinance and notifications which are issued under the Ordinance. The permit license issued to the vessel includes the restrictions and conditions for operating in the fishery. Major restrictions and conditions for the North Pacific Trawl Fishery include the following:

-- Prohibited areas which include the U.S. and U.S.S.R. zones unless the vessel has a permit issued by the respective government and is engaged in the activities authorized in the permit.

-- Prohibited fishing gear. The vessel can only carry gear for the fishery for which it is licensed. The gear must be stowed while in transit through the 200-mile zones.

-- Prohibited species which are generally the same species as prescribed under U.S. law.

-- Prohibited transfer of the catch at sea unless the vessel is specifically authorized to deliver its catch to a Japanese processing vessel.

-- Restricted landing ports. The Japanese vessels must land their catch in Japan. The catch can only be landed at designated ports.

-- Reporting requirements. These include, among other requirements, the maintenance and submission of a fishing log; reporting fishing schedules and activities; the maintenance of an operative NNSS system and submission of NNSS records; the reporting of positions including advance notice of entry into and exit from the high seas area; the requirement to engage in activities to further biological research; and reporting on the transfer or landing of catches.

## 3. Enforcement.

Enforcement activities are carried out by fishery inspection officers who are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries pursuant to the Fisheries Law. The fishery inspection officers are deployed on Japanese patrol vessels in the North Pacific and stationed in the main landing ports where fish from the North Pacific trawl fishery must be landed. Fishery officers are authorized, among other duties, to stop and board vessels for inspection and prohibit the vessel captain and crew from boarding the vessel during mandatory port confinement.

As needed, and in consultation with the Ministry of Justice, law inspection officers are also appointed. The law inspection officers are authorized to impose penalties pursuant to the procedures of the Criminal Procedures Act. Mandatory port confinement, penal servitude and fines are authorized penalties under the Ordinance.

END