

Public Testimony Sign-Up Sheet

Agenda Item D3 Staff Tasking

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AFFILIATION
1	Becca Robbins Gisclair	VRDFA
2	Theresa Peterson	Antec
3	Lori Swanson	Groundfish Forum
4	Julia Penny	AGDB
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members
FROM: Chris Oliver *Chris*
Executive Director
DATE: March 25, 2009
SUBJECT: Staff Tasking

ESTIMATED TIME
2 HOURS

ACTION REQUIRED

Review tasking and committees and provide direction.

BACKGROUND

Committees and Tasking

The list of Council committees is attached as Item D-3(a)(1). Item D-3(a)(2) is the three meeting outlook, and Item D-3(a)(3) provides a summary of current projects and tasking. In addition, an updated workplan for implementing the programmatic groundfish management policy is attached as Item D-3(a)(4). The Council may wish to discuss priorities for completing ongoing projects, as well as any new tasks assigned during the course of this meeting.

Note that on its October agenda, the Council is scheduled to review the 'status quo' Steller sea lion Biological Opinion, as well as a discussion of a plan for a proposed analysis to consider splitting the (currently nine) BSAI Pacific cod sector allocations between the BS and AI areas. This analysis is necessary should the BSAI TAC be split into separate BS and AI TACs in a future harvest specifications process, in order to avoid the default scenario in which each sector receives the same percentage of its current BSAI Pacific cod allocation in each area.¹ The Council has scheduled a discussion of this potential analysis during the same meeting as the review of the biological opinion, as the results of the biological opinion may have significant impacts on the direction of this analysis. While signaling an interest in starting the BSAI Pacific cod sector split analysis earlier in the year, the Council recognized that prior to developing the analysis, there is a need to understand the outcome of the ongoing biological opinion, which, among other things, addresses the effects of the status quo BSAI Pacific cod fishery on Steller sea lions. In effect, depending on the outcome of the biological opinion, the status quo for the Pacific cod fishery could be substantially affected.

Also in February, the Council recommended initiating a small committee in preparation for the potential analysis to consider splitting the BSAI Pacific cod sector allocations. Specifically, the Council approved initiation of a committee to start evaluating the suite of alternatives and recommend data requests that may be

¹ For example, if the BSAI TAC is split in a future TAC-setting process, the default scenario (absent analysis and rulemaking of other alternatives) is that a sector that currently receives an allocation of 22% of the BSAI ITAC would then receive an allocation of 22% of the BS ITAC and 22% of the AI ITAC.

necessary to make progress on this issue this summer. The intent was to appoint members in April, with a possible meeting by June. Due to the plan to discuss the potential BSAI Pacific cod analysis in conjunction with the meeting to review the biological opinion, it may be prudent to select members of the suggested committee over the summer, but not convene the committee until the bounds of the proposed analysis are more clear and the Council has had an opportunity to discuss the outcome of the biological opinion in October.

Note also that the results of the biological opinion, and the direction of the BSAI Pacific cod sector allocation split analysis, may also have implications for the analysis of proposed alternatives to establish processing sideboards on catcher vessel deliveries of Pacific cod harvested in the Eastern and Central Aleutian Islands to processing vessels. The sideboards are intended to limit the amount of Pacific cod harvested in these areas (Area 541 and 542) that can be delivered to catcher processors, floating processors, and motherships that participate in the American Fisheries Act, BSAI crab rationalization, and BSAI Amendment 80 sectors. The Council requested that initial review of this draft sideboard analysis be scheduled for October 2009, also in order to coincide with the review of the ongoing Biological Opinion. At that point, the Council expects to have additional information as to whether the BSAI Pacific cod total allowable catch needs to be allocated separately between the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands, as well as any other potential measures that may be established in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery as a result of the Biological Opinion. Due to reasons similar to the situation described above, the Biological Opinion could directly affect whether the draft sideboard analysis prepared for October is accurate and relevant, as both the 'status quo' and the potential impacts of the proposed sideboard action could change depending on the outcome of the biological opinion.

NPFMC Committees & Workgroups
(Revised March 25, 2009)

AGENDA D-3(a)(1)
APRIL 2009

Council/Board of Fisheries Joint Protocol Committee

Updated: 8/10/07	<u>Council:</u> Dave Benson Ed Dersham Eric Olson	<u>Board:</u> Larry Edfelt John Jensen Mel Morris
Staff: Jane DiCosimo		

Council Coordination Committee

[Designated and renamed by Magnuson Act reauthorization April 2007]

Appointed: 4/05 Updated: 8/10/07 Staff: Chris Oliver	<u>CFMC:</u> C: Eugenio Pinerio ED: Miguel Rolon	<u>NPFMC:</u> C: Eric Olson ED: Chris Oliver
	<u>GMFMC:</u> C: Tom McIlwain ED: Rick Leard (acting)	<u>PFMC:</u> C: Donald Hansen ED: Don McIsaac
	<u>MAFMC:</u> C: Richard Robins ED: Dan Furlong	<u>SAFMC:</u> C: Duane Harris ED: Bob Mahood
	<u>NEFMC:</u> C: John Pappalardo ED: Paul Howard	<u>WPFMC:</u> C: Sean Martin ED: Kitty Simonds

Council Executive/Finance Committee

Updated: 8/10/07	Eric Olson (Chair) Doug Mecum (NMFS) Alt. Sue Salvesson Dave Hanson Denby Lloyd (ADFG) Alt. Dave Bedford Roy Hyder Bill Tweit (WDF)
<u>Status:</u> Meet as necessary	
Staff: Chris Oliver/Dave Witherell/Gail Bendixen	

Bering Sea Crab Advisory Committee

Appointed 4/25/07	Sam Cotten (Chair)	Lenny Herzog
Revised 11/15/07	Jerry Bongen	Kevin Kaldestad
	Steve Branson	Frank Kelty
	Florence Colburn	John Moller
	Linda Freed	Rob Rogers
	Dave Hambleton	Simeon Swetzof
	Phil Hanson	Ernest Weiss
Staff: Mark Fina	Tim Henkel	

NPFMC Committees & Workgroups
(Revised March 25, 2009)

Bering Sea Salmon Bycatch Workgroup

Appointed: 3/07 Staff: Diana Stram	Stephanie Madsen (Co-chair) Eric Olson (Co-chair) John Gruver Karl Haflinger Jennifer Hooper	Paul Peyton Becca Robbins Gisclair Mike Smith Vincent Webster (BOF)
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Comprehensive Data Collection Committee

Appointed: 12/07 Updated: 2/9/09 Staff: Jeannie Heltzel	Glenn Reed (Chair) Bruce Berg Michael Catsi Dave Colpo Paula Cullenberg	Brett Reasor Ed Richardson Mike Szymanski Gale Vick
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Crab Interim Action Committee
[Required under BSAI Crab FMP]

Doug Mecum, NMFS Denby Lloyd, ADF&G Jeff Koenings, WDF
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Ecosystem Committee

Updated: 8/10/07 <u>Status</u> : Active Staff: Diana Evans	Stephanie Madsen (Chair) Jim Ayers Jon Kurland Dave Benton Doug DeMaster/Bill Karp Dave Fluharty John Iani
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Enforcement Committee

Updated: 7/03 <u>Status</u> : Active Staff: Jon McCracken	Roy Hyder (Chair) LCDR Lisa Ragone, USCG Major Steve Bear, AK F&W Protection Martin Loefflad, NMFS Herman Savikko, ADF&G Lisa Lindeman/Garland Walker, NOAA-GC Matt Brown/Ken Hansen, NMFS-Enforcement Sue Salvesson, NMFS
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NPFMC Committees & Workgroups

(Revised March 25, 2009)

Fur Seal Committee

<p>Updated: 8/10/07</p> <p>Status: Active</p> <p>Staff: Bill Wilson</p>	<p>David Benson (Chair)</p> <p>Larry Cotter</p> <p>Aquilina Lestenkof</p> <p>Paul MacGregor</p> <p>Heather McCarty</p> <p>Anthony Mercurief</p>
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GOA Groundfish Rationalization Community Committee

<p>Appointed: 11/04</p> <p>Staff: Nicole Kimball</p>	<p>Hazel Nelson (Chair)</p> <p>Julie Bonney</p> <p>Duncan Fields</p> <p>Chuck McCallum</p>	<p>Patrick Norman</p> <p>Joe Sullivan</p> <p>Chuck Totemoff</p> <p>Ernie Weiss</p>
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Halibut Charter Stakeholder Committee

<p>Appointed: 1/06</p> <p>Revised: 11/5/07</p> <p>Staff: Jane DiCosimo</p>	<p>Dave Hanson (Chair)</p> <p>Seth Bone</p> <p>Robert Candopoulos</p> <p>Ricky Gease</p> <p>John Goodhand</p> <p>Kathy Hansen</p> <p>Dan Hull</p>	<p>Chuck McCallum</p> <p>Larry McQuarrie</p> <p>Rex Murphy</p> <p>Peggy Parker</p> <p>Charles "Chaco" Pearman</p> <p>Greg Sutter</p>
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IFQ Implementation Committee

<p>Reconstituted: 7/31/03</p> <p>Updated: 2/9/09</p> <p>Staff: Jane DiCosimo</p>	<p>Jeff Stephan (Chair)</p> <p>Bob Alverson</p> <p>Julianne Curry</p> <p>Tim Henkel</p> <p>Dennis Hicks</p> <p>Don Iverson</p>	<p>Jeff Kauffman</p> <p>Don Lane</p> <p>Kris Norosz</p> <p>Paul Peyton</p> <p><i>Vacancy (1)</i></p>
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Non-Target Species Committee

<p>Appointed: 7/03</p> <p>Updated: 8/10/07</p> <p>Staff: Jane DiCosimo, NPFMC/ Olav Ormseth, AFSC</p>	<p>Dave Benson (Chair)</p> <p>Julie Bonney</p> <p>John Gauvin</p> <p>Ken Goldman</p> <p>Karl Haflinger</p> <p>Simon Kinneen</p>	<p>Michelle Ridgway</p> <p>Janet Smoker</p> <p>Paul Spencer</p> <p>Lori Swanson</p> <p>Jon Warrenchuk</p>
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NPFMC Committees & Workgroups
(Revised March 25, 2009)

Observer Advisory Committee (pending reconstitution)

Reconstituted: 1/06 Updated: 12/07 <u>Status</u> : Active Staff: Chris Oliver/ Nicole Kimball	Joe Kyle (Chair) Bob Alverson Christian Asay Jerry Bongen Julie Bonney Kenny Down Todd Loomis	Paul MacGregor Tracey Mayhew Brent Paine Peter Risse Kathy Robinson <i>Vacancy (1)</i>
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Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee

Appointed: 2/07 Staff: Diana Stram	Steve Minor (Chair) Keith Colburn Lance Farr Phil Hanson Kevin Kaldestad Garry Loncon Gary Painter	Rob Rogers Vic Sheibert Gary Stewart Tom Suryan Arni Thomson, Secretary (non-voting)
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Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee

Appointed: 2/01 Updated: 2/13/09 [formerly SSL RPA Committee; renamed February 2002] Staff: Bill Wilson	Larry Cotter (Chair) Jerry Bongen Julie Bonney Kenny Down John Gauvin John Henderschedt Daniel Hennen Sue Hills	Frank Kelty Terry Leitzell Steve MacLean Stephanie Madsen Max Malavansky, Jr Mel Morris Art Nelson Beth Stewart
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VMS Committee

Appointed: 6/02 <u>Status</u> : Idle, pending direction Staff: Jane DiCosimo	Roy Hyder (Chair) Al Burch Guy Holt Ed Page LCDR Lisa Ragone Lori Swanson
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Community and Alaska Native Outreach Committee

Pending appointment

BS/AI P. Cod Split Committee

Pending appointment

March 30, 2009 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel	June 1, 2009 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel	October 1, 2009 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel
SSL BiOp schedule: Update (T)		Status Quo SSL BiOp: Review (T)
GOA fixed gear LLP recency: Final Action		BS&AI P.cod Split: Discuss plan/action as necessary
Am 80 Cooperative Formation: Final Action	GOA P cod sector split: Initial Review	GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels: Initial Review (T)
Am 80 Cooperative Report: Review	Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: Initial Review	GOA P cod sector split: Final Action
	Permit Fees: Initial Review	AI Processing Sideboards: Initial Review (T)
	CGOA Rockfish Program: Review Alternatives	Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: Final Action
	BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: Initial Review	Permit Fees: Final Action (T)
	BSAI Crab Amendments: Discussion Papers	Observer Program Implementation Analysis: Review progress; and action as necessary (T)
MPA Nomination Process: Discuss & action as nec. (T)		BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: Final Action (T)
	BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries: Final Action	BSAI Crab Amendments: Discussion papers
BS Chinook Salmon Bycatch EIS: Final Action	BS Chum Salmon Bycatch: Refine Alternatives	Halibut/Sablefish IFQ Proposals: Review & action as nec.
	ACL Requirements: Discuss workplan; action as nec.	CQE Program: Review
Halibut Sorting EFP: Review and approve	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: Initial Review	BS Chum Salmon Bycatch: Action as necessary
	BSAI Crab: SAFE report/crab rebuilding plan alternatives	ACL Requirements: Action as necessary
Bristol Bay Trawl Closure & Walrus: Discussion Paper	BSAI Skates Complex: Initial Review	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: Final Action
GOA Tanner & Chinook Bycatch: Discussion Paper	AI FEP addendum: Review/Discuss (T)	St Matthew+Pribilof BKC& opilio rebuilding: Preliminary Review (T)
	HAPC Process: Action as necessary	BSAI Skates Complex: Final Action
HAPC Criteria; 5 Yr EFH Review Methodology: SSC Only	Groundfish PSEIS: Discuss/Review objectives & workplan	BSAI/GOA Squid Complex: Initial Review (T)
Scallop Mgmt: Team report; Review and approve SAFE		Groundfish Proposed Catch Specifications: Approve

AI - Aleutian Islands
 GOA - Gulf of Alaska
 SSL - Steller Sea Lion
 BOF - Board of Fisheries
 FEP - Fishery Ecosystem Plan
 CDQ - Community Development Quota
 VMS - Vessel Monitoring System
 EFP - Exempted Fishing Permit
 BiOp - Biological Opinion
 (T) Tentatively scheduled

TAC - Total Allowable Catch
 BSAI - Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands
 IFQ - Individual Fishing Quota
 GHL - Guideline Harvest Level
 EIS - Environmental Impact Statement
 LLP - License Limitation Program
 SAFE - Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation
 MPA - Marine Protected Area
 ACL - Annual Catch Limit
 HAPC - Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

Future Meeting Dates and Locations

March 30 -, 2009 in Anchorage
 June 1-, 2009 in Anchorage
 October 1-, 2009 in Anchorage (AP, SSC start on THURSDAY)
 (Council on Saturday)
 December 7-, 2009 in Anchorage
 February 8-, 2010 in Portland OR
 April 6-, 2010 in Anchorage (start on Tuesday)
 June 7 -, 2010 in Stika

Council Tasking: April 2009

Updated 3/24/09

Groundfish Fishery Issues	Lead Agency	Project Magnitude	Council Analysts	Council Meeting				
				April	June	Oct	Dec	Future
GOA P. cod Sector Splits	Council	Medium	Jeannie		Initial Review	Final Action		
GOA fixed gear recency	Council	Medium	Jeannie	Final Action				
GOA P.cod sideboards BSAI crab vessels	Council	Small	Jon			Initial Review		
Break out BSAI Skate complex	Council	Small	Jane/Jon		Initial Review	Final Action		
Break out BSAI/GOA Squid	Council	Small	Jane/Jon			Initial Review	Final Action	
Break out BSAI/GOA Octopus	Council	Small	Jane/Jon					February-10
Break out BSAI/GOA Sharks	Council	Small	Jane/Jon					October-10
Observer Program Implementation	Council	Medium	Nicole			Discuss		
Pacific cod BS and AI split	Council	Large	Nicole			Discuss		
Comprehensive economic data collection	Council	Small	Jeannie/Mark					ongoing
Am 80 cooperative formation	Council	Small	Jon	Final Action				
BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel fisheries	Council	Medium	Jeannie		Final Action			
AI cod processor sideboards	Council	Medium	Nicole			Initial Review		
CGOA Rockfish pilot program changes	Council	Large	Jon		Review Alts			
Permit Fees	NMFS	Small	na		Initial Review	Final Action		
Am 80 Vessel Replacement	NMFS	Small	Jon		Initial Review	Final Action		
Revise non-target sp. Management	Council	Medium	Jane				Cttee report	
ACL analysis (as appropriate)	Council	Small	Jane/DianaS			SSC Report		

Halibut Fishery Issues

Halibut/Sablefish IFQ Proposals	Council	Medium	Jane			Review		
CQE Program	Council	Small	Nicole			Review		

Scallop Fishery Issues

Annual Catch Limit Amendment	Council	Small	Diana S.		Discuss		Prelim review	
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Crab Fishery Issues

Pribilof&St Matthew BKC, opilio rebuilding plans	Council	Medium	Diana S.		Discuss	Prelim review		
BSAI Crab ACL Amendment	Council	Medium	Diana S.		Discuss		Prelim review	
BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief	Council	Small	Mark		Initial Review			
BSAI Crab right of first refusal issues	Council	Small	Mark		Discuss			
BSAI Crab WAG regionalization/PQ issues	Council	Small	Mark		Discuss			
BSAI Crab Extinguishing Processing Quota	Council	Medium	Mark		Discuss			
BSAI Crab Leasing Restrictions	Council	Small	Mark			Discuss		
BSAI Crab Program Changes	Council	Large	Mark			Discuss		

CDQ Issues

CDQ Cost-Recovery	NMFS	Medium	Nicole					discuss
CDQ Amendment 71/22 (MSA provisions)	Council	Medium	Nicole					discuss

Bycatch Issues

GOA Salmon and Crab Bycatch Controls	Council	Medium	Diana E.	Discuss				
BSAI Chum salmon bycatch	Council	Large	Diana S.		Review Alts			
BSAI Chinook Salmon Bycatch EIS	Council	Large	Diana S.	Final Action				

Ecosystem Issues

BS bottom trawl sweep modifications	Council	Small	Diana E.		Initial Review	Final Action		
Bristol Bay Trawl Closure and walrus	Council	Small	Bill/Diana E.	Discuss				
EFH 5 Yr review	NMFS	Medium	Diana E.				Discuss	
HAPC nomination process	Council	Medium	Diana E.	Discuss	Discuss			
Northern Bering Sea Research Plan	NMFS	Small	Diana E.			Discuss		
Aleutian Islands Fishery Ecosystem Plan	Council	Small	Diana E.		Discuss			
SSL BiOp	NMFS	Large	Bill	Update		Review		

Note: The tasking list does not include work necessary to prepare analyses for SOC review, ongoing committee work, research priorities, Programmatic SEIS priorities, plan team meetings, SAFE reports, EFPs, catch specifications, database development and data analysis, or other routine actions.

Groundfish Workplan

Priority actions revised in February 2007, status updated to current

General Priority (in no particular order)	Specific priority actions	Related to management objective:	Status (updated 3-23-09)	2009				2010					
				Apr	Jun	Oct	Dec	Feb	Apr	Jun	Oct	Dec	
Prevent Overfishing	a. continue to develop management strategies that ensure sustainable yields of target species and minimize impacts on populations of incidentally-caught species	5	Aggregate ABC/OFL for GOA 'other species' in Apr 08 BSAI skates TAC breakout init review Jun 2009 BSAI/GOA squids breakout init review in Oct 2009, then BSAI/GOA sharks										
	b. evaluate effectiveness of setting ABC levels using Tier 5 and 6 approaches, for rockfish and other species	4	AFSC responding to CIE reviews as part of harvest specifications process										
	c. continue to develop a systematic approach to lumping and splitting that takes into account both biological and management considerations	5	BSAI Pcod split discussion in Jun 09 report from non-target species committee in Oct 09										
Preserve Food Web	a. encourage and participate in development of key ecosystem indicators	10	ecosystem SAFE presented annually; AI FEP identified/refined indicators for the Aleutians										
	b. Reconcile procedures to account for uncertainty and ecosystem considerations in establishing harvest limits, for rockfish and other species	11	report from non-target species committee in Oct 09										
	c. develop pilot Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the AI	13	FEP brochure published Dec 07 FEP revisions in 2009, further implementation discussed by FEP team and Ecosystem Committee										
Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste	a. explore incentive-based bycatch reduction programs in GOA and BSAI fisheries	15	partially addressed in BSAI salmon bycatch EIS										
	b. explore mortality rate-based approaches to setting PSC limits in GOA and BSAI fisheries	20	partially addressed in BSAI salmon bycatch EIS										
	c. consider new management strategies to reduce incidental rockfish bycatch and discards	17											
	d. develop statistically rigorous approaches to estimating bycatch in line with national initiatives	14, 19	National Bycatch Report update in Dec 07										
	e. encourage research programs to evaluate population estimates for non-target species	16	Part of research priorities, adopted in June 2007										
	f. develop incentive-based and appropriate biomass-based trigger limits and area closures for BSAI salmon bycatch reduction, as information becomes available	14, 15, 20	EIS for caps and regulatory closure areas for Chinook, final action in Apr 09; discussion paper on chum measures for Jun 09										
	g. assess impact of management measures on regulatory discards and consider measures to reduce where practicable	17	partially addressed by GOA arrowtooth MRA analysis (Council action Oct 07)										

