

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Harold E. Lokken, Chairman
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200-0/1

May 12, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO: Don Bevan, Harold Lokken, Don Collinsworth, Ron Skoog, Phil Chitwood, Don McKernan, John Harville, Sig Jaeger, Keith Specking, Lee Alverson

SUBJECT: Management Plan Scheduling Subcommittee meeting May 3, 1978

The North Pacific Council's subcommittee on management plan scheduling, chaired by Don Bevan, met at 8:30 a.m. May 3, 1978 in room 330 of the East Building of the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center in Seattle. Subcommittee members present were Harold Lokken, Don Collinsworth, Ron Skoog, Phil Chitwood, Don McKernan and Jim Branson.

The group established three goals for the meeting:

1. Plan development schedule should make a reasonable Council load.
2. Develop criteria for plan development.
3. Recommend priorities in which the plans should be developed.

The group concurred with Chairman Lokken's recommendation to appoint a Council subcommittee for each management plan. The subcommittee would do a preliminary review and develop initial recommendations for the plan before it is addressed by the Council as a group. With a thorough job by the subcommittees, the plans should not require a full Council review prior to printing and submission for the public hearing process. The group also agreed that one in-house review prior to public review and comments was sufficient, rather than the two reviews adopted by the Council several months ago.

The committee agreed that a reasonable workload, that should not be exceeded, was two plan reviews at a single Council meeting - preferably one preliminary review and rewrite after public comments, and one final review and approval for submission to the Secretary.

The group then laid out and approved as a recommendation to the Council the following schedule for Council reviews on the first eight management plans:

1. Ocean salmon - October, November meetings
2. Bering Sea groundfish - January, February meetings
3. Tanner crab revision - October, November meetings
4. Bering Sea shrimp - April and May meetings
5. King crab - February, March meetings
6. Bering Sea herring - March and April meetings
7. Gulf of Alaska groundfish - May and June meetings
8. Bering Sea clams - June and July meetings

An expansion of the Council meeting schedule, based on the above recommendation is in attachment B.

The subcommittee identified five other management units, and suggested that they be developed one-a-year starting in 1979. They prioritized those management units in the following order:

1. Scallops - 1979
2. Shrimp (except Bering Sea) - 1980
3. Dungeness crab - 1981
4. Snails - 1982
5. Coral - 1983

It was recognized that two other management units, halibut and ocean salmon west of 175° East, would probably need development, but because of the uncertainty of the negotiations with Canada it was impossible to put a starting date on them at this time. The effective date of the first eight management plans and the beginning date of the other seven management units identified is shown on attachment A.

The development schedules for each of the first eight management plans are shown in attachment C.

Among the other recommendations of the subcommittee were:

1. The Council appoint a lead agency and plan development team for the Bering Sea shrimp FMP.
2. That total costs for management plans, including unreimbursed personnel time from other agencies, be computed for each management plan developed in order to get a realistic cost figure.

The subcommittee agreed to meet to review the recommendations as further developed by the Executive Director at 7:30 p.m. May 24 in the conference room of the Council headquarters in Anchorage.

FMP SCHEDULES

Effective Dates

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Original FMP</u>	<u>Revised FMP</u>
Ocean Salmon	April 15, 1979	
Bering Sea Groundfish	July 15, 1979	
Tanner Crab	July 12, 1978?	April 15, 1979
Bering Sea Shrimp	October 15, 1979	
King Crab	August 15, 1979	
Bering Sea Herring	September 15, 1979	
Gulf of Alaska Groundfish	June 21, 1978?	November 15, 1979
Bering Sea Clams	December 15, 1979	

	Beginning Date
Scallops	1979
Shrimp (except Bering Sea)	1980
Dungeness Crab	1981
Snails	1982
Coral	1983
Halibut	Depending on U.S./Canadian agreement
Ocean Salmon (west of 175° E.)	unknown

5/10/78 JHB

COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 1978 through July 1979

- | | |
|--|--|
| May 25-26, 1978
Anchorage | 1. inhouse review of
ocean salmon plan |
| <hr/> | |
| June 22-23, 1978
Anchorage | |
| <hr/> | |
| July 27-28, 1978
Anchorage | 1. inhouse review of
Bering Sea groundfish
plan |
| <hr/> | |
| August 24-25, 1978
Anchorage | 1. inhouse review of
Tanner crab revisions |
| <hr/> | |
| Public hearings on ocean salmon
begin August 15 | |
| <hr/> | |
| September 28-29, 1978
Sitka | 1. inhouse review of
Bering Sea shrimp plan |
| <hr/> | |
| Hearings -
Ocean salmon ends September 30
Bering Sea groundfish begins 9/5
Tanner crab begins September 25
Sitka - September 27
Ketchikan Anchorage
Juneau Kodiak
Pelican Seattle | |
| <hr/> | |
| October 26-27, 1978 | 1. Review and rewrite ocean
salmon plan. |
| Hearings -
Ocean salmon ends September 30
Bering Sea groundfish 9/5 - 1/10
Tanner crab 9/25 - 10/20 | 2. Review and rewrite Tanner
crab plan.
3. inhouse review of king crab
plan |
| <hr/> | |
| November 30-December 1, 1978 | 1. Review and approve ocean
salmon plan. |
| Hearings -
Bering Sea groundfish 9/5 - 1/10
Bering Sea shrimp 11/5 - 3/20
Bering Sea herring 12/5 - 2/10 | 2. Review and approve Tanner
crab plan.
3. inhouse review of Bering Sea
herring plan. |

January 25-26, 1979

Hearings -

Bering Sea groundfish 9/5 - 1/10
Bering Sea shrimp 11/5 - 3/20
Bering Sea herring 1/5 - 3/10
King crab 12/5 - 2/10

1. Review and rewrite Bering Sea groundfish plan.
2. inhouse review of Gulf of Alaska groundfish plan

February 22-23, 1979

Hearings -

Bering Sea shrimp 11/5 - 3/20
King crab 12/5 - 2/10
Bering Sea herring 1/5 - 3/10

1. Review and approve Bering Sea groundfish plan.
2. Review and rewrite king crab plan.
3. inhouse review of Bering Sea clam plan

March 22-23, 1979

Hearings -

Bering Sea shrimp 11/5 - 3/20
Bering Sea herring 1/5 - 3/10
Gulf of Alaska groundfish 3/7 - 5/10

1. Review and approve king crab plan.
2. Review and rewrite Bering Sea herring plan.

April 26-27, 1979

Hearings -

Gulf of Alaska groundfish 3/7 - 5/10
Bering Sea clam 4/5 - 6/10

1. Review and rewrite Bering Sea shrimp plan.
2. Review and approve Bering Sea herring plan.

May 24-25, 1979

Hearings -

Bering Sea clam 4/5 - 6/10

1. Review and approve Bering Sea shrimp plan.
2. Review and rewrite Gulf of Alaska groundfish plan.

June 28-29, 1979

Hearings -

Bering Sea clam 4/5 - 6/10

1. Review and approve Gulf of Alaska groundfish plan.
2. Review and rewrite Bering Sea clam plan.

July 26-27, 1979

1. Review and approve Bering Sea clam plan.

1st Revision

Original FMP

May 9, 1978	Mail draft to Council
May 25-26, 1978	Inhouse review
July 15-25, 1978	Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
August 15, 1978	Public hearings begin
September 30, 1978	Comment period over
October 26-27, 1978	1st Council review and rewrite
Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 1978	2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
December 15, 1978	Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
February 15, 1979	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
April 15, 1979	Plan in effect

5/10/78 JHB

BERING SEA GROUND FISH

1st Revision

Original FMP

- July 5, 1978 Mail draft to Council
- July 27-28, 1978 Inhouse review
- August 15, 1978 Notice of Availability and
public hearings - 800 copies
printed
- September 5, 1978 Public hearings begin
- January 10, 1979 Comment period over
- January 25-26, 1979 1st Council review and rewrite
- February 22-23, 1979 2nd Council review and approve
for submission to SOC
- March 15, 1979 Rewrite, print 50 - 200,
submit to SOC - review period
begins
- May 15, 1979 Review period ends -
Notice of proposed rule
making published
- July 15, 1979 Plan in effect

5/10/78 JHB

GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH

1st Revision	Original FMP	
January 5, 1979		Mail draft to Council
January 25-26, 1979		Inhouse review
February 15, 1979		Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
March 7, 1979		Public hearings begin
May 10, 1979		Comment period over
May 24-25, 1979		1st Council review and rewrite
June 28-29, 1979		2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
July 15, 1979		Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
September 15, 1979	April 21, 1978	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
November 15, 1979		Plan in effect

BERING SEA HERRING

1st Revision

Original FMP

November 5, 1978	Mail draft to Council
Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 1978	Inhouse review
December 15, 1978	Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
January 5, 1979	Public hearings begin
March 10, 1979	Comment period over
March 22-23, 1979	1st Council review and rewrite
April 26-27, 1979	2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
May 15, 1979	Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
July 15, 1979	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
September 15, 1979	Plan in effect

KING CRAB

1st Revision

Original FMP

October 5, 1978	Mail draft to Council
October 26-27, 1978	Inhouse review
November 15, 1978	Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
December 5, 1978	Public hearings begin
February 10, 1979	Comment period over
February 22-23, 1979	1st Council review and rewrite
March 22-23, 1979	2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
April 15, 1979	Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
June 15, 1979	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
August 15, 1979	Plan in effect

5/10/78 JHB

BERING SEA SHRIMP

1st Revision

Original FMP

September 5, 1978	Mail draft to Council
September 28-29, 1978	Inhouse review
October 15, 1978	Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
November 5, 1978	Public hearings begin
March 20, 1979	Comment period over
April 26-27, 1979	1st Council review and rewrite
May 24-25, 1979	2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
June 15, 1979	Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
August 15, 1979	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
October 15, 1979	Plan in effect

BERING SEA CLAMS

1st Revision	Original FMP
February 5, 1979	Mail draft to Council
February 22-23, 1979	Inhouse review
March 15, 1979	Notice of Availability and public hearings - 800 copies printed
April 5, 1979	Public hearings begin
June 10, 1979	Comment period over
June 28-29, 1979	1st Council review and rewrite
July 26-27, 1979	2nd Council review and approve for submission to SOC
August 15, 1979	Rewrite, print 50 - 200, submit to SOC - review period begins
October 15, 1979	Review period ends - Notice of proposed rule making published
December 15, 1979	Plan in effect

5/10/78 JHB

TANNER CRAB

1st Revision Original FMP

August 5, 1978

Mail draft to Council

August 24-25, 1978

Inhouse review

September 5, 1978

Notice of Availability and
public hearings - 800 copies
printed

September 25, 1978

Public hearings begin

October 20, 1978

Comment period over

October 26-27, 1978

1st Council review and rewrite

Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 1978

2nd Council review and approve
for submission to SOC

December 15, 1978

Rewrite, print 50 - 200,
submit to SOC - review period
begins

February 15, 1979

Review period ends -
Notice of proposed rule
making published

April 15, 1979

Plan in effect



AGENDA ITEM 9
MAY 1978

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center
Resource Ecology & Fisheries Management
2725 Montlake Blvd. East
Seattle, WA 98112

May 17, 1978

Jim Branson, Executive Director
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
P.O. Box 3136DT
Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Jim:

I have just received your mailing of May 15 having to do with FMP schedules and priorities.

With regard to the timing of individual FMP development and revision I have only one comment: I remain appalled by the time required for review! Using the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP, 1st revision, as an example, to have a draft to mail to the Council on January 5, 1979 will require final drafting to commence by early December 1978. That, in turn, will require that status of stock evaluations and estimations of DAH occur during October-November 1978. At that time, the last year of record for foreign fishery data will be 1977 (final, detailed statistics of which are due to us by May 1978 and it will take the period May-November to get them in the computer and analyzed). Although some research and observer data through mid-1978 would be available, the bulk of the information which will be used to evaluate stock condition will be three years old before the FMP becomes effective (1977 data vs 1980 FMP)--this is nonsensical!

If there is to be no relief from this kind of review time--six months in the Council (Jan. 5 - June 29); 4½ months in the Washington review procedure--I find it very difficult to justify the effort we now expend in management-related research because the status of stocks two or three years ago is only of marginal interest to managing this year's fishery. In my opinion, if we must live with this time frame, we could simply set ABC proportional to the overall foreign CPUE (e.g., if the overall CPUE of pollock in the Gulf declines 10 percent in 1978, the 1979 ABC of pollock in the Gulf drops 10 percent from that of 1978); set OY equal to 75 percent of ABC (to provide some biological and economic cushion); make a few phone calls to processors each fall to guesstimate DAH; set 20 percent of every OY in reserve (as a DAH cushion), and let it go at that. There is just no sense in trying to be precise or high-powered in our management activities if we can not apply the results of that activity in a timely manner.

MAY 22 1978



Now, to your specific questions, vis-a-vis the two groundfish fisheries:

1. Best time of year for plan to go into effect--I do not believe it makes any difference because, as you mentioned, there is only little seasonality to the fisheries.
2. Data availability--reevaluation of the status of stocks can be completed by August.
3. Cutoff date for new data--there really should be no such cutoff so that management can respond to changing situations; however, given the unrealistic formalities of FMP development and revision, I would agree with you that we should all put on our blinders at the end of the Council's public review period. I worry a bit about going into public review with incomplete data; even though the data became available during the review period, the public will not be able to comment on them. On the other hand, at least part of the purpose of public review is to obtain more data--Catch 22?
4. Other fishery units--none that came to mind. Rather than separating out individual species for separate plans, we should consider lumping together some of those we already have because of the ecosystem relationships between them all and the fact that U.S. capacity, markets, competition for grounds, etc. are not very neatly separated.

In closing, I agree that we, collectively, have made substantial progress and that the program is worthwhile. I am concerned, however, that the "system" may (has?) stifle an orderly progression to something better and inhibit innovation. Let's just keep chipping away.

Most sincerely,

But

H. A. Larkins
Leader, Groundfish PDT

cc: Alverson (SSC)
FAK (Brooks)

Tim - Although I think you'll read my comments on page 1, in the proper context, I want to make clear that the writing of my opinion (however one does that) is, in no way, a criticism of the Council or staff. I know you share my frustration concerning the ungodly review process and that your schedules reflect the "requirements" of the system (or at least the perception by others of those "requirements").