

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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NEWSLETTER

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## PREPARATIONS UNDER WAY FOR SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Although the North Pacific Fishery Management Council won't meet again until the week of September 20, Council, NMFS, and ADF&G staff are busy on various projects, both long and short-term. This mid-summer newsletter is to remind/advise you of the various documents available for public comment, comment deadlines, and upcoming meetings. A draft agenda for the September meeting should be available by September 3. Tentative plans are for the Plan Amendment Advisory Group to meet at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 20, and the Scientific and Statistical Committee, Advisory Panel and the Comprehensive Planning Committee to begin at 1:00 p.m. the same day. The Council is tentatively scheduled to begin its plenary session on Tuesday, September 21, at 1:00 p.m. A lengthy agenda will likely keep the Council busy at least through Saturday, September 25, and possibly into Sunday, the 26th. All meetings will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Anchorage.

### Deadline for Fishery Management Proposals Approaches

**August 16** is the deadline set for receipt of proposals for changes in the management of groundfish, halibut and crab fisheries under Council jurisdiction. Contact the Council office for a proposal form.

### Documents Available for Public Comment

**Rockfish Rebuilding Management Alternatives** - The analysis contains stock rebuilding alternatives for Pacific ocean perch in the Gulf of Alaska. Deadline for written comments is September 1, 1993.

**Block Proposals for Sablefish/Halibut IFQ Program** - The analysis of two proposals for amendments to the sablefish and halibut IFQ program is available for public comment. Deadline for written comments is August 30, 1993.

**Scallop Management Alternatives** - Analysis of future management and moratorium alternatives is available. Deadline for comments is September 10, 1993.

**Exclusive Registration** - An analysis of exclusive registration proposals for all trawl vessels engaged in groundfish fishing in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands will be available by August 13. An analysis previously released for public review in November 1992 for exclusive registration will be slightly revised and updated. Deadline for comments is September 13, 1993.

#### **Informational Documents Available**

"Potential Elements of Individual Fishing Quotas or License Limitation Programs in the North Pacific Groundfish and Crab Fisheries," prepared by Council staff. An updated, expanded draft will be available at the September meeting.

"Rationalizing Comprehensive Rationalization: Reconsidering Efficiency and Equity Implications of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ) in North Pacific Fisheries," submitted by Dr. Scott Matulich, Washington State University.

QSAM, "Quota Share Assessment Model," an interactive spreadsheet which allows users to examine different allocation scenarios under a quota share program, is available on computer disk from the Council. A replacement disk is requested in return.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

The Crab Plan Team will meet Thursday, August 26, 1993, at the Fishery Observer Training Center, 707 "A" Street, Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude by 5:00 p.m. The team will review any proposals received for changes in crab fishery management in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands as well as discuss research priorities and receive a presentation on the Council's comprehensive planning program for groundfish and crab fisheries. This meeting may be held by teleconference if few proposals are received. Please call the Council office before planning to attend.

The Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Plan Teams will meet in Seattle, Washington, beginning September 7, 1993. The teams will meet at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., in room 2079, Building 4, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on September 7, and continue through September 10, 1993. The teams will review available stock assessments and catch statistics and begin preparation of preliminary stock assessment documents for the 1994 season, review any proposals received for changes in groundfish management in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands, and review research priorities if time permits.

**FINAL REMINDER:** If you have not responded to our previous notice to remain on our mailing list, your name will be dropped after this mailing. Call the Council office (907-271-2809) if you have not yet responded by mail.