

Possible Council Options for Action on the  
Commercial Troll Salmon Fishery FMP

Our current schedule for the Troll Salmon Plan is for it to be effective for the fishing season in 1978. That schedule is predicted on adoption by the Council at this meeting of the plan, with whatever amendments considered necessary, forwarded as a recommendation to the Secretary of Commerce by mid-December. The plan would then be in effect in early April. Based on public comments on the plan (comment period ends November 30) the Council may wish to reconsider this schedule. Three possibilities for action are apparent at this time.

55 Copies

, with either of the options as written in  
ination of them. Legally we can apparently  
e closures or openings or lack of closures in  
est of Cape Spencer or West of Cape Suckling.

on of the plan while rewriting the current  
of public testimony offered over the past  
at major changes in closures/openings or draft  
are not made, and the plan is adopted by the  
ary meeting, it would require emergency  
ement the plan prior to the beginning of the  
eason.

Done  
11-28-77  
7/11/77

III. Postpone implementation of the troll salmon plan until 1979 while gathering new data and rewriting.

If this course of action is taken, the Council will probably want to consider some or all of the following interim measures to improve our information base. Most of these would have to be done through the State of Alaska since, until we have a management plan in place, there will be no federal regulations governing this fishery. Action would have to be either through the State of Alaska or through a voluntary program in cooperation with the fishermen.

1. Improve the logbook program, either through the ongoing system started by the Alaska Trollers Association or institute a compulsory system through State regulation.
2. Ask the State to revamp the statistical areas for the off-shore troll fishery to conform more closely with the actual fishing grounds.

3. Limit the King salmon fishery to single hooks, barbless or otherwise, either for the entire season or only prior to the silver season.
4. Institute an observer program on the offshore troll fishery. This could be done either through a Council contract or whatever other form of funding can be discovered.
5. Close the inner bank on the Fairweather Grounds (through State regulation), where the greatest proportion of the shaker problem appears to be.
6. Ask for immediate control of hand trollers along the following lines: (a) prevent the overall number from increasing, (b) limit them to State waters only.
7. Place immediate controls on sport fishing outside of three miles to prevent any expansion into this area.
8. Require salmon to be landed head on or make some other provision for the recovery of tags and a better system of recording the exact area taken.
9. Improve the State fish tickets so that numbers of fish as well as pounds are reported in every case and the area where the fish are taken is reported accurately.

10. Develop a system for emergency closures for specific areas during the season, based on observer reports or whatever other method is found feasible.

#### CONCLUSION

Copies of all written comments on the salmon plan are included in a separate package for each Council member. Summaries of the oral comments and general discussion of the plan heard at the public hearings is included in your agenda package.