

DRAFT Summary of Council Teleconference
on
Council Priorities for Bycatch Amendment 19/24 Analysis

July 3, 1991, 1:00 pm ADT

The following Council members or alternates participated in the conference call:

Rick Lauber, Chairman	Bob Alverson, Vice Chair
Larry Cotter	Bob Mace
Oscar Dyson	Joe Blum (and Mark Pedersen)
Steve Pennoyer	Ron Hegge
Clem Tillion (for Carl Rosier)	Wally Pereyra
Joe Kyle	Henry Mitchell

Council, NMFS, and ADF&G staff were also involved in the conference at the various locations, along with members of the public.

Larry Cotter summarized the current activities of the Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee. The Committee considered the 26 bycatch proposals in Attachment 1 and recommended those shown in Attachment 2 for analysis as Amendment 19/24. In addition, the Bycatch Committee recommended to the Council that NMFS replace the PINs with vessel names when reporting vessel bycatch rates. The Committee will meet on July 25 by teleconference to receive a status report from ADF&G on the ongoing analysis of chinook bycatch data.

The Council took public testimony from Doug Gordon, Dave Benson, Thorn Smith, Steve Hughes, George Anderson, Arni Thomson, and Bob Trumble.

After public testimony, discussion focused on which alternatives to include for analysis and the amount of staff available to conduct the analysis.

Larry Cotter moved to include for analysis items 23, 13B, 13C, 13D, 1, 9, 4D, 3, 4F, 20, and 16 from Attachment 1, and authority to allocate halibut PSC between inshore and offshore components of industry. The motion was seconded by Clem Tillion. The Council discussed priorities and the need to move toward an individual vessel incentive program. There also was a motion, later withdrawn, that would have deleted 13D, 4D, 3, and inshore/offshore halibut PSC.

Then Bob Mace moved, and Oscar Dyson seconded, a substitute motion to include the following items for analysis for amendment 19/24:

- 1 Enhance hotspot authority and extend it to the GOA;
- 9 Improve the current incentive program;
- 20 Delay GOA Rockfish opening date to July 1 or July 15; and,
- 4F Delay all opening dates for BSAI/GOA to: Jan. 15, Feb. 1 and July 15.

Bob Alverson recommended including in 4F, an option to maintain the start of the fixed gear season as January 1. Mr. Mace accepted this suggestion as a friendly amendment to his substitute motion.

Steve Pennoyer moved to amend the substitute motion by adding 13D, and measures to prohibit all trawling for species in the "Other Fishery" category when the bycatch allowance is reached, and to assign a separate bycatch allowance for Pacific cod and bottom trawl pollock. Larry Cotter seconded this amendment. It passed by a vote of 8 to 3.

Bob Alverson moved, and Larry Cotter seconded, an amendment to the substitute motion to place on the September Council meeting agenda, possible regulatory or emergency action on proposals 20 and 4F, independent of the remaining bycatch proposals. This was later withdrawn after Bob Mace accepted Steve Pennoyer's friendly amendment to structure the staff workload to include analysis of items 20 and 4F, or if possible, start analysis of a regulatory amendment for these items now.

Ron Hegge offered a friendly amendment to the substitute motion that analysts use a range of 0.004 salmon/mt to the present fleet average in analyzing proposals related to salmon bycatch. By consensus, the Council agreed with this suggestion.

The substitute motion, as amended, passed on a vote of 8 to 3.

Larry Cotter then moved that the Council request the State of Alaska to commence analysis of Proposal 3, a closure of all trawling east of 140°W. The motion carried on a vote of 6 to 5.

Before the close of the teleconference, it was noted that although salmon bycatch caps and time/area closures were not part of this amendment package, ADF&G would continue its analysis of salmon bycatch data in preparation for the Bycatch Committee' teleconference scheduled for July 25.

The above Council actions are summarized in the attached press release.