Agenda Topics
January 27 – February 2, 2020, Renaissance Marriott, Seattle, WA

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
The Council Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting and Council members will approve the agenda.

B. REPORTS
In this section of the meeting, each agency represented on the Council provides a management report. After all the reports, the public has a chance to provide comment, and the Council will discuss action they can take, either at this point or at the end of the meeting.

C1 2020 Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures for Area 3A – Steve MacLean
The Council will select restrictions to make sure that charter halibut fisheries in Southcentral Alaska (Area 3A) do not exceed set amounts. Staff will present recommendations from the Council’s Charter Halibut Management Committee, which meets by teleconference on January 23, 2020.

C2 Norton Sound Red King Crab – Jim Armstrong
A team of technical experts (the Crab Plan Team) is meeting in Kodiak in January to discuss the status and appropriate harvest level for Norton Sound red king crab, as well as to review scientific information on Alaska crab stocks. The Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee and the Council will review the report and recommendations of the Plan Team and will set harvest limits based on that information.

C3 Central GOA Rockfish Reauthorization – Jon McCracken
The Council will review an analysis to extend the Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program which allocates certain rockfish to specific vessels and processor groups. The Council may also consider changing allocations of Pacific cod and rockfish under the program and may also consider changing limits that apply to crab vessels.

C4 Economic Data Report regulatory changes – Sam Cunningham
The Council will examine the benefits and costs of changing or removing administrative reporting requirements for Economic Data Reporting (EDR) programs for certain fisheries. The intent of any change would be to improve the usability, efficiency, and consistency of data collection programs while minimizing cost to industry and the Federal government.

C5 Sculpin/Squid Product Types – Steve MacLean
The Council will review an analysis to determine whether limited use or sale of squids and sculpins may be allowed when they are caught as bycatch in other fisheries.
D1  Partial Coverage Cost Efficiencies – Kate Haapala

The Council will review a workplan with timing and scope of work for several projects intended to improve cost efficiency for the Partial Coverage Observer Program.

D2  Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology in FMPs – Sara Cleaver

All Fishery Management Plans must establish a standard way to report the amount and type of bycatch that happens in a fishery. The Council will determine whether current reporting is consistent with national requirements, or if FMP changes are necessary before the February 2022 deadline.

D3  Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Action Modules – Diana Stram, Kate Haapala

The Council will receive an update from the Action Module Taskforces evaluating Climate Change and procedures for incorporating Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence information in fishery management, both established under the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan. Both Taskforces are newly established and staff will present proposed workplans.

D4  BSAI Halibut ABM – Diana Stram

The Council will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to offer streamlined management choices that meet the Council’s objectives to establish limits that minimize halibut bycatch as much as possible, while also helping the directed halibut fisheries when halibut numbers are low. The Council may then consider revisions to alternatives currently under consideration.

D5  Crab e-logbooks Cost Analysis – Sarah Marrinan

The Council is considering whether regulations should be developed to allow BSAI Crab Rationalization Program fisheries to voluntarily shift from paper to electronic logbooks (eLogbooks). A report will estimate costs for designing an eLogbook program and how it would function, based on stakeholder input.

D6  Social Science Planning Team – Sam Cunningham

The Council will receive a report on the SSPT’s recent meeting where discussion focused on changes to the established Electronic Data Reports that are used in some fisheries, and refining the Data Gap Analysis which highlights missing data that would be used to understand changes and impacts of fishery management. Experts also presented an overview of best practices for using information other than numbers in decision-making.

D7  Economic SAFE report – Jon McCracken

The Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee will review the most recent Economic Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation status report for groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska and provide feedback to staff for next year’s report.
D8  Multi Regional Social Accounting Matrix tool – Anna Henry

NMFS economists will present a recently developed model to the Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee, for review before it is used in future Council analyses. The model calculates economic impacts resulting from a change in the amount of fish caught by species or by vessel type. The impacts can be calculated for various economic sectors including commercial fishing, household income, and employment, for three regions in the United States: Alaska, the West Coast, and the rest of the United States.

E Staff Tasking

The Council will listen to public testimony about desirable changes to existing management measures or proposals to develop new measures, take action as appropriate, and will provide feedback to staff and the Council Chair about how to prioritize staff work on existing and new projects.

The Council will also review its committee membership and identify agendas for any upcoming committee meetings. At the end of the meeting, the Council Chair will announce appointments to committees or Plan Teams.