

Public Testimony Sign-Up Sheet

Agenda Item D-4 Staff Tasking

Dec. 08

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	AFFILIATION
1	Paul Gronkobot	Self
2	Stephen Taufen	Groundswell Fisheries Movement
3	Chuck McCallum	Lake & Pen Dor.
4	Lori Swanson	GFF
5	Julie Benney	AGDB
6	Michael Swetzof	ACDC
7	Heather McLarty	McLarty Assoc.
8	J. A. Stephan	UFMA
9	Bubba Cook	World Wildlife Fund
10	Frank Kott	City of U.N.A. Alaska
11	Everette Anderson	APICDA
12	Chris Krenz & Caleb Swagwigi	Oceana
13	Steve Minor	NPCA
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members
FROM: Chris Oliver *DO*
Executive Director *for*
DATE: December 2, 2008
SUBJECT: Staff Tasking

ESTIMATED TIME
4 HOURS

ACTION REQUIRED

- (a) Review tasking and committees and provide direction.
- (b) Receive report on Alaska Native/Community Outreach.

BACKGROUND

- (a) Committees and Tasking.

The list of Council committees is attached as Item D-4(a)(1). Item D-4(a)(2) is the three meeting outlook, and Item D-4(a)(3) and Item D-4(a)(4) respectively are the summary of current projects and tasking. In addition, an updated workplan for implementing the programmatic groundfish management policy is attached as Item D-4(a)(5).

NMFS has provided two letters that involve staff tasking. In the first letter, dated November 14, NMFS recommends that Option 2 be dropped from the analyses of BSAI fixed gear parallel fisheries management, which is scheduled for initial review in February (see letter attached as Item D-4(a)(6)). The Council may wish to revise the options accordingly, and provide guidance to analysts at this meeting. The second letter, dated November 25, requests the Council to expand alternatives to allow replacement of vessels in the Amendment 80 program (see letter attached as Item D-4(a)(7)). Again, the Council may wish to revise the alternatives for this analysis on the basis of the NMFS letter.

Item D-4(a)(8) is proposal from Mr. Robert Snell to revise the halibut and sablefish program to allow C class vessels (36-60' LOA) to fish category D quota in Area 4B.

In October, the Council added several new projects to the tasking list (Pribilof Island blue king crab rebuilding plan revisions, Bristol Bay trawl closure area changes, Amendment 80 vessel replacement provisions, GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels). The Council may wish to discuss tasking priorities to address existing projects, as well as potential additions discussed at this meeting, given the resources necessary to complete these projects.

(b) Receive report on Alaska Native/Community Outreach

In June 2008, the Council reviewed a discussion paper that was provided in response to the Council's policy priority to improve communication and participation with Alaska Native and rural communities, as identified in the workplan resulting from the Programmatic SEIS. Upon review of several suggestions to expand both ongoing communication and outreach specific to particular projects, the Council initiated a small workgroup to further review potential approaches and provide recommendations. This workgroup met on November 24, the report for which is attached as Item D-4(b).

One of the main recommendations of the workgroup is to create a standing committee of Alaska Native, rural community, and Council representatives. This committee would be charged with three primary tasks: 1) to advise the Council on how to provide opportunities for better understanding and participation from Native Alaska and rural communities; 2) to provide recommendations regarding which proposed actions need a specific outreach plan; and 3) to provide feedback on community impacts sections of specific analyses. This committee is not intended to be the primary mechanism for community input on Council actions, instead, it is intended to assist the Council in improving the overall outreach process and analyses relevant to community concerns.

The workgroup recommends that the Council initiate this committee, with the intent that it meet and provide further recommendations to the Council at its April or June 2009 meeting.

NPFMC Committees & Workgroups
(Revised September 22, 2008)

AGENDA D-4(a)(1)
DECEMBER 2008

Council/Board of Fisheries Joint Protocol Committee

Updated: 8/10/07	<u>Council:</u> Dave Benson Ed Dersham Eric Olson	<u>Board:</u> Larry Edfelt John Jensen Mel Morris
Staff: Jane DiCosimo		

Council Coordination Committee

[Designated and renamed by Magnuson Act reauthorization April 2007]

Appointed: 4/05 Updated: 8/10/07	<u>CFMC:</u> C: Eugenio Pinerio ED: Miguel Rolon	<u>NPFMC:</u> C: Eric Olson ED: Chris Oliver
	<u>GMFMC:</u> C: Tom McIlwain ED: Wayne Swingle	<u>PFMC:</u> C: Donald Hansen ED: Don McIsaac
	<u>MAFMC:</u> C: W. Peter Jensen ED: Dan Furlong	<u>SAFMC:</u> C: George J. Geiger ED: Robert Mahood
Staff: Chris Oliver	<u>NEFMC:</u> C: John Pappalardo ED: Paul Howard	<u>WPFMC:</u> C: Sean Martin ED: Kitty Simonds

Council Executive/Finance Committee

Updated: 8/10/07	Eric Olson (Chair) Doug Mecum (NMFS) Alt. Sue Salveson Dave Hanson Denby Lloyd (ADFG) Alt. Dave Bedford Roy Hyder
<u>Status:</u> Meet as necessary	Jeff Koenings (WDF), Alt. Bill Tweit
Staff: Chris Oliver/Dave Witherell/Gail Bendixen	

Bering Sea Crab Advisory Committee

Appointed 4/25/07	Sam Cotten (Chair)	Lenny Herzog
	Jerry Bongen	Kevin Kaldestad
Revised 11/15/07	Steve Branson	Frank Kelty
	Florence Colburn	John Moller
	Linda Freed	Rob Rogers
	Dave Hambleton	Simeon Swetzof
	Phil Hanson	Ernest Weiss
Staff: Mark Fina	Tim Henkel	

NPFMC Committees & Workgroups

(Revised September 22, 2008)

Bering Sea Salmon Bycatch Workgroup

<p>Appointed: 3/07</p> <p>Staff: Diana Stram</p>	<p>Stephanie Madsen (Co-chair) Eric Olson (Co-chair) John Gruver Karl Haflinger Jennifer Hooper</p>	<p>Paul Peyton Becca Robbins Gisclair Mike Smith Vincent Webster (BOF)</p>
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Crab Interim Action Committee

[Required under BSAI Crab FMP]

<p>Doug Mecum, NMFS Denby Lloyd, ADF&G Jeff Koenings, WDF</p>

Ecosystem Committee

<p>Updated: 8/10/07</p> <p><u>Status</u>: Active</p> <p>Staff: Diana Evans</p>	<p>Stephanie Madsen (Chair) Jim Ayers Jon Kurland Dave Benton Doug DeMaster/Bill Karp Dave Fluharty John Iani</p>
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Enforcement Committee

<p>Updated: 7/03</p> <p><u>Status</u>: Active</p> <p>Staff: Jon McCracken</p>	<p>Roy Hyder (Chair) LCDR Lisa Ragone, USCG Major Steve Bear, AK F&W Protection Bill Karp, NMFS Herman Savikko, ADF&G Lisa Lindeman/Garland Walker, NOAA-GC Matt Brown/Ken Hansen, NMFS-Enforcement Sue Salveson, NMFS</p>
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Fur Seal Committee

<p>Updated: 8/10/07</p> <p><u>Status</u>: Active</p> <p>Staff: Bill Wilson</p>	<p>David Benson (Chair) Larry Cotter Aquilina Lestenkof Paul MacGregor Heather McCarty Anthony Mercurief</p>
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NPFMC Committees & Workgroups

(Revised September 22, 2008)

GOA Groundfish Rationalization Community Committee

Appointed: 11/04 Staff: Nicole Kimball	Hazel Nelson (Chair) Julie Bonney Duncan Fields Chuck McCallum	Patrick Norman Joe Sullivan Chuck Totemoff Ernie Weiss
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Halibut Charter Stakeholder Committee

Appointed: 1/06 Revised: 11/5/07 Staff: Jane DiCosimo	Dave Hanson (Chair) Seth Bone Robert Candopoulos Ricky Gease John Goodhand Kathy Hansen Dan Hull	Chuck McCallum Larry McQuarrie Rex Murphy Peggy Parker Charles "Chaco" Pearman Greg Sutter
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IFQ Implementation Committee

Reconstituted: 7/31/03 Updated: 8/10/07 Staff: Jane DiCosimo	Jeff Stephan (Chair) Bob Alverson Julianne Curry Tim Henkel Dennis Hicks Don Iverson	Don Lane Kris Norosz Paul Peyton <i>Vacancy (1)</i>
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Non-Target Species Committee

Appointed: 7/03 Updated: 8/10/07 Staff: Jane DiCosimo, NPFMC/ Olav Ormseth, AFSC	Dave Benson (Chair) Julie Bonney John Gauvin Ken Goldman Karl Haflinger Simon Kinneen	Michelle Ridgway Janet Smoker Paul Spencer Lori Swanson Jon Warrenchuk
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Observer Advisory Committee

Reconstituted: 1/06 Updated: 12/07 <u>Status</u> : Active Staff: Chris Oliver/ Nicole Kimball	Joe Kyle (Chair) Bob Alverson Christian Asay Jerry Bongen Julie Bonney Kenny Down Todd Loomis	Paul MacGregor Tracey Mayhew Brent Paine Peter Risse Kathy Robinson <i>Vacancy (1)</i>
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NPFMC Committees & Workgroups
(Revised September 22, 2008)

Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee

Appointed: 2/07 Staff: Diana Stram	Steve Minor (Chair) Keith Colburn Lance Farr Phil Hanson Kevin Kaldestad Garry Loncon Garry Painter	Rob Rogers Vic Sheibert Gary Stewart Tom Suryan Arni Thomson, Secretary (non-voting)
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Socioeconomic Data Collection Committee

Appointed: 12/07 Staff: Mark Fina	Glenn Reed (Chair) Bruce Berg Michael Catsi Dave Colpo Paula Cullenberg	Brett Reasor Ed Richardson Mike Szymanski Gale Vick
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Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee

Appointed: 2/01 Updated: 8/10/07 [formerly SSL RPA Committee; renamed February 2002] Staff: Bill Wilson	Larry Cotter (Chair) Jerry Bongen Julie Bonney Mel Morris John Gauvin John Henderschedt Daniel Hennen Sue Hills	Frank Kelty Terry Leitzell Dave Little Steve MacLean Stephanie Madsen Max Malavansky, Jr Art Nelson Beth Stewart
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VMS Committee

Appointed: 6/02 <u>Status</u> : Idle, pending direction Staff: Jane DiCosimo	Roy Hyder (Chair) Al Burch Guy Holt Ed Page LCDR Lisa Ragone Lori Swanson
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December 8, 2008 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel	February 2, 2009 Seattle, WA Renaissance Hotel	March 30, 2009 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel
Report on MPA Nomination Process Report on Board of Fish proposals GOA fixed gear LLP recency: <i>Initial Review</i> GOA P cod sector split: <i>Initial Review</i>	SSL Draft Status Quo BiOp&EIS: <i>Update on schedule</i> Am 80 Cooperative Formation: <i>Initial Review</i> Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: <i>Initial Review</i>	GOA fixed gear LLP recency: <i>Final Action</i> GOA P cod sector split: <i>Final Action</i> Am 80 Cooperative Formation: <i>Final Action</i> Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: <i>Final Action</i> Am 80 Cooperative Report: <i>Review</i>
GOA Rockfish Program Changes: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	GOA sideboards for AFA CVs: <i>Discussion paper</i> GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels: <i>Initial Review (T)</i>	GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels: <i>Final Action (T)</i>
AI Cod Processor Sideboards: <i>Discussion Paper</i> AI POP/Mackerel Processing Sideboards: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: <i>Initial Review</i>	BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: <i>Final Action (T)</i>
BSAI Crab Committee/Crew Proposals: <i>Report/Action as necessary</i> BSAI Crab 3-year Review: <i>Receive report</i> BSAI Crab 90/10 Amendment: <i>Review Alternatives</i> BSAI Crab EDR: <i>Metadata & PNCIAC Report</i>	BSAI Crab 90/10 Amendment: <i>Review Progress</i>	BSAI Crab 90/10 Amendment: <i>Initial Review (T)</i>
Comprehensive Data Collection: <i>Committee Report</i>	Halibut catch sharing plan: <i>Discussion paper (SSC only)</i>	
Observer Program Restructuring: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries: <i>Initial Review</i>	BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries: <i>Final Action</i>
BS Chum Salmon Bycatch: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BS Chinook Salmon Bycatch: <i>ICA progress/SSC review Committee Report</i>	Bs Chum Salmon Bycatch: <i>Refine Alternatives</i> BS Chinook Salmon Bycatch EIS: <i>Final Action</i>
BS&AI P.cod Split: <i>Update/action as necessary</i>	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: <i>Initial Review</i>
Arctic FMP: <i>Progress Report to SSC</i>	Arctic FMP: <i>Final Action</i>	Bristol Bay Trawl Closure & Walrus: <i>Discussion Paper</i>
GOA Tanner & Chinook Bycatch: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BSAI Skates Complex: <i>Initial Review (T)</i>	BSAI Skates Complex: <i>Final Action (T)</i>
Groundfish Specifications: <i>Final Action</i>	HAPC Review Criteria: <i>SSC Recommendations</i>	AI FEP addendum: <i>Review/Discuss (T)</i> HAPC Process: <i>Review/Discuss</i>
EFH 5 Year Review: <i>Discuss Draft Plan & Schedule</i>	Halibut PSC Discard Survival EFP: <i>Review</i>	Scallop Mgmt: <i>Team report/review and approve SAFE</i>
AK Native/Community Outreach: <i>Report & Action as necessary</i>		

AI - Aleutian Islands
 GOA - Gulf of Alaska
 SSL - Steller Sea Lion
 BOF - Board of Fisheries
 FEP - Fishery Ecosystem Plan
 CDQ - Community Development Quota
 VMS - Vessel Monitoring System
 NOI - Notice of Intent
 (T) Tentatively scheduled

TAC - Total Allowable Catch
 BSAI - Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands
 IFQ - Individual Fishing Quota
 GHl - Guideline Harvest Level
 EIS - Environmental Impact Statement
 LLP - License Limitation Program
 SAFE - Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation
 PSC - Prohibited Species Catch
 HAPC - Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

Future Meeting Dates and Locations

December 8-, 2008 in Anchorage
 February 2-, 2009 in Seattle
 March 30-, 2009 in Anchorage
 June 1-, 2009 in Dutch Harbor
 October 1-, 2009 in Anchorage (AP, SSC start on THURSDAY,
 (Council on Saturday)

Council Project Summary December 2008

Council Projects	Projected Weeks	Council/ NMFS %	Comments
Groundfish Fishery Issues			
GOA P. cod Sector Splits	2	70/30	Initial review in December (Jeannie/NMFS)
GOA fixed gear recency	2	90/10	Initial review in December (Jeannie)
GOA P.cod sideboards for BSAI crab vessels	2	90/10	Initial Review in February (Jon)
GOA Sideboards for AFA CVs	6	90/10	Discussion paper in February (Jeannie)
GOA Sideboards for CGOA rockfish	2	90/10	Being Prepared for SOC review (Diana E)
Break out BSAI Skate complex	6	80/20	Initial Review in February (Jane)
Observer Program (changes to existing program)	2	80/20	Being prepared for Secretarial Review (NMFS/Nicole).
Observer Program Restructuring	6	50/50	Discussion paper in December (Nicole)
Trawl LLP Recency	0	90/10	Submitted to NMFS for Secretarial Review (NMFS/Nicole).
Pacific cod BS and AI split	?	90/10	Discussion paper in December (Jon/Nicole/NMFS)
Comprehensive economic data collection	?	10/90	Workgroup report in December (NMFS/Mark/Jeannie)
Am 80 cooperative formation	4	80/20	Initial Review in February (NMFS/Jon).
BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel fisheries	3	80/20	Initial Review in February (Jeannie/NMFS).
AI cod processor sideboards	4	90/10	Discussion paper in December (Nicole).
AI POP/mackerel processor sideboards	4	90/10	Discussion paper in December (Nicole).
Groundfish SAFE Reports	2	10/90	Review in December (Diana S./Jane)
CGOA Rockfish pilot program changes	?	80/20	Discuss in December (Mark/NMFS)
AM 80 Vessel Replacement	?	10/90	Initial Review in February (Jon/NMFS)

Halibut Fishery Issues

Charter Moratorium	1	90/10	Proposed rule published 9/29 (Jane/Nicole/NMFS/contractor)
Charter Catch Sharing Plan	4	90/10	Being prepared for SOC review (Jane/contractor/NMFS)
Charter 2C GHL Measures	0	90/10	pending (NMFS)
IFQ hired skipper 12 month issue	2	80/20	Being prepared for SOC review (Jane/NMFS)
Subsistence Rural Eligibility	1	90/10	Being prepared for Secretarial Review (Jane/NMFS)

Crab Fishery Issues

Pribilof Blue king crab rebuilding plan	1	50/50	Discuss alternatives in June (T) (NMFS/ADF&G/Diana S)
BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Emergency Relief	1	90/10	Initial Review in February (Mark)
BSAI Crab Crew proposals	?	90/10	Report in December (Mark/NMFS)
BSAI Crab Economic Data Reporting	?	20/80	Discuss in December (NMFS/Mark)
BSAI Crab Arbitration issues	0	80/20	Being prepared for SOC (Mark/NMFS)
BSAI Crab Loan Program Fees	0	80/20	Being prepared for SOC (Mark/NMFS)
BSAI Crab Rationalization Program 3-year review	0	80/20	Review in December 2008 (Mark/NMFS/contractor)
BSAI Crab 90/10 Evaluation	12	90/10	Review alternatives in October (Mark/NMFS/contractor)
BSAI Crab Advisory Committee	?	90/10	Report in December (Mark/NMFS)

CDQ Issues

CDQ Cost-Recovery	?	10/90	Discuss in future meeting (NMFS/Nicole)
CDQ Amendment 71/22 (remaining MSA provisions)	?	50/50	Discuss in future meeting (Nicole/NMFS)
CDQ: Regulation of harvest (MSA provision)	0	10/90	Being Prepared for Secretarial Review (Nicole/NMFS)

Bycatch Issues

GOA Salmon and Crab Bycatch Controls	?	80/20	Discussion paper in December (Diana E.)
BSAI Chum salmon bycatch	?	70/30	Discussion paper in December (Diana S)
BSAI Chinook Salmon Bycatch EIS	12	70/30	Final Action in April (Diana S./other)

Ecosystem Issues

BS bottom trawl sweep modifications	6	50/50	Discussion paper in February (Diana E/NMFS)
Bristol Bay Trawl Closure and walrus	4	90/10	Discussion paper in April (Diana E/Bill/NMFS)
EFH 5 Yr review		20/80	Discuss at future meeting (Diana E. NMFS)
HAPC nomination process		20/80	SSC to review criteria in February (Diana E./NMFS)
Ecosystem-based Management	?	90/10	Alaska Marine Ecosystem Forum meeting report in Oct (Diana E)
Aleutian Islands Fishery Ecosystem Plan	0	90/10	Discuss addendum in April (Diana E.)
Arctic Fishery Management Plan	4	90/10	Final Action in February (Bill/NMFS)
SSL BiOp	?	30/70	Review schedule in February (Bill/NMFS)

Project timeline and major tasking for Council analytical staff. Updated 12/2/08

Analytical Staff	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Mark Fina, Sr. Economist CGOA Rockfish Program changes BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief BSAI crab 3 yr review BSAI Crab 90/10 package	Discussion Report review alternatives		Initial Review (T) Prelim review		Initial Review (T)		Final Action (T)
Jon McCracken, Economist GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels BS&AI Pcod area split	Discussion		Initial Review (T)				
Jeannie Heltzel, Fishery Analyst GOA P.cod sector split GOA fixed gear recency BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries GOA sideboards for AFA CVs Data collection/analyses assistance	Initial Review Initial Review report		Initial Review Discussion		Initial Review (T)		
Jane DiCosimo, Sr. Plan Coord Halibut catch sharing plan Halibut/sablefish IFQ Groundfish Plan Team BSAI Skates	SAFE Report		discussion paper SSC Initial Review (T)				
Diana Stram, Plan Coordinator BSAI Chinook Salmon bycatch EIS BSAI Chum Salmon bycatch Groundfish Plan Team Crab Management Scallop Management	discussion SAFE Report	sbw meeting	incentive program review		Final Action discussion	plan team	discussion SAFE
Bill Wilson, Protected Species Arctic FMP Bristol Bay Trawl closure and walrus Marine Mammal issues FMP Consultation	SSC report		Final Action BiOp schedule update		Discussion paper		
Diana Evans, Fishery Analyst EAM and AI FEP GOA crab and salmon bycatch EFH and HAPC BS bottom trawl sweeps	Discussion paper 5 yr review discussion		HAPC criteria Discussion		HAPC discussion Initial Review		
Nicole Kimball, Fishery Analyst CDQ Projects AI Processor Sideboards Observer Program Community Outreach BSAI Pcod split (assist)	Discussion papers Discussion paper Report discussion						



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

November 14, 2008

RECEIVED
NOV 14 2008
N.P.F.M.C.

Mr. Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Chairman Olson:

At its October 2008 meeting, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) identified for staff analysis two options and several suboptions to limit the ability of fixed gear catcher processors (CPs) to circumvent the intent of previous conservation and management measures implemented for the Pacific cod fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI) and adjacent State waters parallel fishery. The draft analysis is scheduled for initial Council consideration in February 2009. As with any action implemented under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Council will need to build a record that adequately establishes a conservation and management context for this action. National standard 5 does not authorize actions that would resolve exclusively economic allocation problems.

We have several concerns with Option 2 as proposed by the Council. This option would require any pot or hook-and-line CPs with a license limitation permit (LLP) or federal fisheries permit (FFP) to surrender the LLP and FFP prior to participating in the BSAI Pacific cod parallel fishery in State waters. NOAA General Counsel has raised concerns about this option. As a result, we recommend that the Council consider whether continued development of Option 2 would be the best use of limited staff resources given preliminary approvability issues.

Currently, NMFS regulates federally licensed fishing vessels in the State waters parallel fisheries through various permit conditions or requirements. For example, NMFS regulations require vessels issued FFPs to comply with federal observer, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements when fishing in the parallel groundfish fisheries. These and other federal requirements or limitations of federally permitted vessels, when participating in the parallel fisheries, ensure that federal conservation and management objectives are met for fishery resources that straddle both federal and state waters.

Requiring a vessel owner or operator to relinquish an LLP or FFP in order to fish in the parallel fishery for Pacific cod appears contrary to conservation and management if that action also would remove recordkeeping, reporting, and observer coverage requirements, as well as any



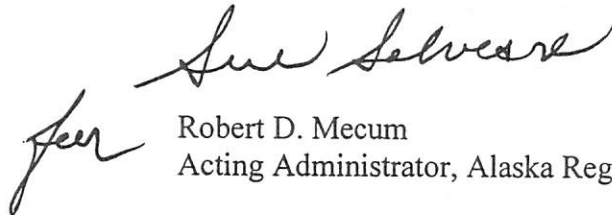
other federal limitation tied to issuance of an LLP or FFP. Thus, while this option may dissuade some persons from fishing in the parallel fishery, it would also weaken existing conservation and management regulatory authority and reduce significant fisheries information sources.

The next legal concern involves issues of fairness and equity. If a person would be required to transfer an LLP in order to fish in the parallel fishery, the administrative record will need to clearly explain and show a clear federal purpose and benefit.

Another legal concern is whether requiring relinquishment for the purposes set forth in the problem statement addresses exclusively an economic allocation issue. As mentioned above, NMFS is not authorized to resolve exclusively economic allocation problems. It has authority to resolve conservation and management issues. The requirement to relinquish a permit under option 2 does not appear to have a nexus to a conservation and management objective.

In summary, we recommend that Option 2 be dropped from the analysis. Further, we suggest that Option 1 be expanded to include all three suboptions identified by the Council to address adherence to seasonal closures by federally permitted vessels in the parallel fishery and restrictions on surrendering and reapplying for FFPs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Mecum".

Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region



AGENDA D-4(a)(7)
DECEMBER 2008
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

November 25, 2008



Mr. Eric A. Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Chairman Olson:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is concerned about whether the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has identified an adequate range of alternatives for an analysis of Amendment 80 vessel replacement provisions. Specifically, alternatives that allow vessel replacement only in cases where a vessel is lost may not adequately “consider efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources” or “promote the safety of human life at sea” to the extent practicable consistent with National Standards 5 and 10, respectively, in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

We strongly recommend adding an additional alternative to the suite of alternatives currently under consideration to improve consistency with National Standards 5 and 10. This alternative could be incorporated into the existing analysis scheduled to be presented to the Council in February 2009. Council action to incorporate this new alternative could be considered under the staff tasking agenda item at its December 2008 meeting. The following describes our reason for this recommendation and a specific additional alternative for Council consideration.

Background

In October 2008, NMFS staff presented a discussion paper (under Agenda Item D-3(d)) to the Council that recommended initiation of a fishery management plan amendment to allow the owner of a vessel statutorily qualified to participate in the Amendment 80 Program (original Amendment 80 vessel) to replace the vessel. The Council recommended that we initiate an analysis that would include a review of two alternatives: (1) status quo/no action, no vessel replacement is permitted, and (2) allow the owner of an original Amendment 80 vessel to replace the vessel.

The Council based its recommendation on the discussion paper and its description of a decision issued by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington (Court) in Arctic Sole Seafoods, Inc. v. Gutierrez. In this case, the Court reviewed the statutory language of the Capacity Reduction Program (CRP), which directed the Council and NMFS to allow only specific vessels defined in the CRP to participate in the Amendment 80 Program.

The Court found the CRP was ambiguous as to whether replacement of an original Amendment 80 vessel with a non-qualifying vessel was permissible, and determined that our interpretation of



the CRP, which prevented replacement with a non-qualifying vessel, was arbitrary and capricious. The Court concluded that the inability to replace qualifying vessels with non-qualifying vessels would ultimately result in the elimination of the sector through vessel attrition, and that Congress had not intended such an outcome in the CRP. The Court invalidated regulations that limit the vessels that may be used in the Amendment 80 Program, and ordered that “[t]o the extent that [regulations] restrict[] access to the BSAI non-pollock groundfish fishery to qualifying vessels without allowing a qualified owner to replace a lost qualifying vessel with a single substitute vessel, the regulations must be set aside....” The effect of this ruling is that the Council must amend its FMP, and NMFS must amend its regulations, to allow an original Amendment 80 vessel to be replaced.

The Council recommended analyzing an alternative that would allow a vessel owner to replace an original Amendment 80 vessel only if that vessel is lost. Under this alternative, a vessel would be considered lost if it suffers an actual total loss, constructive total loss, or becomes permanently ineligible to receive a fishery endorsement under regulations at 46 U.S.C. 12108 (U.S. Coast Guard vessel documentation requirements).

Recommendation

We recommend expansion of the alternatives currently under consideration to include a third alternative that would allow the replacement of an original Amendment 80 vessel under any condition, i.e., not only such a vessel is lost. Although the Court directed NMFS to invalidate regulations that restricted replacement of a lost vessel, the Court was clear that it disagreed with the general principle that vessels could not be replaced. The Court ruled on the specific complaint raised by the plaintiff, that he be allowed to replace the F/V ARCTIC ROSE, a vessel that was lost (due to a sinking), with another vessel. Although the Court addressed the specific conditions raised by the plaintiff, the Court did not rule out the possibility that a vessel owner could replace a vessel for reasons other than its loss. Our October 2008 discussion paper noted that:

“...the Court’s interpretation of the CRP suggests that the Council may have the discretion to allow an Amendment 80 vessel to be replaced for reasons other than actual total loss, constructive total loss, or permanent ineligibility of that vessel to receive a fishery endorsement under 46 U.S.C. 12108. The Council may wish to explore options that would define vessel replacement provisions to allow replacement to improve vessel efficiency, address safety concerns, improve compliance with the groundfish retention standards, or for other reasons.”

Allowing vessel replacement only in cases where a vessel is lost may not adequately “consider efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources” (National Standard 5), or “promote the safety of human life at sea” (National Standard 10) to the extent practicable. Specific cases could arise where a vessel may be operational, but may be less efficient or less safe to operate than another vessel. Under the alternative being considered by the Council, a vessel operator could not replace that vessel unless it has been scrapped, reflagged overseas, sunk, or removed through a vessel buyback program (i.e., suffered an actual total loss, constructive total loss, or become permanently ineligible to receive a fishery endorsement). This limitation would prevent vessel

owners from replacing a vessel until it is actually lost, which may have a chilling effect on a vessel owner's incentive to replace inefficient or unsafe vessels.

Further, the Council's only alternative to the status quo appears to be somewhat at odds with comments made by the Court during oral arguments. Specifically, the Court raised concerns that without a vessel replacement provision, the fleet could be comprised of "rust buckets" that may be unsafe to operate. Under the alternative considered by the Council, a vessel operator could not replace a vessel until it is lost, which would not address the concerns raised by the Court about the potential adverse effects of a limited vessel replacement provision on the safety of older but still operational vessels. The primary distinction between the recommended new alternative (Alternative 3) and the Council's existing alternative (Alternative 2) is that a vessel could be replaced without it being lost.

NMFS staff will be available at the Council's December 2008 meeting to respond to any questions about our recommendation.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region

cc: L. Lindeman, GCAK
Rear Admiral A.E. Brooks, USCG

**HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH IFQ PROGRAM
AMENDMENT PROPOSAL
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Fax: (907) 271-2817**

AGENDA D-4(a)(8)
DECEMBER 2008

Name of Proposer:

Robert Snell

Address:

5889 South Shore Rd.

Anacortes, WA 98221

Telephone:

360-293-5037

Cell 360-770-6763

Brief Statement of Proposal:

To permit my D class quota to be caught on C class vessels in area 4B.

Date: Oct 28, 08

RECEIVED

NOV 2 2008

N.P.F.M.C.

Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?):

After purchasing my approximately 4000 lbs of D class quota in May 08 and fishing it successfully in June, July and August this year on my 32 foot vessel in conjunction with a cod jigging operation I had at Adak, I was made aware of several situations that will make it complicated to fish it in the foreseeable future. The main problem is the lack of adequate moorage and storage for my vessel especially in the off season at Adak. Initially I was told by Kjetil Solberg, the owner/manager of Adak Fisheries, that this would not be a problem. In fact I saw his two 35 foot vessels taken in and out during my time there. As the end of the season approached, I went to the city officials in charge of lift- out equipment and had no reason to believe it would not be possible until Will Tillion the safety administrator told me he thought my vessel was too heavy for the lift- out hoist and denied my request for haulout. Having seen some other boats that had been left in the small boat harbor in near sinking condition at Adak due to inadequate surveillance complicated by lack of shore power, I felt I had to leave Adak and I moved the vessel to Sand Point. In addition after having fished in the area, I learned that the more productive cod and halibut areas require some considerable travel, usually six or more hours one way around capes and through passes that have potential for hazardous conditions even during the most favorable summer fishing periods- thereby, restricting harvest to primarily mid- June to mid- September. In fact the predominant percentage of D class halibut quota in 2007 and 2008 was landed in July and August as seen on supplied catch history tables provided by NOAA (see data enclosures). To move my boat between Adak and Sand Point to harvest 4000 lbs of IFQ in this small window with the time, expense and hazard involved is not a viable option. A complete list of the share holders of D class quota in 4B exhibits a pattern that makes it easier to do IFQ in 4B. There are 11 of the 14 shareholders with Atka mailing addresses, one with an Adak address, one in Dutch Harbor, (two other listings were sweep up shares that presumably have been swept up) and myself with two small blocks. I inquired at the Atka Fisheries plant to see if they would help me with cod and halibut purchase and was told they would not buy cod and had no fuel and limited services for nonresidents. Also note the small number of D class , only 3 individual vessels landing quota in 4B in 2008 with a total of 18 landings of which I had 12. I landed 4000 lbs; the other two vessels landed 42,000 lbs in 6 deliveries. Another complicating factor is obtaining insurance for hull and crew on a D class vessel in 4B. It is not available for short term and costs are considerable. Due to the constraints placed on small boat fishermen in Adak, insurance would become cost prohibitive, since by necessity the boat could not be put in winter storage.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?)

I need a safe and secure place to leave my 32 foot boat for storage through the off season and currently that does not exist, or I must locate an individual with a D class vessel for hire to help me. I am unaware of any D class vessels available for hire other than those owned by Kjetil Solberg, the current owner/ manager of Adak Fisheries Both historical and current problems at

Adak Fisheries prohibit this option. There are several vessels that do fish class C quota that may be a viable option for me and that fished at Adak this past summer. Some of these vessels travel between Dutch Harbor and Adak on a more regular and frequent basis. These vessels have range and opportunity to catch and deliver my product at times and under conditions not available for D class vessels. Some of these owners have expressed interest in working with me if it were permissible. A list of available owners is in the data provided.

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses)

I would have a financial benefit if I could harvest my approximately 4000 lbs of halibut, but it is not going to make a large impact on the stocks in 4B and appears that the two other vessels doing 4B D class IFQ would also benefit. Since they are Atka residents and not out of area requiring Adak off season storage they might not need or want this option. I didn't see any other class D vessels fishing halibut there this past summer. After a careful review of the criteria used to justify permitting D class share holders in 3B and 4C as provided in the Council's Report, it would appear that such consideration would apply in 4B also - the primary reason being the safety concerns of smaller vessels fishing isolated and remote areas during short seasonal opportunity. This previous paper www.fakr.gov/npfine/council/_membership.htm... addresses these issues in ways that have a similar rationale here.

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem?

Funds could be appropriated to complete the Adak small boat harbor which is 25% complete and provide power there. A larger boat lift could be purchased by Adak City. Another management could take over the fish plant or floating processors could be made available to purchase and process for the summer fisheries in Adak. I was told that my presence along with the other four cod jiggers might move the powers-that-be into action to provide progress on the above, but I never saw that take place and in fact, the existing infrastructure has deteriorated since I left there in particular as regards electricity and Adak Fisheries. My other option might be to sell my halibut IFQ shares but that might not be easy under the current circumstances.

Supportive Data and Other Information (What data are available and where can they be found?)

Since the option I requested is in line with what has already been granted in 4c and 3B to harvest D class quota on C class vessels, I am requesting that same option. I was encouraged and recruited by Adak Fisheries to help build a small boat fleet out of Adak and although I was somewhat aware of the history and problems there, I believed that people were working to make the jig fishery viable and that the inherent problems could be eventually worked out. Although jigging Cod in the Bering Sea was a new experience for me, I have 39 years experience in varied fisheries with more than 20 of those years in Alaska. I learned of this opportunity from a friend who had extensive experience in the Bering Sea and we traveled together on this endeavor. We had some measure of success and intended to finish our fishing careers doing this in Adak if things had worked out. I brought my equipment to longline and jig with me and we would have stayed and may return if things improve. I still believe there is potential but the reality is that it may take quite some time to bring this to fruition and in the mean time fishermen like myself could use some help so we have some return on our IFQ while we wait to see what happens. At this stage of my fishing career at age 71 it's difficult to wait.

Thanks for your consideration.

Signature:

Robert J. Snel 11/18/08

Robert Snell 3

Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 15:51:44 -0700
From: bob and connie snell <besnell@cablerocket.com>
To: Ram.Alaskara.noaa.gov

Based on a discussion I had with this office yesterday (10/30/08) I have prepared a list of questions that will help me prepare a proposal I am making to NPFMC in regard to permitting Dclass quota in 4B to be caught on C class vessels as has been already done for areas 3B and 4C. The rationale for this proposal and justification for doing so has already been discussed and provided to me by an email I have received from Jane DiCosimo and is available from her office. I am currently a D class shareholder and have successfully fished my 4B quota this year. NMFS ID 48985 Permit 00118961. permit holder Robert Snell

1. How many D class permit holders in 4B? Same for C class?
2. How many D class vessels made landings in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?
3. How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?
4. How many D class IFQ landings were made in 2008? Same for 2007?
5. What were the monthly distribution of D class landings in 4B for 2008? Same for 2007?
6. What was the total IFQ poundage for D class vessels available in 4B for 2008? Same for C class?
7. How many vessels had D class landings in 2008? Same for 2007?

Thanks for any help you can provide as regards this information. I can be reached at the phone and address provided below.

Sincerely, Robert Snell
5889 South Shore Rd.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-5037

11/6/2008

bob and connie snell

From: "Jessica Gharrett" <Jessica.Gharrett@noaa.gov>
 To: "bob and connie snell" <bcsnell@cablerocket.com>
 Cc: "Jane DiCosimo" <Jane.DiCosimo@noaa.gov>; "Tracy Buck" <Tracy.Buck@noaa.gov>
 Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2008 11:39 AM
 Attach: Jessica_Gharrett.vcf
 Subject: Re: [Fwd: [Fwd: [Fwd: Questions pertaining to IFQs in area 4B] snell]]

Dear Mr. and Ms. Snell:

Following are answers to your questions.

Notes:

- a. In some cases I took the liberty of providing more, or slightly different, data than you requested.
- b. Note that while you asked for landings in 4B, I interpreted that to mean harvests in 4B. These data represent IFQ halibut only, and exclude CDQ halibut.
- c. Also note that the halibut QS categories are:
 "D" less than or equal to 35 feet length overall (LOA);
 "C" 36-60' LOA; and
 "B" greater than 60' LOA.

1. How many D class permit holders in 4B? Same for C class?

For 2007, data are as of year end. For 2008, data are as of today.

The numbers of QS holders and permitholders are the same in each case; apparently each QS holder held (his) own IFQ permit and did not lease any out.

The numbers of IFQ permits and Permitholders are the same because each permitholder is issued only one IFQ permit per QS category for a species.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of QS Holders	Number of IFQ Permitholders with Fishable Pounds	Number of IFQ Permits with Fishable Pounds
2007	C	31	31	31
2007	D	15	15	15
2008	C	30	30	30
2008	D	14	14	14

2. How many D class vessels made landings in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007? (combined with

4. How many D class IFQ landings were made in 2008? Same for 2007?

The following table represents the number of vessels 35 feet or less LOA that had harvests of Category D halibut in 4B.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of Vessels Used to Harvest Category D Halibut in 4B	Number of Landings Made for These Harvests
2007	D	4	8
2008	D	3	18

3. How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?

Here, I provide harvest data for of all categories of halibut IFQ.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of Vessels >35 and <61' LOA Used to Harvest Category C Halibut in Area 4B for IFQ Permitholders that Were Owners of the Harvesting Vessel	Number of Landings of Those Harvests
2007	B	12	27
2007	C	10	21
2008	A	3	3
2008	B	13	26
2008	C	12	17

5. What were the monthly distribution of D class landings in 4B for 2008? Same for 2007?

I regret that annual and monthly harvest data for category D halibut in 4B are confidential and as such I cannot provide them as pounds landed. However, I can provide percentages of the total (confidential) annual harvest that was taken each month for the two years.

Year	Month	Percent of Annual 4B Category D Harvest

Robert Snell 3

2007	July	55.7
2007	August	44.3
2008	June	12.8
2008	July	39.1
2008	August	46.3
2008	September	1.8

6. What was the total IFQ poundage for D class vessels available in 4B for 2008? Same for C class?
 As I mentioned in a previous email, the "fish down" provision allows catcher vessel QS (categories "B", "C") to be fished on vessels of any smaller length category. Under "fish down", "B" halibut QS/IFQ may be fished on a "C" or "D" LOA vessel; and "C" halibut QS/IFQ may be fished on a "C" or "D" LOA vessel. In addition, category "A" QS may be fished on vessels of any LOA. Following are the amounts of "start year fishable pounds" available for each category, "C" and "D". "Fishable pounds" incorporates the effects of adjustments from the prior year; that is, the amounts differ a bit from the amounts established for annual harvest by the IPHC for 4B; and in fact are higher. Feel free to combine the amounts of each category as you wish. The ability to hold 3 halibut blocks and the provision allowing "fish up" of category "D" halibut on category "C" size vessels in areas 3B and 4C were effective September 10, 2007. I have provided data for both 2007 and 2008. As you can see, a "fish up" provision for 4B would provide a relatively small additional amount and percentage of total 4B IFQ that could be used on category "C" vessels.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Start Year Area 4B Fishable Pounds	Percentage of Total Annual 4B Fishable Pounds	Could be Fished on Category D Size Vessel in 4B That Year?	Could be Fished on Category C Size Vessel in 4B That Year?
2007	A	75,710	6.36	Yes	Yes
2007	B	899,592	75.59	Yes	Yes
2007	C	177,545	14.92	Yes	Yes
2007	D	37,236	3.12	Yes	No
2008	A	95,001	6.27	Yes	Yes
2008	B	1,149,976	75.96	Yes	Yes
2008	C	223,074	14.73	Yes	Yes
2008	D	45,913	3.03	Yes	No

I hope you find this information helpful in your efforts to recommend program changes to the Council. I can be reached at this email address if you have questions about these data.

Sincerely,
 /s/
 Jessica Gharrett
 Program Administrator, RAM

bob and connie snell wrote:

In regard to the question I would be interested in the total number of distinct vessels that harvested C class quota share in 4B in 2007 and 2008. Hope that clarifies the question. ie I would like to know how many vessels might be available to harvest D class shares if it were permissible to do so which of course now is not an option.

— Original Message —
 From: Jessica Gharrett
 To: bob and connie snell
 Sent: Monday, November 03, 2008 2:17 PM
 Subject: Re: [Fwd: [Fwd: [Fwd: Questions pertaining to IFQs in area 4B] snell]]

Another question:
 In your #3: How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?
 I assume you want the count of vessels greater than 35' LOA and less than 61' LOA that harvested IFQ halibut from area 4B only; and did you mean that harvested IFQ of any QS category or only of a particular category?

or any area halibut IFQ?

bob and connie snell wrote:

Hi Jessica,

11/6/2008

halibut 4B	D	B	N	10820 SNELL ROBERTI	5889 SOUTH SHC ANACOFWA	98221
halibut 4B	D	B	N	11640 ZAOCHN MARTIN	PO BOX 47044 ATKA AK	99502
halibut 4B	D	B	N	13474 SNELL ROBERTI	5889 SOUTH SHC ANACOFWA	98221
halibut 4B	D	B	N	14389 GOLOD(RANDY J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	14874 GOLOD(VICTOR J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15004 GOLOD(RANDY J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15466 ZAOCHN MARTIN	PO BOX 47044 ATKA AK	99502
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15896 ZAOCHN ALAN	PO BOX 47003 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	16925 NEVZORNICK	PO BOX 47036 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	17285 DIRKS NICHOLAS	PO BOX 47065 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	20567 SHAISHI BILL	PO BOX 196 UNALASAK	99685
halibut 4B	D	B	N	30726 GOLOD(VICTOR J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	3114 GOLOD(GREGORY	PO BOX 47064 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	32962 DIRKS NICHOLAS	PO BOX 47065 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	340 BOWEN DOUGLAL	PO BOX 1642 HOMER AK	99603
halibut 4B	D	B	N	7293 GIDDING ALBERT N	PO BOX 1825 ADAK AK	99546
halibut 4B	D	B	N	7817 PROKOF LAWRENCE	PO BOX 470033 ATKA AK	99547-0033
halibut 4B	D	B	N	953 ELLIS RICK	341 S. GASTMAN WASILLA AK	99687
halibut 4B	D	B	N	9631 ZAOCHN ALAN	PO BOX 47003 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	9820 SNIGAR MARK	PO BOX 47007 ATKA AK	99547

D CLASS SHARE HOLDERS IN 4B WITH MAILING ADDRESSES

ROBERT SNELL & CO.

halibut	4B	C.	B	N	17927 SHADLE MATTHEW R	PO BOX 312	HOMER AK	99603
halibut	4B	C	B	N	18012 HARRING BRENDAN	PO BOX 8166	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	20553 LANG CLINTON	3512 82ND PL NE	MARYSVIL WA	98270
halibut	4B	C	B	N	29073 DAVIS PATRICK C	PO BOX 921566	DUTCH H/ AK	99692
halibut	4B	C	B	N	32732 HARRING WILLIAM J	PO BOX 8166	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	36073 BAKOVIC RICHARD	1840 S GAFFEY ST #	SAN PEDF CA	90731
halibut	4B	C	B	N	36174 JANGAARI STEVE	5017 168TH PL NW	STANWOC WA	98292
halibut	4B	C	B	N	38928 NELSON ROBERT D	PO BOX 8836	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	39324 FAIRWEATHER FISH, INC.	PO BOX 1729	GIG HARB WA	98335
halibut	4B	C	B	N	39857 STAUFFE WAYNE D	3285 FRITZ COVE RC	JUNEAU AK	99801
halibut	4B	C	B	N	40313 MCKEE MICHAEL J	PO BOX 1229	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	40880 LENIHAN TODD W	PO BOX 6376	SITKA AK	99835-6376
halibut	4B	C	B	N	41224 BLAKE HENRY J	11 GIBBS ST G10	WORCHE MA	1607
halibut	4B	C	B	N	41459 SAVONEN LYNN E	PO BOX 172	GUSTAVU AK	99826
halibut	4B	C	B	N	4191 NULPH JAMES B	1140 PINE FLAT RD	SANTA CF CA	95060
halibut	4B	C	B	N	47758 ESTATE OF ROBERT J FR	323 CAROLYN ST	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	58097 SHADLE MATTHEW R	PO BOX 312	HOMER AK	99603
halibut	4B	C	B	N	62885 SHARRAH MICHAEL E	1510 MISSION RD	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	8067 FREEMAN DUANE A	PO BOX 921146	DUTCH H/ AK	99692
halibut	4B	C	B	N	81497 IANI DAVID F	PO BOX 549	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	84886 WARD LARRY R	875 6TH AVE	WESTHAV CA	95570
halibut	4B	C	B	N	8762 BARBOUR DOUGLASS	767 E JOHNSON WA	SANDY UT	84094
halibut	4B	C	B	N	8762 FREEMAN DUANE A	PO BOX 921146	DUTCH H/ AK	99692
halibut	4B	C	U	N	106309 BAKOVIC RICHARD	1840 S GAFFEY ST #	SAN PEDF CA	90731
halibut	4B	C	U	N	111062 SWARTZ RICHARD	15 MURRAY PL RD #	ELMA WA	98541
halibut	4B	C	U	N	172294 HAMMER WILLIAM	1130 S. DISCOVERY	PORT TOV WA	98368
halibut	4B	C	B	N	11338 BOURGEC ROLAND M	31741 CR 35	STEAMBO CO	80487
halibut	4B	C	B	N	11899 BRUMMOI RYAN	PO BOX 119	EDMONDE WA	98020
halibut	4B	C	B	N	11907 TORGESC DONALD O	PO BOX 6518	SITKA AK	99835
halibut	4B	C	B	N	12548 THOMPSC PETER T	PO BOX 3037	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	12565 FERRELL KEVIN	PO BOX 192	MONTESA WA	98563
halibut	4B	C	B	N	14095 FAIRWEATHER FISH, INC.	PO BOX 1729	GIG HARB WA	98335
halibut	4B	C	B	N	14701 SHARRAH THOMAS A	1510 MISSION RD	KODIAK AK	99615
halibut	4B	C	B	N	14859 WARD LARRY R	875 6TH AVE	WESTHAV CA	95570
halibut	4B	C	B	N	16752 HAMMER JASON	1130 S DISCOVERY	F PORT TOV WA	98368

C CLASS SHARE HOLDERS IN 4B WITH THEIR MAILING ADDRESS

Robert Swell

DRAFT

Council Outreach Workgroup Meeting Report

November 24, 2008

10 am – 4 pm

NPRB conference room
1007 West 3rd Avenue, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501

Workgroup Members Attended: Paula Cullenberg, Duncan Fields, Bob Henrichs, Jennifer Hooper, Eric Olson (Chair), Caleb Pungowiyi

Council staff: Nicole Kimball, Chris Oliver (Executive Director)

Other participants: George Plentikoff, Barbara MacManus

1. Introductions & purpose of the meeting

After introductions among the group, the Chair summarized the purpose of the meeting. This workgroup was formed with the purpose of reviewing a discussion paper on potential approaches to implementing the Council's groundfish policy workplan priority to improve communication and participation with communities and Alaska Native entities. The workgroup was tasked with providing recommendations to the Council on an overall approach to improve upon its existing public process, understanding that there may be ways to better engage with communities and Alaska Native entities on a consistent basis, as well as on projects that may be of specific interest to these stakeholders. The Council approved initiation of this workgroup at its June 2008 meeting.

2. Review Council action to-date & handouts

The workgroup was provided with several documents prior to the meeting, and these were reviewed briefly by Council staff (Nicole Kimball). These documents included:

- A Potential Approach to Implementing the Council's Groundfish Policy Workplan Priority: Increase Alaska Native and Community Consultation (May 2008)
- Chinook Salmon Bycatch Outreach Plan and Outreach Flyer (2008)
- Arctic Fishery Management Plan Outreach Plan and Outreach Flyer (2007)

The purpose was to review the policy approaches that had been presented to the Council at prior meetings, highlighting those that the Council appeared most interested in, and use the suggestions in the May 2008 paper as a starting point for the group's discussion. Review of recent outreach plans (Arctic FMP and Chinook salmon bycatch) also provided some background, such that the workgroup understood recent outreach efforts specific to two ongoing projects. These examples were effectively test projects for the project-specific outreach approaches suggested in the May 2008 discussion paper.

3. Discussion: potential pathway for improving Council outreach & stakeholder participation

The group discussed the potential for a standing Council committee that could provide input to the Council on ways to improve outreach to Alaska Native entities and communities, as well as recommendations on specific Council actions that may warrant a more detailed outreach plan, beyond the

normal Council process. The pros and cons of such a committee were thoroughly addressed. The discussion considered Council budget restraints, broad representational interests, Council staff time, and the importance of community considerations under the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act. After lengthy discussion, the group eventually developed a strong consensus that a standing "Alaska Native and community outreach" committee should be formed by the Council. The committee would operate as any other Council committee (no-host). The primary purpose for the committee would not be to provide the Council with community input on particular actions, but rather to provide the Council with recommendations regarding how to better communicate with Alaska Native groups and communities. Specifically, the workgroup recommended three primary tasks for the committee:

- 1) Advise the Council on how to provide opportunity for better understanding and participation from rural communities and Alaska Native entities (two-way communication).
- 2) Provide advice on which Council actions/issues need a specific outreach plan, and prioritize those issues.
- 3) Facilitate input on the type of community-specific information that should be in Council analyses. The intent is to find ways to improve the community impacts sections of analyses, and to have a focused means to do so on a regular basis. These recommendations may be universal in nature, but would not preclude review of a particular analysis.

The group noted that the membership of such a committee could be very dynamic, in that the committee chairman could request "advisors" to help inform the committee as new issues arise. The primary goal is to have a structured and consistent way to vet issues, even if region-specific, project-specific, or at-large advisories to the committee may be necessary. While the group did not consider specific membership, it agreed that a relatively small committee would likely be the most effective and productive. The workgroup discussed designing a committee that would not exceed nine members, which includes two Council members (Olson and Fields). The workgroup deferred to the Chair to designate committee members, recognizing that the primary goal is to appoint members with appropriate expertise, and that some broad geographic representation would be considered to the extent practicable. The group also discussed the frequency of potential committee meetings, and requested no less than one a year, if current issues warranted a meeting. One member expressed a desire to have meetings as often as quarterly.

Other suggestions relevant to the standing committee recommendation are as follows:

- A specific annual budget should be attached to this effort. Council Executive Director can provide additional information on budget limitations at future meetings. Workgroup members asked about the potential for regional corporations or other entities to fund travel specific to Council outreach plans, but the Council and Council members are not permitted to receive external funding to conduct Council business. However, regional corporations could fund individual committee members to participate in the committee process, or fund individual residents to travel to Council meetings.
- Location of committee meetings. Focus on Anchorage initially, and ensure that the location does not preclude any member from attending. Consider committee meetings in rural Alaska in the future. The workgroup also recommended teleconferencing committee meetings if necessary, in order to have maximum participation.
- Committee staffing. The workgroup hoped that that committee would not take significant staff time, but that the majority of staff time would be devoted to project-specific outreach plans. The workgroup did not recommend hiring a tribal liaison, but to use existing staff at this time. (The

Executive Director noted that the Council is not positioned to hire new staff in the near future.) The workgroup questioned whether NMFS may have staff available to help fulfill a logistics coordinator role toward this effort, and requested that NMFS be approached and encouraged to help support the committee's outreach efforts.

- The workgroup recommended leaving all of the project-specific approaches, from the May 2008 policy paper, to the full committee for discussion. All of these suggestions should be considered when determining how to develop a project-specific outreach plan.

The workgroup also talked about a general goal of increasing rural participation in the fisheries management process and commended the Council's effort on the Arctic FMP and Chinook salmon bycatch outreach efforts. While direct contact is preferable, it may not be possible due to cost and logistical difficulties – either for rural residents to travel to Council meetings, or for the Council to meet in rural areas.

One suggestion discussed at length was the possibility of teleconferencing the Council meetings, and allowing public testimony to be provided over the phone. The intent is to find a way to provide feedback on a local level directly to the Council. The group agreed that this was not a feasible idea. There were several practical concerns, as the length of Council meetings and time allotted for each agenda item would not be able to accommodate this practice. The group then discussed the possibility of a video feed or streaming the meeting (listen only), allowing people outside of Anchorage or Seattle to listen to the meeting in real-time. The workgroup left further discussion of this issue to the standing committee.

The workgroup also suggested asking resource agencies to assist in project-specific outreach plans (e.g., Arctic FMP, salmon bycatch). The group discussed whether NMFS could contribute resources (e.g., staff, sponsor workshops, etc), and suggested that the Council work jointly with NMFS when possible. For example, if NMFS is conducting a tribal consultation in a rural community, staff should determine whether the Council can conduct an outreach meeting, if appropriate, in the same location and timeframe. Staff should also determine whether there are ways that the Council outreach efforts can bolster tribal consultation efforts, without confusing the Council's outreach priority with the agency responsibility to provide government-to-government consultations. There may be some meaningful efficiencies to be gained, recognizing that any action should not confuse the Council's outreach efforts with the agency's obligation to fulfill its tribal consultation requirements.

One member also suggested developing a cycle such that Council members travel to rural Alaska and convey information on the Council process and current issues, while receiving input directly from Native and community residents. This suggestion stemmed from the discussion paper, and the group had sufficient interest in this approach such that they recommended it be considered by the standing committee, if initiated.

The workgroup also recommended creating a database (i.e., running calendar) of regional meetings, such that the Council and staff would be aware of regularly scheduled (typically annual) meetings in rural Alaska that draw a broad cross-section of stakeholders. This would allow staff to better plan outreach meetings, as well as potentially provide the opportunity for Council members to attend and/or provide presentations on Council issues. It would also provide a quick way to find contact information for interested stakeholders when implementing a project-specific outreach plan. Examples of meetings to include were: Association of Village Council Presidents, Alaska Federation of Natives, Alaska Board of Fisheries, boroughs, Alaska Forum on the Environment, Alaska Inter-tribal Council, Alaska Native Regional Corporations, stateside Native co-management groups, etc. It was suggested to contact State of Alaska staff to see if this type of effort has already been completed.

Finally, the workgroup discussed some simple strategies to broaden current participation in the Council process, such as posting the Council agenda in some key village newspapers. Two members of the workgroup (Hooper and Pungowiyi) participated in Council outreach meetings on recent issues (Chinook salmon bycatch and Arctic FMP, respectively). They offered to contact others that participated, in order to provide feedback to Council staff on the strengths and weaknesses of those approaches.

4. Summary of primary recommendations

The workgroup recommends the Council initiate a standing committee (*Council Community Outreach and Impacts Committee*) to provide: input to the Council on ways to improve outreach to Alaska Native entities and communities; recommendations for specific Council actions that warrant specific outreach plans; and input on the type of community-specific information that should be provided in Council analyses.

The workgroup recommends creating a database (i.e., running calendar) of regional meetings, such that the Council and staff would be aware of regularly scheduled meetings in rural Alaska that draw a broad cross-section of stakeholders.

The workgroup recommends that other potential outreach strategies identified both in this workgroup report, and in the May 2008 policy paper, should be further discussed by the standing committee and detailed recommendations provided to the Council.

5. Schedule future meeting if necessary

The workgroup did not see a need for a future meeting of the workgroup. The workgroup recommended moving forward with the recommendation to appoint a standing committee, prior to the April 2009 Council meeting. A committee meeting could then be scheduled, with more formalized recommendations on outreach provided to the Council at its April or June 2009 meeting.

February 2, 2009 Seattle, WA Renaissance Hotel	March 30, 2009 Anchorage, AK Hilton Hotel	June 1, 2009 Dutch Harbor, AK (T)
SSL Draft Status Quo BiOp&EIS: <i>Update on schedule</i> BS&AI P.cod Split: <i>Update/action as necessary</i> SSL Survey Results: <i>Report and action as necessary</i> AFA Coop Reports: <i>Receive reports</i>	GOA fixed gear LLP recency: <i>Final Action</i> GOA P cod sector split: <i>Initial Review</i>	GOA P cod sector split: <i>Final Action</i>
Am 80 Cooperative Formation: <i>Initial Review</i>	Am 80 Cooperative Formation: <i>Final Action</i> Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: <i>Initial Review</i> Am 80 Cooperative Report: <i>Review</i>	Am 80 Lost Vessel Replacement: <i>Final Action</i>
GOA sideboards for AFA CVs: <i>Discussion paper</i> GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels: <i>Initial Review (T)</i> GOA Rockfish Program Changes: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	GOA P.cod sideboards for crab vessels: <i>Final Action (T)</i>	Observer Program: <i>Committee Report (T)</i>
MPA Nomination Process: <i>Discuss & Action as necessary</i>		
BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: <i>Initial Review</i>	BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief: <i>Final Action (T)</i>	
Comprehensive Data Collection: <i>Committee Report</i> BSAI Crab Amendments: <i>Review Progress/Cttee Report</i> BSAI Crab EDR Surveys: <i>Progress Report</i> Halibut catch sharing plan: <i>Discussion paper (SSC only)</i> Halibut/Sablefish Inactive IFQ Permits: <i>Reconsider (T)</i>	BSAI Crab Amendments: <i>Discussion Papers</i>	BSAI Crab Amendments: <i>Action as necessary</i>
BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries: <i>Initial Review</i>	BSAI Fixed Gear Parallel Fisheries: <i>Final Action</i>	
BS Chinook Salmon Bycatch: <i>ICA progress/SSC review</i> <i>Committee Report</i>	BS Chum Salmon Bycatch: <i>Refine Alternatives</i> BS Chinook Salmon Bycatch EIS: <i>Final Action</i>	BS Chum Salmon Bycatch: <i>Refine Alternatives</i>
BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: <i>Initial Review</i>	BS Bottom Trawl Sweeps: <i>Final Action</i>
Arctic FMP: <i>Final Action</i>	Bristol Bay Trawl Closure & Walrus: <i>Discussion Paper</i>	
	GOA Tanner & Chinook Bycatch: <i>Discussion Paper</i> BSAI Skates Complex: <i>Initial Review (T)</i>	BSAI Skates Complex: <i>Final Action (T)</i>
	HAPC Criteria & Process: <i>Review/Discuss</i>	AI FEP addendum: <i>Review/Discuss (T)</i> HAPC Process: <i>Action as necessary</i>
AKNative/Community Outreach: <i>Report & Action as necessary</i> Halibut PSC Discard Survival EFP: <i>Review</i>	Scallop Mgmt: <i>Team report/review and approve SAFE</i>	PSEIS: <i>Discuss/Review objectives & workplan</i>

AI - Aleutian Islands
GOA - Gulf of Alaska
SSL - Steller Sea Lion
BOF - Board of Fisheries
FEP - Fishery Ecosystem Plan
CDQ - Community Development Quota
VMS - Vessel Monitoring System
NOI - Notice of Intent
(T) Tentatively scheduled

TAC - Total Allowable Catch
BSAI - Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands
IFQ - Individual Fishing Quota
GHL - Guideline Harvest Level
EIS - Environmental Impact Statement
LLP - License Limitation Program
SAFE - Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation
PSC - Prohibited Species Catch
HAPC - Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

Future Meeting Dates and Locations

February 2 - , 2009 in Seattle
March 30 - , 2009 in Anchorage
June 1-, 2009 in Dutch Harbor (T)
October 1-, 2009 in Anchorage (AP, SSC start on THURSDAY)
(Council on Saturday)

Adak Community Development Corporation

December 13th, 2008

Dear Chairman Olson,

Adak Community Development Corporation is the entity which received the community allocation of 10% of the WAG crab.

The stated purpose of that allocation from the Council's October 2002 motion was "aid in the development of seafood harvesting and processing activities within that community."

This goal is reflected in our bylaws which state that all funds of the Corporation shall be "dedicated to the promotion and development of fisheries related resources, infrastructure and assets for the benefit of the community of Adak, Alaska."

ACDC has been working on developing a fisheries plan for our community. We are particularly interested in promoting entry level opportunities for local small boat fishermen.

One of the ways we think we could create those entry level opportunities would be for ACDC to use our crab royalties to buy 4B halibut IFQ and AI sablefish IFQ for use by local fishermen. We have talked to Council staff about how we could do this. We learned that unlike the CQE program for the GOA or the CDQ program in the BSAI, there are no provisions for Adak's community entity to hold halibut and sablefish IFQ.

We were advised by Council staff that the way to initiate consideration of changing the regulations to allow ACDC as a community entity to hold quota is to raise the issue under staff tasking.

Under staff tasking the Advisory Panel unanimously recommended a call for proposals for the halibut/sablefish IFQ program. We support a call for proposals and we would like the chance to submit a proposal to allow ACDC to hold IFQ for use in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.



Michael Swetzof
President, ACDC
P.O. Box 1943
Adak, Alaska 99546