

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

News and Notes



David Benton, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

605 West 4th Avenue, Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Phone (907) 271-2809
Fax (907) 271-2817

Volume 2-02

Visit our webpage at www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc

April 2002

David Witherell named Deputy Director

Last week, Executive Director Chris Oliver announced the appointment of **David Witherell** as Deputy Director for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. For over nine years Witherell has served the Council as the staff biologist and plan coordinator for the fishery management plans for Salmon, Scallops, Bering Sea Groundfish, and Bering Sea Crab, as well as staff liaison for bycatch, ecosystem and essential fish habitat issues. Prior to coming to Alaska in 1992, Mr. Witherell worked with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries as a fisheries biologist, for the Massachusetts Cooperative Fishery Research Unit as a research assistant, and as a fisheries technician for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

As a result of Mr. Witherell's appointment, the Council will be advertising for a biologist/plan coordinator [see vacancy announcement in this newsletter].

Other Staff News

Diana Evans has accepted the NEPA Specialist/Fisheries Analyst position with the Council. Ms. Evans is currently with the environmental consulting firm URS and will begin working with the Council in June.

Shannon Vivian has been hired in the Secretarial/Administrative Support position. She will take on a variety of duties, including taking the notes and preparing minutes for Council meetings.

Fond Farewell to Helen Allen

Helen Allen, the Council's executive assistant for nearly 20 years is retiring this June, and the April meeting in Anchorage was her last Council meeting. Her retirement is received with great sadness by the staff and many of the Council family and public who depended on her for her extensive knowledge of the Council issues and process.

Helen started with the Council in 1983, and saw the office through many technological changes, both in the way meetings are handled, and the way we distribute information before and after the meetings. The Hilton Hotel staff and the Council hosted a small reception during the April meeting to express thanks and to wish her luck in her future endeavours.

June Council meeting reminders

The Council has a very full meeting scheduled for Dutch Harbor in June. The AP will begin on Monday, June 3 and continue through Saturday, June 8. The Council is scheduled for Wednesday the 5th through Wednesday the 12th. Major issues on the agenda include: selection of the preferred alternative for the crab rationalization program (three or four days on the agenda); final action on the CDQ Policy amendment package (one full day on the agenda); finalizing alternatives for the programmatic groundfish SEIS; and, initial review of the flatfish IR/IU amendment package and other AFA related amendments. A VMS workshop by NMFS is scheduled for Thursday night, the 6th, and a community reception is being planned for Friday night, the 7th (tentatively), which will include a send-off and tribute to Robin Samuelson, whose nine-year Council terms ends on August 10. A detailed agenda will be available in early May.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	Steller Sea Lions, EFH, Halibut and Sablefish IFQ
3	AFA
4	Observer Program, Programmatic Groundfish SEIS, VIP standards
5	Halibut Subsistence
6	VMS Committee, BSAI Crab Rationalization,
	Attachment: Vacancy Announcement

Steller Sea Lions

In October 2001, the Council adopted a suite of measures to protect Steller sea lions from potential effects of pollock, cod, and mackerel fisheries. These measures were implemented in January by emergency rule. At the April meeting, the Council voted to extend the emergency rule regulations for the remainder of 2002.

When the Council adopted the sea lion protection measures in October, they also identified items to be analyzed in a trailing amendment. In April, the Council made an initial review of an analysis of two trailing amendment issues. These amendments would consider prohibiting or allowing an AI pollock fishery, and allowing pot fishing in the 0-3 nm area around Caton Island and Cape Barnabas. The Council voted to revise the document and send it out for public review. Revisions will include adding information on the AI pollock fishery closure history, the impacts of the pot fishing exemption on particular vessels and sea lions, a review of the no jeopardy conclusion for these actions, and information from the 2002 winter hydroacoustic survey. Final action on this amendment package is scheduled for June.

Other trailing amendments will be reviewed by the sea lion committee (formerly the RPA committee) for possible tradeoffs that may be required to implement any of these options and still avoid jeopardy and adverse modification of Steller sea lion habitat. The Council requested the sea lion committee also consider possible season date changes for the GOA pollock and cod fisheries. A committee meeting has not yet been scheduled. Staff contact is Dave Witherell.

Essential Fish Habitat

The Council received a progress report on essential fish habitat (EFH) including a summary from the EFH workshop/Committee Meeting held March 25-27th in Seattle. The workshop was held at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in Seattle and attracted over 50 participants. The purpose of the workshop was to review fishery descriptions, discuss potential adverse effects, discuss mitigation tools/applications, and receive a summary on the effects of fishing gear literature applicable to the Alaska region. The EFH Committee will meet again on May 15-17 in Sitka to finalize fishery descriptions, review detailed EFH designation alternatives, discuss potential adverse effects based on minimal and temporary concepts, finalize the list of mitigation tools/applications, and develop HAPC designation criteria. In October, the Council will adopt a set of alternatives (EFH designation, HAPC designation, and mitigation alternatives) to be analyzed for review in April 2003. Staff contact is Cathy Coon or David Witherell. Additional information on the EFH process is available on at: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/Committees/EFH/efh.htm.

Halibut & Sablefish IFQ program

The Council made a final decision on two separate actions. First, the Council unanimously approved three recordkeeping and reporting changes to the halibut and sablefish IFQ regulations. If approved by the Secretary, these changes would: 1) modify prior notice of landing (PNOL) reporting requirements by a) replacing the reporting of "registered buyers" with "location of landings" and b) change the minimum PNOL reporting requirements from six hours to three hours; 2) eliminate the shipment report and require that IFQ species be reported on the product transfer report, and 3) require a verbal departure report instead of the vessel clearance requirement for vessels with IFQ halibut or sablefish leaving the jurisdiction of the Council. The first changes would modify federal regulations; the last proposed change are plan amendments (BSAI and GOA Plan Amendments 72/64). Staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

Secondly, the Council approved allowing 42 eligible Gulf of Alaska coastal communities to hold commercial halibut and sablefish catcher vessel QS in Areas 2C, 3A, and 3B for lease to community residents (GOA Plan Amendment 66). Current regulations only allow persons who were originally issued catcher vessel QS or who qualify as IFQ crew members by working 150 days on the harvesting crew in any U.S. commercial fishery to purchase catcher vessel (B, C, and D category) quota share. The Council approved allowing rural, coastal communities with no road access, populations of less than 1,500, and documented participation in the halibut and/or sablefish fisheries to hold a maximum of 3% of the Area 2C, 3A, or 3B halibut QS and 3% of the SE, WY, CG, or WG sablefish QS in each of the first seven years of the program, with a 21% total cap by area, unless modified earlier through a review process specified by the Council.

The Council approved several specific provisions to the IFQ program that will apply only to quota share held by community entities. These include: individual community use caps, cumulative caps for all eligible communities, block restrictions, restrictions on the class of quota share communities may purchase, limitations on the sale of community quota share, and restrictions on the amount of IFQ that may be held by individual residents and on individual vessels. The Council also approved several performance standards to clarify the goals of the program and to ensure that community-held quota share is used in the manner in which it was intended for the benefit of community residents. The Council will review the program after five years of implementation to evaluate whether changes need to be made to the structure of the program and to assess the communities' compliance with program guidelines.

The Council will also appoint a community QS implementation committee, in order to ensure that the program is implemented as intended. This Committee will not be meeting in the near future, but nominations are open, and will be until May 30. The Council motion on this issue, including the list of eligible communities, and the public review draft of the analysis are on the Council website. Staff contact is Nicole Kimball.

American Fisheries Act related items

IR/IU, Processing sideboards, HMAP, and bycatch reduction package

The Council reviewed an initial draft analysis which examined processing sideboards, proposed adjustments to the improved retention/improved utilization (IR/IU) requirements for flatfish, proposed implementation of a halibut mortality avoidance program (HMAP), and associated reduction in the BSAI trawl halibut PSC cap. Council action on this item included revisions to the IR/IU analysis, with additional options of exempting vessels with less than 5% bycatch of relevant flatfish species, and delaying implementation of IR/IU for flatfish for one to three years. Initial review of the revised analysis will be in June, with final action scheduled for October. This analysis will be specific to IR/IU, with processing sideboards (based on processing history) removed from the package, and consideration of a broader suite of bycatch reduction measures placed on a separate, parallel track.

The Council will appoint a Bycatch Committee to propose and evaluate bycatch reduction measures which would include, but not be limited to: vessel bycatch allocations; prohibited species and other bycatch management pools; AFA-style co-op management of bycatch; halibut mortality avoidance programs (HMAP); or halibut excluder devices. Nominations for the Committee will be accepted at the Council offices until May 6. If possible, the Committee will meet between now and the June Council meeting and provide an initial report to the Council at that time. By October, it is expected that the Bycatch Committee will have alternative programs sufficiently developed so that the Council may select alternatives for formal analysis, with Council action in mid-2003. The nature of bycatch reduction measures considered by the Council in October will also serve as input to the Council in its final consideration of the IR/IU alternatives, including, potentially, an appropriate period for the proposed delay of the 100% retention standard for flatfish. Council staff contact is Chris Oliver.

Single Geographic Location

The Council recommended releasing for public review the draft analysis which addresses the single geographic location restriction and proposes inshore/offshore language changes for the BSAI and GOA Groundfish FMPs. The proposed action for single geographic action would allow AFA-qualified inshore floating processors to process targeted BSAI pollock in more than one location during a single fishing year. The proposed action for inshore/offshore language would eliminate or update language that was made obsolete by passage of the AFA. These include eliminating obsolete inshore/offshore language from the BSAI

Groundfish FMP, eliminating all BSAI inshore/offshore references from the GOA Groundfish FMP, updating the CVOA to accommodate AFA related changes, and removing the GOA inshore/offshore allocation sunset date (December 31, 2004).

The Council approved a formal problem statement for the single geographic location action and revised Alternative 2 in order to prevent inshore floaters from establishing new processing locations in the GOA (they must process GOA pollock and P.cod where there are currently doing so). In addition, the SSC recommended staff expand the analysis to include a discussion on the distribution effects caused by relocating an inshore floater and a review of required coastal zone permits for inshore floating processors. The Council is scheduled to take final action in June on this issue. Staff contact is Jon McCracken.

Additional Pacific Cod Sideboards

The AP and SSC reviewed the draft analysis of additional Pacific cod sideboard measures for the Bering Sea winter cod fishery. However, the Council did not review the analysis due to time constraints. The Council stated they would review the analysis in June, time permitting. The proposed action addresses a complaint by three non-AFA vessels claiming adverse impacts from the AFA. Alternatives under consideration would restrict both non-AFA and AFA vessel access to the Bering Sea Pacific cod fishery during January and February. One alternative would limit the January/February cod grounds to cod-exempt AFA vessels and open access vessels qualifying under a past-landings threshold criteria established by the Council, excluding AFA vessels without a cod exemption from the fishery. Another alternative would establish a specific allocation to qualifying non-AFA vessels while a third alternative would require cooperatives to limit the number of AFA vessels targeting Pacific cod during January and February.

The SSC and AP both noted that information in the draft analysis brings into question the claim of the AFA being the causal factor in adverse impacts to non-AFA vessels. Both bodies recommended that additional information be included to help distinguish AFA impacts from other elements affecting competition on the winter cod grounds. Additional information will be developed and the analysis is expected to be available in mid-May. If the Council approves the analysis in June, final action could be scheduled for October.

AFA Report to Congress

Staff have completed and submitted the Report to Congress and the Secretary of Commerce, detailing implementation and impacts of the American Fisheries Act. The report is available upon request from the Council offices.

Observer Program

The Council approved extending the regulations which implement the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program through December 31, 2007. The Council also approved modifications to a suite of existing regulations and approved new regulations which would increase NMFS' management controls over observer providers (contractors) and observers. Generally, these include:

- changes to the observer certification and decertification process to make it compliant with the Administrative Procedures Act (APA);
- modifications to the observer certification criteria and standards of behavior;
- replacing the observer provider certification and decertification process with a permitting process compliant with the APA; and
- changes to regulations governing the duties and responsibilities of observer providers.

The Council recommended that currently certified observers and observer providers would have grandfather rights under the new regulations regarding the certification and permitting processes, respectively, and would not have to reapply.

The Council also approved a regulation which will allow NMFS the authority to place NMFS staff and other qualified persons aboard any vessel and any processing plant that targets groundfish or halibut and is currently required to have observer coverage. NMFS would not have the authority to order a vessel to port or modify their fishing schedule under this regulation. This authority is intended to increase NMFS' ability to work with industry, observers, and observer providers to resolve sampling issues, prepare for future data needs, develop special scientific projects, and help NMFS to maintain a working knowledge of observer duties, the realities of working at sea, and stakeholder concerns.

The Council also tasked the Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) to discuss long-term changes to the Observer Program at their upcoming meeting on July 18-19. The Council would like the committee to report on whether the Council and NMFS should begin a formal scoping process to initiate an analysis to restructure the Observer Program. The Council would like the committee to include discussion of a problem statement, goals and objectives, cost equity issues across fishing sectors, and consideration of the Research Plan and other past Council efforts to restructure the program.

The Council motion in entirety and the public review draft of the analysis is on the Council website. Council contact is Nicole Kimball.

Programmatic Groundfish SEIS

In April, the Council consolidated the eight alternatives developed in February into four policy alternatives. Each alternative to the status quo would also include two FMP-like examples that will serve as bookends to an FMP framework within which future project level management decisions will be made. This means that in the final Record of Decision (ROD) document, the Council will select a preferred alternative that could contain an amendment to the FMP's policy goals and objectives. In addition, the Council would also be committing to amending its FMPs on a time schedule developed by the Council (in the ROD) in a manner consistent with the FMP framework. Developing two FMP bookends for each alternative to status quo will allow the Council to seriously consider potential FMP actions that would be further developed by the Council as follow-on amendments relying on its normal FMP decision making process. The time schedule for developing any follow-on amendments would be determined after the Council has constructed its preferred alternative, reviewed data requirements and public comment, and prioritized its policy objectives.

The Council wishes to finalize the PSEIS alternatives and forward them on to NMFS for analysis at its June 2-11, 2002 meeting. Since the meeting is scheduled to be held in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, both the Council and NMFS are encouraging the public to submit written comments prior to the meeting. These comments will be reviewed and used in finalizing the alternatives for analysis. The public can obtain copies of the current draft alternatives and their corresponding FMP frameworks from either the Council's or NMFS's Alaska Region webpage. at www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/ and www.fakr.noaa.gov, respectively. Or copies of the alternatives can be mailed or faxed by contacting Steve Davis, NMFS, at (907) 271-3523. Comments on the draft alternatives should be sent to both Dave Benton, Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 West 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99510, fax (907)271-2817, and Dr. Jim Balsiger, Regional Administrator, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668, fax (907) 586-7249. **Written comments should be mailed so they arrive no later than May 22, 2002** to ensure they are included in the meeting briefing books. Staff contact is Dave Witherell.

VIP Standards Approved

The Council recommended that bycatch rate standards remain unchanged for trawl fisheries under the Pacific halibut and red king crab vessel incentive program, for the second half of 2002. The red king crab rate standard is 2.5 crabs per mt of groundfish caught in BSAI trawl fisheries. For halibut, the following rate standards apply: BSAI and GOA midwater pollock 1 kg halibut per mt of groundfish caught; BSAI bottom pollock and yellowfin sole 5 kg/mt; BSAI other trawl fisheries 30 kg/mt; GOA other trawl fisheries 40 kg/mt.

Halibut Subsistence

The Council approved a motion to modify its previous action defining the halibut subsistence program in Alaska to address local area issues identified by the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Council. A summary of the changes is presented below. The Council motion is posted on the Council website. Staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

1. Gear restrictions were lifted in Areas 4C, 4D, and 4E to mirror the absence of harvest levels in those areas. Proxy fishing would not be necessary in these areas.
2. Legal size halibut would be allowed to be retained for subsistence use by residents of eligible Area 4C, 4D, and 4E communities while CDQ fishing on their own vessels. Retained subsistence-caught halibut by locally-owned vessels shall be marked while CDQ fishing and would not count against a CDQ allocation. "Locally-owned" will be defined as those vessels landing all their CDQ harvest in Area 4C, 4D, or 4E. "Marking" of subsistence halibut on halibut CDQ trips will be defined in the proposed regulations. Eligible communities include Saint George and Saint Paul in Area 4C, Gambell, Savoonga, and Diomedes/Inalik in Area 4D, and Brevig Mission, Elim, Golovin, Koyuk, Nome Shaktoolik, Saint Michael, Stebbins, Teller, Unalakleet, Wales, and White Mountain in Area 4E.
3. Stacking up to 3 times the number of hooks on a single unit of gear per trip would be implemented in Areas 3A, 3B, 4A and 4B, provided that the subsistence users are on board the vessel. Proxy fishing would not be allowed in these areas.
4. A vessel limit of 30 hooks and 20 fish was recommended to be added to the 30 hooks of gear and 20 fish per day individual limit in Area 2C, excluding the Sitka LAMP area. Stacking of gear and proxy fishing are not permitted. A community harvest permit system would be allowed in eligible Area 2C communities because of these additional restrictions. The Area 2C communities are Angoon, Coffman Cove, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Haines, Hollis, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Hyder, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Klukwan, Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck, Pelican, Petersburg, Point Baker, Port Alexander, Port Protection, Saxman, Sitka (excluding the Sitka LAMP area), Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Whale Pass, and Wrangell.

The Council's Halibut Subsistence Committee will work with NMFS to develop criteria for harvest limitations to be placed on community harvest permits to federally recognized tribes and other local governments of eligible communities. The criteria will be defined in the Proposed Rule and reviewed by the Council at a subsequent meeting. The committee will meet in Anchorage in July (date to be announced).

5. A community harvest permit program (but not proxy fishing) will be allowed for eligible subsistence users who subsistence fish for halibut in Area 3A adjacent to the Kodiak road zone and Chiniak Bay, Prince William Sound, and Cook Inlet where the additional restrictions listed below would be implemented.

Kodiak road zone and Chiniak Bay:

- (1) 10 hooks
- (2) 20 fish annual limit

Prince William Sound:

1. 10 hooks
2. No fish annual limit

Cook Inlet:

1. 10 hooks
2. No fish annual limit
3. The Cook Inlet non-subsistence use area southern boundary would be set at the Board of Fisheries recommended latitude/longitude of 59°30.40'N

6. In Area 2C Sitka Sound LAMP Area:

During September 1 to May 31

1. 30 hooks/vessel, power hauling allowed.
2. 10 halibut per day/vessel
3. No annual fish limit
4. No proxy system

During June 1 to August 31

1. 15 hooks per vessel, no power hauling, no proxy, no stacking
2. 5 halibut per day/vessel
3. No annual fish limit
4. No longline fishing area four nautical miles south and west of Low Island

7. NMFS would administer a ceremonial, cultural, or educational harvest permit system for Alaska Native Tribes that are eligible for halibut subsistence to conduct cultural/educational camps and for ceremonial purposes (e.g., death, potlatches). The permit would be limited to a harvest of 25 fish. A qualifying cultural or education program must have instructors, enrolled students, minimum attendance requirements, and standards for successful completion of the course. A qualifying ceremonial use is one in which the use of halibut is customary and traditional and is related to some act or occasion of cultural significance.
8. NMFS, ADF&G, and IPHC should assist subsistence halibut harvesters as well as other interested groups in gathering annual harvest and other information on halibut, rockfish, and ling cod removals by all user groups.

PRSR-STD
US Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit #69

BSAI Crab Rationalization

The Council approved the draft crab rationalization analysis for public release and remains on schedule to select the preferred alternative for rationalization at its June meeting in Dutch Harbor/Unalaska. After a preferred alternative is selected, the analysis and the Council's preferred alternative will be forwarded to Congress so it may consider altering current laws to allow the Secretary of Commerce (SOC) to implement the preferred alternative. If Congress elects to modify laws to facilitate implementation of the preferred alternative, the Council will evaluate that alternative again after completion of the EIS for the crab FMP being developed this summer. If approved that package will be submitted to the SOC in late 2002.

The Council revised its motion modifying and adding provisions for further analysis, some of which could be adopted in June and others which will be considered as trailing amendments. For consideration in June, the Council has added options that would 1) base allocations of quota shares on the most recent participation in each of the fisheries under consideration for rationalization and 2) develop a binding arbitration program for price negotiations between harvesters and processors. If adopted, the binding arbitration program will likely undergo further development after June.

The Council also added options that will be considered as trailing amendments including provisions 1) to establish sideboard restrictions on harvests of groundfish from the Gulf of Alaska by participants in BSAI crab fisheries included in the rationalization program and 2) to require payments to communities by processors, when processing activity is moved from a community. The Council also appointed two committees to work on different aspects of the proposed rationalization program. One committee is tasked with development of the binding arbitration program. The other committee is tasked with the development of a program to collect data from participants in the BSAI crab fisheries, which will be used to evaluate the success of the rationalization program. The Council's motion, with the entire suite of alternatives, elements and options, can be found on our website. Staff contact is Mark Fina

VMS Committee to be formed

The Council will reconstitute its Enforcement Committee, and include a small number of industry and technical representatives, to evaluate vessel monitoring system (VMS) issues, two-way communication systems, and alternative systems. The Committee would meet over the summer and report back to the Council in October, including possible recommendations to NMFS on the most cost-effective options. Nominations are due to the Council offices by May 17. Council staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

David Benton, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director



605 W 4th Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Telephone: (907) 271-2809

Fax: (907) 271-2817

Visit our website: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc

Opens: April 23, 2002

Closes: June 1, 2002

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN COORDINATOR

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Executive Director are seeking a Plan Coordinator. The Council is one of eight regional councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council has authority over the management of fisheries in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska in the EEZ off Alaska. The states of Washington, Oregon, and Alaska are represented on the Council.

Duties

Position serves as a fishery biologist/fisheries management analyst, working closely with other biologists and economists in the identification and analysis of issues pertaining to fishery management plan development and amendments. Duties of the position include:

- Describing issues pertaining to the fisheries which the Council manages.
- Contributing to the development of issue or position papers to assist the Council in the formation of fisheries policy.
- Preparing biological, economic, social, environmental, statistical, and/or regulatory impact analyses and studies for use in the development and amendment of management plans.
- Maintaining statistical and other information used in the development and amendment of management plans.
- Conducting critical reviews of other analyses developed in support of plans.
- Coordinating, as assigned, plan development or amendment activities with the Council and its panels.
- Acting, upon assignment, as a liaison between the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and other agencies with which it cooperates, including the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Science Centers, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, other Council staffs, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- Acting, upon request, as spokesman for the staff in discussions with the Council or the Council's committees on matters relating to the impacts of proposed fishery management regulations.
- Attending public hearings on plans and other meetings and hearings as required.

Qualifications

Desired Minimums:

- A masters degree or equivalent in fisheries science, resource economics, fisheries policy, or similar branches of science.
- Course work in computer science, statistics, and resource management.
- A minimum of three years of progressively responsible experience in management and/or research related to fisheries or other renewable natural resources.
- Ability to articulate technical information to non-technical audiences.
- Ability to write clearly and succinctly.
- A knowledge of U.S. fishery management institutions, and various laws pertaining to management of the fishing industry, including the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Executive Order 12866, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and others.
- Knowledge of fisheries stock assessment methods and population dynamics

Persons with qualifications less than the specified minimums may be considered, but placement of such persons may be accordingly lower.

Preferred:

- Advanced training in fisheries science or related field.
- Familiarity with the use of microcomputers for statistical analysis and interfacing with mainframe computers.
- Knowledge of North Pacific fisheries and their management.
- Experience beyond the minimum required above.

Salary

This is a non-federal GS-11/12/13 equivalent position, plus Alaska COLA (starting salary range \$63,000-\$83,000 DOE including COLA) and a fringe benefits package that includes life and health insurance and participation in the State of Alaska Retirement Plan.

Applications

Submit a letter of interest and current resumé which highlights relevant experience, training, and education. No format is prescribed; however, resumes which do not exceed four pages will be appreciated. References should be included; however, letters of recommendation, education transcripts, position/job descriptions, and similar supporting documents are not requested at this time.

Applications should be mailed to:

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 1, 2002