Report of the 27th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Hosted by Korea 14 November 25 November 2022

Virtual Conference

1. Opening of the Conference

Ms. Geunryeong KIM (Korea) opened the 27th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea on 14 November 2022.

2. Opening Statements

2.1 Poland/EU, Japan and Korea made opening statements. Opening statements are provided in Appendix 1.

3. Elections (Chair and Rapporteur)

- 3.1 Geunryeong KIM (Korea) was elected Chair of the Annual Conference. Geunryeong KIM was elected as the Rapporteur.
- 3.2 The following persons served as the contact points and "voices" for their respective Parties during Annual Conference e-mail exchanges; Takumi FUKUDA (Japan), Geunryeong KIM (the Republic of Korea), Bernard Blazkiewicz (Poland/EU), Alexander Glubokov (Russian Federation), Jason Gasper(USA). China was not able to participate in the Annual Conference meeting.
- 3.3 The list of the Annual Conference participants is provided in Appendix 2.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

4.1 The Agenda, as adopted, is provided in Appendix 3.

5. Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee

- 5.1 The Report of the 27th Annual Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea is provided in Appendix 4. The final Report was distributed to the Parties on 21 October 2022.
- 5.2 Documents submitted for the S&T meeting were distributed to the Parties during the S&T meeting.

6. Action Items

- 6.1 The review of scientific data and conservation measures of the Coastal States related to Pollock fishing in the Bering Sea.
- 6.1.1 The United States and the Russian Federation provided in the Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee a detailed review of Bering Sea pollock catch and effort statistics, pollock research survey results, and the status of pollock stocks since the 26th Annual Conference.

- 6.1.2 Japan provided information about incidental Pollock bycatch during an annual salmon survey in the Central Bering Sea in the Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee. The United States notes in the Report of the Scientific Technical Committee that due to funding limitations and other priorities, the Bogoslof Island survey was suspended this year.
- 6.1.3 Japan stated that given the essential role of the biannual survey in the Bogoslof area in estimating the abundance of Pollock, it is regrettable that the survey was suspended this year. It stressed the importance that the planned survey will be conducted in 2023 as currently scheduled. Poland/EU and Korea joinedJapan in stressing the importance of the planned survey in 2023.
- 6.1.4 The United States appreciated the concerns expressed about the Bogoslof Island survey and agrees this survey provides important scientific information. The United States stated that they have carefully considered the timing of the survey in relation to scientific information needs and constraints on survey resources. While the pollock biomass did experience a small increase during the late 2010's, biomass estimates have since peaked and also have high uncertainty, suggesting that a large change in Pollock biomass is unlikely within the next few years. For these reasons, the United States stated that they anticipate conducting this survey in 2024 and are considering a 4-year survey cycle for the long-term, noting that this schedule would be revisited should conditions change.
- 6.2 Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year.
- 6.2.1 There were no recommendations for a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year.
- 6.3 Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level (AHL).
- 6.3.1 The Parties support the recommendations from the Scientific and Technical Committee for setting the Allowable Harvest Level (AHL) at zero (0) for 2022 because the minimum biomass level needed to trigger a non-zero AHL has not been reached in accordance with the Convention Annex.
- 6.3.2 The Parties support the Scientific and Technical Committee recommendation, the process described in Article VII Part 1 of the Annex to the Convention is followed and the AHL for 2023 will be set at zero.
- 6.4. Establishment of the Individual National Quotas.
- 6.4.1 Individual National Quotas were not established because the AHL for 2023 is zero.
- 6.5 Adoption of appropriate conservation and management measures based upon the advice of the Scientific and Technical Committee.
- 6.5.1 Based on the report of the Scientific and Technical Committee, there was no new advice and consequently, no new conservation and management measures were adopted.
- 6.6. Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing.
- 6.6.1 The Parties agreed to adopt the same terms and conditions for trial fishing in 2023 as agreed to at the 2010 Annual Meeting.
- 6.6.2 As in past Annual Conferences, the Parties recommended that countries planning to conduct trial fishing give at least one month lead time prior to fishing in order to facilitate enforcement efforts.
- 6.7 Trial fishing plans for the following year.
- 6.7.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.
- 6.8 Measures taken to investigate and penalize violations of the Convention.

- 6.8.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.
- 6.9 Consideration of matters related to the conservation and management of living marine resources other than pollock in the Convention Area.
- 6.9.1 None of the Parties had new information for this agenda item.
- 6.10 Meeting Observers.
- 6.10.1 There were no observers.

7. Future Annual Conferences

- 7.1 Consideration of virtual meetings.
- 7.1.1 There was no particular discussion on this matter.
- 7.2 28th Annual Conference
- 7.2.1 The Chair noted to that according to the past records, the next Party to host Annual Conference and Scientific & Technical meeting is Poland/EU and asked for their availability. The Poland/EU expressed their willingness to host next meetings. The Chair thanked Poland/EU for their availability and willingness.
- 7.3 Election of the Chair and the Vice Chair.
- 7.3.1 According to Rule 2 of the Annual Conference Rules of Procedure, the Chair of the next Annual Conference shall be from the host Party and the Parties shall elect a Vice-Chair, if necessary. The Parties shall also elect a Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Committee. A vacancy shall be filled by a nominee of the same Party, subject to the approval of the other Parties. The host Party will inform other Parties of the names of the Chairs of the S&T Committee Meeting and the 28th Annual Conference in advance of the meetings.

8. Other Issues

- 8.1 Discussion of Accession to the Convention
- 8.1.1 Poland/EU recalled that in 2016 Poland submitted a request to the Depositary of the Convention for an amendment to the Convention to allow the membership of 'Regional Economic Integration Organisation', which would allow the EU to become a member of the Bering Sea Convention. The proposal has been sent by the Depositary to all Contracting Parties. The amendment will update the Convention to reflect standard international practice and be consistent with other international/regional fisheries management organisations.
- 8.1.2 Poland/EU encouraged Contracting Parties to notify the Depositary of their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval following Article XVII of the Convention to support the proposed amendment. Poland/EU recalled that no Contracting Party expressly opposed the proposed amendment following last year's Annual Conference and they were confident that the amendment will be accepted.
- 8.1.3 The United States stated that they are considering the amendment text Poland/EU proposed, which would allow the EU to replace Poland in the Agreement.
- 8.2 Website of the Convention

- 8.2.1 Poland/EU would like to thank the USA for running up again the Convention's website. We encourage Contracting Parties to visit this website. As all reports of annual conferences should be accessible, we encourage the USA to post also documents related to meetings of 2016-2020, whenever possible.
- 8.2.2 The United State appreciated the input from Poland/EU and stated that they anticipate posting the 2016-2020 historical reports prior to next annual meeting.
- 8.3 Administrative Matters
- 8.3.1 There was no particular discussion on this matter.

9. Closing Statements

Appendices:

- 1. Opening Statements
- 2. List of participants
- 3. Agenda for the Annual Conference
- 4. Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee

¹ https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/international-affairs/annual-conference-parties-convention-conservation-and-management-pollock-resources (accessed 21.11.2022).

Appendix 1

Opening Statement by Korea

Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an honor for Korea to host the virtual 27th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

Under the important goal of restoring and maintaining the Pollock resources in the Central Bering Sea at levels which will permit their maximum sustainable yield, the Parties have agreed on the interim moratorium and worked closely to manage the conservation of Pollock resources.

It is unfortunate that the Pollock resources have not yet restored enough to set AHL and this year the survey to estimate the biomass of the stock could not be carried out due to several factors. Although the results of the surveys up until 2020 show some positive signs of the recovery in the specific area(defined in Convention Annex Part1), the Parties should cooperate with keen interest to meet the objectives. In this context, taking this opportunity, we would also like to express our gratitude for each and every Party's valuable input to the Scientific and Technical Committee meeting which was concluded recently.

Finally, although not all Parties could participate in this year's meeting, we hope that this could be a great opportunity for all to share views and have fruitful discussion.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by Japan

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an honor for Japan to participate in the virtual 27th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

Japan would like to draw attention of the Parties to the fact that the interim moratorium on pollock fishing in the CBS was agreed by the 6 states in 1992, which was before the Convention entered into force. Japan signed the Convention in 1994 with the hope of restoring pollock resources in the CBS and reopening its commercial fishing in the area through concerted actions and cooperation among the Parties to the Convention.

One of the objectives of the Convention is to restore and maintain the pollock resources in the Bering Sea at levels which will permit their maximum sustainable yield. It is unfortunate that so far we have not been able to reopen the pollock fishing in this area.

On the other hand, we have seen positive signs since 2014 on the status of Aleutian Basin pollock stocks, including the general increasing trend of the stock biomass in the "specific area" stipulated in the Annex of the Convention. In this regard, it is regrettable that the Bogoslof Island survey was suspended this year.

In order to fulfill the objectives of the Convention and support our sustainable fishing industry, we have to continue cooperation, to the utmost extent, in gathering and sharing scientific information, which is vital for the establishment of Acceptable Harvest Level (AHL).

We wish that this meeting will bring fruitful and meaningful progress for each Party.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by Poland and the European Union

Ms Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour and a pleasure for Poland and the European Union to participate in the Bering Sea Convention Annual Conference hosted by Korea. Building on the experience from previous years, we are convinced that this virtual meeting will be able to take the necessary decisions. We look forward to the active participation of all Contracting Parties.

Poland and the European Union are fully committed to sustainable fisheries management and recognise the key role RFMOs play in the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fish stocks. We are supportive of scientific research and management decisions based on scientific advice as a benchmark for responsible resource management and will continue to promote this approach.

We would like to recall that Poland submitted to the Depositary of the Convention a request in 2016 for an amendment to the Convention to allow the membership of 'Regional Economic Integration Organisation' for the EU to become a member of the Bering Sea Convention.

The European Union is actively involved in 18 RFMOs and Regional Fisheries Bodies worldwide and has a long track record of good cooperation with Signatories to the Bering Sea Convention. This amendment would allow the EU to join the Convention, and would thus enable the EU and the Signatories to the Convention to fulfil their obligation under Article 8(3) of UNFSA and Article 63(2) of UNCLOS to cooperate in the conservation and management of the Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. The EU's membership would be beneficial or this organisation as it would allow us to contribute with our expertise in the management of fisheries and our extensive experience of cooperation within RFMOs around the world, in particular on scientific issues and the adoption and implementation of monitoring, control and management measures.

Since the last Annual Conference meeting, no Contracting Party has expressly opposed the proposed amendment. We therefore trust that this request for the membership of the European Union will this year be given proper consideration and that the amendment will finally be accepted at this Annual Conference. We look forward to participating in this meeting and hope it will be a productive and successful one.

Thank you

Appendix 2

List of Participants

Contracting Party	Voice	Members		
Russian Federation	Alexander Glubokov, Head of	Igor V. Melnikov, Deputy Head,		
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Appendix 3

Proposed Agenda for the Annual Conference

27th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Virtual Meeting hosted by Korea November 14 – November 25, 2022

- 1. Opening of the Conference
- 2. Opening Statements
- 3. Elections (Chair and Rapporteur)
- 4. Adoption of the Agenda
- 5. Report of the Scientific & Technical Committee
- 6. Action Items
 - 6.1 Review of the scientific data and conservation measures of the Coastal States related to Pollock fishing in the Bering Sea
 - 6.2 Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee for the next year
 - 6.3 Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level
 - 6.4 Establishment of Individual National Quotas
 - 6.5 Adoption of appropriate conservation and management measures based upon the advice of the Scientific and Technical Committee
 - 6.6 Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing
 - 6.7 Trial Fishing Plans for the following year
 - 6.8 Measures taken to investigate and penalize violations of the Convention
 - 6.9 Consideration of matters related to the conservation and management of living marine resources other than Pollock in the Convention Area
- 7. Future Annual Conferences
 - 7.1 Consideration of virtual meetings.
 - 7.2 28th Annual Conference
 - 7.3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
- 8. Other Matters
 - 8.1 Discussion of Accession to the Convention
 - 8.2 Website of the Convention
 - 8.3 Administrative Matters
- 9. Closing Statements

Appendix 4

REPORT OF THE 27th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

Virtual Process Meeting hosted by the Republic of Korea 10 October – 21 October 2022

1 Opening of the Meeting

Hyejin Song (Republic of Korea) opened the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) Meeting as Chair this year. A list of the participants is provided in Appendix 1.

The Chair also served as rapporteur to compile the STC report. The following individuals served as the contact point and "voice" from each party for email exchange – the United States (Jim Ianelli), the Republic of Korea (Hyejin Song), Poland/EU (Kamil Kisielewski), Japan (Tomonori Hamatsu), the Russian Federation (Alexander Glubokov). The People's Republic of China did not participate.

2 Adoption of the Agenda

2.1. There were no comments to the presented Agenda. The Agenda (Appendix 2) was adopted.

3 Discussion of Science Issues

3.1 Update catch and effort statistics

The United States and the Russian Federation provided updated pollock catch statistics by year and region (Appendix 3). Two figures at the end of the report are provided to show the geographical/statistical areas of the Bering Sea (Appendix 4).

3.2 Review results of trial fishing

The parties reported that no trial fishing was conducted in the Convention area during the period of 2021–2022.

3.3 Review results of research cruises

Regular surveys within the U.S. zone of the Bering Sea include:

- (1) Eastern Bering Sea (EBS) shelf: the annual bottom trawl survey to assess groundfish and crabs in the summer months (June to August) occurred and extended into the northern area outside of the standard survey grid (but within US waters).

 Vessels chartered for the bottom-trawl survey (described in bullet above) also collected acoustic backscatter data that is compiled into a validated index for use in the EBS pollock stock assessment.
- (2) The NOAA ship *Oscar Dyson* conducted a mid-water acoustic-trawl survey in the US zone over the EBS shelf region.

Cruise results from the U.S. surveys become available typically about mid-September and draft reports are made to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Plan Teams. Draft

results from the bottom trawl survey have been provided to the NPFMC here. Subsequently, analysts compile stock assessment reports for review during the November and December meetings of the NPFMC so that they can deliberate on fishery management decisions for the following year. The website for these annual Plan Team reports can be found in at the NPFMC.org website. Pertinent parts of the U.S. survey and pollock stock assessments are discussed in section 3.4 below.

Japan conducts an annual salmon survey in the central Bering Sea. In the 2022 survey carried out in July and August, 4 pollock were caught (incidental to the salmon catch, 47–60 cm in fork length) in the central Bering Sea.

3.4 Review the status of Aleutian Basin Pollock stocks

The Aleutian Basin also encompasses the central Bering Sea Convention Area (see the 2 figures at the end of this report). Surveys covering the region are impractical due to the size of the area. However, the Convention established a specific area (defined in Convention Annex Part 1) around Bogoslof Island where an important component of the central Bering Sea pollock stock is thought to spawn. As noted above, the abundance of pollock is estimated during the February-March surveys conducted aboard the NOAA ship *Oscar Dyson* every 2 years and that these estimates provide an indirect indicator of central Being Sea Pollock stock abundance. However, due to funding limitations and other priorities, the Bogoslof Island survey was suspended this year; it is unclear if and when this survey will be conducted in the future.

The results of the surveys are therefore unchanged from last year and Figure 1 shows that the most recent estimate (from 2020) is about 345,000 t. Based on the standard expansion (see Annex), suggests then that the CBS stock is about 575,000 t.

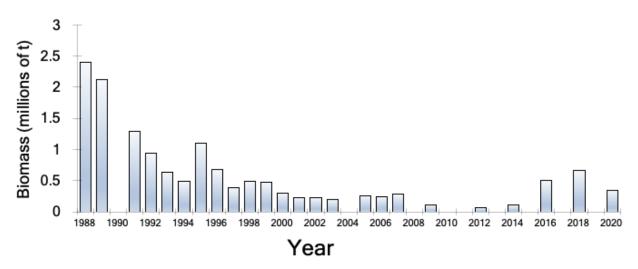


Figure 1. Biomass estimates obtained during acoustic-trawl surveys for walleye Pollock in the Bogoslof Island area, 1988-2020. The United States conducted all the surveys; except for the 1999 survey, which was conducted by Japan. There was no survey in 2021 and the 2022 survey was suspended.

Russian EEZ of the Bering Sea: Northwestern Bering Sea bottom trawl pollock survey was conducted aboard TINRO R/V Professor Kaganovskiy during August-September 2021. Pollock biomass was estimated at 0,815 million tons and abundance 2,352 billion fish off bottom. Pollock distribution are covered mainly the shelf area from convention line to northern Anadyr Bay. Pollock of the 2020 year-class dominated among immature fish by abundance (31,0%) and among mature fish the 2014-2017 year-classes (37,2%) appeared relatively high in the northwestern Bering Sea off bottom. The 2020 ecointegration midwater trawl (EIMWT) and bottom trawl surveys data and 2021 bottom trawl surveys data indicates that the 2017-2020 year-classes may

lead to a possible some increase in recruitment to the exploitable part of the pollock stock in 2022-2024.

The 2017-2020 year-classes appeared during shifts in temperature conditions towards cooling in the Bering Sea. Usually, high abundant pollock year-classes appear during such shifts in thermal regime in the Bering Sea (2000, 2006, 2008 and 2012). The appearance of high abundant year-classes during periods with high annual gradients in water temperature is clearly seen across the entire period of recent observations in the Bering Sea. The appearance of high-abundant 2006, 2008 and 2012 year-classes were associated with thermal regime shift in the Bering Sea, when the abundance of large zooplankton species was relative high. This supports the idea on the existence of relationship between zooplankton abundance and survival of pollock yearlings during winter period.

The abundance and biomass of the Bering Sea pollock became close at average level in 2021. The western Bering Sea pollock biomass in the Karaginskiy and Olutorskiy Bays area still stay at relatively low level since the late 1990s, at the same time had appeared some trend of recruitment increasing. The western Bering Sea pollock biomass was estimated by bottom trawl surveys in 2017 at 121,5 ths tons and 377,8 ths tons in 2020. **Pollock in the U.S. Eastern Bering Sea (EBS):** The EBS pollock spawning biomass in 2008 was at the lowest level since 1980. The stock increased steadily and peaked in 2016 and since has averaged a decline of about 12% per year. Recent biomass estimates (of spawning and age 3+ biomass) appear to be mainly impacted by the decline in abundance of the 2012 and 2013 year classes. Spawning biomass was projected to be slightly below B_{MSY} in 2022; however, the stock condition is not being subjected to overfishing, is not overfished nor approaching an overfished condition.

Aleutian Islands region: The estimated spawning biomass reached a minimum level in 1999 and then has generally increased. Low levels of fishing mortality along with improved recruitment is thought to be responsible for the increase in stock condition. The Aleutian Islands pollock stock is not being subjected to overfishing, is not overfished, nor is approaching an overfished condition.

Bogoslof region: The estimated biomass in the Bogoslof Island area has been increasing in recent years. The latest survey (2020 by the NOAA ship Oscar Dyson) resulted in a biomass estimate of 345,000 t (note that the management advice will use a recent survey average value for catch advice). There have been no directed fisheries on the stock since 1991. Total allowable catches have been set to zero under terms of the Convention on the Conservation of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. The trigger level for a TAC to be authorized has been specified in the Convention.

The United States provided the following summary information on pollock stocks status for the Bering Sea by region. The table below is extracted from the U.S. document that summarizes the status and catch specifications of the pollock stocks in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands (BSAI) management areas in the U.S. EEZ. All units are in metric tons. The catches for 2022 are projected estimates for the year.

	Year Biomass		Overfishing Level (t)	Acceptable Biological	Total Allowable	Catch (t)
Area				Catch (t)	Catch (t)	
	2015	12,073,000	3,330,000	1,637,000	1,310,000	1,321,574
	2016	15,486,000	3,910,000	2,090,000	1,340,000	1,352,681
	2017	13,794,000	3,640,000	2,800,000	1,345,000	1,359,181
1.E Bering Sea	2018	10,964,000	4,797,000	2,592,000	1,364,341	1,379,288
1.E Being Sea	2019	9,892,000	3,914,000	2,163,000	1,397,000	1,409,346
	2020	8,693,000	4,085,000	2,043,000	1,425,000	1,367,236
	2021	8,145,000	2,594,000	1,626,000	1,375,000	1,376,258
	2022	6,839,000	1,469,000	1,111,000	1,111,000	1,097,684
	2015	223,489	36,005	29,659	19,000	915
	2016	239,584	39,075	32,227	19,000	1,257
	2017	250,881	43,650	36,061	19,000	1,507
2 11-11-1-1	2018	256,899	49,291	40,788	19,000	1,860
2.Aleutians	2019	255,323	64,240	52,887	19,000	1,663
	2020	257,233	66,973	55,120	19,000	3,202
	2021	292,967	61,856	51,241	19,000	1,840
	2022	308,525	61,264	50,752	19,000	2,726
	2015	67,063	21,200	15,900	100	733
	2016	106,000	31,906	23,850	500	1005
	2017	106,000	130,428	60,800	500	185
3.Bogoslof	2018	434,760	130,428	60,800	450	14
	2019	434,760	183,080	137,310	75	8
	2020	378,262	183,080	137,310	75	9
	2021	378,262	113,479	85,109	250	8
2022	2022	378,262	113,479	85,109	250	256

2022 catch estimates are preliminary

3.5 Factors affecting recovery of the stocks

No new information was provided.

3.6 The effects of the moratorium and its continuation

No new information was provided.

3.7 Methodologies to determine Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) and Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)

There were no new methods proposed.

3.8 Recommendation on AHL

No new information was provided. In the past, the Parties have used Annex Part 1 of the Convention to establish AHL. The AHL level has been set at zero; because the minimum biomass level needed to trigger a non-zero AHL according to the Convention Annex has not been reached.

The Russian Federation recommends that the AHL remain at zero since the Convention Annex Part 1 trigger level has not been reached.

3.9 Research Plans

The United States plans to conduct its next survey on pollock in the Bogoslof area in 2023 (during a 2 week period in February-March). Other survey plans by the Parties (United States and Russia) in their EEZ waters are expected to continue as in previous years. Japan plans to conduct its salmon survey (that may catch pollock incidentally) in the central Bering Sea in 2023.

4 Discussion of Enforcement and Management Issues

The US Coast Guard monitors the region and noted that no known fishing vessel incursions occurred based on their surveillance.

4.1 Violations of the Convention.

No new information was provided; but no IUU fishing in the Convention area was known to have been reported in 2020.

4.2 Terms and conditions for trial fishing for the following year

The Committee recommended that the terms and conditions for trial fishing remain the same as in the previous years. Trial Fishing is addressed in Article X, paragraph 4 of the Convention. In general, any trial fishing intention needs an application and trial fishing plan to be approved by the Scientific and Technical Committee. No Party has applied for trial fishing in 2020 to the Scientific and Technical Committee.

5 Other Issues and Recommendations

5.1 Future Meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee

Unless otherwise noted, the next meeting of the Committee will be held virtually as they have since 2010. The Party that will host this meeting shall be determined at the Annual Conference. Given improvements on how virtual meetings can be held, the STC:

- **recommended** that if a virtual meeting occur in the future, that set hours and presentations be made via virtual meeting software (instead of just exchanging emails);
- **recommended** that a document sharing system be adopted and to the extent practical, presentations and working papers be distributed in advance to encourage and stimulate discussion; and
- **noted** that measures to ensure the preservation and future record system of STC meetings be maintained via the internet.

6 Report to the Annual Conference

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Committee will convey the Scientific and Technical Meeting Report to the Annual Conference.

7 Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked all participants of the STC for their discussions and help in compiling this written report. The Chair closed the STC Meeting on 21 October 2022.

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Appendix 2. Agenda

- 1. Opening of the Meeting
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda
- 3. Discussion of Science Issues
 - 3.1 Update catch and effort statistics
 - 3.2 Review results of trial fishing
 - 3.3 Review results of research cruises
 - 3.4 Review the status of Aleutian Basin Pollock stocks
 - 3.5 Factors affecting the recovery of the stocks
 - 3.6 The effects of the moratorium and its continuation
 - 3.7 Methodologies to determine the Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) and Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)
 - 3.8 Recommendation on AHL
 - 3.9 Research plans
- 4. Discussion of Enforcement and Management Issues
 - 4.1 Violations of the Convention
 - 4.2 Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing for the following year
- 5. Other Issues and Recommendations
- 6. Report to the Annual Conference
- 7. Closing Remarks

Appendix 3: Table of pollock catches in the Bering Sea.

Table 1. All-nation historical catch of pollock from the Bering Sea, in metric tons, 1977-2021.

Sources: Reported by the Parties to the Convention, *2021 values preliminary

Sourcest		Marragia 1	, the conve		21 varaes pre		
	Olyotorskiy-	Navarin	Domust	Dagaalaf	Alautian	Eastam	Total
V	Karagin	Region	Donut	Bogoslof	Aleutian	Eastern	Total
Year	(W of	(E of	Hole		Region	Bering Sea	Bering Sea
1077	170W)	170W)			7.625	070 270	1 250 005
1977	265,000				7,625	978,370	1,250,995
1978	417,000				6,282	979,431	1,402,713
1979	546,000				9,504	935,714	1,491,218
1980	825,000				58,156	958,280	1,841,436
1981	1,133,000				55,516	973,502	2,162,018
1982	976,000				57,978	955,964	1,989,942
1983	1,006,000				59,026	981,450	2,046,476
1984	252,000	503,000	181,200		81,834	1,092,055	2,110,089
1985	134,000	488,000	363,400		58,730	1,139,676	2,183,806
1986	297,000	570,000	1,039,800		46,641	1,141,993	3,095,434
1987	349,000	463,000	1,326,300	377,436	28,720	859,416	3,403,872
1988	475,000	852,000	1,395,900	87,813	30,000	1,228,721	4,069,434
1989	345,000	684,000	1,447,600	36,073	15,531	1,229,600	3,757,804
1990	582,000	232,000	917,400	151,672	79,025	1,455,193	3,417,290
1991	326,000	178,000	293,400	316,038	98,604	1,195,664	2,407,706
1992	282,000	315,000	10,000	241	52,352	1,390,309	2,049,902
1993	288,000	389,000	1,957	886	57,132	1,326,609	2,063,584
1994	204,000	288,900	NA	556	58,659	1,329,373	1,881,488
1995	79,000	427,300	Trace	334	64,925	1,264,247	1,835,806
1996	34,000	753,000	Trace	499	29,062	1,192,781	2,009,342
1997	30,000	735,000	Trace	163	25,940	1,124,433	1,915,536
1998	25,000	719,000	Trace	8	23,798	1,102,159	1,869,965
1999	46,000	639,000	Trace	29	1,010	989,680	1,675,719
2000	15,000	507,000	Trace	29	1,244	1,132,710	1,655,984
2001	25,000	526,000	=	258	825	1,387,197	1,939,280
2002	8,000	370,000	-	1,042	1,177	1,480,776	1,860,995
2003	14,600	411,200	_	24	1,649	1,490,779	1,918,252
2004	6,200	424,500	_	0	1,158	1,480,552	1,912,410
2005	4,400	446,800	_	0	1,621	1,483,022	1,935,843
2006	3,900	462,500	_	0	1,745	1,488,031	1,956,176
2007	62,600	587,900	_	0	2,519	1,354,502	2,007,521
2008	50,632	507,127	_	9	1,278	990,578	1,549,624
2009	26,052	328,517	_	73	1,662	810,784	1,167,089
2010	43,352	319,543	_	176	1,289	810,186	1,174,546
2011	37,189	336,690	_	173	1,208	1,199,041	1,574,300
2012	26,300	390,040	_	71	975	1,205,222	1,622,608
2013	29,800	358,900	_	57	2,964	1,270,770	1,662,491
2014	15,100	342,400	_	427	2,375	1,297,422	1,657,724
2015	11,000	383,500	_	733	913	1,321,584	1,717,730
2016	6,900	442,600	_	1,005	1,257	1,352,681	1,804,442
2017	6,300	431,300	_	185	1,507	1,359,182	1,798,474
2017	8,000	392,100	-	14	1,860	1,379,287	1,781,261
2019	12,300	403,300	-	8	1,664	1,409,337	1,826,609
2019	11,689	381,725	-	9	3,205	1,367,229	1,763,857
2020	21,469	366,574		49	1,512	1,338,252	1,727,856
2021	21,709	300,374		72	1,212	1,330,232	1,727,030

Appendix 4: Map of the Bering Sea and the Bogoslof (518) area

Statistic areas in the Bering Sea

