

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Memorandum •

REPRESENTING THE STATES OF ALASKA, CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, OREGON AND WASHINGTON

528 S.W. Mill Street, Portland, OR 97201
Phone: (503) 229-5840

TO : Jim Branson, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

DATE: December 6, 1982

FROM : John P. Harville, Executive Director



SUBJECT: Resolutions adopted at PMFC's 1982 Annual Meeting

Summarized below, under five subject categories, are fifteen resolutions adopted at the recent PMFC Annual Meeting (November 15-17, 1982), which I believe pertinent to NPFMC affairs. Appended are copies of the complete text of each of these resolutions.

IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES

No. 8. Fishing Activities in Marine Sanctuaries. Establishes PMFC support only for those sanctuaries which would allow commercial and sport fishing in the sanctuary and which recognize current State or federal agency management authority within the sanctuary.

No. 15: Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Development. Seeks Congressional and administration support for moratoriums on OCS development where oil and gas reserves aren't critical to national interest and where fisheries could be adversely impacted and for H.R. 6365. Supports an Ocean and Coastal Resources Management and Development Fund from OCS oil and gas revenues (monies to be used for fishery management programs, research, enhancement and restoration; energy impact planning; and Sea Grant Programs).

No. 20: Establishment of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. Requests the government to establish a 200-mile exclusive economic zone to clarify the nation's policy on utilization of coastal marine resources for the benefit of the U.S. fishing industry.

PROMOTION OF SHORESIDE DOMESTIC PROCESSING

No. 9: Analysis of Benefits/Costs of Buffer Zones to Promote Shoreside Processing. Requests an immediate analysis of the biological, economic, and social impacts of buffer zones of alternative sizes around processing ports in which foreign processing would be prohibited. Urges specific estimates of impacts of buffer zones on fishing vessels supplying shoreside processors and on those supplying floating foreign processors. Requests evaluation of economic benefits from shoreside processing increases, of potential crowding and gear conflicts in buffer zone areas, and of biological/ecological impacts of discards on habitat and fishing success.

SALMON ISSUES

No. 5: Comprehensive Salmon/Steelhead Trout Management. Requests regional fishery management Councils and applicable State and federal agencies responsible to develop a coordinated, long-range comprehensive plan for conservation, management, restoration, and enhancement of Pacific salmon and Columbia River steelhead trout resources.

No. 6: Pacific Coast Management of Chinook Salmon. Requests the U.S. Secretaries of State, Commerce, and Interior and the Canadian Minister of Fisheries through the U.S.-Canada Salmon Interception Treaty Negotiations to immediately give highest priority to resolution of the conservation issues facing chinook salmon stocks.

No. 3: Continued Funding of Anadromous Fish Conservation Act. Requests continued funding of the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (P.L. 89-304) at levels that permit the States to fulfill obligations demanded by federal mandates.

No. 25: Agency Access to Marked Salmon for Coded-Wire Tag Recovery. Urges Pacific States and federal fishery agencies to enact regulations that assure agency access (similarly to that in Washington and Alaska) to fish tags and salmon heads containing coded-wire tags at no cost.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

No. 13: Wetlands Protection. Requests the Administration and Congress to revoke the nationwide permits, recently finalized, for discharges into rivers, lakes, and wetlands. Asks that the permit process be retained. Urges member States to take appropriate action for restoration and rehabilitation of degraded wetlands.

No. 16: Reduce Effects of Acid Rain on Fish Resources. Urges Congress and the EPA to enact laws and regulations to reduce emissions resulting in acid rain. Urges member States to develop acid rain monitoring and prevention programs to protect fish resources.

FISHERY DEVELOPMENT

No. 2: Saltonstall-Kennedy Funds. Urges continued S-K fund support for research and development in support of commercial and sport fisheries. Requests that fisheries development foundation's be given representation on regional and national S-K funding review panels.

No. 18: Research on Fish and Shellfish Processing Waste Utilization and Disposal. Requests NMFS to direct increased S-K funds to conduct research on disposal and utilization of seafood processing wastes.

No. 12: Encourage Government Institutional Markets to Purchase West Coast Seafoods. Urges agencies to adopt a policy of increased purchases of all species of domestically produced and processed West Coast seafood.

No. 10: Protection for Fishermen in Bankruptcy Proceedings. Requests support for H.R. 6582 which would ammend the loophole in the current federal bankruptcy code thereby putting fishermen on an equal status with labor, in bankruptcy proceedings.

No. 11: Truth in Seafood Labelling. Urges governmental agencies to firmly enforce existing "truth in labelling" laws so that fish products clearly state their origin and location of processing or canning.

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 8

FISHING ACTIVITIES IN MARINE SANCTUARIES

WHEREAS, the marine sanctuary program was established to preserve or restore areas for their conservation, recreational, ecological, or esthetic values; and

WHEREAS, few marine sanctuaries have as yet been designated in the United States so the benefits of this particular program are difficult to assess; and

WHEREAS, many proposed marine sanctuaries contain areas which support important commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishery activities; and

WHEREAS, nothing in the current marine sanctuary legislation or proposed regulations guarantees any level of continued fishing activities in the marine sanctuaries; and

WHEREAS, the currently proposed regulations may transfer fisheries management authority in a sanctuary to the Federal office of Coastal Zone Management;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission supports the designation of only those marine sanctuaries which guarantee fisheries usages and recognize the fisheries management authority of current State or Federal agencies within the sanctuary boundaries.

Adopted unanimously by the five
Compact States of Alaska, California,
Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on
November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 15

OCS DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior has proposed a billion acre, five-year leasing program for oil and gas development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), including OCS Lease Sale 73 offshore northern and central California (encompassing in excess of 10 times Lease Sale 53); and

WHEREAS, these sales are planned for OCS areas off California and Alaska which include environmentally sensitive fishery habitats; and

WHEREAS, Lease Sale 73 offers offshore lands for oil development in areas that will potentially damage fishery resources as well as conflict with commercial and recreational fishing activities; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced into Congress which would impose a moratorium on oil and gas development until the year 2000 (H.R. 6365), in the area from Pismo Beach, California to the border of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the current administration is seeking to decentralize federal control of national programs in favor of regional authority, delegating increasing responsibilities for directions and support to the States; and directing that new sources of funding be developed for national programs which more directly relate expenditures to benefits ("user pays" concept); and

WHEREAS, in areas where oil and gas development already exists, it would well-serve the national interest to apply a portion of the revenues derived from development of non-renewable natural resources to assure the continued protection, development and wise use of renewable resources; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission unanimously supported and endorsed Resolution No. 19 which called for OCS Lands Act Funds to be developed for fisheries programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission memorializes the Congress and the President to enact H.R. 6365 and supports further legislation imposing a moratorium on OCS development in areas where oil and gas reserves are not critical to the national interest and where such development could adversely impact commercial and recreational fisheries and the resources those fisheries depend upon; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission memorializes Congress to support the establishment of an Ocean and Coastal Resources Management and Development Fund, supported by Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas revenues; and that the funds be applied to Federal cost-sharing for State coastal zone management programs, fishery programs and related activities, fishery management and research, restoration and enhancement of the salmon resource, energy impact planning, and Sea Grant programs.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 20

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED STATES EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE

WHEREAS, the position of the United States is not to sign the United Nations Law of the Sea treaty; and

WHEREAS, it is now necessary for the President and Congress to clarify the Nation's policy towards the utilization of living marine resources off the Coast of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the fishery resources within the Fishery Conservation Zone except for highly migratory species as defined in MFCMA should be utilized first and foremost for the benefit of the United States fishing industry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission supports the concept of a 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone.

Adopted by majority vote of
the five compact States of
Alaska, California, Idaho,
Oregon, and Washington with
Washington abstaining on
November 16, 1982 at Monterey,
California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 9

ANALYSIS OF BENEFITS/COSTS OF BUFFER ZONES TO PROMOTE SHORESIDE PROCESSING

WHEREAS, economic viability of shoreside processing of groundfish, particularly whiting, depends on ready access of harvesters to commercially productive concentrations of fish in close proximity to shoreside processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, species of marine and anadromous fish may congregate in relatively small areas close to shore, resulting in concentrated fishing activity involving several fisheries; and

WHEREAS, there are claims that this concentrated nearshore fishing activity can result in economically unproductive gear conflicts; and

WHEREAS, there are claims that the dumping of unwanted fish by foreign processors has adverse effects on the productivity of those fishing grounds, causing domestic fishermen delivering to shoreside processors to fish in other areas often further away from those processors; and

WHEREAS, the domestic economy can benefit from development of strong, year-around shoreside processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, fishermen and shoreside processors in the Humboldt Bay area have petitioned for establishment of a buffer zone around that area where foreign processors will not be permitted to operate in order to minimize interference with the development of the domestic industry; and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service has advised the Regional Fishery Management Councils that buffer zones for the purpose of enhancing development of domestic fishing and processing may be supportable under certain circumstances and conditions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission strongly endorses the need for immediate analysis of the biological, economic, and social factors which must be considered in evaluating the desirability and acceptability of buffer zones around processing port areas such as Humboldt Bay; that analysis to include, but not limited to:

- 1) estimates of impacts of buffer zones of alternative areas (e.g. 6 miles, 15 miles, 30 miles) on fuel costs, travel time and other economic factors for a) fishing vessels supplying shoreside processors; and b) fishing vessels supplying floating foreign processors;
- 2) estimates of local and regional economic benefits (dollars, jobs, etc.) from shoreside processing increases;
- 3) evaluation and documentation of potential crowding and gear conflict problems in areas under consideration;
- 4) evaluation and documentation of biological/ecological impacts of discards on habitat and fishing success.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 5

COMPREHENSIVE SALMON/STEELHEAD TROUT MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the Pacific salmon and steelhead resources of the Pacific States and Alaska constitute an annually renewable resource of significant economic, recreational and cultural value to the region and the nation returning an excess of half a billion dollars annually to the regions economy; and

WHEREAS, the productivity of that regional resource has diminished significantly over recent decades due to adverse impacts on spawning/rearing/migration because of harvest management practices and the degradation of freshwater and estuary habitat from dam construction, water development, pollution, urbanization, timber harvest practices, and road construction; and

WHEREAS, to achieve conservation and to improve fishery production, the management, restoration and enhancement of these salmon and steelhead resources presently must be coordinated among the multitude of Federal, State, and Indian tribal jurisdictions through which these migratory resources must pass; and

WHEREAS, recent Federal legislative acts (e.g., MFCMA, Salmon and Steelhead Conservation and Enhancement Act, Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act) have reiterated the intent of Congress that management of Pacific salmon and Columbia River steelhead must be coordinated; and

WHEREAS, the effective coordination must be supportive of commonly agreed upon objectives and in accordance with long range comprehensive planning for the welfare of the fisheries and resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the two regional fishery management councils concerned with ocean management of Pacific Salmon and the Federal and State agencies responsible for ocean and inland conservation and management of salmon and steelhead resources proceed at once to develop a coordinated long range comprehensive plan for the conservation, management, restoration, and enhancement of Pacific salmon and steelhead resources and that the plan be 1) consistent with a set of objectives to be developed by State, Industry, Federal, Council, and Tribal representatives; 2) comprise a State by State segment developed by State, Federal, Industry and where applicable Indian tribal authorities responsible or concerned with habitat protection and fisheries management in that State; 3) coordinated in final form as a single comprehensive document which constitutes a practical blueprint for future conservation, management, restoration, and enhancement of anadromous fishery resources.

Adopted by majority vote of the
five Compact States of Alaska,
California, Idaho, Oregon and
Washington with Alaska abstaining
on November 16, 1982 at
Monterey, California

PACIFIC COAST MANAGEMENT OF CHINOOK SALMON

WHEREAS, chinook salmon is a far ranging species crossing several national and intranational boundaries during the course of its migrations; and

WHEREAS, chinook salmon are exposed to several directed and incidental hook and line and net fisheries during their years spent in the ocean; and

WHEREAS, many chinook salmon stocks are depressed below historical levels due to environmental degradation and continued heavy fishing pressure; and

WHEREAS, management authority for chinook salmon is shared by numerous political jurisdictions which have different management regimes; and

WHEREAS, the States of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska have responded to the depressed status of many chinook stocks through the imposition of restrictive management measures and quotas and Canada has just begun to gradually regulate its chinook fishery; and

WHEREAS, coordinated coastwide management of chinook is necessary to promote rebuilding of chinook stocks; and

WHEREAS, salmon interception treaty negotiations between the U.S. and Canada have been underway for many years without according adequately high priority to the conservation and effective management of chinook salmon;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission respectfully requests the U.S. Secretary of State, the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the U.S. Secretary of Interior, and the Canadian Minister for Fisheries through the U.S. Canada Salmon Interception Treaty Negotiations to immediately give highest priority to the resolution of the conservation issues facing chinook stocks.

Adopted by majority vote of the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington with Washington voting against on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 3

CONTINUED FUNDING OF ANADROMOUS FISH CONSERVATION ACT

WHEREAS, development and implementation of fishery management plans resulting from federal mandates such as the MFCMA require establishing data on which management decisions can be made; and

WHEREAS, the salmon regulations developed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council require extensive biological, social and economic data; and

WHEREAS, these data result primarily from research and monitoring on stocks of salmon of the States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington; and

WHEREAS, studies now underway are designed to provide continuing data for management of salmon resources; and

WHEREAS, support for these studies were provided by means of State and Federal matching funds under the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (P.L. 89-304); and

WHEREAS, additional studies and research are needed to evaluate the validity of escapement goals established for some river systems; obtain data on other river systems where no data exists; and provide data to assist in the restoration of fish stocks or mitigation of fish losses; and

WHEREAS, State fiscal problems and pending reductions in this Federal grant-in-aid program will decrease funds available to the States for conducting these programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission (PMFC) urge the U.S. Congress to continue funding P.L. 89-304 at levels which permit the States to fulfill obligations demanded by Federal mandates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided the congressional delegations of all PMFC member States.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 25

AGENCY ACCESS TO MARKED SALMON FOR CODED-WIRE TAG RECOVERY

WHEREAS, the coded-wire tag (CWT) is the most important management tool presently being used to evaluate ocean salmon stock distribution and harvest rates in ocean fisheries; and

WHEREAS, other vitally important programs utilize CWTs including hatchery evaluation, genetic studies, release location evaluation, and wild stock evaluation; and

WHEREAS, Pacific coast agencies have significant dollar investments in the recovery of CWTs from ocean fisheries; and

WHEREAS, recovery of these tags from the ocean fisheries is essential for the evaluation of ocean stock distribution and harvest rates; and

WHEREAS, access to marked fish containing CWTs is sometimes denied to agency representatives, or a price is sometimes demanded for the heads taken from marked fish; and

WHEREAS, lack of access to fish containing CWTs prevents collection of valuable information and may bias the results of the sampling effort; and

WHEREAS, Alaska statute requires that heads of all fin-clipped king and coho salmon must remain attached to the fish until sold; and

WHEREAS, Washington Administrative Code now makes it unlawful for any person to fail to relinquish upon request to the Washington Department of Fisheries any fish tag or part of a fish containing a CWT;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urge Pacific coast State and Federal fishery agencies to enact regulations which assure agency access to fish tags and marked salmon containing CWTs, and that no charge be levied for the removal of heads for CWT recovery; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the various States be encouraged to develop a program informing fishermen and fish dealers of the positive value of such a CWT program.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

WETLANDS PROTECTION

WHEREAS, wetlands are critical to the survival of many fish, shellfish, and wildlife species, and maintenance of water quality; and

WHEREAS, about one half of the original 150 million acres of wetlands in the contiguous United States have been destroyed; and

WHEREAS, continued protection of wetlands and estuaries is critical to the maintenance of many species of marine fish and shellfish, and is particularly important to anadromous species such as salmon and steelhead; and

WHEREAS, there are wetlands that have been degraded that were important for fish and shellfish habitat that could be restored or rehabilitated; and

WHEREAS, many important fish and shellfish species are dependent on coastal wetlands or estuaries for at least part of their life cycles; and

WHEREAS, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to issue permits from minor discharges into the waters of the United States to construction or dredging operations to major landfills and ocean dumping; and

WHEREAS, interim final rules for the Section 404 program published in the Federal Register on July 22, 1982, and made final on August 23, 1982, issued nationwide permits allowing discharge of dredged and fill material into rivers, streams, lakes, and adjacent wetland areas above the headwaters and into isolated nontidal waters; and

WHEREAS, these nationwide permits provide virtually no protection to millions of acres of prime aquatic habitats; and

WHEREAS, on August 23, 1982, the Environmental Protection Agency requested comment on its Section 404(b) (1) guidelines, and has asked whether the jurisdictional scope of Section 404 should be changed or the existing presumption against discharges into wetlands "retained, revised, or eliminated"?

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urges the Administration and the Congress to retain application of the Section 404 permitting process to all waters of the United States, including wetlands and estuaries, as currently defined in the Section 404(b) (1) guidelines, and to retain and apply rigorously the existing presumption against discharges into wetlands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the nationwide permits for discharges into rivers, streams, lakes and adjacent wetlands above the headwaters and into isolated waters should be revoked and that permit applications for discharge of dredged fill material be considered on an individual basis to insure needed protection of these critical natural resources and associated values; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission memorializes the member States to consider appropriate action for the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded wetlands and estuaries critical to the life cycles of important commercial and recreational species of fish and shellfish.

Adopted by majority vote of the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington with Oregon abstaining on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 16

REDUCE EFFECTS OF ACID RAIN ON FISH RESOURCES

WHEREAS, most acid rain begins with the industrial burning of coal, oil, and other fossil fuels or smelting of ores to produce metals; and

WHEREAS, the polluting gases that escape are dioxides of sulfure and nitrogen which are transformed in the atmosphere to sulfuric and nitric acids; and

WHEREAS, their return to lakes and streams, forests and fields, is called "acidification"; and

WHEREAS, when acidification occurs, it impoverishes the diverse life of lakes, streams, and possibly forests and other environments, and leaches needed nutrients from soils and releases toxics metals such as aluminum, zinc, and magnesium from soils into streams and lakes; and

WHEREAS, acid rain has been and is occurring in Northern Europe and North America; and

WHEREAS, such acid rain has affected fishery resources in lakes and streams and has, for example, killed many salmon populations in Norwegian rivers; and

WHEREAS, increased burning of coal and other fossil fuels in the western States will increase the incidence of acid deposition that will affect fisheries including Pacific salmon resources; and

WHEREAS, California has implemented a program for monitoring acid rain, and identifying sources and solutions for acid rain;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission memorializes the member States to develop monitoring and acid rain prevention programs to protect fish resources; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission memorializes the Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency to enact legislation and regulations to reduce emissions causing acid rain, including the use of coal washers, stack scrubbers, new combustion technologies, low sulfur fuels and alternative sources of energy such as co-generation, solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass, and to encourage conservation.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2

SALTONSTALL-KENNEDY FUNDS

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Saltonstall-Kennedy (S-K) Act to provide necessary funds for research and development projects to strengthen and develop United States commercial and recreational fisheries; and

WHEREAS, there has been some doubt as to the continuation of the S-K program; and

WHEREAS, fisheries development relies on good biological information; and

WHEREAS, fisheries management plans must be based on the best biological information available; and

WHEREAS, fishery research and development is of continuing national and regional importance; and

WHEREAS, fisheries development foundations, including aquaculture foundations, have been instrumental in both initiating and reviewing proposals seeking S-K funding; and

WHEREAS, fisheries development foundations deserve a continuing voice on S-K review panels; and

WHEREAS, fisheries development foundations have been excluded from participation in the review process in the past at both regional and national levels;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Saltonstall-Kennedy funding be provided on a continuing basis for research and development projects to strengthen and develop U.S. commercial and recreational fisheries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that fisheries development projects be based on the best biological information available to protect the resource and those investing in the resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that where good biological information is lacking, S-K funds may be utilized to help determine the necessary biological information; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that fisheries development foundations be given representation on regional and national S-K review panels.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 18

RESEARCH ON FISH AND SHELLFISH PROCESSING WASTE UTILIZATION AND DISPOSAL

WHEREAS, the development of a domestic commercial industry that will fully utilize the living marine resources within the 200 mile limit will generate a tremendous quantity of seafood waste; and

WHEREAS, a major portion of these processing wastes presently are not utilized or have only limited use; and

WHEREAS, the primary component of such fishery processing wastes is protein which can be converted to fishmeal and other byproducts; and

WHEREAS, the traditional methods used to produce useful by-products require large expenditures for processing equipment and energy, and are impractical for most fish processing operations; and

WHEREAS, the development of alternative uses for wastes resulting from fish processing activities is essential to the future development of a domestic commercial industry; and

WHEREAS, alternative methods for utilizing these wastes need to be researched and evaluated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urges the National Marine Fisheries Service to direct increased and sufficient Saltonstall-Kennedy funding to conduct research on the disposal and utilization of seafood processing wastes.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 12

ENCOURAGE GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONAL MARKETS TO PURCHASE WEST COAST SEAFOODS

WHEREAS, U.S. West Coast landings of flatfish exceeded 22,000 metric tons in 1981; and

WHEREAS, U.S. West Coast landings of rockfish exceeded 54,000 metric tons in 1981; and

WHEREAS, U.S. West Coast landings of all other groundfish species exceeded 39,000 metric tons in 1981; and

WHEREAS, considerable potential exists for increasing domestic harvest and use of all seafood species; and

WHEREAS, at the present time the United States military and other Federal and State agencies purchase almost no seafood of West Coast origin;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urge individuals responsible and agencies to adopt a policy of increased purchases by governmental agencies, including the military, of all species of domestically produced and processed seafood from Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 10

PROTECTION FOR FISHERMEN IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS, a United States commercial fisherman who utilizes a vessel of the U.S. to catch, take or harvest fish caught in U.S. waters, can reasonably be expected to sell their product to a person or entity utilizing a facility located within the U.S. for processing of fish for commercial use or consumption, otherwise defined as a U.S. fish processor; and

WHEREAS, under current law fishermen are treated as ordinary, unsecured creditors in fish processor's bankruptcy proceedings; and

WHEREAS, secured creditors and employees of a processing firm are assured priority in repayment of debts to be discharged in bankruptcy proceedings; and

WHEREAS, fishermen, as an unsecured creditor, do not have priority or any legal recourse in receiving payment on debts owed; and

WHEREAS, commitments to fishermen are as important as those to secured creditors; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, in the State of Alaska, 200 fishermen were left with initially unpaid debts totaling nearly \$2.0 million when a U.S. processing firm claimed bankruptcy, then obtained protection from the current bankruptcy code to discharge those debts lawfully owed; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 6582 would amend a loophole in the current federal bankruptcy code which puts U.S. fisherman at a disadvantage by allowing a few fish processing firms to induce fishermen to rely on payments to be honored when obtaining protection from the bankruptcy code to discharge those debts owed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that fishermen be granted a status equivalent to labor in bankruptcy proceedings and priority be given to unsecured claims originating from the sale of fish to certain fish processing firms; and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission urges Congress to support and enact H.R. 6582 for bankruptcy protection for fishermen.

Adopted unanimously by the five Compact States of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington on November 16, 1982 at Monterey, California

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 11

TRUTH IN SEAFOOD LABELLING

WHEREAS, there has been a significant increase in the number of brands or labels of foreign packed fishery products on the United States market shelves; and

WHEREAS, many of the labels do not state where the product originated or where it was packed; and

WHEREAS, some of the labels are worded in a manner contrived to confuse and mislead the buyer into the belief that the product is domestic or was processed domestically; and

WHEREAS, the American consumer is being deprived of the factual information upon which a decision to purchase might be made, for reasons of health and sanitation standards, for reasons of economic self interest, or for any other reason;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all concerned governmental entities firmly enforce existing "truth in labelling" laws in order that the American consumer be fully informed as to the origin of any food products and particularly as to where such products were processed or canned.

Adopted unanimously by the five
Compact States of Alaska, California,
Idaho, Oregon, and Washington
on November 16, 1982 at
Monterey, California