

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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## MINUTES

ADVISORY PANEL  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Centennial Building  
Sitka, Alaska  
September 23, 1980

The Advisory Panel convened Tuesday, September 23, 1980, at the Centennial Building in Sitka at 9:15 a.m. and adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The following panel members were present: Robert Blake, Alvin Burch, Robin Chlupach, Jesse Foster, Sigfried Jaeger, Rick Lauber, Ray Lewis, Sharon Macklin, Ken Olsen, Al Otness, Jake Phillips, Don Rawlinson, Anthony Vaska, Eric Jordan and Vice-Chairman Bud Boddy.

### A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Bud Boddy.

### APPROVAL OF ADVISORY PANEL AGENDA

The agenda was approved by all Advisory Panel members. See E-4 for additional comments.

### APPROVAL OF JULY AP MINUTES

The minutes from the July meeting were approved by all Advisory Panel members.

### B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report. Mr. Jim Branson presented the Director's Report. During the report, he asked the AP's concurrence on changing the dates of the October meeting from the 23rd and 24th to the 30th and 31st and moving the December meeting from the 4th and 5th to a 3-day meeting from December 10 through 12. The AP approved the recommendation. The Executive Director introduced Jeffrey Povolny, the Council's new Plan Coordinator for the crab plans and also introduced Eric Jordan, the new AP representative from Sitka.

B-2 Alaska Department of Fish and Game report on domestic fisheries was presented in writing, supplemented by a report by Phil Chitwood of NMFS with a report on Joint-Venture activities and the need for amendment of DAH for yellowfin sole and flounder in the Bering Sea for 1981.

B-3 Mick Stevens of Natural Resources Inc. reported further on the US/USSR yellowfin sole fishery which harvested 13,000 mt in the Bering Sea by five U.S. catcher boats. The catch included 1,400 mt of Pacific Cod.

B-4 The U.S. Coast Guard Report was presented by LCDR Smith. He discussed violations and seizures in the FCZ for August, noting that five Japanese trawlers were seized for under-logging valuable species and overlogging less valuable species, such as pollock. AP discussed possible penalty procedures for such violation and better methods of checking catches, including checking at the point of landing. No conclusions were drawn and the AP has no recommendation to make at this time.

B-5 National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Tanner Crab resource survey was presented by Bob Otto of NMFS, Kodiak. He discussed the survey completed this summer, indicating heavy crab concentration in the Bering Sea and that the number of C. opilio has decreased as expected while C. bairdi appeared to be stabilizing.

B-6 No report has been presented at this time.

B-7 Mr. Guenter Conradus, consultant to Nordstern A.G., reported on the operations of the West German trawler FRIEDERICH BUSSE, supplemented by a description of fishing conditions by Capt. Muschkeit. The training program has not been too successful since they have had difficulty retaining candidates. An economist is on board doing an analysis of large trawler operations that will be available to the public for review. Attempts to buy white fish products from the U.S. have been unsuccessful thus far.

B-8 The report on halibut/crab pot study was presented by Steve Hoag of IPHC who discussed the incidental catches of halibut in 3 types of crab pots.

#### C. OLD BUSINESS

The AP reviewed reports of the Council work groups on policy and planning, FCMA amendment and joint-venture closure criteria. The AP has made no recommendations at this time.

#### D. NEW BUSINESS

No AP recommendation at this time.

#### E. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

E-1 Tanner Crab FMP. Following a presentation by the PDT led by Fred Gaffney, Jim Richardson, Council Economist and Sig Jaeger, consultant on DAH, the Panel discussed their findings. Ray Lewis moved to follow the PDT recommendation that DAH = OY up to the limits of ABC, and to start development of a framework plan beginning in October. Decreasing stocks and an increasing American fishery and the market impact of foreign catches on the American fisheries preclude any surplus of Tanner crab for foreign allocations. The AP recognizes that DAH = OY may not reach the limits of ABC in the next year or two, but feels that if foreign fishing continues the American fishery will never be able to fully expand to utilize the resource. The Panel passed the motion unanimously.

E-2 King Crab FMP. The Panel endorsed the tentative hearing schedule for the King Crab FMP for late October in Dutch Harbor with Seattle and Kodiak after Thanksgiving but before the December Council meeting. The AP recommended that Weaver Ivanoff represent the AP at the Nome hearings, noting that AP members from Kodiak would be present for those hearings.

E-3 Bering Sea/Aleutian Island Groundfish FMP. The AP recommended that the public hearings on the BS/A Groundfish FMP amendment #2 be held jointly with the hearings for the King Crab Plan. The AP endorsed a cut-off date for amendment proposals for 1982 - any proposals not received by January 1, 1981 will have to be postponed until the next amendment cycle. Ray Lewis moved to approve an amendment to DAH to increasing quantities of yellowfin sole and Atka mackerel available to U.S. fishermen.

E-4 GOA Groundfish FMP. The AP requested that the Council instruct the PDT to consider the appropriateness of proposing amendments to the 1981 GOA Groundfish Plan which would close the Eastern Regulatory Area to foreign trawling and/or reduce the OY and incidental catch limitation for species of groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska. The request was based upon (1) long-liners' inability to comment on the 1981 amendments at May meeting because of halibut opening and cancellation of AP meeting in May; (2) prevention of further depletion to sablefish and POP stocks; (3) expected new information relative to the biological status of groundfish stocks; and (4) to eliminate gear conflicts between foreign trawlers and U.S. fishermen. A motion to approve was made by Don Rawlinson and passed unanimously.

E-5 Salmon FMP. No report at this time.

E-6 Herring FMP. Margaret Duff reported to the AP on the current status of the Herring FMP. The Panel concurred with the SSC recommendations and approved the body of the Herring Plan, supported additional clarification of the allocations scheme and the herring savings areas in the FMP as recommended by the SSC.

#### F. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The AP reviewed the Financial Status Reports to the Council; no action necessary.

The AP reconvened at 1:30 p.m., September 24, 1980 to consider the final item on their agenda E-5 "Salmon FMP." Present were Alvin Burch, Robin Chlupach, Jesse Foster, Ken Olsen, Al Otness, Jake Phillips, Don Rawlinson, Anthony Vaska, Eric Jordan and Vice-Chairman Bud Boddy.

Dave Cantelon presented the Salmon PDT recommendations for the 1981 troll salmon fishery as shown in 1981 Management Recommendations And Considerations For The Salmon Troll Fishery In The FCZ By The Salmon Plan Development Team, interspersed and followed by discussion by the Panel and members of the audience. Following discussion, Tony Vaska moved to forward the PDT recommendations to the Council, recommending they be forwarded for public review. Ray Lewis seconded. Al Otness moved to amend the motion to include three recommendations from Eric Jordan as follows:

1. Shorten Coho season to July 1 - Sept. 10
2. Allow fishing for other species when one species is closed (i.e. allow Coho fishing if Chinooks are closed)
3. Outlaw treble hooks

Seconded by Sig Jaeger. Following discussion the amendment passed with the provision that the approval of the motion by the AP did not indicate endorsement of the PDT proposals for the amendment offered by Otness but only a recommendation to send them all out for public review.

Motion and amendment passed unanimously.