

**Draft SABLEFISH GEAR COMMITTEE
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
605 W. 4TH AVENUE, CONFERENCE ROOM 205
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501**

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

10 am – 5 pm

- I. INTRODUCTIONS
- II. APPROVE AGENDA
- III. REVIEW CHARGE TO THE COMMITTEE
 - Topics:
 - 1) gear restrictions
 - a. single vs longline pots
 - b. pots retained on grounds for long soaks vs retrieved during deliveries
 - c. pot storage
 - d. gear configuration requirements
 - e. gear conflicts
 - f. use the 200 fathom depth contour to mark open areas
 - g. pot soak time
 - 2) area management (SE vs GOA)
 - 3) exacerbation of halibut mortality
 - 4) dynamic (social/economic) effects
 - a. safety issue related to use of pots by small vessels
 - b. crew employment
 - c. QS prices
 - d. ongoing acoustic research for avoiding whale depredation
 - 5) additional topics
 - a. Update on whale depredation and interactions (staff assignment)
 - b. Update on whale deterrent work in progress (staff assignment)
 - c. Update on Canadian sablefish gear usage and pricing by gear type (staff assignment)
 - d. Discussion of pre-emption of fishing grounds due to lost gear
 - e. Gear conflicts between all gear types
 - f. Discussion of shifting predation to halibut
 - g. Review of current literature on whale predation (staff assignment)
- IV. NEXT STEPS
- V. ADJOURN