

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
(Revised May 20, 2002)  
Annual Council Chairs and EDs meeting  
May 29-30, 2002 - Sitka, Alaska

**Tuesday May 28**

- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm:** Council Chairs, Vice-chairs, and Executive Directors meet at Centennial Hall.  
**9:00 am - 5:00 pm:** NMFS and other agency representatives meet separately at Centennial Hall.  
**6:00 pm:** Meet at the Channel Club on Halibut Pt Road for social and dinner (about 5 minute drive from SheeAticka Hotel). We have reserved a portion of the restaurant for the group, and shuttles will be available from the Hotel.

**Wednesday May 29**

**8:30 am - 8:45 am:** Opening remarks from host Council and NMFS.

**8:45 am - 10:45 am:**

- A. MSA Reauthorization and other legislative initiatives.
1. Briefing from Congressional staff
  2. Review NMFS position document, and proposed Bill language if available
  3. Review of Chairmen's positions on issues from last May (at a minimum would include IFQs, observer program language, economic data and confidentiality, fees, bycatch, ecosystem management, etc)
  4. Additional issues: Update on IFQ workshop in Galveston; 5-year retrospective on SFA (NMFS); Oceana petition/bycatch issues, Council response(s), and protocols/regulations governing petition process; implications of recent Pacific bycatch lawsuit

**10:45 - 11:00 am:**

- B. Report from NMFS Science and Technology Division (general focus, Cooperative Research funds, electronic logbook program).

**11:00 - 11:30 am:**

- C. U.S. Coast Guard report

**11:30 - noon:**

- D. Update on 2002 annual Status of Stocks report to Congress and discussion of process and format for future reports.

**1:15 - 2:30 pm:**

- E. Budget issues
1. 2004 Budget request
  2. Detail of observer program funding nationwide for 2002, 2003 and 2004 and NMFS policy on funding priorities.
  3. VMS funding
  4. Joint enforcement agreements and associated funding (may be written report)
  5. Performance measures as a yardstick for funding priorities.

**2:30 - 3:00 pm:**

- F. ESA litigation and issue of Council standing. Hawaii longline association suit (NOAA GC lead). Update on NPFMC independent legal review

May 29, continued

**3:00 - 4:30pm:**

- G. Regulatory streamlining (NMFS lead - includes discussion of NMFS report to Congress, potential guidelines and Council coordination, NEPA vs MSA, multi-year TAC specifications, recent litigation, NEPA positions, etc)

**4:30 - 4:45 pm:**

- H. Procedure and schedule for review and approval of Council SOPPs

**4:45 - 5:00 pm:**

- I. Ocean and PEW Commissions update

**6:30 - 9:00 pm:**

Reception with food and drinks (and some entertainment!) at the Centennial Hall

Thursday May 30

**8:30 am - 11:15 am:**

- J. Discussion of Executive Order and MPA initiative, including NOS and DOI perspectives. Review list of relevant authorities. Review workplan for the Santa Cruz Science Center.

**11:15 - 11:30 am:**

- K. Coral Reef Task Force and funding issues - status report

**11:30 - 11:45 am:**

- L. Update on NAPA study of NMFS ability to meet mission requirements

**11:45 - noon:**

- M. Status report on electronic rulemaking initiative

**1:15 pm - 3:00 pm:**

- N. Discussion of education/public outreach campaign - recent NMFS activities, individual Council initiatives, and potential collaborative efforts. Extent that litigation is encumbering our efforts.

**3:00 pm - 4:00 pm:**

- O. Status report on EFH lawsuits and development of EISs. Status of Generic socio-economic work by NMFS. (Review agreement with dates and deadlines; one-page summary of where each Council is in the process; Kurland summary from National workshop)

**4:00 pm - 4:45 pm:**

- P. Other issues: international trade negotiations; FAO capacity reduction initiative; status of NMFS capacity assessments; general litigation influences

**4:45 pm - 5:00 pm:**

Discuss timing/location for 2003 Chairs meeting

**6:00 pm - 9:00 pm:**

Evening social (and maybe a short cruise) aboard 225' Coast Guard buoy tender. Food provided.

Friday May 31

**9:00 am - noon:**

Councils-only meeting