

Executive Director's Report

Upcoming Council Meetings

Mark your calendars for December and next year's Council meetings as follows:

Week of

December 6, 1993	Seattle
January 10, 1994	Anchorage
April 18, 1994	Anchorage
June 20, 1994	Sitka ****
September 19, 1994	Seattle
December 5, 1994	Anchorage

The December meeting in Seattle will be held at the downtown Seattle Hilton Hotel at Sixth and University. I do not have an agenda lined out yet, but I assume we will need to start meeting on Monday, December 6, probably with a committee meeting at 1 p.m., the plenary session the next day, and then through Sunday, much as we are doing this week. Judy will be sending out reservation cards shortly after this meeting. You also should make travel arrangements as soon as possible to avoid the holiday rush.

There is a problem with the Sitka meeting. We've been informed that hotels in June are not all that available, and so we need to consider alternative places to meet. If we are still on schedule for the comprehensive plan, the final decision will be made at the June meeting and we will need a site with a lot of rooms. Kodiak, Juneau, Seattle, or possibly Dutch Harbor, might be candidates to look into.

Fish Expo

We will have a booth at the Fish Expo at the Seattle Center, October 20-23. Booth number is 6229 in Exhibition Hall. Drop by and see us!

Call for SSC/AP Nominations

Just a reminder that there will be a call for AP and SSC nominations in the next newsletter. The Council will need to make those appointments at the December meeting.

Magnuson Act Reauthorization

I do not have much new to add on this topic. There were field hearings held by the House and Senate over the summer, but as I understand it, most of Congress' energy has gone into the Marine Mammal Act. There is a good chance that the Magnuson Act will continue unchanged until next year and then Congress will go into it in detail. Item B-1(a) is a suggested change to the Act from the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission which Dave Hanson will report on.

New SSC Member

Hal Weeks of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has been nominated to replace Larry Hreha, who retired from the SSC after the last meeting. Chairman Lauber appointed Dr. Weeks to the SSC for this meeting, pending full Council approval. If approved, he would attend the December meeting also and then be considered for 1994.

Supplemental Attachment B.3.f.

Proposed Amendment to Section 306 of the MFCMA

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission along with the Gulf and Atlantic commissions adopted the following recommendation to change the Magnuson Act.

Recommendation: Amend the section to specifically establish and/or clarify the authority of the states to manage species harvested in the EEZ that occur in both the state territorial waters and the EEZ in the absence of a council FMP; and also amend the section to enable a state, with the concurrence of the appropriate council, to establish landing laws or regulations for species managed under a council FMP which are landed from the EEZ, as well as state waters.

The three commissions have drafted language for the proposed change and are presenting it to the Councils for their review and comment. We believe the following amendment will cure some of the legal problems that have arisen on the East Coast and prevent some problems which may now be minor on the West Coast from becoming major problems.

Proposed Amendment:

At the end of Section 306(a), add the following paragraph:

(4)(A) For any fishery for which there is no fishery management plan approved and implemented pursuant to this Title, a state may enforce its laws or regulations pertaining to the taking of fish in the EEZ off that state or the landing of fish caught in the EEZ.

(B) For any fishery for which there is a fishery management plan approved and implemented pursuant to this Title, a state may enforce its laws or regulations pertaining to the taking or landing of fish caught in the EEZ, so long as said law or regulation is not inconsistent with the goals and objectives of any relevant fishery management plan approved and implemented under this Title. Any state may request that the relevant Regional Fishery Management Council issue a determination of consistency with respect to any specific state law or regulation. Such determination shall be issued by the Council within 90 days of the date of request.