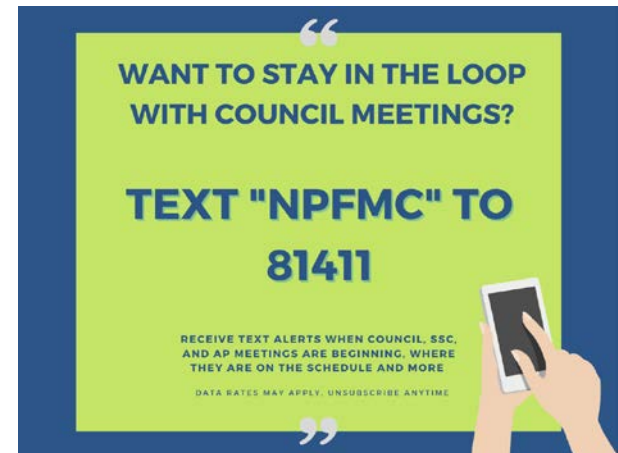

SSC ADMIN ISSUES

JUNE 2021



ADOBE CONNECT

- Slightly new view – Adobe Connect has updated. Works best if you install the update when requested.
- If bandwidth is slow or meeting is lagging, close out of Adobe Connect app and re-join. If connected by phone, you will stay connected. Or listen on YouTube!
- SSC and AP recordings will be deleted from YouTube after the June meetings end



Council	AP	SSC
October 2, 9, and 12-16	October 5-9	September 28 – October 2
Agenda	Agenda	Agenda
Deadline for public comments to Council/AP is Wed, September 30, at 5pm	Deadline for public comments to Council/AP is Wed, September 30, at 5pm	Deadline for public comments to the SSC is Friday, September 25 at 5pm
MEETING	MEETING	MEETING
Testimony Sign-Up	Testimony Sign-Up	Testimony Sign-Up

Scroll further down page to access the YouTube broadcasts

IN-MEETING PUBLIC TESTIMONY

HOW TO SIGN UP



1. Start from the SSC eAgenda:

Comment Now (9) Direct Link

Sign-up for oral comment (0)

Tech set up, Introductions, Agenda r

JPC_Agenda_2020-11-05 -Uploaded: 10/20/2020 10:49 AM A

Joint Protocol December 2009 -Uploaded: 10/30/2020 11:05 A

Direct Link

Sign-up for oral comment (6)

Staff Report

Link to October Council meeting materials (see item C4) -Upld

Council mo

NMFS Stat

0 11:3

PM AH

2. Sign-up next to each agenda item

Scientific and Statistical Committee: September 28 - October 2, 2020, 8 am - 3 pm Alaska time - MEETING

Sign up for testimony

Agenda Item Economic SAFE

Name

Organization

Email Address

Phone

Attachments

Choose Files No file chosen

At the Council meeting, public comment is limited to groups/organizations.

I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA Privacy - Terms

3. Fill out this form.

- Use drop down to select the agenda item
- Enter your personal details
- Attach handouts or ppts
- Select "I'm not a robot"

1. On SSC eAgenda, for each agenda item:

Written comments

In-meeting sign up list

IN-MEETING PUBLIC TESTIMONY

HOW TO SEE SIGN UPS AND HANDOUTS



0 Comments

Sign-up List (0)

Attachments:

C4 Cook Inlet Salmon FMP – Initial Review

- [C4 Cook Inlet Salmon Initial Review](#) -Uploaded: 09/09/2020 11:53 AM AKDT
- [C4 Appendix 11](#) -Uploaded: 09/09/2020 11:54 AM AKDT
- [C4 Appendix 12](#) -Uploaded: 09/09/2020 11:54 AM AKDT
- [PPT C4 Cook Inlet Salmon FMP](#) -Uploaded: 09/29/2020 11:58 AM AKDT

1 Comment

Sign-up List (3)

Attachments:

C6 BSAI Halibut ABM – Initial Review Draft EIS

- [C6 ABM Draft DEIS Analysis](#) -Uploaded: 09/22/2020 05:22 PM AKDT
- [C6 REVISED 9-30-20 ExecutiveSummary](#) -Uploaded: 09/30/2020 02:50 PM AKDT
- [C6 Errata Revised Section 6.4.4_9-30-20](#) -Uploaded: 09/30/2020 02:49 PM AKDT

Agenda Item

View Comments View Sign-ups

: C6 BSAI Halibut ABM – Initial Review Draft EIS

5 Sign-ups

Heather McCarty CBSFA 10/01/2020 08:06 AM AKDT	Signed up for public testimony
linda behnken ALFA 10/02/2020 10:14 AM AKDT	Signed up for public testimony
Kiril Z Basargin K-Bay Fisheries Association 10/02/2020 10:16 AM AKDT	Signed up for public testimony
Mateo Paz-Soldan City of Saint Paul Island, Alaska 10/02/2020 10:23 AM AKDT	Signed up for public testimony
John Gauvin Alaska Seafood Cooperative 10/02/2020 10:33 AM AKDT	Signed up for public testimony <i>Attachments: ABM Indices and A 80 sector halibut encounter rates SSC.pptx</i>

SSC MEETING PROTOCOLS

- Use “**raise hand**” feature on app to be acknowledged
 - **Chat box is for tech problems only**
- Chair encourages SSC members to **hold questions for natural breaks** during presentation
 - Presenters will aim to pause at natural breaks
- SSC will move through agenda at a natural pace
 - Issues may come up earlier or later than scheduled; signup for textmarks to get updates
- **Webcams** encouraged for members
 - Videos will not be visible onscreen during staff powerpoints, but at all other times they are encouraged
 - Presenters may turn on webcams during Q&A after the powerpoint
 - Testifiers will not be on webcam
- Meeting hours are 8am - ~3pm (AK); aiming for lunch 11.30-12.30pm (AK); breaks as appropriate
- **Tech problems?** Use chat box or email: npfmc.admin@noaa.gov



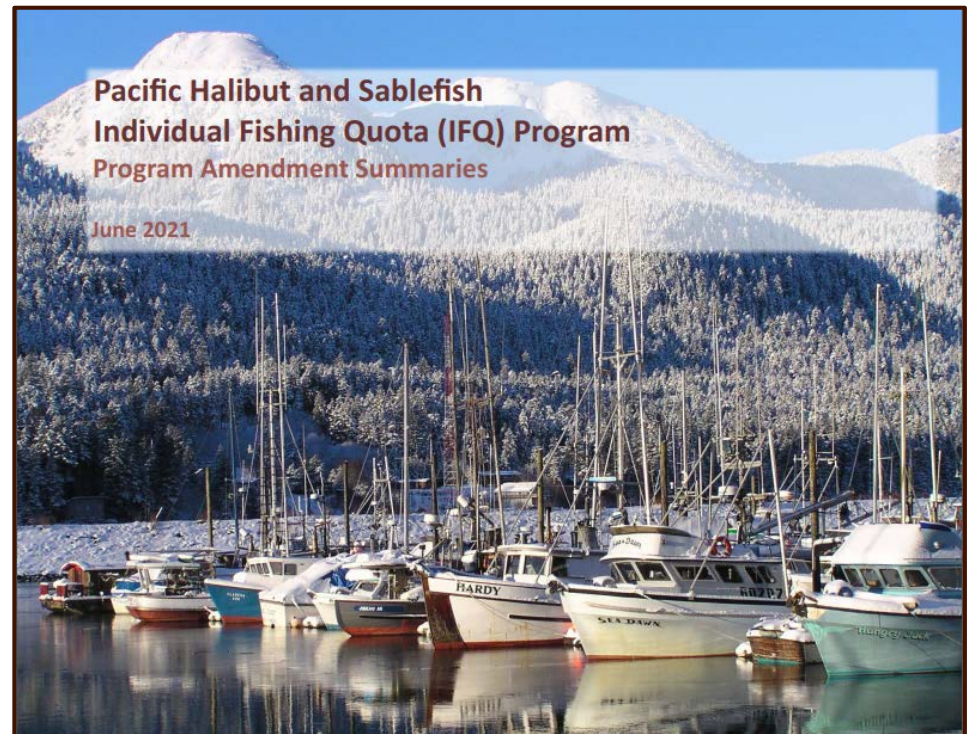
JUNE 2021 MEETING

- Agenda items scheduled Monday – Thursday
 - Tuesday – Observer report, BS FEP, AFSC report (*climate change initiatives*)
 - Wednesday – BSAI Crab, research priorities process
 - Thursday – Res. priorities (cont), BSAI Pcod Trawl CV, Risk Table
 - Friday – Risk table report (cont), report writing
- SSC report timing
 - Leads post report by Monday 6/7
 - Review of all sections by Tuesday 6/8
 - Sherri to present report to Council (all except D4) on Weds 6/9 AM
 - Sherri to present D4 Risk Table SSC report on Monday 6/14



IFQ AMENDMENT SUMMARIES

- NPFMC Sea Grant fellow **Angela Forristall** has prepared and published a summary document for the IFQ amendments
- Companion volume to the BSAI Groundfish and GOA Groundfish Amendment Summaries published previously
 - *On Council website under Publications/ Summary Reports*



Spatial Management

Allow Longline Pot Gear in the Bering Sea Sablefish Fishery

Council Action
April, 1996

Proposed Rule
July 16, 1996
61 FR 37041

Final Rule
September 12, 1996
61 FR 49076

Effective
September 12, 1996

Purpose and Need

Prior to the IFQ Program, there was substantial conflict between longline pot gear and hook-and-line fishermen. If longline pot gear is set over previously deployed hook-and-line gear (or vice versa), the weaker hook-and-line gear is typically more likely to be damaged or lost as it is being retrieved. Deployment of hook-and-line and pot gear in the same fishing areas also results in grounds preemption under a race-to-fish situation. In 1992, the Council prohibited longline pot gear in the Bering Sea to minimize gear conflicts and grounds preemption. In 1995, the IFQ Program extended the sablefish season in Federal waters off Alaska to 8 months. By allowing the fleet to spread its operations over time, the IFQ Program greatly reduced the possibility of congestion and preemption.

Commercial fishing industry representatives reported to the Council that the annual Bering Sea sablefish quota was under-harvested due in part to interactions with killer whales. Killer whales frequently pick sablefish off longline hooks and this consumption represented undocumented fishing mortality. Even though the sablefish quota may be under harvested by fishermen, overall fishing mortality could be higher than the specified quota, resulting in overharvests. The purpose of this amendment was to maximize sablefish harvest and minimize loss to killer whale depredation.

Analysis

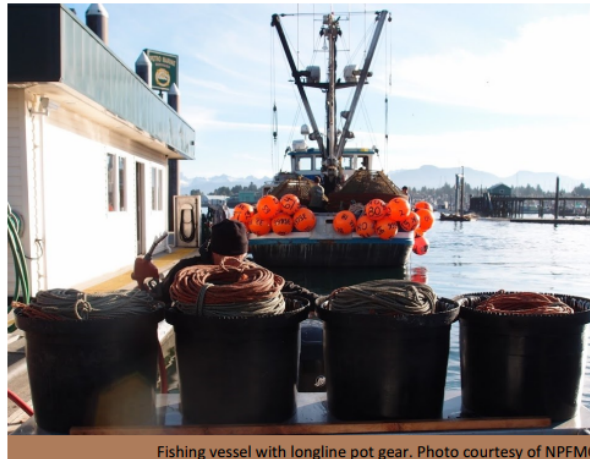
An Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis was developed for this regulatory change. The analysis compared the status quo to either allowing the use of longline pot gear either by season (Alternative 2a) or by area (Alternative 2b). The chosen alternative – Alternative 2a – was chosen as the as it would best reduce killer whale interactions while also mitigating possible disadvantages to fishermen who cannot afford to switch from hook-and-line to longline pot by closing the longline pot fishery for the month of June.

Regulation Summary

This action allowed for the use of longline pot gear in the Bering Sea directed sablefish fishery. It also established a closure of the longline pot fishery for the month of June to minimize potential gear conflicts during this time.

Results

The Council has continued to balance the risk of gear conflicts with the evolving need to adapt gear types to avoid whale encounters and minimize whale depredation. Allowing the use of longline pots in the Bering Sea sablefish fishery with this regulatory change provided participants with increased flexibility in fishing methods to avoid loss of catch to whales in the Bering Sea. (Sablefish pots are also legal in the Aleutian Islands.) In 2017, longline pot gear was authorized for the GOA sablefish IFQ fishery (81 FR 95435). In 2020, the retention of halibut in pot gear in the BSAI was authorized (85 FR 840).



Fishing vessel with longline pot gear. Photo courtesy of NPFMC.



NATIONAL SSC MEETING (SCS7) POSTPONED

- NPFMC has postponed the 7th national meeting of the Council Coordination Committee's Scientific Coordination Subcommittee
 - Lose too many of benefits with virtual meeting
- Will host in-person in 2020. Themes:
 1. How to incorporate ecosystem indicators into the stock assessment process
 2. Developing information to support management of interacting species in consideration of EBFM
 3. How to access and develop fishing level recommendations for species exhibiting distributional change
- If NPFMC cannot extend allocated funding until next year, the event may need to be scaled back




MISCELLANEOUS

- Feedback appreciated on virtual meeting, improvements, challenges, ideas:
 - Contact npfmc.admin@noaa.gov
- Reimbursement available for SSC members if you are incurring data/phone costs
 - Contact nicole.schmidt@noaa.gov



FUTURE MEETING PLANNING

- Council is discussing plans for October 2021 at this meeting
 - **High likelihood** that SSC will stay virtual
 - “Final” decision in early August
 - Working on assumption that SSC/AP/Council members would either participate all in person or all virtual
 - Email npfmc.admin@noaa.gov with any comments
- Draft October schedule:
 - Harvest specifications: BSAI crab, BSAI/GOA Groundfish (proposed)
 - Analysis initial reviews: IFQ omnibus amendments, RQE fee collection
 - Reports/reviews: Observer annual deployment plan for 2022, EFH model review, ACLIM report, Halibut Catch Share Plan allocation review workplan, OECM paper, AFSC climate regional action plan updates 
 - EFP applications (if any received)



SSC MEMBER AGENDA ITEM ASSOCIATIONS

- Members to acknowledge any direct associations with SSC agenda items and/or financial conflicts of interest.



SSC EXECUTIVE SESSION

- GOA Groundfish Plan Team candidate
 - Mr. Andrew Olson, ADFG
 - Southeast Regional Groundfish-Shellfish Coordinator

