



Agenda Topics

December 2-10, 2019 Hilton Hotel, Anchorage, AK

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Council Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting and Council members will approve the agenda.

B. REPORTS

In this section of the meeting, each agency represented on the Council provides a management report. After all the reports, the public has a chance to provide comment, and the Council will discuss action they need to take, either to this point or at the end of the meeting.

C1 BSAI Groundfish Specifications – Steve MacLean

The Council will receive a report from a team of technical experts (the BSAI Groundfish Plan Team) with the final assessments of groundfish stocks and recommend final catch limits for the 2020 and 2021 BSAI groundfish fisheries.

C2 GOA Groundfish Specifications – Sara Cleaver

The Council will receive a report from a team of technical experts (the GOA Groundfish Plan Team) with the final assessments of groundfish stocks and recommend final catch limits for the 2020 GOA groundfish fisheries.

C3 2020 Charter Halibut Management Measures for Areas 2C and 3A – Steve MacLean

Every year in December, the Council selects restrictions to ensure that charter halibut fisheries in Southeast (2C) and Southcentral (3A) Alaska do not exceed set amounts. Charter representatives on the Council's Charter Halibut Management Committee will provide the Council with recommendations at their meeting on Tuesday.

C4 BSAI Parallel Waters – Jon McCracken

The Council is reviewing a proposal to prohibit all Federal vessels from fishing for Pacific cod in waters from shore to 3 miles in the BSAI without the proper permits and licenses. Even with the proper permit, these vessels would still be required to stop fishing if the federal waters fishery to which they are linked closes. The analysis also evaluates an additional requirement that if a vessel removes the permit from their vessel, they must wait three years before it could be re-issued.

C5 Crab Partial Deliveries – Sam Cunningham

The Council will consider whether or not to allow crab vessels to continue fishing for king and Tanner crab in the BSAI crab fisheries after offloading only some of the crab on their vessel. The Council has indicated preliminary support for the change.

C6 St. Matthew Blue King Crab Rebuilding Plan – Jim Armstrong

A rebuilding plan is needed for the Saint Matthew Island blue king crab stock, which was declared overfished in October 2018. The analysis estimates rebuilding time frames based on alternatives and options that would either prohibit or allow directed fishing during stock recovery.

C7 Central GOA Rockfish Reauthorization – Jon McCracken

Action is required to continue the Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program, which allocates certain rockfish to specific vessels and processor groups. Changing allocation of Pacific cod and rockfish, and changing limits that apply to crab vessels may also be considered.

C8 Non-Guided Halibut Rental Boat Registration – Sara Cleaver

The Council is considering establishing a registration requirement for unguided rental vessels used to catch halibut in the recreational fisheries in Areas 2C (Southeast) and 3A (Southcentral). The analysis also evaluates an option to require anglers on unguided rental boats to comply with bag and size limits currently applicable to charter vessels.

D1 Halibut ABM Workplan (Council only) – Diana Stram

The Council will review a plan for revising the analysis to set BSAI halibut prohibited species catch limits based on abundance. Based on this workplan, the Council will decide when to schedule the next review.

D2 Sablefish Discards – Jim Armstrong

The Council will review a paper that analyzes issues associated with a proposal to allow discarding of small sablefish by the IFQ sablefish fishery.

D3 Aleutian Islands Community Follow -up – Jon McCracken

The Council will review a discussion paper on management options available to promote sustained participation of Aleutian Islands fishing communities in the Aleutian Islands Pacific cod fishery.

D4 Comments on NS1 Technical Guidance on ABC Control Rule Provisions (SSC only) – Diana Stram

The SSC will review proposed changes to the rules that determine how annual catch limits are set.

E Staff Tasking

The Council will listen to public testimony about existing and new management measures that the public may be interested in, and will provide feedback to staff and the Council Chair about how to prioritize staff work on existing and new projects.

The Council will also review its committee membership, and identify agendas for any upcoming committee meetings. At the end of the meeting, the Council Chair will announce appointments to committees or Plan Teams, including appointments to the Advisory Panel and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).