

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Date: *Jan 4, 1983*

MINUTES  
SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE  
Anchorage, Alaska  
December 6-7, 1982

The Scientific and Statistical Committee of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council met on December 6-7, 1982. Members present were:

Donald Rosenberg, Chairman	Richard Marasco, Vice-Chairman
Al Millikan	Larry Hreha
Bill Aron	Jack Lechner
John Clark	John Burns
Bud Burgner	

## C-2 SSC Membership

Members were requested to indicate their willingness to serve for an additional two-year term. Dr. Ed Miles has submitted his resignation. All other members have indicated their willingness to serve if reappointed.

The SSC discussed the method of recommending to the Council a replacement for Dr. Miles. The SSC feels that we need additional expertise in the area of population dynamics, fish biology with reference to the groundfish resources, and in the techniques of fisheries management.

In the past the SSC has recommended that a notice be sent to interested parties and that scientists willing to serve notify the Council and SSC of their interest. In this particular case the SSC recommends not following this procedure and requests that the Council appoint Dr. Donald Bevan to the vacant position.

Dr. Bevan will provide the SSC with the scientific expertise which we need. In addition he is already well-informed on the scientific issues that the SSC is addressing. He will also provide an important linkage between this Council's SSC and the Pacific Council's SSC, where he serves as chairman.

The SSC would like to express its sincere thanks to Dr. Ed Miles who has served on the Council's SSC since its inception. Dr. Miles' participation on the SSC has greatly influenced our deliberation and decisions and his input will be surely missed by the other SSC members.

## C-6 Joint Venture Logbook

The SSC received a report from Council staff which described the process followed in developing the Coastwide logbook for fishing vessels participating in joint ventures. A copy of the proposed logbook was also made available for examination. To facilitate effective management of stocks harvested by the vessels, catch and effort data are required for stock assessment. Given the rapid expansion in these fisheries and recognizing the importance of having detailed catch and effort data, the SSC supports implementation of this program and recommends that the Council require full cooperation of the fishermen.

## C-7 Other Business

### Foreign Fishing Fees

The SSC received a presentation by Council staff on the proposed methods for establishing fees for foreign fishing. The SSC requests that Dr. Rich Marasco be appointed to any Council workgroup established to draft comments on the proposed methods.

### Pre-Briefing Documents

The SSC would like to compliment the Council staff on the pre-briefing documents which were provided the SSC prior to this meeting. The SSC found these documents to be helpful in planning our agenda and in the SSC deliberations. The SSC encourages the Council staff to continue the development and early distribution of the pre-briefing documents.

## D-1 Salmon FMP

### Natural Chinook Stock Management Policy

The SSC again reviewed the proposed policy statement for natural chinook salmon stocks, adopted by the Council in September as a tentative policy to be finalized at this December meeting. Our understanding is that it should now read as follows:

"It is the policy of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to restore or maintain important natural spawning stocks of chinook salmon to optimal levels as presently included or to be set forth in the goals, objectives, strategies and definitions of its salmon management plan."

The SSC considered this policy statement in the light of conservation measures being set forth in the U.S.-Canada salmon treaty negotiations and in light of our current FMP for salmon. We do not feel there is a conflict in intent, and recommend that the above statement be adopted by the Council.

### PDT Policy Questions

The SSC also took note of the PDT's draft report on chinook status, distribution in fisheries and conservation needs of coastwide chinook stocks. The SSC did not have time to review the report in detail, but find it a very significant update on chinook management needs and possible management procedures.

The SSC reviewed the set of nine policy questions on chinook salmon management drawn up by the PDT. We have prepared responses directly to the PDT on these questions (see Attachment 1).

The SSC also considered the four issues raised in the December 3, 1982 letter from Washington Department of Fisheries, Director Schmitt to Chairman Tillion. We proposed that the PDT take the issues raised by Director Schmitt into consideration in developing their recommendations for 1983 Southeast Alaska troll salmon management.

#### D-2 Herring FMP

The SSC received a report by the Council staff on the current status of the draft FMP. We reviewed the ADF&G report on the Pacific Herring Stocks and Fisheries in the Eastern Bering Sea, Alaska 1982 (November 1983); a preliminary report to ADF&G from the University of Washington entitled "Scale Pattern Analysis to Estimate the Origin of Herring in the Dutch Harbor Fishery (December 1, 1982);" a report by ADF&G on the 1982 Herring Food/Bait Fishery (December 1982); a Summary of Public Hearing on the Herring FMP in Bethel Alaska on November 10, 1982; and a preliminary report by NMFS on the Bering Sea Herring (no date). Additionally, the SSC reviewed letters by Stephen Johnson on behalf of the Japanese Deep Sea Trawlers Association and the Hokuten Trawlers Association of December 1, 1982 and from Marine Resources Company of December 2, 1982.

#### Draft Herring FMP

It was unclear to the SSC if the Council at its July meeting intended to delete any reference to the conservation and management of the herring stocks within state waters from the draft FMP. Council member McVey's motion as amended by Council member Collinsworth addresses only the Optimum Yield for the directed herring fishery in the FCZ. The draft plan as now presented only provides an OY for a fishery in the FCZ. There are no provisions for an OY for the resource that will be harvested within state waters. The SSC notes that no other Council FMP treats the resource or the management regime in such a piecemeal manner. The draft FMP provides no guidance on how the Council will monitor state management or influence the state's management regime. Although the responsibility for the management of the inshore fishery rests with the state, the SSC believes that the Council has the responsibility to provide guidance and criteria to the state in order to ensure compliance with the National Standards. The SSC finds that the management regime as proposed fails to address the conservation of the resource throughout its range. Therefore, the SSC recommends that those portions of the March 1982 Final FMP that deal with the inshore subsistence and commercial fisheries, their management, Optimum Yield and OY allocation be reinstated in the plan.

Specifically with regard to the draft plan, the SSC feels that the plan as now developed conflicts with two of the plans objectives. These are:

Objective: (1) "To maintain the herring resource at a spawning biomass level that will provide the maximum production of recruits to the population on an annual basis"

The new draft FMP will have very limited authority to conserve the herring resource. The priority herring fisheries are managed by the State of Alaska in state waters. As pointed out above the FMP does not control or influence harvest in state waters. Council conservation authority under the draft plan is limited to only offshore fisheries.

Further, there is a 2,000 mt maximum quota for the domestic summer fishery on Aleutian Islands/Alaska Peninsula stocks in the FCZ south of 55°47'N latitude. There is no Council authority to limit on harvest of these stocks in state waters.

Objective: (4) "To promote full utilization of the herring resource by domestic fisheries"

The revised OY formula limits the offshore harvest to 50% of the available surplus, sets a maximum offshore quota of 10,000 mt and prohibits an offshore fishery unless a minimum surplus of 2,000 mt is available. The FMP also prohibits an offshore fishery if the spawning biomass is less than half the biomass estimated to produce MSY. This measure is inconsistent with the procedure in the plan to set ABC. The mechanism to set ABC adjusts the rate of harvest based on the status of the resource but does not set a lower boundary below which a fishery can occur.

The SSC concluded that these extreme measures will prevent full utilization of the herring resource in years a biological surplus is available. We feel there is no scientific basis for these management procedures.

In addition, the SSC was uncertain how the draft FMP now related to the objective 5 of the plan, "To encourage development of herring fisheries in Western Alaska".

In light of the above the SSC recommends that the Council review the basic objectives of the plan if this draft is to be submitted to the Secretary for review.

The SSC is also concerned that the draft FMP limits the OY to a maximum of 10,000 mt. There is no mechanism to increase OY if special circumstances warrant it. Such a mechanism might be necessary to permit a higher OY if, for example, ice or markets or price disputes preclude or restrict an inshore fishery.

The SSC thus believes that the revised management regime is seriously flawed since it is designed to significantly underharvest any available annual biological surplus resource and thus prevent full utilization. We believe that this could provide serious management problems in the future.

In a memo from the Central office of NMFS there is a statement that the incidence rate of herring in the groundfish fishery is determined using a flawed statistical technique. "The best estimator of actual incidental catch in a year is made by dividing estimated yearly catch of herring by the estimated yearly catch of groundfish. The FMP approach of estimating monthly catch rates and then averaging the monthly catch rates introducing an unnecessary bias."

The SSC finds that the method to determine incidental catch rates in the plan is much better than the method proposed above. The method in the plan takes into account variation in seasons, vessel types and area of catch. The net effect of the method in the plan is to provide a better estimate of the actual true incidental catch and to discount catch rates of those vessels which may have targetted on herring.

With regard to the calculation of the winter apportionment of OY, the SSC recommend that the descriptions of the quantities to be subtracted from ABC be clarified as follows:

Total Inshore Harvest - The actual amount of herring harvested in the commercial fishery in state waters including that taken during the summer food or bait fishery.

Summer FCZ Harvest - The term FCZ should be substituted for "offshore." The definition would be the actual harvest which takes place in the FCZ during the summer food or bait harvest. We are recommending that the word "offshore" be deleted from the summer food and bait harvest as the "summer apportionment" includes both state and FCZ fisheries.

A value for the Nelson Island ABC is also to be subtracted from ABC to establish the winter apportionment of OY. The SSC was unable to find any reference to how this value was to be determined. A description will need to be developed and reviewed.

As the SSC commented at the September Council meeting the draft FMP establishes authority for a mandatory federal domestic logbook program. No other Council FMP has this authority.

We note that the plan presented fishery data only through 1980. We recommend that the PMT prepare a separate brief document wich updates fisheries statistics. The team has informed us that the data are available and could be easily summarized.

Based on the above the SSC does not recommend the plan be submitted for Secretarial review. We recommend that the plan be given to the team for revision and that the Council instruct the team to address the concerns of the SSC. The SSC found that the team approach was not used in the development of this draft plan. The SSC notes with concern that the herring plan management team has not met since July and has not participated as a group in the revision process.

We strongly recommend that the team take a lead role in drafting the revisions and make specific team recommendations to the Council and the SSC related to conservation and management issues.

#### Stock Separation Study

The SSC reviewed a preliminary report entitled "Scale Pattern Analysis to Estimate the Origin of Herring in the Dutch Harbor Fishery" prepared by the Fishery Research Institute, University of Washington for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

This preliminary study suggests that stocks from Togiak, Nelson Island and Port Moller are taken in the Dutch Harbor fishery and that no fish from Norton Sound or Cape Romanzof were detected.

The SSC believes the results of the study are useful in developing an understanding of the herring stocks taken in the Dutch Harbor fishery. We note however, that the results are incomplete and preliminary. Other unidentified stocks may also be available in the Dutch Harbor area, possibly with scale patterns similar to either areas. We suggest that the Dutch Harbor fishery be managed conservatively until a better understanding of stock mix is achieved.

We reiterate our strong support for herring stock separation research in the Bering Sea and adjacent contributing stocks in the Aleutians area.

#### Comments on Letters

The SSC received the two letters which had been submitted regarding the draft FMPs. With regard to Stephen Johnson's letter of December 1, 1982, we have requested that the team and Council staff address the issues of AIC and Herring Savings Closure. With regard to the request to exempt certain open gear types, the SSC feels that allowing special types of trawl gear into an area closed to trawling would cause enforcement problems unless there is a qualified observer aboard.

The SSC provides the following comments on Marine Resources Company's letter of December 2, 1982. The SSC finds that the request for a three-year offshore domestic fishery is contrary to the management regime in the draft FMP which give priority to inshore fisheries. Additionally, the allocation of a minimum of 10,000 mt is not tied to the ABC or OY of the plan and therefore could create a conservation issue.

The SSC recognizes the value and need for data on offshore herring stocks that a domestic offshore fishery could provide.

#### D-4 Tanner Crab FMP

The SSC reviewed that proposed Amendment #9 to the Tanner Crab FMP and recommends that it be released for public comment. This amendment has not been reviewed by the PMT. The SSC recommends that during the public comment period that the team review the amendment and provide the Council and SSC with comments at the next meeting.

#### D-5 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

1. Exclusive hook and line fishery for sablefish in the FCZ east of 140°W longitude to Cape Addington. No comment.
2. Sablefish Equilibrium Yield for 1983. The SSC in its deliberations over sablefish EYs for the Gulf decided to consider the PMT's recommendation for the area west of 140° separate from the teams recommendation for the area east of 140°. For the area west of 140° the team recommends that the EY be kept at current levels. It was argued that there was insufficient evidence to suggest a charge for this area. Data available

to the SSC upon which it could evaluate the team's decision included: (a) CPUEs for the foreign fleet calculated from observer data for the period 1977 through 1981, and (b) results from the cooperative Japan-U.S. longline survey. Examination of these two data sets revealed several inconsistencies. CPUEs calculated from observer data increased between 1977 and 1981 in the Chirikof and Kodiak areas, while the trend was mixed for the Shumagin area and downward for Yakutat. It was noted that the 1981 CPUE estimate for Yakutat could be suspect because of the low level of observer coverage. Results of the cooperative longline survey indicate possible abundance increase for the Shumagin, Yakutat and Southeastern areas. Abundance for the Chirikof and Kodiak, while exhibiting an increasing trend from 1978 through 1981, dropped between 1980 and 1981. The apparent inconsistencies in the data sets lead the SSC to concur with the team's recommendation.

For the area east of 140° the team recommends modification of the EYs for both Southeast and east Yakutat. The SSC notes that no new data were available from that presented to the SSC at the March meeting. It should be recalled that the ABC for 1980 for Southeast was set at 2,580 mt (Zenger and Hughes, 1981). As a result of the 1981 pot index survey which showed a 50% decline in the abundance of marketable-size fish, it was proposed that the EY be set at 1,290 mt (Balsiger and Alton, 1981). It has since been argued that it is quite unlikely that the resource suffered 50% mortality from 1980 to 1981. It was stated further that:

"There was more likely a change in availability to both the pot index gear and the U.S. commercial gear that fished in the Southeast area. If EY is to be considered average production over a few years, than it was probably inappropriate to estimate EY at 1,290 mt based on the reduction observed from 1980 to 1981 in the pot index survey (Balsiger, 1982)."

Since the present estimate of 1,135 mt for eastern Yakutat was based partly on the sharp decline noticed in the 1981 pot index survey in southeast, it was indicated that the estimate should be discounted for the same reasons described for southeast. Based on this argument the team recommends that EYs for the two areas be set at:

<u>Yakutat</u>	<u>Southeast</u>
<u>E. of 140°W</u>	
1,135-1,510	1,290-2,580

Upon examination of the results of the Japan-U.S. cooperative longline survey, which suggests that abundance has increased in Southeast and hearing from ADF&G that fishing in 1982 was as good and possibly slightly better than in 1981, the SSC decided to concur with the team's recommendation. While concurring with this recommendation, the SSC wishes to express its continued concern over sablefish stocks. The SSC would like to stress the importance of monitoring the various Gulf of Alaska fisheries. It is recommended further that the team be directed to examine all fishery and survey related data to determine the validity of current EY estimates.

With reference to text of the team's report, the SSC recommends that the paragraph on page 4 under Table 4 be modified to read as follows:

The PMT recommends that in the Eastern Yakutat and Southeast districts, if the in-season fishery indicator, namely catch per unit effort and size of fish being caught, are similar to last year's fishery, then the two areas be managed to arrive at the upper end of the OY range. If the in-season 1983 fishery indicators reflect a decreased abundance and average size the fishery should be managed to protect the resources.

Balsiger, J. 1982. "Sablefish," IN J. Balsiger (editor), Condition of Groundfish Resources of the Gulf of Alaska in 1982. Unpubl. rep. 198 p., Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 2725 Montlake Blvd. E., Seattle, WA 98112.

Balsiger, J. and Miles Alton, 1981. Condition of sablefish and pollock in the Gulf of Alaska in 1981. (Document submitted to the annual meeting of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission, Vancouver, Canada, October 1981). Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle, WA 98112.

Zenger, H. and S. Hughes, 1981. Changes in relative abundance and size composition of sablefish in the coastal waters of southeast Alaska, 1978-1980, NOAA Tech. Mam. NMFS F/NWC-7, U.S. Dept. Commerce, NMFS, 27 p.

3. Establish a working group to study the catch of prohibited species in the Gulf of Alaska. The SSC agrees with the PMT's recommendation that the Council establish an ad hoc working group to examine the by-catch problem in the Gulf. In specific, it is recommended that this issue be tackled in two phases. During phase 1 a group of scientists would be charged with examining the nature of the problem. The SSC recommends that the group be made up of current members of the PMT plus Dr. Jerry Reeves (NMFS/ADF&G), Al Didier (ADF&G), Russ Nelson (NMFS), and Dr. Rich Marasco (NMFS). Dr. Marasco will serve as chairman of the group. Phase 2 of the effort will be devoted to the development of options and the analysis of their impacts. To accomplish this task, the group formed for phase 1 will be augmented with industry, SSC and Council members.
4. Frameworking FMP. The PMT recommends that an amendment be prepared that would establish a framework procedure whereby each species and species group OY would be determined annually by the Regional Director of NMFS. The procedure would specify a timetable for the development of a resource assessment document. This document would serve as the basis for EY determination. Upon applying appropriate socioeconomic criteria the Regional Director in consultation with the Council would set appropriate OYs.

The SSC recommends that the PMT be directed to develop this concept. The SSC has gone on record in the past as supporting frameworking the FMP.

5. Board Proposal #241. The SSC did not take any action on this proposal since no scientific data was presented to permit evaluation of it.



6. 1983 Gulf of Alaska DAHs. The SSC received a report from the PMT and Phil Chitwood on projected DAH needs for 1983. It was indicated that domestic processors and joint-venture interests were surveyed by telephone to determine needs for 1983. This survey has since been followed up with a mail survey. The results of the last survey are not available as yet. The SSC wishes to point out that: (a) this procedure has resulted in inflated DAHs in the past, and (b) DAH modifications were made only in cases where projected needs exceeded existing values. It should be noted that application of the DAH framework supported by the SSC and adopted by the Council in Amendment #11 could result in either reductions or increases in DAHs. The SSC notes that if the framework was applied, there probably would have been some downward DAH adjustments (for example, sablefish in the Western and Central areas). It is recommended that every attempt be made to allocate unneeded DAH to TALFF for these species at the earliest possible date.

7. Other Items

(a) Sablefish catch reports in the Southeast and Eastern Yakutat regulatory districts.

The question of misreported sablefish catches has been raised. The problem arises because of different management areas employed by ADF&G and the Council. Both state and Council management areas are shown in Figure 1. State reporting procedures are such that a catch taken in Area 154 might be recorded to have occurred in the Southeast management area when in reality it occurred in eastern Yakutat. The problem creates monitoring difficulties and could have resulted in biased EY estimates for Southeast and Yakutat.

The SSC recommends that the PMT examine alternative means of resolving this problem. The SSC stresses the importance of maintaining small management areas because of its concern over localized stock depletion.

(b) Sablefish Aging Study

It was brought to the attention of the SSC that scientists at the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center are initiating a study of sablefish resource which will address the following:

- (1) establishment of objective criteria to age sablefish accurately over its life span or for at least the period of major growth;
- (2) aging sablefish samples from past and future collections by the most accurate method; and
- (3) examination of the biological and economic yield of sablefish resources for alternative population parameter sets for various short- and long-lived options.

Dr. Gary Stauffer will head up this effort. He has also replaced Dr. Jim Balsiger in the PMT.

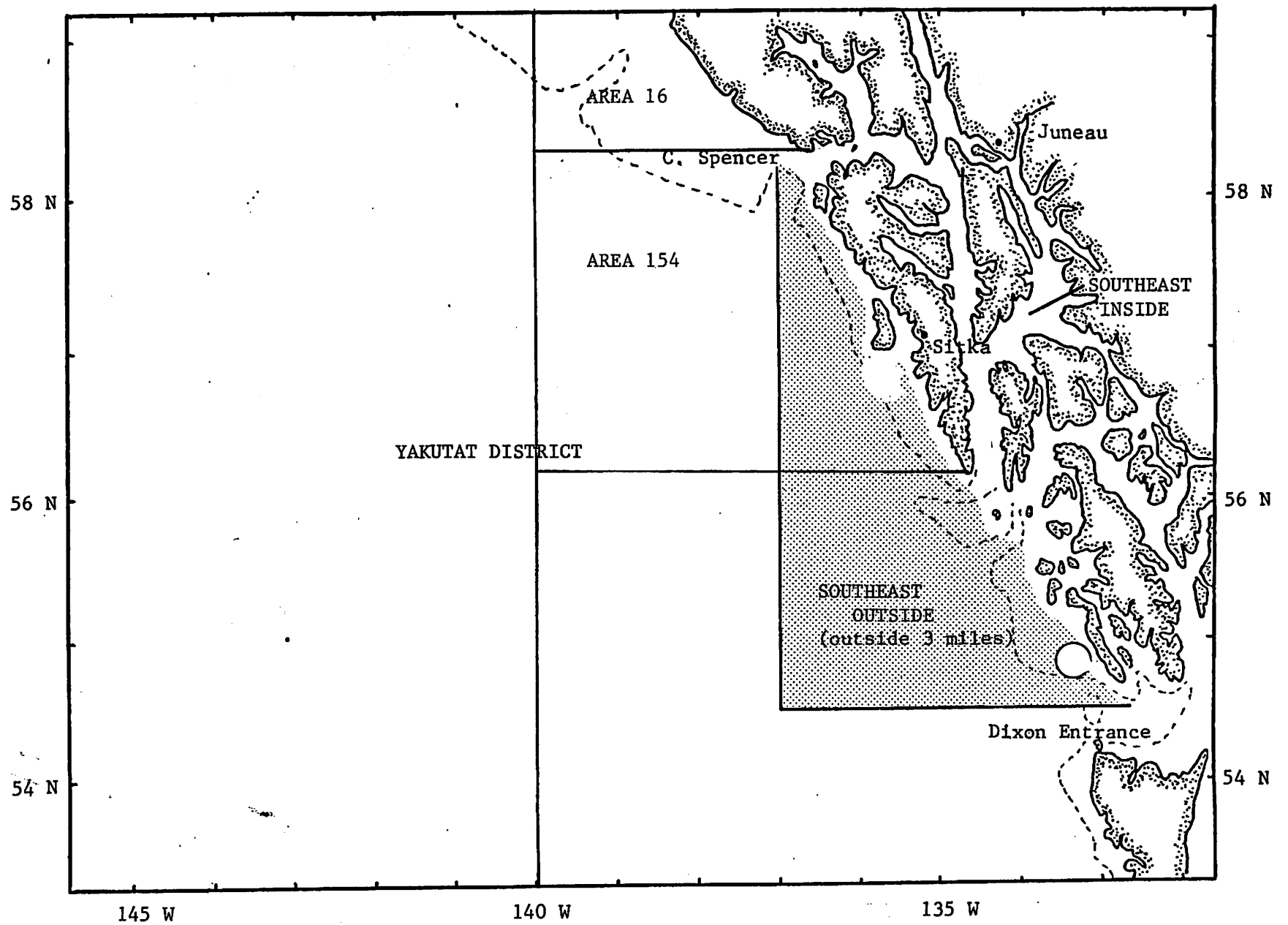


Fig. 1 Regulatory subareas of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP. Foreign Loading Zones 1 and 2 are indicated with circled numbers. Loading zone 2 is slightly off this chartlet, on the east side of Kayak Island.

(c) Pollock

The SSC was given a report by the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center which described survey activities planned for the Gulf during 1983. The SSC stressed the importance of conducting research activities directed at assessment of pollock stocks in the Gulf.

D-6 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

1. DAH Estimates for 1983. The SSC received a report from the team and Phil Chitwood (NMFS) describing the procedure used to determine proposed domestic harvest of Bering Sea groundfish. Initially, processors and fishermen were contacted by phone. There was also a follow-up mail survey. Projected DAH can only be based on indicated intent and the SSC found no basis for disputing stated intent. However, the SSC notes that in the past, actual performance with respect to catching the specific DAH has not been achieved in many cases.
2. Harvest Guidelines for POP. Recently developed data suggests that the current condition of certain species, particularly Pacific Ocean Perch (POP) may require restricting harvests to levels below current OY. The SSC was informed by the team that EYs for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands have been estimated to be 1,700 and 10,100 mt, respectively. The SSC accepted these estimates since it was reported that they were developed from the best available information on biomass sizes.

The SSC recommends that the 1983 harvest level be constrained to be less than 1,700 mt for the Bering Sea and 10,100 mt for the Aleutian Islands in order to achieve the plan objective of rebuilding POP stocks. It was brought to the attention of the SSC that setting harvest guideline levels low would create operational problems for the foreign fishing fleet.

E-1 Contracts, Proposals and RFPs

1. Proposal - Social and Cultural Aspects of the Pacific Halibut Fishery

The SSC reviewed the proposal entitled Social and Cultural Aspects of the Pacific Halibut Fishery (November 1983) by Dr. Steven J. Langdon and Marc L. Miller. The SSC recommends that the due date for final report be changed from May 31, 1983 to June 30, 1983. This change will allow sufficient time between the May 25, 1983 Council meeting for the contractor to address SSC, AP and Council comments on the draft report. A due date of May 31 would be insufficient for the contractor to address any comments.

Additionally the SSC recommends that the meeting between the contractor and the steering committee and Council staff be scheduled and be made a part of the contract.

Subject to the above the SSC recommends that the proposal be funded.

2. Contract - Crab Observer Program

The SSC received a report from the contractor (ADF&G) on the current status of field work and data analysis on Contract 82-2, Crab Observer Program. The contractor has requested that the contract be extended to allow the observer program to continue through the Tanner crab fishery. The extension will be at no additional cost to the Council and would extend the termination date from March 15, 1983 until July 31, 1983. The SSC recommends that the contract be extended to allow for sampling of the Tanner crab fishery. The SSC does request that the contractor provide the Council with an interim report covering the king crab fishery by March 15. The final report on this contract would not be due until July 31, 1983.

3. Marine Mammal Workshop. The SSC received the report of the steering committee for the workshop on Biological Interactions Among Marine Mammals/Commercial Fisheries in the Southeastern Bering Sea. The SSC feels that the development of recommendations to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for changes to FMPs should not be an objective of this workshop. Additionally, we had some concern about the focus of the workshop topics. The SSC has submitted our comments to the steering committee.

4. Joint Venture Study. Its has been brought to the attention of the SSC that there was interest among AP members in having an economic analysis of the economic flexibility of onshore versus joint venture processing strategies for groundfish and the relationship between joint venture operations on development of on-shore processing. As a result of this concern, the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center is having a review of the literature and other related information, which would shed light on these questions prepared. The target date for the preparation of this literature review has been tentatively set for the end of February. Upon completion of the initial effort, knowledge of the extent of information and data bases will be established, and it will be possible to determine if additional analyses are required.

5. Contract - An Economic Profile of the Southeast Alaska Salmon Industry. The SSC heard a brief report from Mr. Douglas Larson on the status of Contract 82-3, An Economic Profile of the Southeast Alaska Salmon Industry. Although there were some initial data problems, these have now been resolved and the study is proceeding according to schedule.

ATTACHMENT 1

Responses to Questions Set Forth by PDT

1. Should harvest guidelines and OY apply to the total catch by all fisheries in the management area or just the troll fisheries?

The SSC believes that the OY should continue to apply to all fisheries, using long-term averages of percentage catch for preseason apportionment between fisheries. Since the net fishing incidental catch falls late in the season, it is not practical to adjust the troll harvest downward if the net fishery is greater than anticipated.

The SSC recommends that the average recreational and subsistence fishery catch be added to OY and that the plan be amended to include the sport and subsistence fishery. This would result in a more uniform coastwide management procedure.

2. Should harvest guidelines be inflexible or flexible enough to make up for shortfalls and overruns the next year?

The SSC recommends no carryover to adjust for shortfalls and overruns. Accomplishment of in-season goals cannot be exact.

3. How high a priority should be given to avoiding coho-only fishing periods?

The SSC believe this should have high priority because of the potential for waste and mortality of discards. Single-species fishing periods should be avoided if possible. If single-species periods are allowed there is a need for monitoring the catches during fishing periods to determine the extent of incidental catch of chinooks.

4. Should the PDT begin to develop criteria on guidelines for determining maximum allowable harvest rates or harvest levels for chinook stocks?

Yes. This is worthwhile to investigate for individual chinook stocks once we have coastwide agreement. It will be necessary to set forth rebuilding schedules for individual stocks and to determine the kinds of controls that can achieve the rebuilding. It must be determined, for example, whether troll fishery control alone is an appropriate or effective way to provide the protection necessary.

5. Should management proposals for the troll fishery be based on conservation standards similar to those applied to inside (terminal) net fisheries?

We need clarification on this question. In Alaska we assume the same standards apply. The amount of control in protecting individual stocks is obviously less in the troll fishery where stocks are more mixed.

6. How should the PDT approach the question of sharing the conservation burdens between northern and southern U.S. fisheries?

We believe to be effective this must await a coastwide plan including Canada.

7. What role should allocation between northern and southern U.S. fisheries play? How should the allocation question be addressed?

See reply to question 6. The allocation policies must be addressed by the councils and Canada.

8. Role of hatchery production in establishing 1983 regulations.

We suggest that the hatchery stock production in Alaska not be added into OY until the natural stocks are rebuilt. Enhancement can be used to take the pressure off the natural stocks. We propose that the PDT develop a statement to this effect. There needs to be a mechanism so that terminal harvests at aquaculture facilities not be included in OY.

9. The 1983 Southeast Alaska chinook management program and outcome of U.S.-Canada negotiations.

The SSC sees a parallel to the situation last year, where alternate proposals are necessary, dependent on whether or not Canada and the U.S. agree on certain conservation measures being considered.

We request that the PDT examine the problem of mortality of juvenile chinook salmon intercepted in the salmon seine fishery and propose a research program to get better information if it is deemed desirable.

We request further that the PDT review the issues presented in the December 3 letter from Washington Department of Fisheries Director Schmitten to Chairman Tillion and take them into consideration in developing recommendations for the Southeast Alaska troll salmon management in 1983.