

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson *Clam*
Executive Director

DATE: May 15, 1985

SUBJECT: Salmon FMP Amendment

ACTION REQUIRED

Determine need for and type of amendment.

BACKGROUND

The Salmon Plan Team has been reviewing the FMP to determine how to bring it into full conformance with the U.S./Canada salmon treaty, recent MFCMA amendments, and other fishery-related developments. The FMP was last amended in 1981 and has provided enough flexibility to manage the fishery with a fair degree of success. It is, however, seriously outdated in several respects. Council staff has prepared a preliminary list of possible amendment topics. You may wish to refer this to the Council's Salmon Plan Subcommittee (now composed of John Harville, Don Collinsworth, Bud Burgner, Don Rosenberg and Steve Landgon) for preliminary consideration. The amendment would require a major commitment by all Plan Team members and their respective agencies and probably will take more than one year to accomplish. Without substantial participation of all the agencies it will not be possible to complete this amendment. It is critical for the Council to address the first three items on the list before a schedule can be developed.

1. Does the Council wish to maintain an active role in management of the Alaska salmon fisheries?
2. Does the Council want an active role in managing salmon species other than chinook salmon?
3. Which, if any, management authorities should be delegated to the State?
4. Are the FMP goals as stated still appropriate?
5. MSYs and OYs should be modified for all species.
6. Criteria for adjusting harvest ceilings should be established addressing:
 - (a) the Alaska chinook rebuilding program;
 - (b) the coastwide chinook rebuilding program;
 - (c) utilization of new enhancement; and
 - (d) any other Treaty obligations.

7. An MFCMA amendment has delegated management authority of "culs-de-sac" to State. The FMP should acknowledge this.
8. Tables and figures should be updated.
9. Season adjustment criteria should be developed.
10. Field order authority should be expanded.
11. Coho management authority (e.g. 10-day coho closure) should be clarified.
12. Debris regulations should be developed.
13. Habitat considerations.