

North Pacific Fishery

Management Council

Elmer Rasmuson, Chairman
 Jim H. Branson, Executive Director



Suite 32, 333 West 4th Avenue
 Post Office Mall Building

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3136DT
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Telephone: (907) 274-4563
 FTS 265-5435

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Mr. Jim Branson
 Executive Director
 North Pacific Fishery Management Council
 P.O. Box 3136DT
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510



Dear Jim:

As per our earlier commitment, I am sending you a proposed revised outline for development of details to use in the evolution of management plans for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. The SSC would also suggest that you forward the attached letter, under the signature of the Chairman, to express our views concerning the proposed standard format for fishery management plans which was published in the July 18, 1977, Federal Register.

In order to shorten the reading required of the Council members and to allow them to quickly perceive what is being proposed in the way of regulations vis-a-vis what has existed in the past, we would suggest that the body of the plans contain no more than the following:

- 1.0 Cover sheet
- 2.0 Executive summary
- 3.0 Table of contents
- 4.0 Introduction
- 5.0 Description of fishery (abstract)
- 6.0 History of management (abstract, except regulations in existence previous to plan's implementation)
- 9.0 Biological and environmental descriptors--abstract, except as below:
 - A. Current status of stock
 - (1) Maximum sustainable yield (MSY)
 - (2) Equilibrium yield (EY)

(3) Acceptable biological catch (ABC)

- 10.0 Catch and capacity descriptors (abstract)
- 11.0 Optimal yield determination (abstract)
- 12.0 Total allowable level of foreign fishing (abstract)
- 13.0 Proposed management regime

All other material, including full descriptions of the abstracted items required in our outline, would be placed in a series of appendices which would also include the environmental impact statement and/or negative declaration.

The proposed new outline would be as the attached.

Sincerely,



Dayton L. Alverson
Chairman, SSC

Attachments

cc:
Members, SSC
Rietze, FAK
Johnson, FNW

D R A F T

Mr. Robert W. Schoning, Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, DC 20235

Dear Bob:

Our Scientific and Statistical Committee has made a review of the proposed standard format for fishery management plans (Item 602.4), published in the July 18, 1977, Federal Register. There is total consensus among the scientists that the format proposed incorporates a great deal of extraneous material and/or materials that does not belong in a management plan. In particular, the material outlined under categories (9), (10), and (11) would place a tremendous stress on management teams and also on those who have to read the plans. We suggest much of this is unnecessary and, if desired, could be developed in a background document--that is, a specific study of a fishery in a particular region, area, etc. However, its incorporation into the standard format will ultimately imply to the lawyers that it is a legal requirement, mandated for each plan.

The North Pacific Council members feel that existing plans are cumbersome and difficult to read and that there is a great deal of material incorporated into them which does not seem relevant to the decision process. We strongly urge that Items 9, 10, and 11 in this format be reduced to single topical headings; e.g., social and economic descriptions of the fishery. We also note that some topical headings which are required in the plan are missing, and there seems to be a great deal of emphasis on trivia. We would suggest that the major items in this plan be as follows and that the sub-items not be listed in the proposed Federal Register format unless they are required by the Fishery Conservation

and Management Act:

1. Cover sheet
2. Executive summary
3. Table of contents
4. Introduction
5. Description of fishery
6. History of management
7. History of research
8. Social and economic descriptors of fishery
9. Biological and environmental descriptors (under this include Items (5) and (6) in the format proposed in the Federal Register)
10. Catch and capacity descriptors
11. Optimal yield determination
12. Total allowable level of foreign fishing
13. Proposed management regime
14. Specifications of source of permanent fisheries data
15. Relationship of recommended measures to applicable laws and policies
16. Council review and monitoring of the plan
17. References
18. Appendices

We are in the process of restructuring our outline.

The main topical headings would be similar to what we submitted to you. Most of the sub-topic items listed in our outline will be considered as optional, both in terms of substance and organization

under the major topic headings. That is, we will provide the management team some flexibility in structuring sub-topic material.

You will find attached a draft of our new outline that we intend to use in the North Pacific Council. As noted above, the sub-category topics at the third level are considered optional depending on material available, etc. In order to make the plan itself more readable, we intend to reduce the main report to the following: full coverage of Items 1, 2, 3, and 4; abstracts of Items 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, and 12; and full coverage of Item 13. This would constitute the main body of the plan dealt with by the Council. All other items, except 1, 2, 3, 4, and 13, would be given full treatment in the appendices, along with the environmental impact statement and/or negative declaration.

Finally, it should be noted that we have examined the recommendations of the Pacific Fishery Management Council regarding this issue (Appendix "F" of the September 15-16, 1977, meeting) and are in concurrence with their general comments.

Sincerely,

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

OUTLINE FOR FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

- 1.0 Cover Sheet--Includes the title "Fishery Management Plan," the fishery for which a plan has been developed, the responsible Council(s), date of Council approval, and the signature(s) of the responsible Council official(s).

- 2.0 Executive summary--A concise summary containing the following information: management objectives to be attained; the range for MSY, U.S. harvesting capacity, and the optimal level of catch for the fishery management unit; the surplus available for foreign fishing, if any; a brief description of the ecological, economic, and social impacts (beneficial) and adverse); a brief description of alternatives considered in the planning process; and the proposed conservation and management measures.

- 3.0 Table of contents

- 4.0 Introduction
 - 4.1 Goals and objectives for management plan
 - 4.2 Operational definitions of terms used

- 5.0 Description of fishery
 - 5.1 Areas and stocks involved
 - 5.2 History of exploitation
 - 5.2.1 Domestic fishery
 - 5.2.1.1 Description of user groups
 - 5.2.1.2 General description of fishing effort
 - 5.2.1.3 Catch trends
 - 5.2.1.4 Description of vessels and gears employed

5.2.2 History of foreign exploitation

5.2.2.1 Description of user groups

5.2.2.2 General description of fishing effort

5.2.2.3 Descriptions of vessel and gear employed

6.0 History of management

6.1 Management institutions, policies, jurisdictions

6.1.1 Regulatory measures employed to regulate fishery

6.1.2 Purpose of measures

6.2 Foreign

6.2.1 Regulatory measures employed to regulate fishery

6.2.2 Purpose of measures

6.3 Effectiveness of management measures (foreign and domestic)

7.0 History of research

7.1 United States

7.2 Foreign

8.0 Socio-economic characteristics of fishery

8.1 Output of subject domestic commercial fishery

8.1.1 Value of catch (ex-vessel)

8.1.2 Description and value of product (wholesale)

8.1.3 Markets, domestic and export

8.2 Domestic commercial fleet (vessels and/or gear)

8.2.1 Total gross income of fleet (from subject fishery)

8.2.2 Investment in vessels and gear (total and average per fleet/gear unit)

8.2.3 Annual participation in subject fishery (in vessel days or other appropriate measure)

- 8.2.4 Total manpower employed (man-days per season, average weekly employment, or other appropriate measure) and labor payments (shares and wages)
- 8.2.5 Economic viability (net income and efficiency)
- 8.3 Domestic commercial processing characteristics
 - 8.3.1 Total gross income of area processors (from subject and all other fisheries, and average per unit)
 - 8.3.2 Investment in plant, equipment, etc. (total and average per operator)
 - 8.3.3 Total employment and labor income
 - 8.3.4 Economic viability (net income and efficiency)
- 8.4 Recreational fishing characteristics
- 8.5 Subsistence fishing characteristics
- 8.6 Indian Treaty fishing characteristics
- 8.7 Other activities directly related to fishing
- 8.8 Area community characteristics
 - 8.8.1 Total population (by relevant demographic characteristics)
 - 8.8.2 Total employment (from subject and all other area fisheries and related activities by number of workers at peak and annual monthly averages by resident Alaska and non-resident and native and non-native)
 - 8.8.3 Total work force (all industries including fisheries by industrial classification, number employed, unemployed, total payroll, and other labor income)

- 8.9 Interaction between and among user groups (impact of foreign fishery on domestic fishing activities and of domestic subject fishery or other fisheries, gear conflicts)
- 8.10 Federal and state revenues derived from fishery
- 9.0 Biological and environmental descriptors
 - 9.1 Life history features
 - 9.2 Stock units
 - 9.3 Catch effort data sources
 - 9.4 Biological data sources
 - 9.5 Other (including relevant data on habitat, habitat concerns, habitat protection programs)
 - 9.6 Ecological relationships
 - 9.7 Quality of data
 - 9.8 Current status of stocks
 - 9.8.1 Maximum sustainable yield (MSY)
 - 9.8.2 Equilibrium yield (EY)
 - 9.8.3 Acceptable biological catch (ABE)
 - 9.9 Estimate of future stock conditions
- 10.0 Catch and capacity descriptors
 - 10.1 Data and analytical approaches
 - 10.1.1 Domestic
 - 10.1.2 Foreign
 - 10.2 Domestic annual capacity (DAC)
 - 10.3 Expected domestic annual harvest (DAH)

- 11.0 Optimum yield determination
 - 11.1 Departure from MSY to ABC for biological reasons
 - 11.2 Departure from ABC for socio-economic reasons
 - 11.3 Optimum yield (OY)

- 12.0 Total allowable level of foreign fishing

- 13.0 Proposed management regime
 - 13.1 Management objectives
 - 13.2 Areas, fisheries, and stocks involved
 - 13.3 Management measures and rationale
 - 13.3.1 Domestic
 - 13.3.1.1 Season, gear, and area restrictions
 - 13.3.1.2 Size and sex restrictions
 - 13.3.1.3 Quotas
 - 13.3.1.4 Other (limit entry)
 - 13.3.2 Foreign
 - 13.3.2.1 Season, gear, and area restrictions
 - 13.3.2.2 Other (limit entry)
 - 13.3.3 Relationship of the recommended measures to existing applicable laws and policies
 - 13.3.3.1 Other fishery management plans prepared by a Council or the Secretary
 - 13.3.3.2 Federal laws and policies
 - 13.3.3.3 State laws and policies
 - 13.3.3.4 Other

- 13.4 Enforcement requirements (inspections, surveillance)
 - 13.4.1 Cooperative research requirements
 - 13.4.2 Permit requirements
 - 13.4.3 Financing requirements
 - 13.4.3.1 Management and enforcement costs
 - 13.4.3.2 Expected state and federal revenues, taxes, fees
- 14.0 Specifications and sources of permanent fisheries data
 - 14.1 Reporting requirements (foreign, domestic, processor)
 - 14.1.1 Data standards
 - 14.1.2 Time and place of reporting
- 15.0 Relationship of recommended measures to applicable laws and policies
- 16.0 Council review and monitoring of the plan
- 17.0 References
- 18.0 Appendices

Note: Under the proposed management plan concept suggested above, Items 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, and 13.0 would be given in full in the management plan along with abstracts of items 5.0, 6.0, 9.0, 10.0, 11.0, and 12.0. The remainder of the material--that is, full coverage of items 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0, 11.0, 12.0, 14.0, and 15.0--would comprise the appendices along with the environmental impact statement. Sub-topics under the third category (e.g.,

14.1.1) are given as examples and should not be considered as required material or organizational structure under the topic headings (e.g., 14.1).