

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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## MINUTES

### ADVISORY PANEL

Anchorage, Alaska  
December 6-7, 1983

The Advisory Panel met on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6-7, 1983, in the Old Federal Building at 605 West 4th Avenue. The following members were present:

Bob Alverson, Chairman  
Bud Boddy, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Barker  
Al Burch  
Barry Collier  
Barry Fisher  
Weaver Ivanoff  
Ron Jolin  
Joe Kurtz  
Rick Lauber

Ray Lewis  
Jim O'Connell  
Dan O'Hara  
Jack Phillips  
Don Rawlinson  
Harvey Samuelson  
Walt Smith  
Tom Stewart  
Tony Vaska  
Ed Wojack

#### A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Alverson. Minutes of the September 1983 meeting were reviewed and approved.

#### B. SPECIAL REPORTS

B-1 Executive Director's Report. Jim Branson presented his report to the Advisory Panel. The AP took no action regarding the subjects discussed.

#### C-1 Halibut Fisheries Management

- (a) Report of Halibut Workgroup. Rick Lauber gave a brief account of the actions of the Halibut Working Group two weeks ago.
- (b) Consideration of objectives. The six objectives proposed by the working group were adopted unanimously.
- (c) The AP entertained a motion to adopt a moratorium for the halibut fishery. Prior to the vote we heard from Oliver Holm, Barbara Monkiewicz, Chuck Kekoni, Jack Knutsen, Peter Allen, Mark Lundsten, Henry Mitchell, Mike Haggren, and Bernie Burkholder.

After considerable debate the AP voted 9 in favor and 11 against the motion.

The AP then voted 15 to 3 to recommend that the Council not take up the issue of a moratorium or limited entry for the halibut fishery hereafter.

- (d) Recommendations to IPHC for 1984 season. The AP recommended that the Council and IPHC consider an exclusive fishery management zone in Area 4C of the Bering Sea with a 5 net ton vessel restriction. The recommendation was on a vote of 10 to 8 with one abstention. Those in favor felt this would be the only way to ensure that the Pribilof residents could get the quotas harvested in the area of 4C. Those opposed felt that this would be openly discriminative to outside vessels and was not allowed based on the Halibut Act.

## C-2 Foreign Vessel Permit Applications

- (a) Joint venture applications and directed fishing permit applications.

- (1) Japan. The Advisory Panel recommended approval of all Japanese permits for joint venture operations. The Advisory Panel also recommended against approval of the following permits for directed fishing as per the Permit Review Committee suggestions.

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| TOMI MARU 83 | SHINNICHI MARU 38 |
| KIYO MARU 55 | SHUNYO MARU 118   |
| AKEBONO 15   | ZUIYO MARU 28     |
| AKEBONO 17   | KIKKO MARU        |
| AKEBONO 18   | KURYO MARU 31     |
| AKEBONO 21   |                   |

The vote was 13 in favor of this action, 5 against and one abstention.

- (2) South Korea. The Advisory Panel moved for adoption of the joint venture vessels and directed fishing vessels unanimously. Walter Smith abstained.

The AP would caution that the directed permit request asks for excessive amounts of POP in the Gulf of Alaska.

- (3) USSR. The AP recommends that the joint venture permits be approved on a vote of 16 to 3.
- (4) Taiwan - Joint Venture. The AP recommends that the joint venture be approved for the Gulf of Alaska only and not to include the Bering Sea. This passed on a 15 to 4 vote.

Some felt no joint venture should be allowed due to many violations from Taiwan based vessels and particularly with respect to Taiwan fishing on North American salmon stocks.

Taiwan - Directed Fishery. The AP had taken no action by Tuesday because they were waiting for additional information.

- (5) Spain. The AP recommends approval of this permit, but cautions that the request for 8,000 tons of cod may be a problem in the Gulf of Alaska. The vote on this was 14 in favor, 4 against and one abstention.

The AP recommends in the future for permit discussions that we have the following information:

- (1) We would like information on vessels with repeat violations over several years.
- (2) We would like the company name of the violating vessel listed as well as the vessel name and country of origin.
- (3) Do not list vessels with pending violations, only those who have paid a fine or been convicted.

Some AP members felt that recommending no permits for those Japanese vessels whose cases were still unsettled was presuming fault and denying the full judicial process.

#### D-3 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

- (a) The AP recommends adoption of the amendment prepared by the staff that would combine the Central and Western areas of the Gulf of Alaska for purposes of pollock management.

The AP also recommends that the OY for this new area be 340,000 mt, which takes into account the JVP, DAH and historical TALFF allocation.

Pacific ocean perch. The AP recommends the Council incorporate the three options drafted by the SSC and send the proposed amendment out for public comment.

Pacific cod. The AP recommends the OY change be incorporated into the three options of the SSC and be sent out for public comment.

#### Emergency Regulations

The AP unanimously requests the Council to provide an emergency regulation that would exempt pelagic (off bottom) trawls in the Gulf of Alaska so that the incident rate on halibut would not shut down the pollock fishery.

The AP also recommends that the Council further provide an emergency regulation that would adopt the proposed staff recommendation #2. The Council should also look at requiring the foreign fleets to have pelagic trawls in the Gulf so as to minimize the total impact on the halibut resource.

The AP would like to point out that the Council, in order to change a regulation, should provide a socioeconomic and biological impact statement so we can know what the effect of a flounder fishery is going to have on king crab, Tanner crab and halibut.

- (b) Domestic utilization of sablefish. The AP recommends unanimously that there is adequate DAH to justify no TALFF for sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska.

D-4 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP

- (a) Final Groundfish TAC, DAP and JVP for 1984. The AP heard from Dennis Petersen, Barry Fisher, Konrad Uri and Terry Baker. They all testified that the abundance of codfish was not as good as suggested by the NMFS survey or the PMT suggestion of 210,000 mt. It was their feeling that the codfish populations were greatly diminished.

The Advisory Panel, therefore, recommends that the PMT harvest recommendations be accepted in the entirety except that of codfish and that Pacific cod TAC be allowed to equal DAH plus an amount for an incidental catch for the foreign fishery. This amount can be determined by the SSC.

- (b) Prohibited Species in the Bristol Bay Pot Sanctuary. The issue of prohibited species take is an issue that must be debated in the context of both the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska. The AP was informed that the NPFVOA would sponsor a meeting of industry user groups to take this issue up and possibly have a suggestion by the February meeting of the Council. The AP generally felt that this may not be adequate, unless sincere effort is pursued by all parties concerned and may require Council oversight if progress is not made. At this time the AP felt that they would wait until February to hear the results of the meeting before recommending more definitive action from the Council.