

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

News and Notes



David Benton, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

605 West 4th Avenue, Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Phone (907) 271-2809
Fax (907) 271-2817

Volume 1-02

Visit our webpage at www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc

February 2002

Chris Oliver Named Executive Director

After an executive session of the Council during its February Council meeting, Chairman Benton announced the Council's unanimous approval of Chris Oliver as the new Executive Director. Oliver, first hired as the Council's Plan Coordinator for Gulf of Alaska fisheries in 1990, was appointed Deputy Director in 1992. He has served as Acting Executive Director since the retirement of Clarence Pautzke in December, as well as during the nine months Dr. Pautzke was on an IPA in Washington, DC. A vacancy announcement for the Deputy Director position will be circulated and can be viewed on our website.

Pautzke Toasted and Roasted

Council, staff and industry representatives gathered at a retirement reception honoring outgoing Executive Director Clarence Pautzke during the Council meeting last week. Dr. Pautzke had been with the Council over 21 years, serving first as Deputy Director, and then as the Executive Director since 1988. Governor Tony Knowles sent a letter of thanks and congratulations and the United States Coast Guard presented him with a special commendation, and he was presented with a Council plaque. The Council's first Executive Director, Jim Branson, and his wife Betty, and the Council's first Administrative Officer, Judy Willoughby, and her husband Buck, traveled to Anchorage to attend the celebration. Clarence's wife, Maureen, and their daughter Sara, also attended. Reception attendees were entertained by roasts served up by long-time industry participants who relished the chance to share stories about Clarence. Dr. Pautzke was recently appointed the Executive Director of the North Pacific Research Board, headquartered in Anchorage.

Observer Issues

The Council recommended releasing for public review the draft regulatory analysis which addresses alternatives to extend and modify the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program regulations, after specific modifications and additions are made to the current suite of options. The three primary alternatives are: (1) allow the regulations and the Observer Program to expire Dec. 31, 2002 (no action alternative); (2) extend the regulations indefinitely with the expectation that they would be amended periodically to maintain or increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Observer Program; and (3) extend the regulations through December 31, 2007. In addition, two options for modifying the existing regulations are proposed: (1) strengthen the regulations governing the relationship between NMFS and the observer providers and observers; and (2) grant NMFS the authority to place NMFS staff and other qualified persons aboard groundfish and halibut vessels and at groundfish plants.

The Council requested that several sections of the analysis be expanded and that the analysis clarify which regulatory changes represent legal issues. The Council also added options for an annual cap on the number of NMFS staff deployment days and an option to require annual safety training for observers. Final action is scheduled for the April Council meeting.

The Council also reviewed the Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) report on this analysis and discussed the status of long-term program adjustments. The Council requested that NMFS and Council staff coordinate to schedule an OAC meeting in May 2002 or over the summer to discuss long-term program changes to the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program. The Council expects that the OAC will review prior program efforts to restructure the NPGOP and take those into consideration when discussing restructuring alternatives. Council contact is Nicole Kimball.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	BSAI Crab Rationalization, Steller Sea Lions
3	Halibut/Sablefish IFQs, GOA Rationalization, Community IFQs, Salmon Bycatch
4	Differential Gear Analysis, Harvest Strategy Review, Community Development Program, EFH, Programmatic Groundfish SEIS
5	AFA, Other Tasking and Three Meeting Outlook, Committee Meetings
	Attachment 1: Three Meeting Outlook

Bering Sea Crab Rationalization

The Council reviewed the draft crab rationalization analysis and determined that additional information should be added to the document. Therefore the Council has scheduled an initial review of the revised analysis for the April meeting. At that meeting, the Council will determine whether the document is adequate for public review. If it is determined to be adequate, they will agenda the selection of their preferred alternative at their June meeting in Dutch Harbor/Unalaska. After a preferred alternative is selected, the analysis and the Council's preferred alternative will be forwarded to Congress so they may consider altering current laws to allow the Secretary of Commerce (SOC) to implement the preferred alternative. If Congress elects to modify laws to facilitate implementation of the preferred alternative, the Council will evaluate that alternative again after completion of the crab FMP EIS, which will include the rationalization program. If approved, that package will be submitted to the SOC as the central, preferred alternative later this year.

The Council revised their crab rationalization problem statement at this meeting. The updated problem statement is provided as its preferred alternative:

Vessel owners, processors and coastal communities have all made investments in the crab fisheries, and capacity in these fisheries far exceeds available resources. The BSAI crab stocks have also been highly variable and have suffered significant declines. Although three of these stocks are presently under rebuilding plans, the continuing race for fish frustrates conservation efforts. Additionally, the ability of crab harvesters and processors to diversify into other fisheries is severely limited and the economic viability of the crab industry is in jeopardy. Harvesting and processing capacity has expanded to accommodate highly abbreviated seasons, and presently, significant portions of that capacity operate in an economically inefficient manner or are idle between seasons. Many of the concerns identified by the NPFMC at the beginning of the comprehensive rationalization process in 1992 still exist for the BSAI crab fisheries. Problems facing the fishery include:

- 1. Resource conservation, utilization and management problems;*
- 2. Bycatch and its' associated mortalities, and potential landing deadloss;*
- 3. Excess harvesting and processing capacity, as well as low economic returns;*
- 4. Lack of economic stability for harvesters, processors and coastal communities; and*
- 5. High levels of occupational loss of life and injury.*

The problem facing the Council, in the continuing process of comprehensive rationalization, is to develop a management program which slows the race for fish, reduces bycatch and its associated mortalities, provides for conservation to increase

the efficacy of crab rebuilding strategies, addresses the social and economic concerns of communities, maintains healthy harvesting and processing sectors and promotes efficiency and safety in the harvesting sector. Any such system should seek to retain parity between the harvesting and processing sectors, including healthy, stable and competitive markets.

The Council directed staff to make several changes to the document prior to the April meeting (a complete list of the changes made to the elements and options being considered may be found on the Council's web site: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/). The major changes that were requested at this meeting include providing additional information on the environmental impacts of the alternatives, analyzing impacts of the proposed alternatives on small entities (IRFA), removing Appendix 3-7 (the Milon and Hamilton report) from the analysis (but making it available as a stand alone paper), adding a discussion of net National benefits, providing a discussion of cumulative impacts resulting from each of the alternatives, creating a separate quota share class for catcher/processors, adding an owner on board option that would apply to quota share holders, and ensuring that all of the options that apply to the 2-pie IFQ alternative can be applied to the Voluntary Cooperative alternative and vice versa. Staff contact for crab rationalization is Mark Fina.

Steller Sea Lions

In October, the Council adopted a suite of measures to protect Steller sea lions from potential effects of pollock, cod, and mackerel fisheries. The Council also identified eight items to be analyzed in a trailing amendment. In December, the Council added another item for a trailing amendment package: the Board of Fisheries 2002 regulations to allow pot gear to fish within 3 nm of haulouts around Cape Barnabas and Caton Island. At the February 2002 meeting, NMFS staff advised that tradeoffs would be required to implement any of these options and still avoid jeopardy and adverse modification of Steller sea lion habitat. The Council voted to split out item #7 and #9 (the AI pollock fishery allowance, and the Board of Fisheries exemptions) and move ahead as soon as possible with analysis of these issues. All of the other items, with the exception of item # 4 (exemption for all vessels < 60') would be sent to the sea lion mitigation committee (formally called the RPA committee) for their review and recommendations, which are scheduled to be further discussed by the Council in June. The Council Chairman may adjust the membership of that committee to better match their charge. Staff contact is Dave Witherell.

Halibut/Sablefish IFQs

The Council initiated an analysis of proposed changes to implementation and enforcement aspects of the halibut and sablefish IFQ program. Industry and agency staff recommended that the Council review the following potential changes, in addition to the no action alternative. The Council will schedule final action on these proposed amendments later this year. Staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

Action I. Prior Notice of Landing (PNOL). Analyze the following alternatives:

1. Eliminate the PNOL;
2. Replace the reporting of "Registered Buyers" with the reporting of "Location of Landings." (Preferred alternative by the committee);
3. Change the PNOL requirement from 6 hours to 3 hours;
4. Randomly apply the PNOL to buyers; that is, continue to require a PNOL but eliminate the requirement for a minimum number of hours for prior notice (i.e, the existing 6 hour, or suggested 3 hour, "wait period"), and expect NMFS to use their discretion to inspect vessels prior to product offload on a random basis.

Action II. Vessel Clearance Requirement. Eliminate the Vessel Clearance requirement, but still require a verbal "departure report."

Action III. Shipment Report. Eliminate the processor Shipment Report, and instead requiring that IFQ species be reported on the Product Transfer Report (PTR).

GOA Rationalization

The Council reviewed a discussion paper [<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/>] on the status of its initiative to develop a rationalization program for Gulf of Alaska groundfish. As its next step, the Council formed a new "focus" committee to refine the draft problem statement, possible alternatives for analysis, species for rationalization, and qualifying years for participation. Council members Stephanie Madsen and Stosh Anderson will co-chair the committee. Beth Stewart, Julie Bonney, Joe Childers, Dan Falvey, and Dorothy Childers were also appointed to the committee. The first meeting is scheduled for March 14 and 15 in Anchorage. A follow-up teleconference meeting immediately prior to the April Council meeting may also be scheduled. Meeting agendas will be posted on the Council's website. The committee is scheduled to report to the Council at its April and June meetings. After the Council has further refined its intentions for rationalizing the Gulf fisheries, the full GOA Rationalization Committee may be reconvened. Previous recommendations made by the GOA Rationalization Committee can be found at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/Committees/Groundfish/GOAcoop.htm>. Contact Jane DiCosimo for additional information.

Community IFQs

The AP and the Council reviewed the draft analysis of proposed revisions to the Gulf FMP (Amendment 66) and NMFS regulations governing the commercial halibut and sablefish IFQ Program. The proposed action would allow eligible Gulf of Alaska communities to purchase commercial halibut and sablefish catcher vessel QS in Areas 2C, 3A, and 3B for lease to community residents, with restrictions as developed by the Council and approved by the Secretary of Commerce. Currently, only persons who were originally issued catcher vessel QS or who qualify as IFQ crew members by working 150 days on the harvesting crew in any U.S. commercial fishery are eligible to purchase catcher vessel (B, C, and D category) quota share.

The Council approved several additions to the suite of alternatives and options for consideration, primarily those relating to individual and cumulative use caps and block, sale, and vessel size restrictions. The Council also requested that the options for a code of conduct be replaced with proposed performance standards and made several changes to the administrative oversight section as requested by staff. The Council requested that staff work with NMFS and NOAA GC to resolve enforcement and appeals issues pertaining to community compliance with the proposed performance standards. The public review draft of the document will be available sometime in mid-March, and final action is scheduled for April. The IFQ Implementation and Cost Recovery Committee will be meeting April 7, at 6:30 pm at the Hilton Anchorage to review the analysis and make recommendations. The alternatives and options as revised by the Council at this meeting and the initial draft analysis are on the Council website. Staff contact is Nicole Kimball.

Salmon Bycatch

The Council reviewed a discussion paper on salmon bycatch taken in BSAI and GOA trawl fisheries, and initiated an analysis of alternatives to control salmon bycatch in Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries. The analysis will consider establishment of bycatch limits, with alternatives to include limits of 21,000-25,000 chinook salmon and 20,500 'other' salmon. Attainment of these limits would result in closure of specified areas for the remainder of the fishing year. Specified areas will be identified in the analysis based on areas with historically high bycatch rates. Part of this action would include a regulation to prohibit the discard of salmon taken in GOA groundfish trawl fisheries until the number of salmon has been determined by a NMFS certified shore plant observer. This amendment is scheduled for review later this year, in consideration of progress on the GOA rationalization initiative. Because little is known about the origins of salmon bycatch in the GOA, the Council voted to send a letter to the North Pacific Research Board urging them to consider this research. Staff contact is Dave Witherell.

Differential Gear Analysis

The Council reviewed a proposal to prepare an informational document that would provide necessary data to evaluate effects of different gear types used in the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries. The Council requested that staff review the scope of the proposal and prepare a statement of work for contracting with outside analysts to pull together this information, including an assessment of which aspects of such an analysis are appropriate for consideration within the EFH EIS process. The Council is scheduled to review this document and the statement of work in June. Staff contacts are Chris Oliver or Dave Witherell.

Harvest Strategy Review

In October, the Council voted to conduct an independent review of the basic F40 harvest policy relative to National Standards. One intent of this review would be to determine whether changes are necessary to account for ecosystem needs. The Council and its Scientific and Statistical Committee reviewed a draft Terms of Reference for this review and a list of possible reviewers. Dr. Terry Quinn from our SSC and Dr. Grant Thompson from the Bering Sea Groundfish Plan Team will be on this review team, because of their familiarity with the current harvest policies. In addition, the team will include 4 or 5 other reviewers not directly affiliated with North Pacific fisheries. Given the existing commitments of the potential reviewers, it is not likely that such a review will be completed prior to the end of this summer. Staff contacts are Chris Oliver or Dave Witherell.

Community Development Program

The Council received a report on the status of the Community Development Program (CDQ) policy analysis which considers several policy and administrative changes to the CDQ Program, including changes to the role of NMFS and the State of Alaska in program oversight and the CDQ allocation process. The proposed action would be an amendment to the BSAI FMP (Amendment 71). The Council completed initial review of this analysis in December 2001 and recommended releasing the document for public review, subject to modifications and the addition of several new alternatives and options. At this February meeting, the Council decided to review the public review draft at the April Council meeting and select a preferred alternative at that time. Staff would then flesh out the impacts of the preferred alternative in a revised draft of the document, and the Council would take final action in June. The public review draft should be available mid-to-late March. Council contact is Nicole Kimball.

Essential Fish Habitat

The Council received a progress report on essential fish habitat (EFH) including a review of the final rule, progress on the environmental impact statement (EIS), and a report from the EFH committee. The Final rule published in the *Federal Register* on January 17, 2002 provides guidance on the designation of EFH and habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC) and on the evaluation of fishing effects. (See <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/frules/EFHFR.PDF>) Staff also presented an EFH committee report detailing a draft time line for the next 6 months, as well as the public process of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) sites and type designation. The Committee will be addressing a description of fishing effects and possible steps towards mitigation at its next meeting. In October the Council will adopt a tentative preliminary preferred alternative for EFH and HAPC designation, and a list of mitigation alternatives for further analysis. The EFH Committee will meet again on March 25-27 at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle to review fishery descriptions, discuss potential adverse effects, and discuss mitigation tools/ applications. Staff reports will be distributed via email prior to the meeting. Staff contact is Cathy Coon or David Witherell

Programmatic Groundfish SEIS

The Council reviewed a set of preliminary 'strawman' alternatives for different management policy approaches, including changes in the Groundfish FMP goals and objectives. To analyze the differences among alternatives, the analysis would contain a 'case study' for each alternative, consisting of one possible combination of tools to achieve the alternatives goals and objectives.

The Council adopted a revised purpose and need statement for the SEIS. Further it was clarified that the intent was to amend the FMPs policy goals and objectives pursuant to MSA, (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and that the alternatives are alternative amendments for FMP goals and objectives. The Council adopted a set of 8 alternatives for further consideration. The Council has requested that NMFS continue to work with interested stakeholders to further refine the policy alternatives, which will be presented to the Council at its April meeting. In addition, NMFS has also been requested to further develop the case studies and a description of the proposed analytical framework for review at the April Council meeting. If time allows, NMFS staff is also to prepare an initial comparison of the policy alternatives so that in April or June the Council can finalize alternatives for analysis and possibly identify the preliminary preferred alternative in June. They will also finalize the purpose and need statement in April. The Ecosystem Committee will assist by reviewing how these alternatives achieve goals of ecosystem-based management. Staff contact is Dave Witherell.

American Fisheries Act

The Council received an end-of-the-year report from representatives of the AFA cooperatives during their joint Council/Alaska Board of Fish meeting on Tuesday of the Council meeting week. Copies of the final AFA cooperative reports for 2001 are available from the Council office upon request.

The Council was also provided an update on changes that have been made to the draft AFA Report to Congress since October 2001. Those changes included providing catcher vessel ownership changes that occurred under the AFA, reporting salmon bycatch of the AFA catcher vessels and catcher/processors separately, correcting tables showing historic catch by AFA and non-AFA catcher/processors, and modifying language regarding spillover impacts.

Upon receiving that update, the Council requested that information on the 2001 Conference report should be included in the document, as well as a statement that alternatives allowing non-AFA catcher/processors to better utilize their pollock catch should be considered. The following statement was made by the Council in respect to these issues.

“Modify our AFA report to Congress in response to the Conference Report that accompanied the Amendment removing the (AFA) sunset date. The modification would state that the Council concludes that it does not have the authority to restore access to the directed pollock fishery for non-AFA pollock catcher/processors with recent pollock history. However, the Council may consider other ways to allow maximum utilization of the non-AFA catcher/processors pollock history.”

A new section will be added to the report which reflects these recent events and discussions. After these changes are made to the document it will be finalized and submitted to Congress and the Secretary of Commerce. Copies will be available from the Council office. Contacts are Chris Oliver or Darrell Brannan.

Other Tasking & Three Meeting Outlook

Several major issues are coming up over the next few Council meetings. A three-meeting outlook is attached. The Advisory Panel and Council will be meeting for extra days at both the April and June meetings in order to finish all agenda items, so plan accordingly! In its discussions in February under staff tasking, the Council confirmed scheduling for several issues as follows: adjustments to the Improved Retention and Utilization (IR/IU) program for flatfish will be up for initial review in April, as part of the processing sideboard package. Other proposals in that package include potential reductions in the BSAI trawl halibut PSC cap and implementation of halibut mortality avoidance program (HMAP) measures. A proposal to provide further protections for non-AFA, trawl cod fishermen in the BSAI is slated for initial review in April. Changes to the single geographic location (SGL) requirement for floating processors in the BSAI are also up for initial review in April - that package may also contain additional regulatory adjustments necessary to attain consistency between AFA and regulations implemented under the inshore/offshore amendments.

Possible LLP recency requirements for other BSAI fisheries are still under consideration by the Council, but were placed as lower priority relative to existing projects, along with possible re-evaluation of the BSAI trawl/fixed gear Pacific cod allocations (Amendment 46). Amendment 68, the proposed BSAI Pacific cod pot gear split (between catcher and catcher/processor vessels) is scheduled for final action in June. Related to that, Amendment 64, which established the allocations among fixed gear sectors, expires at the end of 2003. That amendment package will likely come back before the Council in early 2003. Changes to the roe-stripping regulations, proposed by NMFS are likely to come before the Council in April. Changes to the annual TAC-setting process are also in the works, with initial review of that amendment package tentatively scheduled for June.

Upcoming committee meetings:

Date	Group	Location	Contact
February 26	Halibut Subsistence Committee	Anchorage	Jane DiCosimo
March 14 - 15	GOA Work Group	Anchorage	Jane DiCosimo
March 25-27	EFH Committee	Seattle	Cathy Coon
TBA	Ecosystem Committee	TBA	David Witherell
March 28 (tentative)	GOA Work Group	telephone	Jane DiCosimo
TBA	SSL Mitigation Committee	TBA	David Witherell
April 7	IFQ Implementation and Cost Recovery	Anchorage	Jane DiCosimo
April 8	GOA Work Group	Anchorage	Jane DiCosimo
April 9	Board/Council Protocol Committee	Anchorage	Chris Oliver
April 8-16/17	North Pacific Council	Anchorage	Chris Oliver
April 16	EFH Committee	Sitka	Cathy Coon
May 29 - June 1	Lowell Wakefield Symposium	Juneau	Alaska Sea Grant
June 3-11	North Pacific Council	Dutch Harbor	Chris Oliver
May (tentative)	Observer Committee	Seattle	Nicole Kimball

DRAFT NPFMC Three Meeting Outlook

April 8, 2002 Anchorage	June 3, 2002 Dutch Harbor	October 9, 2002 Seattle
DPSEIS: Finalize Alternatives	DPSEIS: Identify Preferred Alternative (T)	DPSEIS: Action as necessary
Crab EIS: Finalize Alternatives		Initial Groundfish Specifications
	BSAI pot cod split (Amendment 68): Final Action	
Processor s/b IR/IU/HMAP/Bycatch Measures: Initial Review	Processor s/b IR/IU/HMAP/Bycatch Measures: Final Action	
Community QS Purchase: Final Action		
P.cod s/b proposal: Initial Review (T)	P.cod s/b proposal: Final Action (T)	
GOA Rationalization: Committee Report	GOA Rationalization: Committee Report	
AFA Proposal for Pollock Bycatch: Discuss	SSL Trailing Amendments: Initial Review/Discussion	SSL Trailing Amendments: Action as necessary
AFA SGL change: Initial Review (T)	AFA SGL change: Final Action (T)	
CDQ Policy Amendments: Preferred Alternative	CDQ Policy Amendments: Final Action	Shark/Skate FMP: Initial Review
Observer Program: Final Action on Reg Amendments		GOA Salmon Bycatch caps: Initial Review (T)
Chiniak Study: Update		SR/RE Retention: Initial Review (T)
IFQ Implementation Amendments: Final Action (T)		Staff Tasking: Direction
	TAC-setting process: Initial Review (T)	TAC-setting process: Final Action
Crab Rationalization amendment: Initial Review	Crab Rationalization amendment: Select Preferred Alternative	Crab SEIS: Initial Review
Halibut Subsistence: Final Action		Charter/IFQ Community Set-Aside: Discuss (T)
	Rockfish/Other species breakout: Report	Rockfish/Other species breakout: Initial Review (T)
Pollock Roe Stripping Regulations: Review	Differential Gear Impacts: Review work plan	Differential Gear Impacts: Review/Discuss
EFH: Review Progress/Committee Report	EFH: Report and Direction	EFH: Identify Alternatives for Analysis

*NOTE: This tentative timeline will be updated periodically, particularly after each Council meeting, as the Council works through its decision process.

TAC - Total Allowable Catch
 IFQ - Individual Fishing Quota
 AFA - American Fisheries Act
 HAPC - Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
 LLP - License Limitation Program
 PSC - Prohibited Species Catch
 QS - Quota Share

MSA - Magnuson Stevens Act
 SGL - Single Geographic Location
 SSL - Steller Sea Lion
 GHl - Guideline Harvest Level
 SEIS - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
 CDQ - Community Development Quota
 GCCC- Gulf Coastal Communities Coalition

SAFE - Stock assessment and fishery evaluation
 CV - Catcher Vessel CP- Catcher Processor
 SR/RE - Shortraker/Rougheye
 MSST - Minimum Stock Size Threshold
 FMP - Fishery Management Plan
(T) Tentatively scheduled

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

David Benton, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director



605 W 4th Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Telephone: (907) 271-2809

Fax: (907) 271-2817

Visit our website: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc

Opens: February 19, 2002

Closes: March 29, 2002

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Deputy Director

General

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Executive Director are seeking a Deputy Director. The Council is one of eight regional councils established by the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council has authority over the management of fisheries in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska in the EEZ off Alaska. The states of Washington, Oregon, and Alaska are represented on the Council.

Duties

The duties and responsibilities of the Deputy Director of the Council include:

- Principal working manager in supervising development of quality fishery management plans, amendments to such plans, and related documents as determined by the Council.
- Responsible for ensuring that draft analyses and amendments meet requirements of law applicable to fishery management plans and regulations, including the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), Executive Orders, National Standards, and other applicable laws.
- Principal staff advisor to the Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee.
- Responsible for the organization and development of agenda material for Council, Scientific and Statistical Committee and Advisory Panel meetings.
- Supervises preparation and dissemination of news releases on Council meetings, hearing notices, and other appropriate notices and releases regarding Council activities. Serves as information and education liaison with public.
- In the absence of the Executive Director, is responsible for all personnel direction, finance, procurement and budget activities (in consultation with the Finance Officer), as well as contacts and liaison with other agencies, individuals and organizations.
- Responsible for special tasks as assigned by the Executive Director.

Qualifications

A successful candidate's employment history would demonstrate progressively responsible work experience involving duties and responsibilities similar in nature and scope to this position. An interdisciplinary educational background is preferred. Course work in such fields as business/public administration, fishery biology, fisheries policy, oceanography, economics, and resource management is desirable. The record of candidate's education, training, and experience should demonstrate that he/she has the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities, to include the following:

- Broad knowledge of principles and practices of administrative, fiscal, and organizational management.
- General knowledge of North Pacific fisheries and of the Pacific Northwest/Alaska fishing industry.
- Knowledge of socioeconomic and political factors inherent in an interjurisdictional resource management program.
- Ability to analyze organizational and operational problems and develop solutions.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Skill in interpersonal relationships to include ability to meet and deal responsibly with officials at all levels in both the public and private sector and to supervise a team of professional fisheries analysts and administrative staff.

NOTE: This position is non-federal, however provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) do apply, as well as most other provisions related to governmental employment. Candidates eligible for IPA assignment who wish to apply for this position under its provisions should so indicate.

Salary

This is a non-federal GS-13/14 equivalent position, plus Alaska COLA (starting salary range \$85,000-\$97,000 DOE) and a fringe benefits package that includes life and health insurance and participation in the State of Alaska Retirement Plan.

Applications

Submit a letter of interest and current resumé which highlights relevant experience, training, and education. No format is prescribed; however, resumes which do not exceed four pages will be appreciated. References should be included; however, letters of recommendation, education transcripts, position/job descriptions, and similar supporting documents are not requested at this time.

Applications should be mailed to:

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 29, 2002