

Executive Director's Report

August and September have been busy months - no dog days of summer around here! Groundfish Amendments 16/21 with overfishing definitions, interim specifications of TAC, rockfish management, and an expansion of the halibut PSC framework, went to Secretarial review on August 3. Three days later on August 6, the roe-stripping amendments were sent to the Secretary. Both documents were helped along mainly by Hal Weeks, Jay Ginter, Sue Salvesson, Joe Terry, Rebecca Baldwin, Barry Bracken, Grant Thompson, and Ron Berg.

The inshore-offshore industry survey went to industry on August 7th. Steve Davis worked closely with Lew Queirolo and Rebecca Baldwin to send the survey to over 2,000 addressees. The deadline for return is October 6. Rich Marasco has lined up a contractor in Seattle to key punch and enter the data. Jim Cornelius and Marcus Hartley are working at coding the data and building a database. Later in the week we'll report on the responses received thus far.

After the August 7-9 Council meeting, we worked diligently at pushing the moratorium notices up through the upper reaches of Commerce, a feat that took three weeks with the notice finally being published on September 5. Jay Ginter and Steve Davis get the kudos for that effort.

In the meantime, Joe Terry, Rebecca Baldwin, Tom Wilderbuer, and Fritz Funk burned the midnight oil getting Amendment 16a to us by Friday, August 24. Hal Weeks worked over the weekend polishing the document, and Helen Allen did the final prep work on Monday, the 27th, and had the 150-page document in the mail to the public by that afternoon.

The Fisheries Planning Committee met on August 24, and the groundfish plan teams met on September 4-7 to prepare the SAFEs for 1991, which were distributed to you on September 12. The Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee met on September 6-7 and the Groundfish PAAG met on September 10th.

All-in-all, it's been a productive two months.

Craig Hammond to Retire

Craig Hammond, NMFS enforcement chief extraordinaire, will retire and ride off into the sunset after this meeting, headed for some place in Idaho. He seems a little too young and a little too capable to be leaving now, but we wish him well in the hereafter.

JFA Also Leaves Town

I guess it's just the sign of the times, but Japan Fisheries Association has announced it is closing its Anchorage Office on September 30 (B-1(a)). State of Alaska business will now be run out of their Seattle office. We have had a very productive relationship over the years and hope to maintain it though they are farther away.

Out-of-Town Meeting for 1991

We're firming up hotel arrangements in Kodiak for the April 22-26, 1991 meeting. The Council will meet at the Westmark. The AP and SSC will be at other hotels in the area.

