

R. A. Davenny & Associates, Inc.

PHONE (907) 272-4140 CABLE ADDRESS POLAR BEAR
P.O. BOX 4-2050 99509
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

June 16, 1977

Elmer E. Rasmuson, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Post Office Building
Fourth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Chairman:

With respect to the 1978 Gulf of Alaska trawl fishery and the Council's estimate of U. S. fishing potential in that fishery, this constitutes a request of my company and of the Alaska fishermen who have committed to sell bottom fish to my company next year, that the estimate of U. S. catch in that fishery in 1978 be set at a minimum of 130,000 metric tons. That figure represents the amount of pollock and permitted bi-catch which we have a market for and have determined that we have the ability to deliver.

Yours very truly,

R. A. DAVENNY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

R. A. Davenny
R. A. Davenny, President



DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

June 6, 1977

June 1977 agenda item
WASHINGTON OFFICE
1210 LONGWORTH BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765
4b

DISTRICT OFFICES
115 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
TELEPHONE 907/279-1587
202 U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
TELEPHONE 907/456-6949

Honorable Juanita Kreps
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

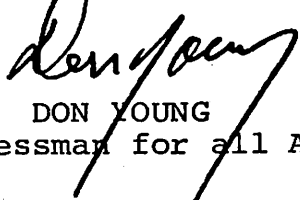
Dear Secretary Kreps:

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council has forwarded a copy of a letter sent to you on June 1, 1977 regarding the Bering Sea herring fishery. I would like to express my support for the Council at this time.

On February 4, 1977, I contacted Dr. Schoning of the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding the Total Allowable Catch levels for herring presented in the Preliminary Management Plan. I suggested that the TAC may have been set too high due to uncertainty about population levels and that the Total Allowable Level of Foreign Fishing should be reduced because of an increasing U.S. fishery. NMFS replied that this was unnecessary. It now appears that the herring stocks will be overfished unless the TALFF is reduced.

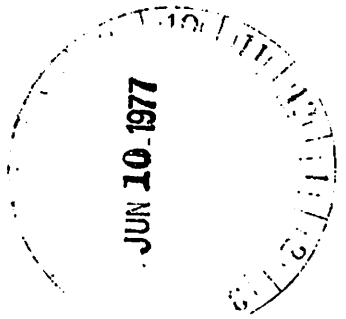
I once again urge you to reduce the TALFF until such time as the stocks are properly assessed and the impact of U.S. fishing is measured. I do not wish to simply say "I told you so," but if that is what is necessary to prevent overfishing, I will do so.

Sincerely,



DON YOUNG
Congressman for all Alaska

cc: Mr. Jim Branson
DY:rhm cc: Rasmuson

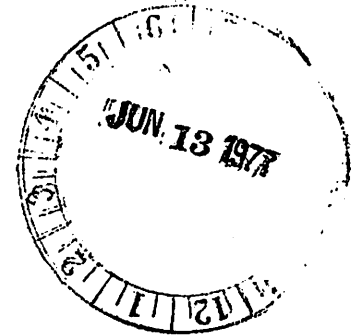




NATIONAL FISHERIES INSTITUTE, INC.

1730 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. ■ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 ■ (202) 785-0500

June 8, 1977



Chairman and Members of the Council
North Pacific Regional Fishery
Management Council
333 W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 32
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Gentlemen:

The National Fisheries Institute (NFI), at its annual board of directors meeting April 22, 1977, unanimously adopted a policy relating to the sale of fish at sea by American fishing vessels to foreign processing vessels operating within the 200-mile zone.

The Institute is opposed to any such sale which could circumvent the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA), or its intent.

Specifically, such circumvention would appear to exist if transfers to foreign processing vessels disrupted the calculation and allocation of allowable catch, and, if the development of the fisheries as envisioned in Section 2(a)(7) and Section 2(b)(6) was impaired by destroying the prospects for the construction and operation of shoreside processing facilities.

The policy is directly applicable to the present request by the Government of Korea for a permit to operate a factory vessel in the Gulf of Alaska in order to process pollock caught by American vessels. We understand the North Pacific Regional Fishery Council has voted that this permit be denied.

The National Fisheries Institute's policy would support the action of the Council and, accordingly, we have urged Department of Commerce rejection of the permit application.

Rapid buildup of pollock catch not anticipated in the development of the Total Allowable Catch statistic would have the effect of major overfishing. This could cause severe long term damage to the resource, and would be directly contrary to the fundamental purpose of the FCMA.

Page Two
Chairman and Members of the Council
June 8, 1977

This consideration alone would cause rejection of the permit allocation.

Of equal significance is the impact of such action on the future of the total industry. The passage of the FCMA has provided the economic basis for consideration of major investment in Alaskan bottom fish processing plants. These plants will have to meet all federal and state requirements, such as minimum wages and payroll taxes, and the rules of OSHA, EPA, and FDA. These plants would also be subject to state and federal income taxes.

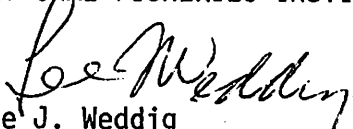
These and other requirements would not enable competition with a nearby foreign processing vessel. In essence, the incentive to develop the total industry would be immediately destroyed, eliminating the opportunity for a long term stable market for the fishermen and the prospects of major on-shore employment.

In summary, we believe that granting permission for the proposed program at this time would be a circumvention of the FCMA, and, as such, should be rejected.

The potential benefits of the FCMA are tremendously important to all facets of the fish industry, the economy, and the consumer. All actions in these beginning stages of extended jurisdiction should be carefully structured to maximize this potential.

Very sincerely,

NATIONAL FISHERIES INSTITUTE


Lee J. Weddig
Executive Vice President

LJW:apc

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

526 S.W. Mill Street
Portland, Oregon 97201
Phone: 503-229-5769

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Lorry M. Nakatsu

CHAIRMAN
Jc W. McKean

June 15, 1977

The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Madam Secretary:

At its May meeting in Portland, the Pacific Fishery Management Council requested that it be granted additional time to consider the application of the Soviet processing vessel SULAK to receive hake from U.S. fishermen within our fishery conservation zone, and assigned the Subcommittee on Foreign Ownership of U.S. Fishing Vessels (chaired by Council member E. Charles Fullerton) to carefully consider this matter and present its recommendations to the Council at its June meeting.

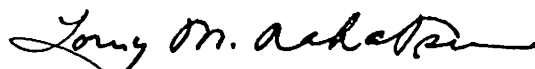
The Subcommittee held a public hearing at the Sheraton-Los Angeles on June 13, 1977 on the proposed joint venture. Attendance at the hearing totaled approximately 50. A copy of the Subcommittee's report is attached for your information.

Subsequent to the public hearing, the Council met on the afternoon of the same day and recommended that the Soviet application be denied for this year, 1977, but encouraged the resubmission of the application for the 1978 fishing season.

Public hearings are now being scheduled by the National Marine Fisheries Service on the larger issue of joint ventures. The Council recommends that those hearings in the Council's area of jurisdiction be sponsored jointly by the Service and our Council.

On behalf of the Council, I wish to express the Council's appreciation for granting an extension in time for review and comment on the Soviet processing vessel application.

Sincerely,



Lorry M. Nakatsu
Executive Director

LMN:jm

Enclosure

JUN 17 1977

RECOMMENDATION OF PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
ON SOVIET PERMIT APPLICATION

The Council Subcommittee on Foreign Ownership of U.S. Fishing Vessels met at 9:15 a.m. on June 13, 1977 to consider the permit application submitted by the Soviets and to review the issue of citizenship of U.S. vessel captains and crews to determine whether loopholes exist which would enable foreign captains and crews to operate U.S. fishing vessels within the fishery conservation zone. E. Charles Fullerton chaired the committee and invited public testimony. Several individuals addressed the issues and a summary of testimony will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Following the public testimony and considerable discussion by committee members, it was moved by Joe Easley to recommend to the Council that the Soviet application be rejected this year, and the application could be resubmitted and considered next year. Jack Donaldson seconded the motion and specified that careful consideration by the Council of long-range effects was necessary before applications of this type are approved.

The motion to recommend rejection of the application was approved unanimously, with Messrs. Donaldson, Easley, and Royal voting in favor. Mr. Fullerton stated that foreign applicants should be encouraged to consider the possibility of establishing shoreside processing facilities rather than utilizing factory ships.

Carl Mundt agreed to meet with NOAA attorney Doug Ancona within the next two days to research the question of U.S. citizenship of crew members and captains on U.S. vessels, and to supply the Council with a legal opinion.

PFMC
June 13, 1977



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES
Outer Continental Shelf Environmental
Assessment Program
Bering Sea-Gulf of Alaska Project Office
P. O. Box 1808
Juneau, Alaska 99802
PH: 907-586-7432

RFx41-ADM-445

16 JUN 1977

Mr. Jim H. Branson
Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Suite 32, Post Office Mall
333 W. 4th
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Branson:

Your agency or office is one of several which has interest in the conservation and wise use of the natural environment and its resources in Alaska. The purpose of this letter is to get an expression of your interest in supporting a symposium centered on problems related to wise use and conservation of the rich and varied resources of Prince William Sound and the adjacent land areas.

As we all are aware, the Prince William Sound area is unspoiled and essentially in a pristine state at the present time. However, the marine oil terminus at Port Valdez, the transportation corridor through the Sound, and the array of activities that will undoubtedly be associated with the oil terminus and the proposed gas pipeline terminus have a high potential for impacting the area in ways that may be economically, environmentally, socially, and aesthetically unacceptable. Many of the impacts there can be greatly mitigated or avoided totally by using proper planning. In order to do this we must understand the resources in the area likely to be developed, including an estimate of their potential and the time scale for development.

There are several products that could be produced by such a symposium. For example, a comprehensive scenario or set of scenarios covering predicted developments could be produced and used to develop a conceptual model showing the total problem from social, economic, and conservation perspectives. We feel that Federal agencies, State agencies, and private and university groups having an interest in and responsibility for the development and use of the resources of the Prince William Sound area should have maximum opportunity for input to both the planning and conduct of a symposium if one is to be held.

Would you please respond to this letter by expressing your interest in the proposed symposium and the degree to which your agency would participate in the planning, conduct, and costs of the proposal. Pending sufficient



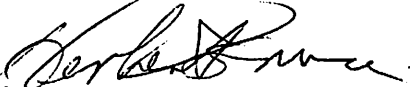
JUN 20 1977



interest and support by other agencies and groups such as yours, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will be happy to take the initiative in follow-up arrangements. Your suggestions as to the appropriate time and place are solicited also.

Thank you kindly for your attention and early response.

Sincerely,



Herbert E. Bruce, Ph. D.
Bering Sea-Gulf of Alaska Project Manager

WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN

HOWARD W. CANNON, NEV.
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JOHN C. DANFORTH, MO.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 10, 1977

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

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the R/V OREGON.

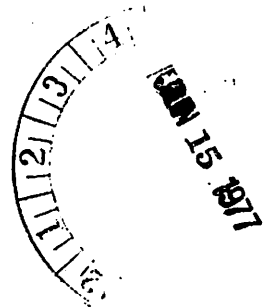
Jim, I concur with you that the early retirement of the OREGON will seriously impair our ability to conduct fisheries research in the North Pacific. I have sent a letter on behalf of North Pacific Fishery Management Council to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration requesting that the early retirement of the R/V OREGON be postponed. When I receive a response from NOAA, I will forward a copy of their correspondence to you.

With best wishes,

Cordially,



TED STEVENS
United States Senator





Alaska Shell
INCORPORATED

49
June 13, 1977

Mr. Robert W. Schoning, Director
United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D. C. 20235

Dear Bob:

Your spurious interpretation of a portion of the Fishery Conservation Act of 1976 is incredible. Members of the Alaska Crab Institute, including myself, worked long and hard in support of Senators Magnuson and Stevens in getting the U. S. Congress to adopt this law. Consequently we can categorically deny that it was the intent of Congress to encourage foreign processing industry development, to the detriment of U. S. industry.

The position expounded by National Marine Fisheries Service is causing untold harm and confusion in the total industry in the North Pacific and Alaska. Evidently you have been persuaded in this direction by the State Department whose motives are curious, when known, and usually not in the interest of the fishing industry.

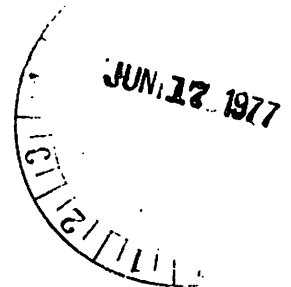
Because of the seriousness of your position, a special meeting is to convene in Seattle on June 22, 1977, to assess the situation and work out a program to combat it. Attending will be representatives of the Alaska Crab Institute, Association of Pacific Fisheries, Alaska Cold Storage operators and National Fisheries Institute. It would be helpful if you could attend.

Very truly yours,
ALASKA-SHELL, INC.

Ralph S. Jones
Chairman

RSJ:dh

cc: The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps
Senator Warren G. Magnuson
Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Henry M. Jackson
Representative Joel Pritchard
Representative Don Young
Mr. John G. Peterson





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D.C. 20235

MAY 9 1977

F42/WHM

Mr. John G. Peterson
President
Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc.
Pier 54
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Mr. Peterson:

This is in response to your letter of May 6, 1977, to Secretary Kreps, concerning the applications by foreign vessels for permits to operate in the U.S. fishery conservation zone for the purpose of purchasing fish harvested by U.S. fishermen. Your letter was forwarded to my attention with a request that I respond to the points you raise.


One of the purposes of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 is to encourage the development of fisheries which are currently underutilized or not utilized by U.S. fishermen, including bottomfish off Alaska. An arrangement such as the proposed U.S.-Republic of Korea venture noted in your letter would seem to respond, in part, to that purpose. However, we recognize that the proposed arrangements could impact upon elements of the U.S. fishing industry other than fishermen, such as shore-based processors like yourself.

At an April 28, 1977, meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the Council reviewed six Korean applications for permits which would allow the vessels to purchase raw fish from U.S. fishermen in the Gulf of Alaska for transport to the Republic of Korea. In transmitting to the Secretary of Commerce the Council's recommendation that the permits not be issued, the Chairman of the Council noted that the Council wished to avoid approving a new policy on fisheries operations without adequate perception of the consequences and conviction of its general advisability.

In order to gain a full understanding of the ramifications of any decision which is made by the Department of Commerce regarding these applications, we are in the process of initiating a thorough review of the Korean applications and of the full range of issues relating to similar arrangements which have been and may be proposed.

Be assured that the views expressed in your letter will be taken into account in this review process.

Sincerely,


Robert W. Schoning
Director



Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc.

PIER 54, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104 — (206) 624-6888 — TELEX-321072

May 6, 1977

JUN 8 1977

The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps
Secretary of Commerce
Commerce Building
14th and Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Kreps:

As operator of several multi-million-dollar fish processing plants in Alaska, Washington and Oregon, I strongly oppose the application of Korean interests (or any other foreign interests) to purchase fish from American flag fishing vessels.

It is not reasonable to expect the U.S. fish processing industry to provide a market for certain varieties of fish within such a short period of time after the 200-mile law went into effect. However, if you permit American flag fishing vessels to deliver to foreign flag processing vessels, the U.S. industry will be inhibited from developing such a market.


Foreign processing vessels do not abide by regulations issued by EPA, OSHA, Food & Drug, etc., nor do they have labor union contracts nor do they pay taxes to the U.S. Government.

If pollock is permitted to be delivered to the Korean processing vessel, a precedent will have been set and no doubt other varieties of fish or shellfish will be permitted to be delivered by American flag fishing vessels to other foreign processing vessels. Under these circumstances, it would be necessary for me to stop a fairly large construction project currently underway at our plant in Cordova, Alaska. Land-based facilities would be of no value since we simply cannot compete with labor rates nor conditions that exist on foreign processing vessels.

I therefore respectfully request that you deny the application by the Korean interests.

Very truly yours,

OCEAN BEAUTY SEAFOODS, INC.


John G. Peterson, President

Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc.

PIER 54, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104 - (206) 624-6888 - TELEX-321072

June 6, 1977

Senator Henry M. Jackson
137 Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Jackson:

Thank you kindly for your letter of May 13 in response to my letter addressed to Secretary of Commerce Kreps regarding delivery of fish to foreign flag processing vessels by U. S. flag fishing vessels.

Attached is a reply from NMFS which apparently speaks for Secretary Kreps. I find this response to be incredible and feel it is important for you to know the position taken by NMFS, NOAA and the Department of Commerce. I am confident the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 was not passed with the idea of having the U. S. fish processing industry by-passed. However, it seems apparent to me that the Department of Commerce is moving in that direction and such a position will be extremely harmful to the U. S. fish processing industry.

For your information, Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc. is the holding company for nine fish processing companies located in Alaska, Washington and Oregon which would be affected by such a decision on the part of the Department of Commerce. Perhaps the best known of our processing companies is Washington Fish & Oyster Company in Seattle.

I view this matter with extreme concern since I believe the bureaucrats are making decisions that were not intended by Congress. Your continued support and assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

OCEAN BEAUTY SEAFOODS, INC.



John G. Peterson
President

JGP/pmw

Enclosure

Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc.

PIER 54, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104 - (206) 624-6888 - TELEX-321072

June 6, 1977

Robert W. Schoning, Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D. C. 20235

Dear Bob:

Your letter of May 24 was signed by Carmen Blouden, but I assume you wrote it and were too busy to sign it. I also assume the letter reflects the position of Secretary Kreps, the Department of Commerce, NOAA, NMFS, Carmen Blouden and yourself.

I am appalled at the position outlined in your letter since it does not reflect the intent of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. That Act was not intended to create a situation whereby the U. S. fish processing industry would be severely damaged by having raw material go directly from U. S. flag fishing vessels to foreign flag processing vessels. This was not the intent of Congress and your interpretation is incorrect.

It would not be so difficult to accept your position if the U. S. fish processing industry was in a position to compete against Koreans or other foreign processing vessels. But the facts are, we simply cannot compete against them. If the position of the Secretary of Commerce were to provide for subsidies to the U. S. fish processing industry to equalize labor costs, cover current expenses which we are required to incur to comply with all U. S. regulatory agencies such as FDA, EPA, OSHA, etc., if all of the capital expenditures we have made over the past ten years to comply with such agencies were refunded, if we were permitted to operate tax-free, and if we were provided with the same subsidies granted the foreign processors by their own governments, then we would be in a position to compete on an equal basis with foreign processors.

Our free enterprise system provides an environment of fierce competition within the fish processing industry. I know that all of my U. S. competitors are all subject to the same rules, regulations and market pressures. I also know, however, that the Koreans or other foreign processors are not. I would welcome the opportunity to compete against the Koreans or others, but it would be foolhardy to attempt to do so unless we are all operating under the same basic ground rules.

I sense, however, in your response little or no regard for the U. S. fish processing industry but considerable regard for the U. S. fishermen. It is unfortunate you have taken this position since these two elements within the industry are interdependent and one cannot survive without the other. However, your position would create considerable hardship and perhaps eliminate the U. S. fish processing industry and this would ultimately surely work to the detriment of the U. S. fishermen.

Robert W. Schoning

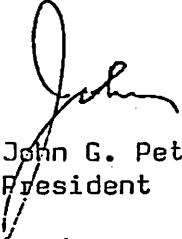
June 6, 1977

Page 2

Again, I implore you to alter your position and correctly interpret the intent of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 by prohibiting the delivery of fish to foreign processing vessels by U. S. flag fishing vessels.

Yours very truly,

OCEAN BEAUTY SEAFOODS, INC.



John G. Peterson
President

JGP/pmw

cc: The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps
Senator Warren G. Magnuson
Senator Henry M. Jackson
Representative Joel Pritchard
Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Mike Gravel
Representative Don Young



Vol. 1, No. 5
 Contact: Paul Leach
 Phone: 202 - 634-7436

MAY 1977**
 (Cutoff Date: May 31)

COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

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**Second of two issues dated May 1977



WASHINGTON REPORTS

Foreign Fishing Fleet Observer Program

A total of 251 observer trips, which vary in length from two weeks to as long as five months, are currently scheduled for foreign fishing vessels during 1977. Of this total, 98 are scheduled for placement on vessels in the North and West Pacific and 153 in the Northwest Atlantic. Forty observers are at sea: 25 on Japanese and Soviet vessels off Alaska and 15 on Soviet and Bulgarian vessels in the Atlantic hake fishery. Nine observer trips on foreign vessels have been completed thus far in 1977.

The observers reported good treatment and accommodations on their first trips. The by-catch ranged from 5% to 25% of the total catch on the eight observer trips in the Atlantic hake fishery. The predominant by-catch species by far was the spiny dogfish, although squid, sea ravens, and four spot flounders also occurred.

Foreign Fishing Monitored

Surveillance and enforcement activity for the month of May has resulted in 135 boardings, 9 citations, and 7 reports of violations. They are summarized below:

Number of Foreign Vessels

<u>Country</u>	<u>Off Alaska</u>	<u>Off Pacific Northwest</u>	<u>Off Western Pacific</u>	<u>Off New England</u>	<u>Off Gulf of Mexico</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bulgaria	0	0	0	2	0	2
Canada	0	50	0	0	0	50
Japan	310	0	0	0	7 ¹ / ₁	310
S. Korea	3	0	0	0	0	3
Taiwan	1	0	0	0	0	1
U.S.S.R.	23	0	1	34	0	58
Total	337	50	1	36	7 ¹ / ₁	424

Number of Boardings

Bulgaria	0	0	0	2	0	2
Canada	0	5	0	0	0	5
Japan	63	0	0	0	2	65
S. Korea	1	0	0	0	0	1
U.S.S.R.	18	0	1	43	0	62
Total	82	5	1	45	2	135

Number of Citations

Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	1	0	0	0	0	1
S. Korea	0	0	0	0	0	0
U.S.S.R.	0	0	1	7	0	8
Total	1	0	1	7	0	9

Number of Reports of Violations

Canada	0	1	0	0	0	1
Japan	1	0	0	0	0	1
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	5	0	5
Total	1	1	0	5	0	7

1/ NOTE: These 7 Japanese longline vessels fishing tuna in the Gulf of Mexico are not included in the vessel totals because tuna fishing is exempted from the Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

U.S.-Cuba Agreements

The GIFA, and the agreement signed on April 27 relative to establishment of a preliminary boundary between the respective 200-mile zones established by the laws of both countries, is still pending Congressional approval. The Cubans have expressed the following fishing interests:

- Pacific hake off California, Oregon, and Washington
- Shark (by bottom longline) in the Gulf of Mexico
- Shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico
- Snapper/grouper in the Gulf of Mexico (with emphasis on grouper)
- Hake, mackerel, herring, squid in the Northwest Atlantic

Policy Guidance on Council Operations

1. Interim regulations for the operation of Regional Fishery Management Councils (Part 601); and guidelines for development of Fishery Management Plans (Part 602), have been revised and proposed changes are undergoing review. Final regulations are scheduled for publication in late June.
2. Council Staff Size - The Council Operating Manual (Council Staff, Page II-7) states that the Secretary assumed for budget purposes a fully operational average of seven, full-time, permanent staff members (including the Executive Director) per Council. In view of the budget assumption of seven, NMFS proposed to establish as a policy that a limit of seven positions should be considered by each Council at least through FY 1977. This policy would be reviewed at a later date, after staff responsibilities have become better defined. For subsequent fiscal years, Council requirements will be considered on an individual (by Council) justification basis.
3. Funding of Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions - A letter from the Executive Directors of the interstate marine fisheries commissions transmitting their budget requirements related to the FCMA has been forwarded by NMFS to Council Chairmen. In view of their statutory membership on the Regional Councils, the commissions feel that they require additional assistance analogous to that requested by the State Fisheries Directors, in order to provide appropriate staff assistance that will permit full participation in Council meetings and associated activities.

Councils have been asked to review the commissions' funding proposals, and to make recommendations to NMFS that will serve to contribute to a coordinated (NMFS/Council) position on the matter.

Minimizing Advisory Committee Red Tape

On May 29, 1977, Secretary Kreps issued a memorandum to Council Chairmen which addressed her concerns about, and included suggestions for, minimizing red tape, paperwork, and associated costs, with respect to the management of advisory committees. The Secretary's memo suggested the consolidation of species advisory panels, which are essentially identical, into one broad based Advisory Panel within each region. NOAA/NMFS is developing guidance with regard to structure and procedures for consolidation of existing panels, and will be providing model charters for Council consideration.

Fishery Management Plans

A draft environmental impact statement/fishery management plan for the Atlantic Clam Fishery (surf clam and ocean quahog) was submitted for a preliminary review by the Department of Commerce Environmental Working Group on April 8, 1977. The Mid-Atlantic Council formally submitted this document for publication on April 26, 1977. Meetings and hearings have been scheduled by the Mid-Atlantic Council, in cooperation with the New England Council, at locations within their geographic areas of concern.

The Secretary approved the amendments submitted by the Pacific Council for the FMP for "Commercial and Recreational Salmon Fisheries Off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California," and implemented emergency regulations which became effective on May 25, 1977. The amendments, which were based on the Secretary's recommendations to the Pacific Council, reduced the June closure from 30 days to 15 days. They also increased the legal minimum size for chinook salmon from 26 inches to 28 inches. Special consideration of the, coastal Indian treaty rights was included. Several west coast fishermen's organizations have joined in a law suit against the Secretary and the Director, NMFS, seeking (1) a declaratory judgment that the emergency regulations are null and void, and (2) a temporary and permanent injunction against those regulations. Since FCMA prohibits injunctions, this latter is a challenge based on alleged deficiencies under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements.

A summary of status reports on management plan preparation (by Councils), such as that which appeared as an appendix in the May 1977 (Vol. 1, No. 4) issue (of the "Memorandum") will be included on a quarterly basis. Future reports will be included in issues for September, December, March and June.

Draft Event Schedules for Implementation of FMP's and Issuance of Foreign Fishing Permits under Existing PMP's

In a letter dated May 27, 1977, Councils were sent (and requested to comment on) a draft copy of event schedules for implementation of fishery management plans (FMP's), and the permitting process for allowing foreign fishing for the 1978 season under existing preliminary management plans (PMP's).

FMP implementation will be seriously impacted by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which set forth lengthy public and agency review periods. The 90-day minimum environmental impact statement review process prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is an excellent example, as is the 45-day review required by Section 305(a)(2) of the FCMA. These and other requirements, when taken as a whole, result in some 8 to 10 months for plan implementation depending on the need for environmental impact statements.

In addition to the above there is also the requirement to file an Economic Impact Statement prior to going forward with any proposed rule making.

Councils are encouraged to make comprehensive evaluations of NMFS interpretations of the processes involved in implementation of FMP's and issuance of foreign fishing permits. Hopefully, these evaluations will result in the receipt of viewpoints and comments from Councils which will serve to shorten the processing periods, and establish closer lines of communication and cooperation between NMFS and the Councils.

The event schedule for permitting foreign fishing in 1978 takes into consideration the fact that last year's one-time legislative relief regarding payment of fees, review of applications, and date for permits to be on board vessels will no longer apply. With regard to these requirements, we must now follow the specific letter of the law (FCMA).

Council Members' Terms to Expire

On August 10, 1977, 19 one-year terms on the Regional Fishery Management Councils will expire. This represents a little less than one-third of the total number of appointed voting members. On April 21, 1977, NMFS sent letters to the Governors of the constituent States, requesting that nominations for vacancies be submitted by June 1, 1977. In instances where the Governors did not meet this deadline, follow-up contacts were made with their offices. Upon receipt of nominations, the review and evaluation process will be initiated. The appointments which are to become effective August 11, 1977, will be made by the Administrator, NOAA, under the authority delegated to him by the Secretary. Members may be reappointed.

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC)

On May 24-26, 1977, the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee held its 17th meeting in Washington, D.C. The Committee heard from representatives of seven Regional Fishery Management Councils. Operational procedures, staffing, fishery management plan development priorities, as well as other special concerns, were discussed.

The next meeting of MAFAC is tentatively scheduled for October 4-6, 1977.

Optimum Yield Workshop

Final preparations for the workshop have been completed. The program will feature technical presentations on various aspects of the concept of optimum yield in fisheries management, panel discussions by members of the Scientific and Statistical Committees of all the Councils, and a series of directed discussions of technical, managerial, and policy and decision-making problems associated with the use of the optimum yield concept. These latter discussions will be chaired by authorities in various fields of fishery research and management. Details of the workshop will be reported in next month's memorandum.

Date: June 6-10, 1977

Place: Downtown Sheraton Hotel, Houston, Texas

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting (ASMFC)

The Commission is having its 36th Annual Meeting on October 4-7, 1977, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It is important to note that attendance includes the state administrators of marine resources for the Atlantic Coast States. The administrators comprise not only a third of ASMFC's commissioners, but are the Executive Committee and in many instances, members of Councils. With this in mind, ASMFC requests that Councils schedule their October meetings around the ASMFC meeting dates, to avoid any conflict.

State Directors' Meeting

The fourth annual meeting of NOAA/NMFS with the Fish and Wildlife Directors of the coastal States, Great Lakes States, Territories, and Puerto Rico, was held in Washington, D.C., on May 19-20, 1977. The state directors were briefed on the implementation of P.L. 94-265 by David H. Wallace, Associate Administrator for Marine Resources, NOAA, and Robert W. Schoning, Director, NMFS. Mr. Schoning announced that NMFS would provide, through the Councils, the amount of \$12,000 to each State/Territory, having membership on a Council, for the remainder of FY 1977. He also advised the state directors that the amount of \$25,000 would be available in FY 1978. A letter was sent to each appropriate State/Territory on June 3, 1977, indicating NMFS' commitment to provide similar funding in the future, subject to the availability of funds. The purpose of these funds, which are in addition to funds provided to Councils for their use, is to assist the States in meeting their obligations under P.L. 94-265.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Administrative Officers' Meeting - Plans for the Council administrative officers' meeting have developed as follows:

Date: June 27 to July 1, 1977

Place: Charleston, South Carolina

Workshop Coordinator: Kathy Hensley, Administrative Officer,
South Atlantic Council

Purpose and Objectives: To provide assistance to Council administrative officers in personnel administration, budget, accounting, etc. The workshop will reinforce and amplify previously issued guidelines, and is expected to result in a better understanding, as well as uniformity among Councils, with respect to administrative operating procedures.

New England Council

- The Council held two 2-day meetings, at Bourne, Massachusetts on May 3-4, and at Portsmouth, New Hampshire on May 23-24.
- The Scientific and Statistical Committee met at the Council office on April 26 to consider the consequences of proposed cod allocations, and the development of herring and scallop plans.
- The Executive Committee met for a full day with the Scientific and Statistical Committee in Boston on May 19 to discuss data needed for determination of management objectives for herring, whiting, and scallops.
- The approved charter for the Scientific and Statistical Committee was received by the Council on May 18, 1977.
- Deputy Director Holston attended the Mid-Atlantic Council meetings, May 11-12, to insure close liaison and coordination between the two Councils.
- The Council submitted applications to NOAA for contract funds to develop management plans for scallops and whiting.
- Messrs. Linehan and Posgay, NMFS employees assigned to the Council, continued preparation of biological and landings data from the southern New England and Mid-Atlantic area, for incorporation in the Scallop Management Plan.

- o NOAA/NMFS economists Mort Miller and Richard Surdi were assigned to the Council office for a week, May 2-6, to advise on the collection of appropriate data for the preparation of herring and scallop plans.
- o The Council recommended to Congress retention of the Observer Program within NMFS, that its budget be increased to permit 100% effective surveillance, and that a continuing training and re-training program be implemented.
- o The Council, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Council, accepted the Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog Plan for public meetings. Three public meetings are scheduled the week of June 13 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Bourne, Massachusetts, and Pt. Judith, Rhode Island.
- o The Council requested that the coastal New England States establish minimum size regulations for codfish, in conformity with that of the Council's Groundfish Plan, to insure effective management and enforcement.
- o The Council made recommendations on (a) the management of transboundary stocks; (b) amendments to the FCMA; and (c) U.S. participation in the proposed North Atlantic Fisheries Consultative Organization.

Mid-Atlantic Council

- o The regular meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Council was held in Cape May, New Jersey on May 11 and 12. It was preceded by a Scientific and Statistical Committee meeting on May 9 and 10 at the same location. Highlights of the May meetings are as follows:
- o Council assigned first priority for use of contract funds to answering management questions, and deferred funding of biological and other studies which have no short-term direct application to plan preparation and implementation.
- o Council rejected seven USSR applications and asks for explanation of species composition identified as "other finfish."
- o Council recommended a number of proposed amendments to the Fishery Management and Conservation Act.
- o Council reviewed progress on squid plan preparation and discussed outcome of recent coastal meetings with industry to gain their early input into plan development.
- o Council moved that reallocation of 1977 squid quota to foreign nations be deferred until September 1 because cold water temperatures have delayed coastal migrations thus inhibiting normal and anticipated fishery opportunities.

- o Council reviewed Canada bilateral agreement and forwarded position statement to Senate Commerce Committee.
- o Council established guidelines for future foreign and domestic harvest of Atlantic menhaden, American shad, and river herring.
- o Council decided on priority ranking for the preparation and submission of management plans as follows: surf clam/ocean quahog, mackerel, fluke, butterfish, other flounder, squid, scup, sea bass, and pelagic shark.
- o Council arranged for participation in four June meetings and a hearing to receive public comments on surf clam/ocean quahog plan. All sessions will be taped and comments received summarized.
- o Scientific and Statistical Committee, with Council revision, prepared flow/event schedule for the preparation of management plans.
- o The Mid-Atlantic Council experienced delays in publication of a Federal Register notice on public meetings/hearing for the draft surf clam and ocean quahog management plan because, reportedly, of site selection and documentation provisions. Also, a number of alleged shortcomings of the draft plan surfaced during the month in the area of economic and environmental analyses. These circumstances have led the Council to evaluate the feasibility of going directly to the Federal Register with its meeting notices and to seek clarification on the interrelation between fishery management plans, environmental impact statements, and economic impact statements. It is hoped that preparation of plans by the Council will not be constrained or stifled in an effort to satisfy mandates which are Federal Government responsibility.
- o Budget matters were a center of focus during the month when it was learned, through the May Council Memorandum, that FY77 funds to the Council had been substantially reduced. What impact this cut in budget will have on the Council and the execution of scheduled operations or plan development has not been fully evaluated. Efforts are underway to gain a better understanding of the budget process and the criteria used to allocate available funds among the Council.
- o During the month, members of the Council participated in the following meetings:

May 3-4	New England Council
May 19-20	State Directors Conference
May 23-24	New England Council
May 24-26	MAFAC meeting

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- o Future Mid-Atlantic Council meetings are scheduled for June 15-17 in Southhampton, New York; July 13-14 in Norfolk, Virginia; and August 10-11 in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

South Atlantic Council

- o Council appointed a steering committee for King and Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan.
- o Council recommended amendments to P.L. 94-265 on: permits of foreign fishing, staff available for Federal health & insurance benefits, selection of Council membership, and emergency procedures.
- o Council concurred with Executive Director on appointment of Dr. Jackson Davis as program manager for a Billfish Plan. Don de Sylva, Frank Mather, Steve Goldstein, and others will be team members for plan development.
- o Council requested an updated copy of the Atlantic Foreign Pelagic Longline PMP to be used as a base in preparation of a Billfish FMP. Hearings on draft plan targeted for late summer and fall.
- o NOAA General Counsel reported to the Council on boundary between South Atlantic and Gulf Council and Federal Tort Claims Act as it relates to Council members. The boundary question is still unresolved and is being researched further.
- o Executive Director will have a time table for the Billfish Plan prior to the next meeting.
- o Council is sending communications to the Secretary requesting lead Council designation for the King and Spanish Mackerel plan.
- o Council appointed a 13-member advisory panel consisting of 5 representatives of recreational fishing community and 8 representatives of commercial fishing community.
- o Council endorsed the draft position on management of transboundary stocks submitted to it by Dave Wallace; however, there was some question on the definition of boundary and transboundary stocks.
- o Council adopted a motion requesting western edge of the squid window defined in the PMP be moved eastward to the 100 fathom line to prevent conflict with the winter flounder fishery off North Carolina, Council restated its position on use of pelagic rather than trawl gear for taking of squid.

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- o State Department reported that Mexico had asked for a GIFA and wants to fish for squid in the Atlantic.
- o Council reviewed the Taiwan application for shrimp and squid and will comment on improbability of any shrimp surplus.
- o The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 21-23 in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.
- o A July meeting is tentatively scheduled for Charleston, South Carolina.
- o Possibility of a South Atlantic Council member attending regular Gulf Council meetings and vice versa will be pursued with the Gulf Council.
- o Snapper-Grouper Steering Committee will tentatively meet in Atlanta June 8, 9, 10.
- o Council reiterated its position that the Atlantic Foreign Longline PMP/EIS be adopted by the Secretary and supported the Western Pacific Council's position as reflected in Chairman's letter of May 9 to the Director.

Caribbean Council

- o Council is now occupying space in Banko de Ponce in San Juan.
- o Council has added Mr. Calixto de Mier to its staff as Administrative Officer and Mrs. Hilda Ramirez as Executive Secretary. Mrs. Ramirez entrance-on-duty date is June 1.
- o Council is currently negotiating with a candidate for position of Technical Support Specialist.
- o Council has been unable to secure any health and life insurance benefits through San Juan brokers.
- o Council has requested NMFS assistance in securing appropriate fringe benefits for staff, Council members, S&S and AP members.
- o Council appointed a 3-person Council committee to work with staff in development of a Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures (SOPP). A draft SOPP is to be submitted for Council review at its June meeting.
- o Council recommended 6 amendments to P.L. 94-265 which will be transmitted through the NMFS Regional Director.
- o Council will pattern its administrative procedures after the NOAA procedure.

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2. The second part of the document outlines the specific requirements for record-keeping. It states that all transactions must be recorded in a timely and accurate manner, and that the records must be maintained for a minimum of five years.

3. The third part of the document discusses the consequences of failing to comply with these requirements. It notes that individuals who fail to maintain accurate records may be subject to civil penalties and, in some cases, criminal sanctions.

4. The fourth part of the document provides guidance on how to properly maintain records. It suggests that individuals should use a reliable accounting system and should regularly review their records to ensure their accuracy.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of confidentiality. It notes that records of transactions are often sensitive in nature and should be kept confidential to protect the privacy of the individuals involved.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the importance of cooperation with the authorities. It notes that individuals who are suspected of fraud should cooperate fully with the authorities and provide all necessary information.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of seeking legal advice. It notes that individuals who are unsure of their obligations should consult with a qualified attorney.

8. The eighth part of the document discusses the importance of staying informed. It notes that individuals should stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the field of record-keeping and fraud prevention.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of reporting suspicious activity. It notes that individuals who suspect that a transaction may be fraudulent should report it to the appropriate authorities.

10. The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining a high level of ethical standards. It notes that individuals should always act with integrity and honesty in all of their transactions.

- o Council approved a Draft Preliminary Work Statement submitted by NMFS for the development of Spiney Lobster and Shallow-Water Reef Fishery Management Plans.
- o Council concurred with the NOAA draft position on the management of transboundary stocks.
- o Council received a report from the Economic Development Agency of Puerto Rico and was requested to comment on the economic impact of the tuna-porpoise regulations as they affect the five tuna plants in Puerto Rico. Council took no action.
- o Council requested S&S Committee to investigate coral harvesting off eastern side of P.R. and made recommendations for coral management.
- o Council will consider a work statement for state liaison support at its next meeting.
- o Council endorsed the motion by the Intercouncil Billfish Steering Committee urging NMFS to complete the PMP.
- o Attendance at Optimum Yield Workshop will be:
 - Council: Viridin Brown, Jose Suarez, Hector Vega
 - Staff: Omar Munos
 - S&S: Jack Damman, Joe Sylvester
 - AP: Bob Schultz, Juan Vega
- o Council will address the FY 78 budget proposal at its next meeting.

Gulf of Mexico Council

- o The Council elected to consider pelagic sharks as a separate fishery management unit and will amend the Billfish/Pelagic Shark Advisory Panel charter so that sharks are excluded.
- o The Billfish Management Committee reviewed the revised billfish data from NMFS. These data indicate that during the late 1960's the Japanese apparently conducted a directed fishery for billfish in the Gulf of Mexico since the catch of billfish exceeded the catch of tuna. During the 1970's one billfish was caught for every three tuna taken in the Gulf. Presently there are 41 Japanese longlining vessels fishing in the Gulf. The Committee expressed the need for immediate implementation of the billfish PMP.
- o The Council addressed the needed revisions to P.L. 94-265 for submission to the Department of Commerce (DOC). The major change suggested was that all foreign and domestic vessels fishing for highly migratory species (tuna) in the FCZ be subject to regulation if they would catch incidental species of fish subject to regulation under P.L. 94-265.

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- o The Council adopted a resolution supporting increased research efforts to define the predator-prey relationship of coastal species.
- o The State Department reported on the Cuban negotiations. A GIFA has been signed and the Cubans have indicated an interest in Gulf shrimp, snapper, and sharks as well as fisheries off the Atlantic coast.
- o NMFS reported on the U.S./Mexican Fishery Consultation. The new Mexican administration is apparently holding firm on the phase out of U.S. shrimping in Mexican Gulf waters.
- o The State Department reported that it is in the early stages of talks for an international agreement to protect billfish stocks through their range.
- o NMFS reported on the effects of internal reprogramming on the programs of the S.E. Region. They further reported that the State liaison support funding would be available in the very near future at \$12K per state for FY 1977.
- o Council heard reports on the status of the resource and current research on mackerel and spiny lobster from NMFS, Florida Sea Grant, and Florida Department of Natural Resources.
- o It was reported by NMFS that after May 23rd it would be a violation of Federal Law to bring green sea turtles across the seaward boundaries of the states.
- o The Council requested that the Secretary of Commerce designate the Gulf Council as lead Council for development of a fishery management plan for king, Spanish, and cero mackerels.
- o The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviewed proposals to develop draft fishery management plans for shallow water shrimp, groundfish, mackerel, and reef fish submitted by the following Sea Grant institutions: Florida Sea-Grant (8 institutions), Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant (7 institutions), Louisiana State Sea Grant, and Texas A&M Sea Grant. The SSC will make recommendations to the Council on institutions to develop these plans in June.
- o The SSC and the advisory panels for the four fishery units above met and developed goals and objectives for these management plans for submission to the Council.

North Pacific Council

- o The Council met on May 26, in Anchorage, Alaska. At the plenary session and public hearing the following items were considered:

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- Mr. Gordon Watson will represent Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Dr. Don Hales will be his alternate.
- Alaska Legislature enacted law to include Council staff in State retirement system.
- Status of independent Japanese tanner crab vessel situation was reviewed. Council felt that when the Secretary takes action not consistent with Council recommendations relative to permit applications, Council members should be immediately advised.
- Council objected to receiving requests for comments on issues such as transboundary stocks for which the due date has expired or which allow little or no time for full Council and Advisory Panel discussion.
- Council believes that the transboundary stock policy is a serious and complicated issue. Much more time should be allocated to developing this policy, especially since these stocks have not yet been defined.
- At the public hearing on May 26, Council heard from:
 - (1) Several industry representatives objecting to the delivery of raw fish to foreign factory ships by U.S. fishermen, especially if Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is exceeded.
 - (2) New England Fish Company representative regarding groundfish expansion plans.
 - (3) Representative of Mrs. Paul's Kitchens on the importance of Korean processed pollock to his company. It is important for them to go to the world market to compete with poultry, etc. Get pollock blocks for 58¢ per pound CIF Philadelphia.
 - (4) Fishermen and industry regarding the State of Alaska closure of the U.S. Bering Sea tanner crab fishery on June 15 - no action taken.
- A three-man core planning group to monitor the development of a fishery for Bering Sea clams was selected. If a fishery results from the survey in progress, the group will be expanded and a management plan prepared.
- Council voted to review domestic catch of Bering Sea herring at June meeting with intent of recommending reduction or cancellation of remaining Foreign Allowable Catch (FAC), since the TAC may be exceeded in absence of such action because of magnitude of unexpected U.S. fishery.

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- Mr. Carline Wellfelt was selected to fill an Advisory Panel vacancy.
- Permit application review:
 - (1) Telephone request from Department of State, Japanese snail fishing vessel ISE MARU #8 as replacement for RYOYOSAI MARU #18; approval recommended.
 - (2) ROK reefer OYANG HO #70; recommended approval with condition to limit to transport only, not processing.
 - (3) Twenty-one Japanese support vessels; recommended approval with proviso to support only Japanese fishing.
 - (4) Japanese KUROSHIO MARU #27 for snails and tanner crab; recommended approval, provided snails and crabs not be fished simultaneously.
 - (5) Six Soviet stern trawlers, four for Bering Sea and two for Gulf of Alaska; approval recommended.
 - (6) Soviet trawler MYS DALNY for Gulf of Alaska (research?); approval recommended.
 - (7) Soviet research trawler ADLER for Bering Sea, projected catches include crab and shrimp; recommended approval only if research coordinated with Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center (NWAFC) (later information: Research had not been coordinated, NWAFC had received TINRO cable advising only that research vessels would operate in U.S. FCZ).
 - (8) Soviet patrol ships ZVEZDA RYBAKA and NARVAL; approval recommended.
- A general recommendation that permits be more explicit and limiting in the activity permitted. A change in the deployment of a vessel would require a permit amendment. This would facilitate better monitoring and control.
- Received drafts of FMP's for Alaska tanner crab and Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries. Alerted to scheduling problems indicated by NMFS "horseblanket".
- Received International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) options paper prepared by NMFS, high seas salmon FMP options prepared by NWAFC, and INPFC position paper prepared by Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G). U.S. INPFC Section meeting to be held in Alaska early July.
- Next meeting June 23-24, in Anchorage, Alaska.

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Pacific Council

- The Secretary of Commerce has approved amendments to the 1977 ocean salmon management plan. Regulations for the ocean troll fishery now include a closure the last two weeks in June and a 28-inch minimum size limit on chinook salmon north of Tillamook Head, Oregon.
- Two salmon trollers and several groups representing trollers filed suit against the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Commandant of the Coast Guard. The suit contends that the emergency regulations are in violation of U.S. statutes and that the Environmental Impact Statement is deficient.
- The Council adopted procurement procedures and personnel rules, including a fringe benefits package totaling 18.5%, during its May 2-3 meeting in Portland.
- E. Charles Fullerton, Director of the California Department of Fish and Game, was the Council's representative to MAFAC.
- Proposals for socioeconomic and limited entry studies for developing the 1978 comprehensive salmon plan have been requested. Requests for funding of these proposals will be submitted to NMFS-Washington by the end of May.
- Progress reports and contract proposals on the development of anchovy, groundfish, and comprehensive salmon FMP's are scheduled for discussion at the June 13-14 Council meeting in Los Angeles.
- A Soviet permit application to allow a Soviet processing ship to receive Pacific hake caught by U.S. fishermen within the 200-mile zone has been referred to a Council subcommittee. The Council expects to make a recommendation to the Secretary on the Soviet application during its next Council meeting.
- The Council, in a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service, expressed its concern over the time required to implement fishery management plans. A Council subcommittee has been appointed to recommend specific changes in the law to shorten the time period between Council adoption of a FMP and implementation by the Secretary.
- A regular Council Newsletter will be published following each Council meeting, which will summarize Council actions.
- Recruitment has begun for a new Staff Officer position to assist in the coordination and development of Dungeness crab, pink shrimp, saury, and squid management plans.

The Council is scheduled to appoint members to the Dungeness crab and pink shrimp advisory panels at its June 13-14 meeting.

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Western Pacific Council

- ° The Council did not hold a meeting in May, but its Scientific and Statistical Committee met May 3-4 in Honolulu. The following items were discussed.

Progress in the development of fishery management plans for Bottomfish Resources, Seamount Resources, Spiny Lobster, and Billfishes and other Pelagic Fish Resources.

A preliminary draft management plan for precious corals management, prepared by Dr. Richard Griggs, Chairman of the planning team.

A draft report from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Methodology describing possible approaches to decision making for action on fishery management plans.

A paper describing a study proposal on the economic feasibility of developing underutilized fishery resources of the Leeward Hawaiian Islands.

- ° The Council's next meeting is June 28-29, in Honolulu.

Meetings of Regional Fishery Management Councils

F11: CJC:JORDAN
June 8, 1977
634-7436

Month	New England	Mid Atlantic	South Atlantic	Caribbean	Gulf of Mexico	Western Pacific	Pacific	North Pacific
MAY 1977	● 5/3-4 Buzzards Bay, MA Council	● 5/9-10 Cape May, NJ SSC	● 5/24-26 St. Petersburg, FL Council; SSC; AP	● 5/23-26 San Juan, PR Council; SSC; AP	● 5/4-6 Key West, FL Council	● 5/3-4 Honolulu, HI SSC	● 5/2-3 Portland, OR Council; SSC	● 5/26-27 Anchorage, AK Council; SSC; AP
	● 5/23-24 Portsmouth, NH Council	● 5/11-12 Cape May, NJ Council			● 5/9-10 Kenner, LA SSC			
JUNE 1977	● 6/21 Peabody, MA SSC	● 6/13-14 Southampton, NY SSC	● 6/21-23 Wrightsville Beach, NC Council; SSC; AP	● 6/20-23 St. John, VI Council; AP	● 5/24-25 Tampa, FL 2-AP's	● 6/28-29 Honolulu HI Council	● 6/13-14 Los Angeles, CA Council; SSC	● 6/15-17 Juneau, AK SSC
		● 6/15-17 Southampton, NY Council			● 5/31-6/1 Tampa, FL 2-AP's			● 6/22 Anchorage, AK SSC; AP
JULY 1977	● 7/5-6 Newport, RI Council	▶ 7/13-14 Norfolk, VA Council			● 7/8 Tampa, FL AP	▶ 7/13-14 Honolulu, HI SSC		● 7/27 Anchorage, AK SSC; AP
								▶ 7/28-29 Anchorage, AK Council; SSC; AP
AUGUST 1977	● 8/2-3 Brunswick, ME Council	▶ 8/10-11 Hershey, PA Council				▶ 8/10-14 Kailua, Kona, HI Council		
SEPTEMBER 1977						▶ 9/14-15 Honolulu, HI SSC		

SSC - Scientific and Statistical Committee
 AP - Advisory Panel
 - PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER
 - Partly Closed Session
 - PENDING—Council referral to NMFS
 - PENDING—NMFS referral to Federal Register



June 1977
agenda item 4 i

June 17, 1977

Mr. Robert W. Schoning, Director
National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA
3300 Whitehaven Street, Page Bldg., 2
Washington, D.C. 20235

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your letter of June 3rd regarding the impending retirement of the OREGON.

The additional month that the OREGON will be able to work this year will certainly help the current field program. It is unfortunate, however, that the OREGON will not be able to remain in service until it can work with its replacement vessel to enable researchers to index the new ship's work against the OREGON. The OREGON's record of consistent surveys in the Bering Sea and North Pacific Ocean is certainly unparalleled in terms of the duration of its effort and the efficiency of its operation. While it is probably possible to replace the time on the ground by using chartered vessels the ability to calibrate their work against that of the OREGON would place both past and future work in a more realistic frame. Consistency, in terms of useful data, is as important as the research effort itself in many cases.

Your assurances that the information needs of the Council for management plan preparation will be adequately met are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jim H. Branson
Executive Director

cc: Senator Stevens

Don Young

JHB:in



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D.C. 20235

Fx5/PVM

JUN 3 1977

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

Dear Jim:

Secretary Kreps has asked me to reply to your May 10, 1977, letter regarding the retirement of the OREGON.

As you are aware the OREGON has been proposed for retirement at the end of the current fiscal year. This retirement action was made as part of an overall reduction to NOAA's base budget for fiscal year 1978, and was influenced largely by the advanced age and overall condition of the ship. We have been able to obtain an extension, however, which will permit the vessel to remain in service approximately one additional month. This will enable us to complete the 1977 cooperative shrimp survey off the Alaskan coast.

We share the Council's concern that the research effort in the Northwest and Alaska Region will possibly be hampered; however, we do not feel that the fisheries research efforts off Alaska will be crippled by the loss of the OREGON.

While we will not be able to retain the services of this vessel, we will use chartered commercial vessels to obtain the required ship support for continuation of the NMFS research operations off Alaska. We believe that there will be little, if any, disruption in the major survey programs in the Northwest and Alaska Region.

We are confident that the information needs of the Council in preparation of its management plans will be adequately met by the vessels which will be utilized as replacements for the OREGON.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert W. Schoning
Director

JUN 16 1977



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45
J
MIA
JW

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 26, 1977

Mr. Elmer Rasmuson, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
P.O. Box 3136 DT
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Elmer:

Am in receipt of your May 2nd letter, regarding the North Pacific Council's position on the issues of permits to Korean vessels, which wish to fish in joint venture with American fishermen.

I share many of your concerns about this operation. In a recent meeting with Bob Davenny, I indicated to him that it did not seem possible for this operation to begin during 1977. Congress enacted the 200-mile fishing limit in order to conserve fishery resources. Harvesting fish in excess of the total allowable catch, would be anti-thetical to the intent of Congress.

The Davenny operation, does however, hold substantial potential benefits for Alaskan fishermen. I hope that you will assist Bob in obtaining permits during 1978, when the catch from his operation can be appropriately deducted from the total allowable catch prior to the time that foreign quotas are awarded.

With best wishes,

Cordially,



TED STEVENS
United States Senator

4K
POSTAGE
HERE

KODIAK TRAVELODGE
236 South Benson
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Sheffield Hotels

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

P. O. Box 3136DT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

NP
Sheffield Hotels

KODIAK TRAVELODGE

236 South Benson
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
(907) 486-5712

Name _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Arriving on date _____ Time _____^{AM}/_{PM} For a _____ night's stay

RESERVATIONS ARE HELD UNTIL 6:00 PM UNLESS

GUARANTEED FOR LATER ARRIVAL.

GUARANTEED _____ YES _____ NO

PLEASE CHECK DESIRED ACCOMMODATIONS

PLUS 5% TAX

- SINGLE ROOM FOR ONE PERSON
 DOUBLE (ONE BED/TWO PEOPLE)
 TWIN (TWO BEDS/TWO PEOPLE)
 SUITE

RATES

~~\$40.00~~ *34.00*
~~\$46.00~~ *40*
~~\$46.00~~ *40*
\$52.00

REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER *8/9*
WILL BE ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS

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NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
 P. O. Box 3136DT
 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99506

25-26 E. Koo/Hall
 son
 200

Name _____

Address _____ City/State _____

Arriving on date _____ Time _____

RESERVATIONS ARE HELD UNTIL 6:00 PM UNLESS
 GUARANTEED FOR LATER ARRIVAL. GUARANTEED _____

PLEASE CHECK DESIRED ACCOMMODATIONS

PLUS 5% TAX	RATES
<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM FOR ONE PERSON	\$40.00 34
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE (ONE BED/TWO PEOPLE)	\$46.00 40
<input type="checkbox"/> TWIN (TWO BEDS/TWO PEOPLE)	\$46.00 40
<input type="checkbox"/> SUITE	\$52.00

REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER 8/9
 WILL BE ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS

Surgeon meeting

Public hearing 24

25-26 Ethel Hall
Council meeting

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
 ASSEMBLY OF MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20418

OCEAN SCIENCES BOARD
 (202) 389-6986

May 16, 1977

Dr. Elmer Rasmuson
 Chairman, North Pacific Fishery
 Management Council
 National Bank of Alaska
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Dr. Rasmuson:

The Ocean Sciences Board is undertaking a study in cooperation with the Marine Board and the Ocean Policy Committee of the NRC to identify research directions for large-scale, long-term cooperative ocean studies in the 1980's. This study is being undertaken in response to a request from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to the Presidents of the Academies of Sciences and Engineering. A steering group, chaired by Dr. Warren Wooster of the University of Washington, has been appointed to conduct the study. Drs. Reuben Lasker and Brian Rothschild are members of this study group.

The International Decade of Ocean Exploration (IDOE) office of the NSF has held or will hold a series of disciplinary workshops to identify the kinds of studies that should be undertaken in the 1980's. The Physical Oceanography Workshop was held on March 22-23 and the Biological Oceanography Workshop on April 20-22. The Chemical Oceanography Workshop is scheduled for June 1-3 and the Geology/Geophysics for June 13-15. Reports will be available soon after each workshop is finished.

We are asking that you, as an individual concerned with the application of the information derived from such programs, comment on the implications of such programs to your industry. The report of the physical oceanography group is enclosed. The other reports will be forwarded as soon as received.

In commenting on future IDOE-type programs, it would also be most helpful if you could provide us, for study consideration, answers to the following:

- a) What you know about what IDOE has accomplished during the first decade (the 70's)?
- b) How do these IDOE achievements affect your industry?
- c) What new research effort during the next decade would be of interest to your industry? Your company? Your agency?

MAY 23 1977

- d) Are there multi-disciplinary, large-scale research activities in the ocean that would benefit your industry, company, or agency?
- e) Are there significant elements of environmental data which would benefit you if it were available, even though difficult to obtain? (i.e., world-wide wave data, precise navigation, etc., etc.)

A major consideration of the study is the problem of planning, management, and applications. Any comments or suggestions in this area will be most welcome. In this regard, I am enclosing a set of questions that the study group is addressing. The study group is meeting in late June to review the input material and address the managerial, planning, and application aspects. Therefore, it is requested that your first response be provided by 10 June and the remainder as soon as possible.

We realize that we are asking for considerable effort on your part, but feel that you as a concerned individual will wish to take this opportunity to provide inputs to the study at an early stage. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 202/389-6986.

Sincerely yours,

Richard C. Vetter

Richard C. Vetter
Executive Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Jim Branson ✓

April 25, 1977.

Report of a Physical Oceanography Workshop: A Conspectus of Some
Possible Major Field Programs in Physical Oceanography for the
1980's

21-23 March 1977 at the W A Jones Conference Center of the U.of R.I.

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North Pacific Fishery

Management Council

Per 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

June 16, 1977

Mr. Richard C. Vetter, Executive Secretary
National Research Council
Assembly of Mathematical and Physical Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20418

Dear Mr. Vetter:

Mr. Rasmuson has asked me to respond to your letter of May 16th for him. He and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council are very interested in some of the implications of your long term research programs as they relate to fishery production in the Bering Sea and North Pacific Ocean. Neither Mr. Rasmuson nor the Council has had time to study your request in depth so are unable to give you concrete answers to your questions at this time.

I hope that we will be able to give them some attention in depth in the near future to be more fully able to respond to your inquiry. Circulation patterns, salinity and temperature distribution, particularly as they relate to zooplankton distribution and as they may or may not relate to distribution at sea of Pacific Salmon are items of obvious interest to the Council in the development of its management plans for the resource within the Fishery Conservation and Management Zone. I hope that input within the next 60 to 90 days will still be of use to you, it will probably take at least that long to develop a definitive answer to your query.

Sincerely,

Jim H. Branson
Executive Director

JHB:in

June 20, 1977
Ref: JC77-119

Mr. James H. Branson
Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Suite 32 - Post Office Mall
333 West Fourth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Branson,

I'm pleased to inform you of the 1977 Catch Quota agreed upon between Japan and the U.S.S.R. recently as follows:

1977 Catch Quota (excluding catch during March 1977) during the remaining period in 1977, agreed upon by the exchanged letters under Japan-U.S.S.R. Interim Fishing Agreement.

1. <u>Within 200 Mile Zone</u>	(Thousand Ton)
POLLACK	100.0 - 459.0
FLOUNDERS	9.0 - 57.0
OCEAN PERCH	6.9 - 0
COD	19.0 - 26.0
WACHNA COD	10.4 -
SAURY	63.4 - 122.0
ATKA MACKEREL	1.0
SAND LANCE	79.3 - 50.0
OTHER FISH	19.8
SQUID	132.0 - 127.0
OCTOPUS	1.9
CRABS	5.3 - 1
BED TANNER CRAB	2.3
SHRIMP	1.2
SNAIL MEAT	3.5 - 3.0
Total	455.0 - 996
Total Catch During March 1977	245.0
GRAND TOTAL	700.0

*1975 catch figures for same period
Asake... 5/28/77
1975 - April - Dec.*

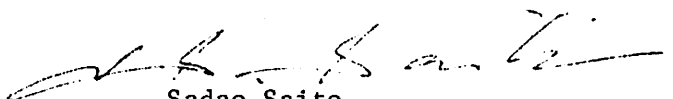
Korean stone crab 018

2. Outside 200 Mile Zone

SALMONS 62 Thousand Ton for 1977

The above information has been briefly supplied from our office in Tokyo and we expect more detailed figures to come into our hands sometime next week. We will convey them to you when we have them in hand,

Sincerely yours,


Sadao Saito
Consul of Japan



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D.C. 20235

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JUN 16 1977

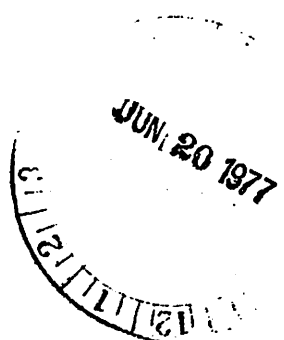
TO: Distribution
FROM: *for* *Morris M. Pallas*
Robert W. Schoninger
Director

SUBJ: Status of Applications/Permits Issued

Attached for your information are tables showing the current status of applications received and permits issued for foreign vessels in the Fishery Conservation Zone. Revised tables will be forwarded as significant changes occur.

Attachments

Distribution:
Regional Directors
Regional Fishery Management Councils
Center Directors



STATUS OF APPLICATIONS/PERMITS

<u>NATION</u>	<u>NO. OF PERMITS REQUESTED</u>	<u>NO. OF PERMITS APPROVED</u>	<u>NO. OF PERMITS ISSUED</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
BULGARIA	6	6	6	Action completed.
EAST GERMANY	27	27	0	Permits available upon request and payment of permit fees.
EEC:				
IRELAND	1	0	0	No allocations for Ireland.
FRANCE	1	1	0	Permits available upon request and payment of permit fees.
W. GERMANY	15	15	0	Permits available upon request and payment of permit fees.
ITALY	8	8	0	Permits available upon request and payment of permit fees.
JAPAN	510	499	477	
POLAND	35	29	15	Additional permits available upon request and payment of permit fees.
ROMANIA	13	10	0	Approval of application letter delivered to DOS. Further action awaits Romanian note bringing GIFA into force and acceptance of conditions and restrictions.
SOUTH KOREA	83	31	30	Action completed.
SPAIN	77	40	35	23 pending completion of vessel identification data.
TAIWAN	45	4	4	Action completed.
USSR	498	472	231	Additional permits available for replacement vessels upon request and payment of permit fees.
	<u>1,319</u>	<u>1,142</u>	<u>798</u>	

PERMITS ISSUED
 AND
 VESSELS PERMITTED TO FISH BY OCEAN AREA

	Total	PERMITS ISSUED		NORTHWEST ATLANTIC		CA/OR/WA COAST		ALASKA		WESTERN PACIFIC	
		Fishing Vessels	Support Vessels	Fishing Vessels	Support Vessels	Fishing Vessels	Support Vessels	Fishing Vessels	Support Vessels	Fishing Vessels	Support Vessels
BULGARIA	6	5	1	5	1						
JAPAN	477*	388	89	15	30			373	89	2	
POLAND	15*	12	3	9	2	6	2	6	2		
SOUTH KOREA	30	27	3					27	3		
SPAIN	35	35	0	35							
TAIWAN	4	4	0					4			
USSR	231*	151	80	45	23	64	52	74	56		
	798	622	176	96	56	70	54	479	150	2	

* Total permits issued is less than sum of ocean area figures due to permits issued for two or more ocean areas.