

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
April 24, 1984

I'll call the meeting to order and welcome all of you to Anchorage for our 60th Council session. This is a very important meeting with only a single goal. That is to find ways to improve the Council process and the ultimate product of the Council: methods of managing fish and fisheries as efficiently as possible and with the greatest return to the United States.

We've been talking about this meeting since last September when I asked that a workgroup be organized to discuss this subject and bring their thoughts back to the Council. But every time we started to put together a workgroup, we found that all of the Council members wanted to be on it. It was soon evident that the subject required and deserved a special Council meeting.

Because of the complexity of the subject material on this agenda, it's absolutely necessary that we stick to the general subject of Council performance and decision making. If we wander off into discussion of specific fisheries, and there will be many opportunities to do so, we're not going to accomplish what we hope to in the next three days. We'll have to use some of the individual fisheries as examples for some of the subjects under discussion, but if we start debating the merits of those examples for those fisheries, we'll again go far afield.

The representatives of the Advisory Panel and the Scientific and Statistical Committee will sit with us at this meeting and participate fully in the discussion.

I believe we should allow public participation, and suggest we start each item with background material from staff members, then public testimony followed by Council discussion and action. If you wish, we can permit further questions to the audience prior to a Council decision.

The staff has tried to identify a product they think should come from each of the agenda areas. In order to make sure we do get some positive results from this meeting, it will be wise to reduce as much of our decisions to writing as possible and adopt them on the record. In order to do that, let's try to formulate a position, have the staff write it up as a motion for a policy decision, or request for action and then adopt it formally by motion and vote.

It may be helpful to break down into workgroups for some of the agenda items. If that looks useful we can arrange it at the time.

We have not tried to develop a time schedule for this agenda. First, because there are no items requiring public testimony at this time although we recognize that many are interested and will want to testify, but again we expect that those who are here for this meeting will probably want to stay for all of the subject material to be discussed. The agenda is developed in what we think will be the order or priority for each of the major headings.

Representatives of Price Waterhouse, who recently completed an audit of the Council, want time to make their report to us. I've scheduled them for 4:30 p.m. this afternoon. It should not take more than 30 minutes.

The Director advertised a closed session for Wednesday afternoon; however, we can change that simply by announcing it in advance. We may want to hold it Wednesday morning rather than in the afternoon. We'll be discussing personnel and financial matters during that session.

The minutes for the March Council meeting are not finished; we will have them in time to review for the May meeting.

There will be a Council lunch at the Westward in the Portage Room today.

NPFMC

24 April 1984

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CLARENCE'S OFFICE:

JOHN HARVILLE  
\*SARA HEMPHILL  
DON COLLINSWORTH  
JON NELSON

Management  
Objectives  
Item II A  
1 thru 5

BRANSON'S OFFICE:

\*HAROLD LOKKEN  
JEFF STEPHAN  
RUDY PETERSEN  
KEITH SPECKING

Rapid Response  
Item II B i c  
&  
Annual Management  
Cycles

CONFERENCE ROOM:

\*BOB McVEY  
BOB MACE  
GENE DIDONATO  
JOHN WINTHER  
PAUL BLAYNEY

Proposals  
Item II B 1 a b d e  
&  
Decision Documents  
II B 2 a thru h  
&  
Annual Management  
Cycles