

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Harold E. Lokken, 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

Agenda Items for January 1978 NPFMC Meeting, Anchorage, Alaska

1. Agenda
2. Highlights of January meeting
3. Minutes of January meeting
4. 2/1/78 MEMO to Winfred H. Meibohm, NMFS, from Harry Rietze, NMFS AK,
Subject: NPFMC Meeting - January 26-27, 1978, Anchorage, Alaska
5. Appendix A, Executive Director's Report
6. Appendix B, SSC report
7. Appendix C, Advisory Panel report
8. Appendix D, 1/21/78 ltr to Harold Lokken from Y. Okazaki, Hokuyo
Haenawa Sashiami Kyokai Ltd, Tokyo Japan
AND summaries of public testimony.
9. Appendix E, Attendance roster.
10. List of 1978 January agenda packet items.

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
January 26-27, 1978
Thursday and Friday
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
13th Plenary Session
Room 808-809 Hill Building
6th & G Streets
Anchorage, Alaska

The Advisory Panel and the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the North Pacific Council are scheduled to convene in a joint meeting at 8:30 a.m., January 25 in the same room in the Hill Building. It's expected that they will meet separately that afternoon, the SSC in the Council offices, Suite 32, 333 West Fourth Avenue, Post Office Mall Building, the Advisory Panel continuing in the Hill Building.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene initially at 10:30 a.m. January 24th in the Council offices, Post Office Mall Building.

The regular Council meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. January 26th. A closed session is scheduled for Thursday from 1:30 through 3:00 p.m., with a scheduled public comment period starting at 3:30 p.m. that day.

Separate meetings of the Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee called for Thursday or Friday will be announced as to time and place. With the exception of the aforementioned one and one-half hour closed session to discuss ongoing international negotiations in fisheries, all meetings will be open to the public.

Agenda, January 26-27, 1978

1. Approve preliminary agenda
2. Approve minutes of December 1 and 2, 1977 Council meeting
3. Director's Report
4. Status of Council Fishery Management Plans
 - a. Tanner Crab off Alaska
 - b. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery
 - c. Commercial Troll Fishery off Alaska
5. Scientific and Statistical Committee Report

6. Advisory Panel Report
7. Council direction to King Crab Plan Development Team on options and objectives for the King Crab Fishery Management Plan.
 - a. A two-hour work session with the Plan Development Team is tentatively scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Thursday morning. Brief presentations by area management biologists and an outline of objectives, and options for reaching those objectives, is expected to be discussed at this time.
8. Consider separating the herring resource in a separate management plan from the groundfish plan in the Bering Sea.
9. Research Funding Proposals for the Troll Salmon Management Plan
10. Research Funding Proposals from Massachusetts Institute of Technology
11. Council comments and position on draft "Economic and Allied Data Needs for Fisheries Management"
12. Management plan development and review procedures
13. Permit application review and joint ventures
14. National Marine Fisheries Service enforcement and surveillance report
15. U.S. Coast Guard report
16. Arranging an international meeting of U.S. and foreign fisheries scientists from the North Pacific
17. Calendar of data availability
18. Council consideration of a revised Research Funding Proposal for a socio-economic study of herring on the Bering Sea coast
19. "On the grounds" pot storage
20. Council Chairman's meeting agenda items
21. Quarterly reports on Council contracts
22. Council MEMORANDUM, December 1977
23. Miscellaneous correspondence

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HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

MEETING

January 26-27, 1978

The NPFMC, the SSC and AP met concurrently on Jan. 26-27, 1978, at the Hill Bldg., 632 W. 6th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska. A public hearing was held on Jan. 26; no closed session was held. The SSC met on Jan. 25th, the AP on Jan. 25th, with a joint session of the two advisory groups on Jan. 25th.

James Campbell, Anchorage businessman, was welcomed to the Council, replacing former member Elmer Rasmuson.

Major items of discussion included:

GROUND FISH

Following requests from Mr. James Walsh, Deputy Administrator, NOAA, and Mr. Dave Wallace, Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, the Council took the following action;

1. Changed the "reserve" amount for species in the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP from 30 percent to 20 percent.
2. Drafted new language for Section 4.7.10, p. 194, of the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan to specify a figure for MSY in the "other species" category.
3. Delayed for one year the reduction by 10 percent of the OY for "other species".
4. Reconsidered the OY for sablefish to raise it from 10,000 mt to 13,000 mt and specified that only longlines and pots could be used by a foreign nation in a directed fishery for sablefish.

TANNER CRAB

The Council directed the staff to conduct a search of letters and documents, including transcript material of all meetings, which dealt with the topic of Tanner crab. The purpose is to clarify the documentation of the TALFF figure of 15,000 mt for C. opilio north of 58 degrees North Latitude. The Council upheld the 15,000 mt TALFF figure previously set.

Documentation will be forwarded to NOAA who contend the Council decision is not adequately supported by the record as reflected in the FMP.

TROLL SALMON

The Council will rewrite the FMP for Commercial Troll Fisheries off the Coast of Alaska. Major deficiencies of that plan include lack of definition of the fishery management unit involved, lack of OY figures and insufficient reporting requirements.

KING CRAB

Council adopted objectives for the King crab FMP now in its drafting stage. Principle among the objectives was the adoption of the current State of Alaska objective to stabilize the annual harvest; also adopted were objectives to maintain and avoid disruption of existing socio-economic structures and to maximize benefit/cost ratios for public investment on development, research, management and enforcement of the King crab fishery. The writing team for the King crab plan presented a two-hour overview of the resource and fishery.

HERRING

Council separated herring from other groundfish and directed development of a separate FMP for herring in the eastern Bering Sea. ADF&G has been designated lead agency and plan development team members will be named at the February meeting.

E&ADN

Council discussed the NOAA draft paper on Economic and Allied Data Needs for Fisheries Management and the draft response reviewed by the SSC. That response, noting some deficiencies in the proposed national system and suggesting revisions to make it more responsive to Regional Council needs, was endorsed by the Council.

MPD SCHEDULE

Management Plan Development and Review Schedules were deferred until the February meeting pending further study. In the interim, legal counsel will review for compliance with the law.

U.S. & FOREIGN FISHERY SCIENTISTS MEETING

A joint meeting of U.S. and foreign scientists for the purpose of discussing all species in the North Pacific was endorsed in principle. Specifics were postponed until after the INPFC renegotiations are concluded.

DATA AVAILABILITY

Development will continue on the request by the Council for a schedule of when fisheries data becomes available for management plan drafting purposes.

POT STORAGE

Feasibility of "on-ground" pot storage was referred to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S MEETING

A decision was made to send the Council Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Executive Director to the meeting of Council Chairmen in Charleston, South Carolina. The meeting is scheduled for late March.

SSC CHARTER

The SSC will give the Council a letter suggesting changes in the SSC Charter. These were detailed by Dr. Lee Alverson, Chairman, SSC, during his report to the Council.

FOREIGN ALLOCATIONS

Council directed that a study team be formed to deal with the subject of "short allocations" as brought to Council attention by RADM Hayes, USCG. The problem centers around the fact that a foreign fishery will be shut down when any quota for a specific area is determined to have been taken. Unrealistically low incidental allocations, when reached, closes the fishery in that area on all species.

PDT ECOLOGIST

Council determined that the development teams for the clam and herring resources could benefit from having an ecologist as a member.

JOINT VENTURES

Council has directed the Executive Director to write a letter to NOAA urging action on the subject of joint ventures policy, once promised for mid-November, 1977.

AP MEMBERSHIP

The following AP members were assigned to plan development teams for FMP's:

Bering Sea Groundfish	Sig Jaeger Oral Burch
Bering Sea Herring	Al Otness Dan O'Hara
Bering Sea Clam	Harry Wilde Don Rawlinson
Troll Salmon	Bud Boddy Jack Cotant Knute Johnson

Robert Starck resigned from the AP because of time conflicts with his fishing business. A replacement will be named at the February meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTION

A meeting of the NPFMC Finance Committee was held Friday morning, Jan. 27, 1978. Their recommendations, which were endorsed by the Council, included:

1. Unsolicited proposals from MIT for "A Study of Regional Fishery Management Councils" and "The Georges Bank Fisheries; Development of Management Plans" were not needed at present and of marginal value.
2. Changes were approved in the RFP for a study of the impacts of the commercial herring fishery on the village economics of the AYK area.
3. An RFP for data analysis from the 1977 troll logbook study was approved in the amount of \$15,000.
4. The troll salmon observer program was approved in principle. More specific costs and methods will be developed for review at the next meeting.
5. The troll salmon socio-economic study RFP was endorsed for support for other agency funding. The scope and costs are considered too much to conform to Council guidelines for research funding.
6. A chinook salmon smolt tagging proposal was supported in concept but, again, funding should be from another agency because of the program's expense and duration.
7. The need was recognized for a high seas salmon tagging program. Funding alternatives might include some reallocation of present monies from on-going salmon research programs.

8. A low priority was given an RFP for a study of management strategy in developing troll salmon plans.
9. The Finance Committee directed a staff salary study for presentation at the next meeting.

COUNCIL REGULATIONS

Proposed Council regulations printed in the January 9th Federal Register will be reviewed at the February meeting.

FEBRUARY MEETING

The next meeting of the NPFMC will be held February 23-24, 1978 at the Anchorage-Westward Hilton, Anchorage, Alaska.

-NPFMC-

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

P. O. BOX 3136 DT

Anchorage, AK 99501