

REPORT OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Budget Committee reviewed the status of the calendar year (CY) May 1997 financial report and budget projection for the remainder of this year.

Five months, or 42%, of CY 1997 have elapsed. Expenditures for the five-month period ending May 31, 1997 were \$634,479 which is 42% of the annual budget of \$1,500,000. While overall expenses are on budget, the projection for the remainder of this year indicates that we will finish this year with little or no year-end excess funds. Prudence dictates all expense categories be monitored closely.

Dr. David Hanson reported the House and Senate committees are expected to act on the FY 1998 Commerce budget between July 4 and the week of July 14.

PFMC  
06/25/97

**DRAFT**  
**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Pacific Fishery Management Council**

Doubletree Hotel - Columbia River  
1401 North Hayden Island Drive  
Portland, Oregon 97217  
(503) 283-2111  
September 9 - 12, 1997

**A. Call to Order**

**B. Salmon Management**

1. Sequence of Events and Status of Fisheries
2. Plan Amendment for 1998 Implementation (OCN)
3. Plan Amendments for 1999 Implementation (MSFCMA)

**C. Habitat Issues**

**D. Pacific Halibut Management**

1. Status of 1997 Fisheries
2. Proposed Changes to Regulations for 1998

**E. Groundfish Management**

1. Status of Regulations
2. Status of Fisheries and Inseason Adjustments
3. Preliminary Stock Assessments, Harvest Levels and Other Specifications for 1998
4. Proposed Changes to Regulations for 1998, If Any
5. Plan Amendments
6. Fixed Gear Sablefish Management

**F. Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

1. Status Report on Plan Amendments

**G. Dungeness Crab Management**

**H. Highly Migratory Species Management**

**I. Administrative and Other Matters**

1. Report of the Budget Committee
2. Status of Legislation
3. November 1997 Agenda
4. Election of Officers for Annual Term Beginning October 1, 1997

ADJOURN

Tuesday evening, September 9: Panel discussion on selective fisheries?

Wednesday evening, September 10: Banquet in honor of departing Council members.

APPOINTMENTS

Situation: Two vacancies remain on the Halibut Advisory Subpanel, the Washington and Oregon longliner positions. Nominees are listed in Attachment H.5.a.

**Council Action: Appoint new members to the Halibut Advisory Subpanel (2).**

Reference Material:

1. Nominations for the Halibut Advisory Subpanel (Attachment H.5.a.).

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HALIBUT ADVISORY SUBPANEL NOMINATIONS

Nominee	Nominated By
<u>WASHINGTON LONGLINER (1 position)</u>	
<b>Art "Bud" Femling</b>	Self Rand E. Hartill, Raven Fisheries, Inc., Astoria, OR John Warner, West Coast Fishermen's Alliance, Charleston, OR
<b>Harold Hoem</b>	Fishing Vessel Owners' Association, Seattle, WA
<u>OREGON LONGLINER (1 position)</u>	
<b>Herb Goblirsch</b>	Self
<b>Rand E. Hartill</b>	Self John Warner, West Coast Fishermen's Alliance, Charleston, OR Bud Femling, Port Angeles, WA
<b>Mark Newell</b>	Lisa Newell, Toledo, OR
<b>Bill Roberts</b>	Self Don Stevens, Newberg, OR John and Roz Vostinak, Newport Sportfishing, Inc., Newport, OR

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06/04/97

# DRAFT

June 25, 1997

Mr. William Stelle, Jr., Regional Administrator  
Northwest Region  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
7600 Sand Point Way NE  
BIN C15700  
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

Dear Will:

At its April meeting, the Council heard a presentation by Mr. Joe Scordino and reviewed the document, *"Report to Congress - Results of Discussions between National Marine Fisheries Service and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission on Behalf of the States of Washington, Oregon and California Regarding Recommendations for Addressing the Impacts of California Sea Lions and Pacific Harbor Seals on Salmonids and West Coast Ecosystems."*

The Council supports the recommended framework for lethal removal of pinnipeds by state or federal resource agencies under certain circumstances. We are concerned that increased predation on salmonids by pinnipeds could cause further declines in salmonid populations and prevent or slow recovery of threatened, endangered, or severely depleted salmonid stocks.

We also support the recommendation to selectively reinstate authority for intentional lethal taking of California sea lions and Pacific harbor seals by commercial fishermen to protect gear and catch. Your scientific investigation reports that California sea lions and Pacific harbor seals interact with many commercial and sport fisheries on the West Coast. In particular, California sea lion predation on salmon in the California troll fishery causes substantial commercial loss (NMFS, 1997. *Investigation of Scientific Information on the Impacts of California Sea Lions and Pacific Harbor Seals on Salmonids and on the Coastal Ecosystems of Washington, Oregon, and California*. U.S. Dep. Commer., NOAA Tech Memo. NMFS-NWFSC-28, 172p.). Until effective nonlethal removal techniques are developed, we agree it is necessary to allow fishermen in certain circumstances to prevent economic loss due to pinniped interactions, as long as all removals are restricted to biologically "safe" levels under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

In addition, the Council strongly supports the concept of making federal grant money available for research on the development of nonlethal deterrent technologies to resolve resource conflicts involving pinnipeds on the West Coast, since expanding pinniped populations have demonstrated the ability to adapt to, avoid, or circumvent existing nonlethal deterrent techniques. Although this initial report effectively identified key problem areas in pinniped-fishery interactions, we agree more information is necessary to evaluate and monitor pinniped impacts on salmonids

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and other components of the West Coast ecosystems. We encourage additional funding through National Marine Fisheries Service and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for research in this area.

Sincerely,

**DRAFT**

Robert C. Fletcher  
Chair

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05/29/97