

**DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
DoubleTree Hotel - Columbia River  
Umatilla Room  
1401 N Hayden Island Drive  
Portland, OR 92717  
(503) 283-2111  
June 29, 2000

**Subpanel members present:**

Mr. Jerry Bates, northern processor, Newport, OR  
Dr. Michael Domeier, private recreational, Oceanside, CA  
Mr. Pete Dupuy, commercial at-large, Tarzana, CA  
Mr. Peter Flournoy, chair, purse seine, San Diego, CA  
Mr. Douglas Fricke, commercial at-large, Hoquiam, WA  
Ms. Andy Oliver for Dr. Rod Fujita, public at-large, Oakland, CA  
Mr. Donald Hansen, charter boat, Dana Point, CA  
Mr. Wayne Heikkila, vice-chair, commercial troll, Eureka, CA  
Mr. Chuck Janisse, gillnet, Ventura, CA  
Ms. Marciel Klenk, public at-large, Napa, CA  
Mr. Steve Lassley, commercial at-large, Spring Valley, CA  
Ms. Cinda Shedore, commercial at-large, Siletz, OR

**Plan Development Team members present:**

Dr. Norm Bartoo, NMFS, La Jolla, CA  
Mr. Steve Croke, CDFG, Long Beach, CA  
Ms. Jean McCrae, ODFW, Newport, OR  
Ms. Michele Robinson, WDFW, Montesano, WA  
Dr. Dale Squires, NMFS, La Jolla, CA

**Members of the public and others present:**

Ms. Tana McHale, WFOA, AFRF, Sacramento, CA  
Ms. Kate Wing, NRDC, San Francisco, CA  
Mr. Carl Sbarounis, CAHS, Gardena, CA  
Mr. Jim Morgan, NMFS, Long Beach, CA  
Ms. Kathy Fosmark, Fishermen's Association of Moss Landing, Pebble Beach, CA  
Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Westport Charterboat Association, Westport, WA  
Ms. Patty Wolf, CDFG, Long Beach, CA  
Mr. Dan Waldeck, PFMC Staff, Portland, OR  
Mr. Mike Atterberry, Alaska Ocean Seafood, Anacortes, WA  
Dr. Vidar Wespestad, Lynnwood, WA  
Mr. David Jincks, MTC, Newport, OR  
Mr. Jim Fisher, Hammond, OR  
Ms. Sandy Fisher, Hammond, OR  
Mr. John Royal, chair, CPSAS  
Mr. Mark Powell, CMC, San Francisco, CA  
Mr. Larry Six, NMFS contractor, Portland, OR

## Reports

### 1. Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team Meeting, June 5-6, 2000

Team co-chair Steve Crooke summarized the recent meeting of the Team. A brief written summary is provided in the Team's statement to the Council (Supplemental HMSPDT Report E.2, June 2000) or in the Team Meeting Summary on the Council website ([www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)).

Subpanel members had questions and concerns about the cost/earnings data collection efforts planned this summer for the troll and driftnet fisheries. Michael Domeier was concerned that the recreational fishery appears to have been overlooked in terms of economic data collection. Team members noted that funds are sufficient only to collect information on the troll and driftnet fisheries at this time, but there is economic information already available on all aspects of the sport fisheries except for slip boats. Doug Fricke was concerned about the sampling intensity for the troll survey, particularly for smaller vessels. Dale Squires offered to provide information on the sampling scheme. Steve Lassley requested that harpoon boats be included in the survey.

### 2. Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Meetings

Chair Peter Flournoy referred members to the letter of June 21, 2000, from Svein Fougner to Council Chair Jim Lone summarizing actions taken by the IATTC at its annual meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica in June, and to the package of resolutions adopted by the IATTC. Of particular interest is the resolution requiring the establishment of a record of vessels authorized to fish in the Convention Area for species under the purview of the Commission. NMFS may decide to establish a permit program for U.S. vessels that fish in the area. Members expressed concern about duplication with the high seas license and the anticipated permit required by the future convention for the western and central Pacific area.

Andy Oliver noted the effort to establish a cap on purse seine capacity. No agreement has been reached yet. Work continues.

The IATTC sent a letter to the chair of the Multilateral High Level Conference on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific (MHLC) addressing the issue of the eastern boundary in the northern area. The IATTC expressed opposition to extension of the eastern boundary to cover the range of northern albacore tuna, as this would create a substantial area of overlap in the eastern Pacific with either the current IATTC Convention or the proposed new Convention, both of which include northern albacore.

### 3. MHLC, April 12-19, 2000

Wayne Heikkila summarized the recent meeting. The final negotiating session scheduled for Fiji in August will need to be relocated due to the unrest in Fiji.

### 4. 51st Annual Tuna Conference, May 22-25, 2000

Norm Bartoo described the kinds of papers presented at the Tuna Conference (mostly scientific) and referred interested individuals to the collection of abstracts of papers.

### 5. Western Pacific Fishery Management Council Developments

Chair Flournoy summarized recent developments in the Hawaii area, including regulations and laws addressing the landing of shark fins without carcasses (finning) and the area closure to reduce turtle bycatch in the longline fishery. A very recent court order enlarges the area closed to longline gear, requires 100% observe coverage, and restricts the number of longline sets.

Wayne Heikkila noted the need for similar limited entry programs in the Western Pacific and Pacific regions,

when and if the Pacific Council chooses to adopt a limited entry program for west coast-based vessels. Doug Fricke emphasized the need to be aware that many Washington boats went to Alaska that could come back to this region to fish for albacore, thereby increasing effort.

#### 6. U.S./Canada Albacore Treaty

Peter Flournoy stated that the Western Fishboat Owners' Association had requested the Department of State to consult with Canada on treaty issues such as catch reporting.

#### 7. Cetacean Take Reduction Team

Chuck Janisse reported on the recent meeting of the Take Reduction Team which makes recommendations on measures to reduce interaction of driftnets with protected species. The Team recommended continued use of pingers and the requirement to hang the net at least 36 feet below the surface, among others.

The Subpanel agreed that reports on recent developments should be on the agenda of all future meetings. The Chair will request written reports in advance of the meeting on all items.

### **Subpanel Report to Council**

#### 1. Species in the Management Unit

Michele Robinson of the Team summarized Appendix I of the Team Statement to the Council (Supplemental HMSPDT Report E.2, June 2000), which includes five options for including species in the management unit. The management unit consists of species which will be actively managed and for which estimates of MSY and definitions of overfishing are required. The Team's preferred option (option 1) includes albacore tuna, bigeye tuna, bluefin tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, striped marlin, swordfish, blue shark, bigeye thresher shark, common thresher shark, pelagic thresher shark and shortfin mako shark.

Michael Domeier stressed the need for two species lists, management unit species and associated species. The Team explained that they are still working on development of other species lists, including bycatch species, data collection species and prohibited species. These will be discussed at the July Team meeting. Dr. Domeier also recommended that dolphin (fish) need to be in the management unit. Dolphin are an important target species in the recreational fishery and are highly migratory. He stated that more dolphin are landed than striped marlin, and marlin are on the Team's preferred list.

Pete Dupuy moved that the Subpanel support option 1 with the addition of dolphin. Peter Flournoy spoke against the motion, because option 1 includes a number of species (sharks) for which a biologically-based MSY cannot be calculated (according to the Team report). Andy Oliver spoke in favor, stating that she thinks a reasonable MSY for sharks can be calculated with the available information. The vote was 5 yes and 6 no (chair voted to break the tie). The motion failed.

Peter Flournoy moved that the Subpanel support option 3, which includes species for which sufficient data exists to calculate a biologically-based MSY. (Option 3 removes the 3 thresher sharks species and mako shark in comparison to option 1). Andy Oliver opposed the motion; it eliminates targeted species. Michael Domeier also opposed, because it eliminates species which may be vulnerable to overfishing. By including these shark species, the onus will be put on NMFS to collect the necessary data. The vote was 5 yes, 4 no. The motion passed. It was agreed that Andy Oliver would draft a minority statement for inclusion in the Subpanel report.

#### 2. Bonito

The Subpanel agreed that bonito belongs in the FMP for Coastal Pelagic Species.

#### 3. Regulation Inconsistencies

Michele Robinson reviewed Appendix II of the Team statement, Status of State Regulations and Regulatory Options.

Recreational fishery:

- Licenses: The Subpanel agreed with the Team that the State of Washington should consider adding albacore tuna to its existing recreational fishing license with a catch record for data purposes.
- Seasons: The Subpanel agreed with the Team not to recommend changes.
- Bag Limits: Michael Domeier recommended a daily bag limit of 10 albacore be established to prevent waste. He also stated that the practice of trading fresh tuna for canned tuna should be prevented. Doug Fricke said that a bag limit of 10 in Washington would encourage more harvest and is not wanted by the charterboat fleet. The Subpanel recommended that the Team address these two issues.
- Possession Limits: The Subpanel agreed with the Team not to recommend changes.
- Minimum Size Limit: The Subpanel agreed with the Team not to recommend changes.
- Fishing Gear: The Subpanel agreed with the Team not to recommend changes.
- Prohibited Species: The Subpanel agreed with the Team recommendation that Oregon and Washington prohibit the take of white shark, but went further and recommended that Oregon and Washington also prohibit the taking of basking sharks. This would create consistent, coastwide regulations on prohibited species.
- Logbooks for Charterboats: The Subpanel disagreed with the Team recommendation that Oregon institute a voluntary logbook program, and instead recommended the Council instruct the Team to develop a standardized federal logbook program for the region.

Commercial fishery:

- Licenses: The Subpanel disagreed with the Team that no changes are needed, and recommended that the Council direct the Team to develop one federal license or permit which would apply to all HMS fisheries (commercial, charter, recreational, treaty Indian) wherever they occur.
- Seasons: Chuck Janisse recommended that the California swordfish seasonal restrictions be incorporated in the federal regulations, or that the FMP defer to the state regulations on this matter. The Subpanel agreed to defer this item until after the Team has addressed management options at its next meeting.
- Fishing Gear: Pete Dupuy presented a brief written proposal for a pelagic longline fishery in the EEZ. The proposal was stimulated by concerns over the driftnet fishery interactions with protected species. It provides a tool to address conservation and management concerns such as species selectivity. Jerry Bates noted that, as written, the proposal appears to preclude participation by Oregon boats. Steve Lassley recommended that harpoon boats also be allowed to participate. Andy Oliver said the proposal needs a lot of work. She is interested in performance standards for each gear and incentives to help reduce bycatch. She is not prepared to support the proposal at this time, but suggested the Team look at it. Michael Domeier stated that anglers will be concerned that this proposal will increase pressure on striped marlin.

A motion was made to ask the Council to direct the Team to consider longlines as an alternative gear type. The vote was 7 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain. The motion passed.

The Subpanel agreed that the Council should ask the Team to identify alternatives that would create greater consistency in west coast HMS license/permit regulations.

- **Prohibited Species:** The Subpanel agreed with the Team recommendation that Oregon and Washington prohibit the take of white shark, but went further and recommended that Oregon and Washington also prohibit the taking of basking sharks. This would create consistent, coastwide regulations on prohibited species.
- **Finning:** The Subpanel disagreed with the Team that no changes are needed and recommended that the Council instruct the Team to include a prohibition on finning (must land fins with whole carcass) in all alternatives developed (vote 7 yes, 1 no).
- **Far Offshore Fishery:** The Subpanel disagreed with the Team that no changes are needed and recommended that the Council instruct the Team to identify alternatives that would create greater consistency in license/permit regulations.
- **Experimental Fisheries:** The Subpanel disagreed with the Team that no changes are needed and recommended that the Council instruct the Team to include experimental fisheries as part of one or more management alternatives.

### 3. Management Objectives

Michele Robinson explained that the draft list of objectives in Appendix V of the Team statement were derived from the scoping document, other Pacific Council FMPs and the Atlantic HMS FMP. The objectives are a work in progress and Subpanel comments are invited.

The Subpanel offered some comments directly to the Team. Doug Fricke asked that some language be included that reflects historical participation in the fisheries. Marciel Klenk said that the objectives need to address adequate supply of fish at reasonable prices.

(The Team subsequently presented a revised list of objectives to the Council, which included suggestions from the Subpanel.)

#### **FMP Schedule**

Steve Crooke stated that the current plan development schedule is Appendix IV of the Team statement. The Team is asking the Council to consider a delay of about five months to allow inclusion of new economic data in the analysis. The majority of the Subpanel supported the delay (vote 9 yes, 1 no).

#### **Meeting Schedule**

The Subpanel discussed the timing of future meetings and agreed that meetings in conjunction with Council meetings are preferred. The Subpanel suggests the next meeting be held September 13 (1 to 6 p.m.) and September 14 (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.), assuming the Council addresses HMS on September 15.

#### **Elections**

The Subpanel re-elected Peter Flournoy as chair and Wayne Heikkila as vice-chair for the year 2000.

#### **Public Comment**

Ms. Kathy Fosmark, representing several driftnetters in Moss Landing, CA, spoke in favor of the longline proposal submitted by Pete Dupuy.

(The Subpanel recommendations to the Council are included in Supplemental HMSAS Report E.2, June 2000).

