

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Groundfish Advisory Subpanel**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
San Mateo Room  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11-13, 2001

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 8 A.M.

**A. Call to Order**

Rod Moore, Chair

Roll Call, Introductions, Announcements, Approve Agenda, etc.

**B. Groundfish Management**

Agenda Overview

Jim Glock

C.2 Sablefish Three-Tier Program, Qualification with Setnet landings  
(**Council Action:** Final Action on Including Setnet Landings in the  
Qualification for Sablefish Tier Levels)

Jim Seger/NMFS

**C. Marine Reserves**

E.1 Review of West Coast Marine Reserves Efforts

Jim Seger

E.2 Marine Reserves in the Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary  
(**Council Action:** Consider Update or Recommendations of the Source  
Agencies)

CDFG/CINMS

**B. Groundfish Management, (continued)**

C.6 Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Applications  
(**Council Action:** Consider Permit Recommendations to NMFS)

Yvonne de Reynier

C.4 Status of the 2001 Stock Assessment Review Panel Meetings  
(**Council Action:** Discussion and Guidance)

Cyreis Schmitt

C.5 Stock Assessment Priorities for 2002  
(**Council:** Discussion and Guidance on Priorities)

Cyreis Schmitt

C.12 Status of Fisheries and Inseason Adjustments  
(**Council Action:** Consider Inseason Adjustments)

Jim Hastie

C.3 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey Update  
(**Council Action:** Discussion Only)

Russell Porter

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2001 - 8 A.M.

Review Draft Groundfish Advisory Subpanel Statements

**B. Groundfish Management, (continued)**

- C.7 Limited Entry Fixed Gear Sablefish Permit Stacking and Season for 2001 and Beyond  
(**Council Action:** Consider Implementation Advice to NMFS) Yvonne de Reynier
- C.8 Incidental Pacific Halibut Harvest Restrictions for the Primary, Limited Entry Longline Sablefish Fishery North of Point Chehalis, Washington  
(**Council Action:** Adopt Final Harvest Restrictions for 2001) Chuck Tracy
- C.9 Strategic Plan Implementation  
(**Council Action:** Consider Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Oversight Committee Recommendations) Dan Waldeck
- C.10 Rebuilding Plans  
(**Council Action:** Adopt Final Plans for Canary Rockfish, Cowcod, Bocaccio, And Lingcod; Schedule Further Action for Pacific Ocean Perch; Adopt Preliminary Plans for Widow Rockfish and Darkblotched Rockfish) Jim Glock
- C.11 Preliminary Harvest Levels for 2002  
(**Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary Acceptable Biological Catch and Optimum Yield Levels) Dan Waldeck
- C.13 Full Retention Measures  
(**Council Action:** Consider Groundfish Management Team Recommendations) GMT
- C.14 American Fisheries Act Management Measures  
(**Council Action:** Adopt Public Review Draft) Dan Waldeck/Jim Seger

**D. Habitat Issues** Habitat Select Group

**E. Other**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2001 - 8 A.M.

Review Draft Groundfish Advisory Subpanel Statements, Complete Unfinished Agenda Items

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/21/01

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Enforcement Consultants**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Boardroom  
Park Plaza Hotel  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 12, 2001

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2001 - 5:30 PM (or Immediately Following Council Meeting)

**A. Introductions**

**B. New Business/Issues**

**C. Enforcement Comments - Agenda Items**

1. Marine Reserves - Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary Program (E.2.c)
2. Groundfish Management
  - a. Fixed Gear Sablefish Permit Stacking for 2001 Season (C.7.c)
  - b. Incidental Halibut Catch in Sablefish Fishery North of Point Chehalis (C.8.c)
  - c. Status of Fisheries and Inseason Adjustments (C.12.e)
  - d. Full Retention Measures (D.13.c)

**D. Industry and Interested Party Comments**

**E. Public Comment**

**F. Miscellaneous Items - Group Discussion**

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/31/01

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Groundfish Management Team**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
Peninsula 3 Room  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11-15, 2001

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 8 A.M.

***Call to Order***

Roll Call, Introductions, Announcements, etc.

Jim Hastie, Co-Chair

The GMT will assist the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Council throughout the week. The GMT will meet independently only as necessary to prepare supporting material.

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/21/01

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Scientific and Statistical Committee**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
Peninsula 4  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11 - 12, 2001

**In addition to your briefing book, please bring your Spring 2001 Newsletter.**

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 8 A.M.

**A. *Call to Order and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Administrative Matters***

1. Report of the Executive Director Don McIsaac
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve April 2001 Minutes
4. Open Discussion (.5 hours)

**A suggestion for the amount of time each agenda item should take is provided in the agenda. At the time the agenda is approved, priorities can be set and these times revised. Discussion leaders should determine whether more or less time is required and request an amendment to the agenda as needed.**

Committee member work assignments are noted in parentheses at the end of each agenda item. The first name listed is the discussion leader and the second the rapporteur.

CLOSED SESSION  
8:30 A.M.

5. Review Nominations for Groundfish Management Team

GENERAL SESSION  
9 A.M.

**C. *Groundfish Management***

6. Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) Applications  
(9 A.M., 1 hour; Zhou, Allee) *Council Agenda – Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Afternoon.*
5. Stock Assessment Priorities for 2002 Cyreis Schmitt  
(10 A.M., 1 hour; Punt, Francis) *Council Agenda – Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, Afternoon.*
3. Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey Update Russell Porter  
(11 A.M., 1 hour; Ralston, Conrad) *Council Agenda – Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*

LUNCH

**A. SSC Administrative and Other Matters, (continued)**

6. Review Statements C.3 and C.4  
(1 P.M., .5 hours)

**C. Groundfish Management, (continued)**

2. Sablefish Three-Tier Program Qualification with Setnet Landings Jim Seger  
(1:30 P.M., 1 hour; Thomson, Dalton) *Council Agenda – Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*

**E. Marine Reserves**

2. Marine Reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Patty Wolf, Matt Pickett  
(2:30 P.M., 1.5 hours; Francis, Ralston) *Council Agenda – Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, Afternoon.*
1. Review of West Coast Marine Reserves Efforts Jim Seger  
(4 P.M., .5 hours) *Informational Report – No SSC Statement*

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4 P.M.

Public comments on fishery issues not on the agenda are accepted at this time.

**A. SSC Administrative and Other Matters, (continued)**

7. Finalize Statements C.3 and C.4; Review Statements C.2  
(4:30 P.M., 1 hour)

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2000 - 8 A.M.

**A. SSC Administrative and Other Matters, (continued)**

8. Finalize Statement C.2; Review Statement E.2  
(8 A.M., 1 hour)

**C. Groundfish Management, (continued)**

10. Rebuilding Plans Jim Glock  
(9 A.M., 1.5 hours; Stauffer, Lawson) *Council Agenda – Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*

**F. Highly Migratory Species (HMS)**

2. Public Review Draft of the HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Dale Squires, Steve Crooke  
(10:30 A.M., 1.5 hours; Hill, Punt) *Council Agenda – Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*

**A. SSC Administrative and Other Matters, (continued)**

9. Finalize Statement E.2

(12 P.M., .5 hours)

LUNCH

**A. SSC Administrative and Other Matters, (continued)**

10. Review Statements C.10 and F.2  
(1:30 P.M., 1 hour)

**G. Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

2. Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline and Other Specifications for 2002 Kevin Hill  
(2:30 P.M., 1 hour; Byrne, Stauffer) *Council Agenda – Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*
3. Market Squid Maximum Sustainable Yield  
Methodology Review Workshop Ray Conser, Tom Jagielo  
(3:30 P.M., 1 hour; Conser/Jagiello, Byrne) *Council Agenda – Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, Morning.*

**A. SSC Administrative Matters, (continued)**

11. Review and Finalize Statements C.10, F.2, G.2, and G.3  
(4:30 P.M., 1 hour)

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/24/01



**DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**Scientific and Statistical Committee**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Red Lion Hotel Sacramento  
Comstock 1  
1401 Arden Way  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
(916) 922-8041  
April 2-3, 2001

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by Chair Cynthia Thomson. Dr. Donald Mclsaac, Executive Director, provided opening comments and discussed the priority of items on the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) agenda. The most important items include: F.7, F.6, C.1, E.2, and B.3; items of secondary importance include: B.2, E.3, and F.2.

The SSC and Dr. Mclsaac discussed the briefing book materials relevant to marine reserves. The SSC was curious what the Council was looking for in terms of SSC review, i.e., review of the science in the briefing material or a deeper review of the marine reserve options presented in the briefing material. Issues such as how would fisheries be regulated and how would jurisdiction be coordinated were also of interest to the SSC. Dr. Mclsaac noted these issues were also of great interest to the Council, and any advice the SSC could offer would be appreciated. As to the focus of the SSC review, Dr. Mclsaac noted this should be limited to the information in the briefing material. That is, the SSC review should focus on the information provided, but SSC comments on larger issues would also be helpful. If the SSC finds flaws in the material presented (especially attachments 2 and 3), feedback should be provided to the presenters and guidance provided to the Council.

After minor changes to work assignments, the agenda was approved.

**Members in Attendance**

Dr. Brian Allee, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, Portland, OR  
Mr. Alan Byrne, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Nampa, ID  
Mr. Robert Conrad, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia, WA  
Dr. Ramon Conser, National Marine Fisheries Service, La Jolla, CA  
Dr. Michael Dalton, California State University, Monterey Bay, CA  
Dr. Robert Francis, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Kevin Hill, California Department of Fish and Game, La Jolla, CA  
Mr. Tom Jagielo, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia, WA  
Dr. Peter Lawson, National Marine Fisheries Service, Newport, OR  
Dr. Andre Punt, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Stephen Ralston, National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Cruz, CA  
Ms. Cynthia Thomson, National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Cruz, CA  
Dr. Shijie Zhou, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Portland, OR

**Members Absent**

Dr. Gary Stauffer, National Marine Fisheries Service, Seattle, WA

**SSC Administrative Matters**

The SSC reviewed subcommittee assignments decided on at the March 2001 meeting. Dr. Punt was added to two subcommittees: groundfish and highly migratory species. Mr. Conrad was added to the

highly migratory species subcommittee. Assignments are as follows:

Salmon	Groundfish	Coastal Pelagic Species	Highly Migratory Species	Economic
Brian Allee	Ray Conser	Michael Dalton	Alan Byrne	<b>Mike Dalton, Chair</b>
Alan Byrne	Michael Dalton	Ray Conser	Robert Conrad	Cynthia Thomson
Robert Conrad	Tom Jagielo	<b>Robert Francis, Chair</b>	Ray Conser	
Kevin Hill	Andre Punt	Tom Jagielo	<b>Kevin Hill, Chair</b>	
<b>Pete Lawson, Chair</b>	<b>Steve Ralston, Chair</b>	Steve Ralston	Andre Punt	
Shijie Zhou	Gary Stauffer	Gary Stauffer	Cindy Thomson	
	Robert Francis			

### Scientific and Statistical Committee Comments to the Council

The following text contains SSC comments to the Council.

#### Salmon

##### Identification of Stocks not Meeting Escapement Goals for Three Consecutive Years

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) reviewed the chinook and coho natural spawner escapement estimates for the SSC. Most stocks met their escapement goals in 2000 and most are predicted to achieve their goals in 2001.

Three stocks: upper Columbia River summer chinook, Grays Harbor fall chinook, and Queets River spring/summer chinook did not achieve their escapement goals in each of the past three years. Exploitation rates of Council-managed fisheries on these stocks were less than 5% in the base period. Hence these stocks are exceptions under the overfishing criterion of Amendment 14.

The Queets River coho stock failed to meet its escapement objective from 1997 to 1999, but exceeded the escapement goal in 2000. This stock is predicted to meet the escapement goal this year. The STT is conducting an overfishing review of this stock. A draft of their assessment will be available in September 2001.

##### Methodology Reviews for 2001

There are three major salmon methodology projects that, if completed, will require Council review prior to their use in the season setting process for salmon in 2002.

- The SSC received an update on the status of the development of the new Klamath Ocean Harvest Model (KOHM). We encourage the completion of this project so it can be reviewed by the SSC prior to the November 2001 Council meeting.
- The coho cohort analysis project is designed to produce a new data base for harvest modeling of coho salmon. The SSC expected a final review of this project in 2000, but progress has been slower than anticipated. The SSC encourages the completion of this project as it will be an important component for any update to the coho FRAM.
- The chinook FRAM is currently being modified so that selective fisheries for chinook salmon can be modeled. This will result in major changes to the model and will require a detailed review by the SSC when completed.

The SSC recognizes the need for salmon forecast methodology reviews, but acknowledges that these

have lower priorities in comparison to the projects described above.

The SSC requires good documentation and ample review time to make the most efficient use of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee's time. As per Council Operating Procedures (Council Operating Procedure Number 15, Salmon Estimation Methodology Updates and Review), agencies should be responsible for ensuring materials submitted to the SSC are technically sound, comprehensive, clearly documented, and identified by author. Documents should receive internal agency review before being submitted to the Council. To provide adequate review time, materials must be received at the Council office at least three weeks prior to the scheduled review meetings. The SSC will need to review any proposed changes to salmon methodologies for the year 2002 at the November 2001 Council meeting.

## **Marine Reserves**

### Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Program

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) heard a presentation of the process to establish marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS). The process described seems to be well designed, with guidance from scientists who are experts in their fields. Recommendations are scheduled to be forwarded to the Sanctuary Advisory Committee in May, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and California Department of Fish and Game in June, and agencies including the Council, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the California Fish and Game Commission in the Fall of 2001.

The Council is currently exploring the possibility of establishing marine reserves. Reserves established under the Channel Islands Marine Reserves Process (CIMRP) are likely to be the first substantial reserves to be incorporated under Council management.

Much of the SSC discussion focused on the role of the Council in this process. Given the advanced state of design, negotiation, and consensus building in the marine reserves process it would be difficult for the SSC or the Council to provide much substantive input for the immediate proposal. The CIMRP presenters indicated their interest in coordinating marine reserve proposals with existing management systems that have been implemented by the Council. There is a critical need to evaluate the interaction of closed areas with existing controls. The SSC can review the products of the science and socioeconomics panels to verify that their work represents sound science, keeping in mind that the science and economics of marine reserve design is a young field with much uncertainty. The Council must be present during future stages of reserve design to ensure effective integration of reserve design with fishery management.

The Council, upon determining that it supports the recommendations coming out of the process, can work to modify fishery management plans (FMPs) and other Council documents and procedures to enable implementation of the plan. Accomplishing these tasks may take one or two years and constitute a significant work load for the Council.

Following are brief notes on some observations and concerns.

- The Council has jurisdiction only over species with FMPs. Protection for other species will need to come from other authorities.
- Management of the reserves will likely require amendments to all of the Council's FMPs (Coastal Pelagic Species, Groundfish, Salmon). It will take time once reserves are designed to modify FMPs and regulations to accommodate reserves. This also provides opportunity for baseline monitoring of reserves.
- The CIMRP science panel recommended a reserve size of 30-50% of the area in their jurisdiction. They indicated that regulations prohibiting catch would be required in the reserve and that effort outside the reserve would require additional controls. The SSC requests documentation regarding the basis for the recommendations for reserve size, siting and effort

control.

- Two of the goals of the process are to (1) maintain fisheries benefits and (2) maintain long-term socioeconomic viability while minimizing short-term losses. The SSC requests documentation of the cost-benefit analysis relative to these goals.
- Enforcement requirements depend on the areas designated. The CIMRP science panel recommends a network of reserves ranging in size from 10 to 100 square kilometers. This recommendation will need to be reconciled with enforcement considerations: enforcement may or may not be easier with fewer, larger reserve areas.
- Performance criteria based on appropriate monitoring programs have to be identified to maximize information gain from the reserve system and to evaluate its effectiveness. The presenters acknowledged that this has not yet been done, and solicited suggestions.

## **Coastal Pelagic Species**

### **Review Capacity Goal and Related Issues**

Drs. Kevin Hill and Sam Herrick of the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) briefed the SSC on fleet profile, capacity goal and permit transferability options for the coastal pelagic species (CPS) finfish limited entry fishery. The window period for CPS permit transferability closed December 31, 2000. The current fleet consists of 65 vessels.

The CPSMT considered a number of alternative capacity goals (1) long-term, expected average allowable harvest of 108,306 mt, with physical capacity to harvest peak period landings of 273,507 mt, (2) average total finfish landings during 1981-2000 of 57,676 mt, (3) long-term expected average allowable harvest of 108,306 mt, and (4) fixed fleet of 65 vessels with no capacity goal.

In order to determine the number of vessels needed to achieve capacity goal options 1-3, it was necessary to estimate capacity per vessel. The CPSMT considered two alternative approaches to such estimation (1) an approach based on Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) and (2) an approach based on observed historical behavior of the fleet. Using both these approaches, the CPSMT provided estimates of "physical" and "normal" capacity, with physical capacity being a measure of hold capacity and normal capacity being the amount of capacity used under average stock abundance and market conditions.

The DEA approach (Table 3, p. 11) involves estimation of a technically efficient production frontier and the assumption that all vessels in the fleet are capable of performing at the frontier. This approach assumes a homogeneous fleet; for instance, it does not consider variations in performance among vessels due to differences in skill among skippers and crews. Moreover, for most of the fleet, the frontier exceeds even their maximum historical harvest. For these reasons, the SSC considers this approach to greatly overestimate fleet capacity.

The second approach (Appendix Table 3, p. 22) is based on the assumption that each vessel is capable of consistently replicating its own peak performance in terms of the maximum landings per trip and the maximum number of trips per year during 1981-2000. Although this approach provides a more realistic estimate of each vessel's capacity than DEA, it likely overestimates the extent to which such capacity is likely to be utilized in the pursuit of CPS finfish.

The CPS finfish fishery possesses a number of unique characteristics that make it difficult to estimate capacity in a realistic way. CPS finfish landings typically fall well below allowable harvest levels, for reasons that are largely market driven. The fleet is highly diversified and typically targets low-priced CPS finfish only when higher-priced alternatives such as squid or tuna are not available. The few vessels that are CPS finfish specialists tend to make very modest landings. Moreover, it is customary for vessels to avoid filling their hold on CPS finfish trips, due not only to processor limits but also the desire to avoid compromising the marketability of their catch. Thus, while the fleet is certainly capable of CPS finfish landings that exceed its normal capacity, it is unlikely to harvest its physical capacity.

According to Appendix Table 3 (p. 22), the normal capacity estimates associated with option 1 (65 boats) and option 2-A (41 boats) are very similar to each other, as are the physical capacity estimates. These results are not surprising, given the lack of incentive for the fleet to maximize its CPS finfish harvests. Although the physical capacity estimates likely exceed the amount of capacity likely to be utilized even under optimal stock abundance and market conditions, they are sufficiently high to suggest that the number of vessels allowed under both options 1 and 2-A would be capable of harvesting the long term expected allowable harvest (capacity goal option 3 - 108,306 mt) and perhaps even peak amounts of CPS finfish that might be available on an occasional basis (capacity goal option 1 - 273,507 mt).

While fleet size options 1 and 2-A are not distinguishable on the basis of capacity, it is possible to distinguish between these options by considering how they interact with the vessel profile options. Of the 65 CPS finfish limited entry boats, 55 also hold squid permits. Vessel profile option 1, which is to maintain a diverse CPS finfish fleet that also relies on other fishing opportunities, reflects the manner in which this fleet has historically operated. Fleet size option 1 (65 boats) is consistent with vessel profile option 1. Fleet size option 2-A (41 boats) is also consistent with fleet profile option 1, at least for the 41 CPS finfish permit holders who maintain their diversity of opportunities by holding onto their CPS finfish permits. However, option 2-A may significantly reduce the diversity of opportunities for vessels that give up their CPS finfish permit and makes them economically vulnerable in years of low squid and tuna availability. Option 2-A is also potentially disruptive of a long-standing pattern of behavior by fishery participants.

The SSC agrees with the CPSMT's recommendation that permit transfers be allowed in the CPS finfish limited entry fishery so long as fleet capacity does not exceed recommended levels. The SSC also supports the CPSMT's recommendation that transferability provisions be re-evaluated should the fleet's gross registered tonnage change by 5%.

#### Update on Squid Maximum Sustainable Yield Methodologies Workshop

The Department of Commerce rejected portions of Amendment 8 to the CPS FMP on the grounds that the amendment did not include an estimate of maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for squid. In September 2000, the SSC reviewed newly derived estimates of squid MSY. Because of the uncertainties surrounding these estimates and more generally, ongoing concern regarding the appropriateness of defining MSY for this species, the SSC did not recommend an MSY value. Fortunately, recent research conducted on squid life history (including growth, maturity, and fecundity) along with augmented fishery-dependent data (port sampling and logbooks) have provided significant new information and data. The SSC recommended (and the Council concurred) that the SSC work with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to organize a stock assessment review (STAR) panel during 2001 to integrate the ongoing squid research in California into the Council's CPS FMP. Terms of reference for the STAR Panel were meant to address the MSY issue as well as candidate control rules for practical squid management.

The STAR Panel will convene during May 14-17, 2001 (3.5 days) at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, La Jolla, California. The Panel will include representatives of the SSC, CDFG, NMFS, CPSMT, CPSAS, and two outside reviewers. Tentative panel members are:

SSC:	Tom Jagielo (Co-Chair)
SSC:	Ray Conser (Co-Chair)
SSC:	Cindy Thomson
CDFG:	Tom Barnes
CPSMT:	Paul Smith
CPSAS:	Heather Munro
Outside Reviewer:	Johann Augustyn (Marine and Coastal Management Institute - South Africa)
Outside Reviewer:	Larry Jacobson (NMFS - Woods Hole)

Approximately ten working papers are in preparation for the review, and will be distributed to the STAR Panel by May 1, 2001. All working paper authors will present their paper(s) to the STAR Panel and will

be available throughout the week to consult with the panel, provide additional information & data, and to carry out additional analyses, if needed. A draft STAR Panel report will be available for distribution with the briefing book prior to the June Council meeting.

Terms of reference for the Squid STAR Panel are:

1. Review recent findings on the biology and life history of market squid, including the assessment-related aspects of age and growth, maturity, fecundity, spawning behavior, longevity, habitat, and environment.
2. Review newly developed fisheries-related data, including catch history, effort data, and port sampling protocols as they relate to estimation of key biological, population parameters.
3. Review all aspects of MSY estimation, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act for all FMPs, and address the concept of MSY as it relates to a species that is short-lived and whose abundance/availability is largely environmentally determined.
4. Consider management measures for market squid, including operationally-practical control rules, long-term monitoring programs, and inseason adjustment mechanisms.
5. Prepare a report for the Council SSC detailing the findings of the review, practical management recommendations, and the key research and data needs.

## **Groundfish**

### Groundfish Strategic Plan Implementation

The SSC discussed progress made by the Ad Hoc Groundfish Strategic Plan Implementation Oversight Committee (SPOC) to move forward with strategic plan implementation. Initiatives to achieve capacity reduction are first on the recommended list of priorities, which include buyback and trawl permit stacking. The SSC supports timely action to reduce capacity in the groundfish fishery and the SPOC recommendation that work on trawl permit stacking should go forward promptly if full funding for the buyback program cannot be identified by June. The Council will need to consider the substantial workload issues that moving forward with trawl permit stacking will entail.

Marine reserves were also identified as a relatively high priority item. The SPOC recommended (1) continuing with phase 2 to establish an implementation team to develop a full proposal and (2) developing a summary of “who is doing what, so the Council can figure out where to plug in.” The SSC supports these two recommendations, which will help to coordinate the Council’s interaction with outside entities involved in the marine reserve development process (e.g., the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary) and also will facilitate consideration of how marine reserves will interact with existing Council management processes.

### Future Groundfish Management Process and Schedule

The SSC discussed the groundfish management process and schedule for the upcoming year. In recent years, the Council’s groundfish process has become increasingly more complex with each management cycle. Growing demands on the system coupled with inherently difficult management decisions have taxed all elements of the Council family. Completion of advisory committee documents and analyses – needed to support Council decision making – is often delayed until late in the calendar year, leaving little time for reflection and discussion.

The Council has established an Ad Hoc Groundfish Management Process Review Committee (GMPC) to address these issues. The GMPC has met twice and developed several ideas to investigate alternatives. Dr. Don McIsaac presented the draft report of the GMPC (Exhibit F.6.b) to the SSC.

While the SSC fully appreciates the multifaceted problems facing the groundfish management process, the SSC is best suited to address the stock assessment review (STAR) elements of the overall process. The STAR process was developed after long and involved negotiations among the Council's groundfish entities, the SSC, and NMFS to resolve the problem of providing independent and comprehensive review of stock assessments. This has been a resource and time-consuming process, and the challenge has always been to complete the process sufficiently early within the annual groundfish cycle (including assessment documents and STAR Panel reports) to allow for full Council deliberation without sacrificing the quality and reliability of the stock assessments. The SSC is concerned that some of the options for changing the groundfish management process – as outlined in the draft GMPC report – may result in the inability to use the most recent data in stock assessments. More specifically, modification of the present “2-meeting” sequence to either the “3-meeting” or “4-meeting” sequences considered in the draft GMPC report (p. 3), will reduce the time available for stock assessment and review, with concomitant reduction in quality of the products. If the status quo “2-meeting” sequence is to be modified, the SSC prefers the “3-meeting” sequence (June, September, and November).

With respect to the other possible changes delineated in the draft GMPC report, the SSC sees both pros and cons for most of these changes. Implementing multi-year management, for example, would have the undesirable effect of generally increasing the lag between stock assessments and the consequent implementation of management actions. However if properly structured, multi-year management could offer the benefits of an “off-year” for assessment and review during which assessment scientists and the SSC could work on development of assessment methods and computer software that should, over time, lead to a more state-of-the-art, efficient, and productive process. As such, the SSC recommends that if a change is made to multi-year management, the stock assessments and reviews should be done on same cycle as Council management, e.g., if the Council changes to a 2-year cycle (Table 6 of the draft GMPC report), groundfish stock assessment and review should be conducted every other year with the “off-year” dedicated to improving assessment methods and software, organizing special workshops (e.g., marine reserves), bio-economic studies (e.g., capacity reduction), etc. The Council should also be aware that a transition period is likely to be necessary if a 2-year cycle is adopted. While certain efficiencies will accrue over time leading to more stock assessments per year, it will not be practical in the short term to double the number of assessments done in the “on-years.”

Finally, the “science barrier” or “wall of science” (as depicted in Table 6 of the draft GMPC report) has been the basis of the SSC's groundfish STAR process development. In practice, the barrier has worked better in some years than others, but the SSC remains steadfast in supporting the concept of a science barrier in order to ensure that Council decisions have a solid scientific foundation.

## Rebuilding Plan Status Report

### Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Analyses

At the March 2001 meeting, the SSC completed the 3rd draft of the Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Analyses, which was circulated to members of the Groundfish Management Team, Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, and other Council entities over the last month. The Terms of Reference was also distributed to 19 West Coast groundfish stock analysts for comment. The SSC reviewed all comments that were received and revised the Terms of Reference accordingly (4th draft).

### Widow Rockfish

The SSC reviewed the most recent rebuilding analysis for widow rockfish (Exhibit F.7, Attachment 6). The Council should note that this analysis differs from the rebuilding analysis in the 2000 widow stock assessment (Williams et al. 2000) in which recruitment values for the stock projections were erroneously twice what they should have been. As a result, the rebuilding calculations in the current report present a more realistic view of the future.

The SSC would like to highlight the following points about the new analysis:

- $T_{MAX}$  (time to rebuild under no fishing) is estimated to be 34 years under the default option for

stock projection.

- Rebuilding projections are made by incorporating observed catches through the year 2000 and the 2,300 mt optimum yield (OY) for 2001.
- If the Council follows the pattern of selecting a harvest rate which gives a 60% probability of rebuilding to  $B_{40\%}$  by  $T_{MAX}$ , then  $OY_{2002} = 944$  mt.
- If rebuilding takes place on schedule, then indications are that the rebuilt stock will be able to sustain an annual harvest of about 3,900 mt. This corresponds to a fishing mortality rate that is less than  $F_{50\%}$ .

#### Canary Rockfish

The SSC received the new canary rockfish rebuilding plan in its supplemental briefing materials but, due to its length and late arrival, was unable to provide a comprehensive review at this meeting. However, the rebuilding analysis that is included in the plan is apparently unchanged from that already endorsed by the SSC. The SSC groundfish subcommittee will review the document and will provide Council staff with whatever comments the subcommittee has in the near future.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no formal public comment.

#### **Adjournment**

The SSC adjourned at approximately 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, 2001.

PFMC  
04/24/01



**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Budget Committee**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
Salon F Room  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11, 2001

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 10 A.M.

**A. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

Jim Harp, Chair

**B. Legislative Update**

Dave Hanson

**C. Executive Director Report**

Donald McIsaac

1. Status of Calendar Year (CY) 2000 Grant and Audit
2. Status of CY 2001 Grant Expenditures and Spending Projections
3. Supplemental Grant for Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Matters
4. Supplemental Grant for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Related Matters
  - a. General NEPA Related Purposes
  - b. Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
5. Status of CY 2002 Grant

**D. Other**

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/30/01

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Habitat Steering Group**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
The Boardroom  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11-12, 2001

*They are meeting for 2 days*

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 1 P.M.<sup>1</sup>

**A. Call to Order**

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda Co-Chairs

**B. HSG Role and Priorities**

1. Direction from Council Members

**C. Review of April Council Actions/Directions**

Chuck Tracy

**D. Reports on Council Agenda Items**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. F.2 Public Review Draft of the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan | HSG       |
| 2. E.2 Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) Program                    | CINMS     |
| 3. E.1 Status Report on All West Coast Marine Reserve Efforts                      | Jim Seger |
| 4. C.10 Habitat Elements of Groundfish Rebuilding Plans                            | HSG       |

**E. Discussion Items**

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Habitat Areas of Particular Concern Relationship to Marine Protected Areas and Groundfish Environmental Impact Statement | Cyreis Schmitt, NMFS               |
| 2. Fishing Gear Impacts - Workplan  | Cyreis Schmitt, NMFS               |
| 3. Essential Fish Habitat/Magnuson-Stevens Act Review   | Mark Helvey and Nora Berwick, NMFS |

**F. Information Presentations or Updates**

- |                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. San Francisco Airport Expansion | Mark Helvey, NMFS  |
| 2. Kelp Management Plan            | Bob Lea, CDFG      |
| 3. Klamath Flow Issue              | Michael Rode, CDFG |

**G. HSG Member Briefings**

**H. Public Comment Period**

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1/ The meeting will continue on Tuesday morning starting at 8 a.m. to complete the HSG agenda.

***I. September Meeting Agenda***

1. Sacramento Winter Chinook vs. Clifton Pumps
2. Sacramento Winter Chinook Recovery Plan Update
3. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Relicensing Programmatic Letter
4. Lower Willamette Superfund Assessment

Mark Helvey, NMFS  
NMFS SWR

Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon Society  
Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon Society

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/24/01

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
**Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel**

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Park Plaza Hotel  
Peninsula 2  
1177 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 342-9200  
June 11 - 12, 2001

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001 - 1 P.M.

- A. Call to Order** Bob Fletcher, Chair
- B. Introductions**
- C. Approval of Agenda**
- D. Approval of Summary of March 6-7, 2001 Meeting**
- E. Report of the Executive Director** Don McIsaac
- F. Reports of Recent Activities** Svein Fougner
1. International Activities
2. Domestic Activities
- G. Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team (HMSPDT) Summary of Draft Fishery Management Plan (FMP)** HMSPDT

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2001 - 8 A.M.

- G. HMSPDT Summary of Draft FMP, (continued)** HMSPDT
- H. Advisor Comments on FMP**
- I. Plan Development and Meeting Schedule**
- J. Report to the Council**

ADJOURN

PFMC  
05/24/01

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

Pacific Fishery Management Council  
DoubleTree Hotel - Columbia River  
Nehalem Room  
1401 N Hayden Island Drive  
Portland, OR 97217  
(503) 283-2111  
March 6-7, 2001

**Subpanel members present**

Jock Albright, recreational at large, Costa Mesa, CA  
Pete Dupuy, commercial at large, Tarzana, CA  
Robert Fletcher, charter boat, San Diego, CA  
Douglas Fricke, commercial at large, Hoquiam, WA  
Wayne Heikkila, commercial troll, Eureka, CA  
Chuck Janisse, commercial gillnet, Ventura, CA  
Marciel Klenk, public at large, Napa, CA  
Larry Mebust for Steve Lassley, commercial at large, Spring Valley, CA  
Kate Wing, conservation, San Francisco, CA

**Plan Development Team members present**

David Au, NMFS, La Jolla, CA  
Steve Crooke, CDFG, Long Beach, CA  
Sam Herrick, NMFS, La Jolla, CA  
Jean McCrae, ODFW, Newport, OR  
Michele Robinson, WDFW, Montesano, WA  
Susan Smith, NMFS, La Jolla, CA  
Dale Squires, NMFS, La Jolla, CA

**Others attending one or more days**

Larry Six, consultant-plan coordinator, Portland, OR  
Cinda Shedore, F/V Cinda S  
Russell Nelson, The Billfish Foundation, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Bob Osborn, United Anglers of Southern California  
Dick Stone, Recreational Fishing Alliance, Southport, NC  
Vidar Wespestad, American Fisheries Research Foundation  
Tana McHale, Western Fishboat Owners' Association, Sacramento, CA  
Rob Jones, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
E. J. Guthrie, Guthrie Machinery Co., Portland, OR  
Mike McGettigan, Sea Watch, Inc.  
Jim Morgan, NMFS, Long Beach, CA  
Andy Oliver, World Wildlife Fund  
Dan Erickson, Wildlife Conservation Society, Dexter, OR  
Peter Flournoy, AFRF, San Diego, CA  
Brett Schneider, NMFS, Long Beach, CA  
Brian Corrigan, Coast Guard, Seattle, WA  
Svein Fougner, NMFS, Long Beach, WA  
Dan Waldeck, Council staff, Portland, OR  
Liz Lauck, Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, NY  
Merry Camhi, National Audubon Society  
Kevin Hill, CDFG, La Jolla, CA

Beth Babcock, Wildlife Conservation Society  
Tim Hobbs, National Coalition for Marine Conservation  
David Wilmot, Ocean Wildlife Campaign  
Andy Peters, MTL Group  
Sonja Fordham, Center for Marine Conservation, Washington, DC

## **Call to Order, Agenda, Minutes**

Chairman Bob Fletcher called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. on March 6, 2001. The agenda was approved as proposed. The second draft of the January 8-11, 2001 meeting summary was approved as revised.

## **Reports of Recent Activities**

### 1. International

Svein Fougner reported that the U.S. and Canada will meet April 10-11 to discuss the Albacore Treaty. The U.S. is proposing a change to Annex A of the Treaty which would require an agreement each year on a vessel limit in each Zone. The U.S. is proposing a limit of 75 Canadian vessels in U.S. waters for 2001. Canada has not accepted these proposals yet.

Chuck Janisse announced that the preparatory conference for the Central and Western Pacific Convention will take place April 23-28 in New Zealand. Also, the IATTC will meet April 16-21 in San Jose, Costa Rica to re-negotiate the Convention.

### 2. Domestic

Svein Fougner reported that the final EIS for the western Pacific longline fisheries is being prepared, and the ESA biological opinion on sea turtles has been drafted and is being reviewed internally in NMFS. The FEIS and BO are likely to contain permanent constraints on the Hawaiian longline fishery. A decision is expected in about 3 weeks.

Svein also announced that the NMFS Southwest Region is preparing national regulations to implement the new shark finning prohibition legislation. (April 22 deadline).

Finally, Svein distributed copies of a letter from the Southwest Regional Administrator to the Council concerning the draft HMS FMP.

## **Subpanel Comments on Draft FMP**

Dale Squires, co-chair of the plan development team, informed the group that there is a new assessment of the status of common thresher shark, which is not reflected in the draft FMP yet.

### General Comments

It was agreed that editorial comments of a non-substantive nature would not be addressed in this meeting. Individual Subpanel members will provide such comments directly to the authors in writing.

Some of the sets of options are not mutually exclusive. The Council has the flexibility to choose none, one or more options. In other sections, options are clearly mutually exclusive. This is confusing and needs to be clarified.

Is there going to be enough money to implement the FMP after it is adopted?

A table of contents for the entire document is needed.

A conversion table for metric measurements would be helpful.

An index would be helpful, also.

The fishery descriptions in Chapter 2 and the background statements on the fisheries in Chapter 8 need to be consistent.

A separate shark plan was discussed, but there was not agreement on this proposal.

### Chapter 1

Define “gear conflict” and “user conflict.” Gear conflicts should refer to physical conflicts between gears on the grounds.

Move up the list of acronyms and definitions to the front of the plan.

The jurisdiction over vessels on the high seas needs to be clarified by legal counsel (Eileen Cooney later attended the meeting and provided answers to Subpanel questions.)

Add a paragraph on the U.S./Canada Albacore Treaty on p. 12.

Section 1.6.3 should mention that major fishing nations need to participate in the Central and Western Pacific Convention (MHLIC); also need to mention that the U.S. has not ratified this convention and that entry into force will occur sometime in the future.

There was a suggestion to change “fisher” to “fisherman.”

The definitions of “high seas” and “far offshore” need to be revised.

### Chapter 2

Editorial comments on section 2.2.1 (albacore fishery) were provided by Doug Fricke.

Chuck Janisse stated that he would re-draft the description of the DGN fishery.

There are concerns with the inclusion of non-HMS species in Table 2.2.2-1. Sam Herrick will revise this table.

Larry Mebust offered to re-draft the harpoon fishery description.

Bob Osborn said that United Anglers of Southern California will be providing historical information on the recreational fisheries.

### Chapter 3

David Au of the team continues to work on an assessment of the common thresher shark stock. David reported that the stock is in better shape than previously thought. MSY is estimated to about 400 mt.

The Council needs to understand that there are options which are not in Chapter 8, for instance control rule options in Chapter 3.

Methodologies and parameter estimates should be added where information is available. A table of parameters would be helpful.

### Chapter 4

No comments were provided.

## Chapter 5

Table 5.3.3-1 which presents unedited longline data should be omitted, since the data are misleading.

## Chapter 6

This chapter contains some incorrect information and is missing some information. The Team will work with the SWR Protected Resources staff to improve this chapter.

## Chapter 7

The paragraph on the California statute on shark finning needs to be revised (p.4).

## Chapter 8

Include a matrix summarizing each set of management alternatives and a brief analysis of their relationship to the evaluation factors. This would not replace detailed text describing the full analysis of each alternative, but would serve to organize Chapter 8 and make it easier to read.

An option to recognize the importance of providing recreational fishing opportunities as one of the management objectives was discussed, but no agreement was reached. There was concern that adding this management objective would disturb the balance between recreational and commercial interests in the objectives.

The analyses of options need to include how the proposed measures relate to the National Standards of the M-S Act and to the National Plan of Action for Sharks. The executive order on environmental justice also needs to be considered.

The “no-action” alternative (defer to states) and “federalize existing state regulations” need to be added to every set of management alternatives.

The Subpanel declined to identify any preferred options at this early stage of the draft.

By a vote of 7 to 2, the Subpanel voted against including an option to set quotas/harvest levels for each of the management unit species with the adoption of the FMP.

Licensing: Commercial license option 1 should be revised to include the area outside the EEZ.

Add an option for no recreational vessel permit.

Omit the option for license endorsements for individual fisheries.

License provisions should not be implemented (required) until NMFS is prepared to administer the new program.

The Washington recreational fishery does not support a federal recreational license.

Reporting: Add an option for fishery-by-fishery reporting requirements plus a framework to adjust reporting requirements.

Require compliance with sampling programs.

Drift Gillnet: Need to address limited entry in the FMP (federalize the existing program). The Team should request guidance from the Council on this.

Harpoon: Revise option 1 to reflect current State of Washington policy.



Longline Within EEZ: Option 4 does not completely reflect the intent of the environmental community. Language will be provided.

Longline Outside EEZ: Add an option for limited entry.

Pete Dupuy envisions the longline fishery as one fishery (inside and outside EEZ), not separate fisheries. Clarifying language should be added.

Recreational: Remove the option to permit the sale of recreationally caught fish. Add the no-action alternative (as in all other fisheries) and an option for federal bag limits.

Shark Conservation: The Team is considering dropping options 2, 7, 8 and 10. This will be discussed at the next Team meeting. The Team will also discuss a minimum size limit for the sport fishery.

Bycatch: Don't repeat reporting requirements here. Cross-reference the earlier section. Review bycatch reduction needs for each fishery on a case-by-case basis. Don't repeat the list of measures for each fishery.

Protected Species: Include 3 options as follows:

1. No action
2. Incorporate existing federal regulations (MMPA, ESA, MBTA) into the FMP
3. Adopt selected portions of the western Pacific regulations

#### Chapter 9

Sections 9.9 and 9.12 need to be updated to reflect that these plans of action have been finalized.

The List of Fisheries requirement of the MSFCMA needs to be added to Chapter 9 or 7.

#### Appendix A

No comments.

#### Appendix B

The California regulations on emerging fisheries are missing from this appendix.

### **Meeting Schedule and Plan Development Schedule**

Because of the broad nature and scope of the suggested changes to the FMP, the Subpanel recommends that the next draft be presented to the Council at the June meeting (not the April meeting as scheduled).

The next Team meeting will occur April 9-13, 2001, in the large conference room at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day).

The Subpanel recommends that the next Subpanel meeting should take place during the June Council meeting.

The Subpanel is concerned that there be adequate funding for the development and administration of the plan and asks the Council to encourage NMFS to continue funding.

### **Attendance**

The Subpanel recommends that the Council notify Subpanel members who have missed two or more meetings per calendar year (without providing an alternate) and determine their intent to serve.

### **Report to Council**

The Subpanel prepared and a statement to the Council for presentation on March 8 (see Exhibit E.2.d, Supplemental HMSAS Report, March 2001).

PFMC  
05/23/01