

Agenda

- (1) Review Committee's Charge.
- (2) Committee's working protocol.
- (3) NMFS approach and schedule for the draft Environmental Impact Statement on renewing Fur Seal Subsistence Harvest Regulations.
- (4) Presentation of Data on Status of the Bering Sea Fur Seal population.
- (5) Presentation on groundfish fishery harvest in the Bering Sea Aleutian Islands relative to fur seal foraging areas.
- (6) Other items as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Committee for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Committee action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Committee's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 18, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 111703J]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Joint Protocol Committee.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Joint Protocol Committee of the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Council will meet in December 2003, in Anchorage, AK.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 8, 2003, 1-5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hilton Hotel, 500 W. 3rd Avenue, Aspen/Spruce Room, Anchorage, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane DiCosimo, Council staff, Phone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Agenda**

- (1) Steering Committee recommendations for managing State groundfish fisheries if Federal groundfish fisheries are rationalized.
- (2) Review groundfish proposals submitted to the Board of Fisheries.
- (3) Update on Congressional action on pending Council action (if available).
- (4) Other business as necessary.

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Richard W. Surdi,

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 111703HJ]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and its advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings. December 8 through December 16, 2003.

DATES: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, December 8, 2003, and continue through Saturday, December 13, 2003.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 8, 2003, and continue through Wednesday, December 10, 2003.

The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2003 and continue through Tuesday December 16, 2003.

The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 W 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, Phone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:*Council Plenary Session*

The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports

- (a) Executive Director's Report
- (b) National Marine Fisheries Service Management Report
- (c) United States Coast Guard Report/NMFS Enforcement Report
- (d) Alaska Department Fish & Game Reports
- (e) United States Fish & Wildlife Report

2. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization

- (a) Receive report from Joint Protocol Committee
- (b) Receive Groundfish Development Authority (Council only)
- (c) Review and refine alternatives and options

3. Observer Program

- (a) Program overview (Alaska Fishery Science Center)
- (b) Preliminary review of Program Restructuring Analysis