

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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November 9, 2006

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**179th Plenary Session**  
**North Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**December 6-12, 2006**  
**Anchorage Hilton Hotel**

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet December 6-12, 2006 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska. Other meetings to be held during the week are:

Committee/Panel

Advisory Panel  
Scientific and Statistical Committee  
Enforcement Committee

Beginning

Dec 4, Mon – 8:00am - Dillingham/Katmai Room  
Dec 6, Wed – 8:00am - Birch/Willow Room  
Dec 5, Tue – 9:00am - Birch/Willow Room

All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions of the Council. Other committee and workgroup meetings may be scheduled on short notice during the week, and will be posted at the hotel.

## INFORMATION FOR PERSONS WISHING TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sign-up sheets are available at the registration table for those wishing to provide public comments on a specific agenda item. Sign-up must be completed **before** public comment begins on that agenda item. Additional names are generally not accepted **after** public comment has begun.

**Submission of Written Comments.** Written comments and materials to be included in Council meeting notebooks must be received at the Council office by **5:00 pm (Alaska Time) on Wednesday, November 29, 2006.** Written and oral comments should include a statement of the source and date of information provided as well as a brief description of the background and interests of the person(s) submitting the statement. Comments can be sent by mail or fax—please **do not** submit comments by e-mail. **It is the submitter's responsibility to provide an adequate number of copies of comments after the deadline.** Materials provided **during** the meeting for distribution to Council members should be provided to the Council secretary. A minimum of **25** copies is needed to ensure that Council members, the executive director, NOAA General Counsel, appropriate staff, and the official meeting record each receive a copy. If copies are to be made available for the Advisory Panel (**28**), Scientific and Statistical Committee (**18**), or the public after the pre-meeting deadline, they must also be provided by the submitter.

**FOR THOSE WISHING TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE  
ADVISORY PANEL**

The Advisory Panel has revised its operating guidelines to incorporate a strict time management approach to its meetings. Rules for testimony before the Advisory Panel have been developed which are similar to those used by the Council. Members of the public wishing to testify before the AP **must** sign up on the list for each topic listed on the agenda. Sign-up sheets are provided in a special notebook located at the back of the room. The deadline for registering to testify is when the agenda topic comes before the AP. The time available for individual and group testimony will be based on the number registered and determined by the AP Chairman. **The AP may not take public testimony on items for which they will not be making recommendations to the Council.**

**FOR THOSE WISHING TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE  
SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE**

The usual practice is for the SSC to call for public comment immediately following the staff presentation on each agenda item. In addition, the SSC will designate a time, normally at the beginning of the afternoon session on the first day of the SSC meeting, when members of the public will have the opportunity to present testimony on any agenda item. The Committee will discourage testimony that does not directly address the technical issues of concern to the SSC, and **presentations lasting more than ten minutes will require prior approval from the Chair.**

**COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS**

|               |  |              |  |
|---------------|--|--------------|--|
| <b>ABC</b>    | Acceptable Biological Catch                              | <b>mt</b>    | Metric tons                                      |
| <b>AP</b>     | Advisory Panel   | <b>NMFS</b>  | National Marine Fisheries Service                |
| <b>ADFG</b>   | Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game                            | <b>NOAA</b>  | National Oceanic & Atmospheric Adm.              |
| <b>BSAI</b>   | Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands                          | <b>NPFMC</b> | North Pacific Fishery Management Council         |
| <b>CDQ</b>    | Community Development Quota                              | <b>OY</b>    | Optimum Yield                                    |
| <b>CVOA</b>   | Catcher Vessel Operational Area                          | <b>POP</b>   | Pacific ocean perch                              |
| <b>EAM</b>    | Ecosystem Approach to Management                         | <b>PSC</b>   | Prohibited Species Catch                         |
| <b>EA/RIR</b> | Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review        | <b>SAFE</b>  | Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Document |
| <b>EEZ</b>    | Exclusive Economic Zone                                  | <b>SSC</b>   | Scientific and Statistical Committee             |
| <b>EFH</b>    | Essential Fish Habitat                                   | <b>SSL</b>   | Steller Sea Lion                                 |
| <b>ESA</b>    | Endangered Species Act                                   | <b>TAC</b>   | Total Allowable Catch                            |
| <b>FEP</b>    | Fishery Ecosystem Plan                                   | <b>USFWS</b> | United States Fish & Wildlife Service            |
| <b>FMP</b>    | Fishery Management Plan                                  | <b>VIP</b>   | Vessel Incentive Program                         |
| <b>GHL</b>    | Guideline Harvest Level                                  |              |  |
| <b>GOA</b>    | Gulf of Alaska   |              |  |
| <b>HAPC</b>   | Habitat Areas of Particular Concern                      |              |  |
| <b>IFQ</b>    | Individual Fishing Quota                                 |              |  |
| <b>IPHC</b>   | International Pacific Halibut Commission                 |              |  |
| <b>IRFA</b>   | Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis                  |              |  |
| <b>IRIU</b>   | Improved Retention/Improved Utilization                  |              |  |
| <b>ITAC</b>   | Initial Total Allowable Catch                            |              |  |
| <b>LAMP</b>   | Local Area Management Plan                               |              |  |
| <b>LLP</b>    | License Limitation Program                               |              |  |
| <b>MSFCMA</b> | Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act |              |  |
| <b>MMPA</b>   | Marine Mammal Protection Act                             |              |  |
| <b>MRA</b>    | Maximum Retainable Amount                                |              |  |
| <b>MSY</b>    | Maximum Sustainable Yield                                |              |  |

**PRELIMINARY  
DRAFT AGENDA  
179<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
December 6-11, 2006  
Anchorage Hilton Hotel**

|   | <u>Estimated Hours</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER  |                        |
| (a) Approval of Agenda  | •                      |
| (b) Approval of minutes   |                        |
| B. REPORTS  |                        |
| B-1 Executive Director's Report   | (4 hrs)                |
| B-2 NMFS Management Report (including RAM crab annual report to fleet)  |                        |
| B-3 North Pacific Research Board Report   |                        |
| B-4 Enforcement Report  |                        |
| B-5 USCG Report   |                        |
| B-6 ADF&G Report (including a report on halibut subsistence survey)   |                        |
| B-7 USFWS Report  |                        |
| B-8 State Department Report   |                        |
| B-9 Protected Species Report (including MMPA List of Fisheries for 2007, Adak area pollock study, update on consultation, SSC review of ranking tool) |                        |
| C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS   |                        |
| C-1 <u>Charter Halibut Management</u>   | (14 hrs)               |
| (a) Status report on 2005 GHM and committee report, and action as necessary.  |                        |
| (b) Review discussion paper on 5-fish limit, and committee report, and action as necessary.   |                        |
| (c) Review discussion paper on Halibut Act proposed amendment and committee report, and action as necessary.  |                        |
| (d) Review separate accountability issue and committee report, and action as necessary.   |                        |
| (e) Review moratorium discussion paper and committee report, and action as necessary.   |                        |
| (f) Review discussion paper on allocations/shares and committee report, and action as necessary.  |                        |
| C-2 <u>MRA adjustments</u>  | (2 hrs)                |
| Final action on amendment.  |                        |
| C-3 <u>Trawl LLP Recency</u>  | (4 hrs)                |
| Preliminary review of analysis, and action as necessary.  |                        |
| C-4 <u>GOA Rationalization</u>  | (8 hrs)                |
| Review analysis and refine alternatives.  |                        |
| C-5 <u>Seabird Interactions</u>   | (2 hrs)                |
| Initial review of EA/RIR.   |                        |

D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

- D-1 Groundfish Management (8 hrs)  
(a) Receive report on summary of comments for EIS.  
(b) Review GOA SAFE; adopt final harvest Specifications for 2007/08  
(c) Review BSAI SAFE; adopt final harvest Specifications for 2007/08  
(d) Review Adak EFP (T)
- D-2 PSC Bycatch (2 hrs)  
(a) Final action on VIP repeal amendment package.  
(b) Review EFP for Salmon Bycatch.
- D-3 Bering Sea Habitant Conservation (4 hrs)  
Receive report on gear research and finalize alternatives for analysis (T).
- ~~D-4 BSAI Crab Management (2 hrs)  
Initial Review of EA to revise overfishing definition (T). Delayed until Feb/07~~
- D-5 Staff Tasking (4 Hrs)  
(a) Review Committees and tasking, and take action as necessary.  
(b) Review progress on the Arctic management, and action as necessary.  
(c) Refine PSEIS management policy workplan.
- D-6 Other Business

Total Agenda Hours: 52 hours

|  | SSC<br>Birch/Willow and Lupine   | AP<br>Dillingham/Katmai                                       | Council<br>Aleutian  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Monday, Dec 4</b><br>AK BOF meeting in<br>Dillingham to discuss<br>AI pollock fishery start<br>date                                 |  | 8:00am C-1 Charter Halibut Mgmt.                              |  |
|  |  | 1:00pm C-1 continued  |  |
| <b>Tuesday, Dec 5</b>  |  | 8:00am C-1 continued  | 9:00am Enforcement Committee   |
|  |  | 1:00pm C-2 MRA Adjustments                                    |  |
| <b>Wednesday, Dec 6</b>  | 8:00am B-3 NPRB Report<br>C-1(e) Charter moratorium<br>C-3 Trawl LLP Recency | 8:00am C-3 Trawl LLP Recency<br>D-3 BS Habitat Conservation   | 8:00am B Reports   |
|  | 1:00pm C-5 Seabirds<br>D-3 BS Habitat Conservation                           | 1:00pm D-3 continued<br>C-4 GOA Rationalization               | 1:00pm C-1 Charter Halibut Mgmt.   |
|  | 5:00pm <i>Breakdown and move to<br/>Lupine Room</i>                          |   |  |
| <b>Thursday, Dec 7</b><br>Workshop on Gear<br>Modification as a part<br>of BS Habitat<br><br>Conservation Analysis<br>- AP room 6:30pm | 8:00am D-1 Groundfish Management   | 8:00am C-4 continued  | 8:00am C-1 continued   |
|  | 1:00pm D-1 continued   | 1:00pm C-4 continued  | 1:00pm C-1 continued   |
| <b>Friday, Dec 8</b>   | 8:00am D-1 continued<br>B-9 Protected Species<br>D-2(b) EFP Review           | 8:00am C-5 Seabird Interactions<br>D-1 Groundfish Management  | 8:00am C-1 continued<br>C-2 MRA adjustments<br><br>12:00pm Executive Session |
|  | 1:00pm <del>D-4 BSAI Crab Management</del>                                   | 1:00pm D-1 continued<br><br>Break by 5:00pm                   | 1:00pm C-2 continued<br>C-3 Trawl LLP Recency<br><br>Break by 5:00pm         |
| <b>Saturday, Dec 9</b><br><b>30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary<br/>Dinner - 6pm</b>  |  | 8:00am D-2 PSC Bycatch<br><del>D-4 BSAI Crab Management</del> | 8:00am C-5 Seabird Interactions<br>C-4 GOA Rationalization                   |
|  |  | 1:00pm D-5 Staff Tasking<br><br>Break by 4:00pm               | 1:00pm C-4 continued   |
| <b>Sunday, Dec 10</b>  |  |   | 8:00am C-4 continued   |
|  |  |   | 1:00pm D-1 Groundfish Management   |
| <b>Monday, Dec 11</b>  |  |   | 8:00am D-1 continued   |
|  |  |   | 1:00pm D-2 PSC Bycatch<br>D-3 BS Conservation Habitat                        |
| <b>Tuesday, Dec 12</b>   |  |   | 8:00am D-3 continued<br><del>D-4 BSAI Crab Management</del>                  |
|  |  |   | 1:00pm D-5 Staff Tasking   |

NOTE: The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. All meetings are open to the public with the exception of Council Executive Sessions.