

## Appendix 1. Terms of Reference for the Groundfish Plan Teams.

### Plan Teams for the Groundfish Fisheries of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(November 2003)

1. **Establishment.** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) shall establish Plan Teams for the groundfish fisheries of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BS/AI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA). The Plan Teams will provide the Council with advice in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics as they relate to the groundfish fisheries of the BS/AI and GOA.
2. **Membership.** Plan Team members will be appointed from government agencies and academic institutions having expertise relating to the groundfish fisheries of the BS/AI and GOA. Normally, each Plan Team will include at least one member from the Council staff, the regional office of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), NMFS' Alaska Fishery Science Center, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the Washington Department of Fisheries, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, the University of Alaska, the University of Washington, and other institutions and universities. With the consent of the sponsoring agency or institution, nominations may be made by the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Advisory Panel (AP), or the Plan Teams themselves. All nominations will be subject to approval by the SSC, with the Council retaining final appointment authority. Appointments should reflect the Plan Teams' responsibility to provide advice in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics.
3. **Organization.** Each Plan Team will be directed by a chairperson or co-chairs, and may divide some of its responsibilities among work groups organized according to subject matter. A work group may include members from more than one Plan Team. Each work group will be directed by a work group leader.
  - (a) **Rules of order.** In general, rules of order will be informal. Plan Team decisions will be reached by consensus, whenever possible. If a decision is required and consensus cannot be reached, the opinion of the majority will prevail. In representing either Plan Team publicly, the spokesperson will take care to relate Plan Team opinions accurately, noting points of concern where consensus cannot be reached.
  - (b) **Meetings.** Plan Team meetings will be held prior to Council's September and December meetings. The Plan Team chairpersons may call other meetings as necessary. The two Plan Teams may meet either separately or jointly. A draft agenda will be prepared in advance of each meeting by the Council staff in consultation with the respective chairperson or chairpersons, and may be revised by the Plan Team(s) during the meeting. Each agenda will include an opportunity for comments from the general public. Minutes of each meeting will be prepared by the Council staff, distributed to Plan Team members, and revised as necessary at or before the subsequent Plan Team meeting.
  - (c) **Selection of officers.** Officers (Plan Team chairpersons and work group leaders) will be selected at the meeting preceding the September Council meeting or as vacancies arise. The Plan Team chairpersons will be selected for two-year terms. Work group leaders will be selected for one-year terms. There will be no limit on the number of consecutive terms that officers may serve.
4. **Functions.** The Plan Teams' primary function is to provide the Council with the best available scientific information, including scientifically based recommendations regarding appropriate

measures for the conservation and management of the BS/AI and GOA groundfish fisheries.

- (a) **SAFE report.** The Plan Teams compile SAFE reports for the BS/AI and GOA groundfish fisheries on an annual basis. The SAFE reports provide the Council with a summary of the most recent biological condition of the groundfish stocks and the social and economic condition of the fishing and processing industries. The SAFE reports summarize the best available scientific information concerning the past, present, and possible future condition of the groundfish stocks and fisheries, along with ecosystem considerations/concerns. This includes recommendation of acceptable biological catch and, where appropriate, total allowable catch levels. All recommendations must be designed to prevent overfishing while achieving optimum yield (National Standard 1). All recommendations must also be scientifically based (National Standard 2), drawing upon the Plan Teams' expertise in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics. Finally, uncertainty must be taken in account wherever possible (National Standard 6).
- (b) **Plan amendments.** The Plan Teams may also play a role in the development and evaluation of amendments to the BS/AI and GOA groundfish fishery management plans.
  - (i) The Plan Teams may evaluate amendment proposals and forward their recommendations to the Plan Amendment Advisory Group, on which the Plan Team chairpersons serve.
  - (ii) In addition, the Plan Teams may develop their own amendment proposals.
  - (iii) Once an amendment proposal has been accepted for consideration by the Council, an analytical team may be assembled by the responsible agencies. Every analytical team should include at least one member from one or both Plan Teams, drawn from the appropriate working group(s), whenever possible.
  - (iv) Once an amendment analysis has been completed, it may be reviewed by the Plan Teams. The Plan Teams' comments, if any, are then forwarded to the SSC, AP, and Council.

## Appendix 2. Terms of Reference for the BSAI Crab Plan Team.

Plan Team for the King and Tanner Crab Fisheries  
of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(May 2005)

1. Establishment. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) shall establish a Plan Team for the king and Tanner crab fisheries of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BS/AI) area. The Plan Team will provide the Council with advice in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics as they relate to the king and Tanner crab fisheries of the BS/AI area.
2. Membership. Plan Team members will be appointed from government agencies, academic institutions, and organizations having expertise relating to the crab fisheries of the BS/AI. Normally, the Plan Team will consist of at least one member from the Council staff, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the University of Alaska, and other universities and institutions. Alternate members may be assigned to participate in case a member cannot attend a meeting. With the consent of the sponsoring agency or institution, nominations may be made by the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Advisory Panel (AP), or the Plan Team. All nominations will be subject to approval by the SSC, with the Council retaining final appointment authority. Appointments should reflect the Plan Teams' responsibility to evaluate and make recommendations on management, biological, economic and social conditions of the fisheries.
3. Organization. The Plan Team will be directed by a chairperson, and may divide some of its responsibilities among work groups organized according to subject matter. A work group may also include members from the BS/AI groundfish Plan Team. Each work group will be directed by a work group leader.
  - (a) Rules of order. In general, rules of order will be informal. Plan Team decisions will be reached by consensus, whenever possible. If a decision is required and consensus cannot be reached, the opinion of the majority will prevail. In representing the Plan Team publicly, the spokesperson will take care to relate Plan Team opinions accurately, noting points of concern where consensus cannot be reached.
  - (b) Meetings. A minimum of two Plan Team meetings will be held annually in so far as practicable to discuss guideline harvest levels, status and management of the BSAI crab stocks. The timing and scope of meetings, in so far as practicable, will be as follows; a spring meeting will be held with the intention of reviewing the previous year's fishery catch data, the methodology for stock assessment modeling, preliminary stock assessment and any additional issues pertinent to the summer research schedule. A following summer/fall meeting will be held with the intention to discuss the status of stocks. This meeting would be intended to occur prior to the TAC determinations by the state. The fall meeting shall be held at a time that ensures availability of TAC specifications for the allocation of crab resources under crab rationalization. It is understood that this status of stocks meeting does not preclude additional Inter-agency meetings prior to TAC setting. The Plan Team chairperson may call other meetings as necessary. The Crab Plan Team may meet separately or jointly with the BSAI Groundfish Plan Team to discuss areas of joint concern. A draft agenda will be prepared in advance of each meeting by the Council staff in consultation with the chairperson, and may be revised by the Plan Team during the meeting. Minutes of each meeting will be prepared by the Council staff, distributed to Plan Team members, and revised as necessary at or before the subsequent Plan Team meeting. The Chairperson (or designee) will report the Team's finding to the Council.

(c) Selection of officers. Officers (Plan Team Chair, Vice Chair and workgroup leaders) will be selected at the meeting preceding the annual Plan Team meeting or as vacancies arise. The Plan Team Chairperson and Vice Chair will be selected at the annual meeting for two-year terms. It is the intent of the Team that after two years the Vice Chair will succeed as Chair and the following election will be for the position of Vice Chair. This process will continue on a two-year cycle. Work group leaders will be selected for one-year terms. There will be no limit on the number of consecutive terms that officers may serve.

4. Functions. The Plan Teams' primary function is to provide the Council with the best available scientific information, including scientifically based recommendations regarding appropriate measures for the conservation and management of the BS/AI king and Tanner crab fisheries. All recommendations must be designed to prevent overfishing while achieving optimum yield (National Standard 1). All recommendations must also be scientifically based (National Standard 2), drawing upon the Plan Teams' expertise in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics. Finally, uncertainty must be taken into account wherever possible (National Standard 6).

(a) SAFE report. The Plan Team compiles a SAFE report for the BS/AI king and Tanner crab fisheries on an annual basis. The SAFE report provides the Council with a summary of the most recent biological condition of the crab stocks and the social and economic condition of the fishing and processing industries. The SAFE report summarizes the best available scientific information concerning the past, present, and possible future condition of the crab stocks and fisheries, along with ecosystem concerns.

(b) Plan amendments. The Plan Team may also play a role in the development and evaluation of amendments to the BS/AI king and Tanner crab fishery management plan, as well as evaluate amendments to the groundfish fishery management plan that may affect the conservation and management of BS/AI crab resources.

(i) The Plan Team may evaluate amendment proposals and forward their recommendations to the Council.

(ii) In addition, the Plan Team may develop their own amendment proposals.

(iii) Once an amendment proposal has been accepted for consideration by the Council, an analytical team may be assembled by the responsible agencies. Every analytical team should include at least one member from the Plan Team, drawn from the appropriate working group(s), whenever possible.

(iv) Once an amendment analysis has been completed, it may be reviewed by the Plan Team. The Plan Team's comments, if any, are then forwarded to the SSC, AP, and Council.

(c) Peer Review. The plan team deliberations shall constitute part of the peer review process specified by current OMB policies provided that members directly involved in the production of a scientific product will recuse themselves from the review.

## Appendix 3. Terms of Reference for the Alaska Scallop Plan Team.

Plan Team for the Alaska Scallop Fisheries  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
(March 2005)

1. **Establishment.** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) shall establish a Plan Team for the Alaska scallop fisheries and this. The Plan Team will provide the Council regarding issues with advice in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics as they that relate to the scallop fisheries off Alaska.
2. **Membership.** Plan Team members will be appointed from government agencies, academic institutions, and organizations having expertise relating to the scallop fisheries. Normally, the Plan Team will consist of at least one member from the Council staff, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, and other universities and institutions as appropriate. Alternate members may be assigned to participate in case a member cannot attend a meeting. With the consent of the sponsoring agency or institution, nominations may be made by the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Advisory Panel (AP), or the Plan Team. All nominations will be subject to approval by the SSC, with the Council retaining final appointment authority. Appointments should reflect the Plan Teams' responsibility to evaluate and make recommendations on management, biological, economic and social conditions of the fisheries.
3. **Organization.** The Plan Team will be directed by a chairperson, and may divide some of its responsibilities among work groups organized according to subject matter. A work group may also include members from the groundfish or crab Plan Team or members with other expertise as necessary. Each work group will be directed by a work group leader.
  - (a) **Rules of order.** In general, rules of order will be informal. Plan Team decisions will be reached by consensus, whenever possible. If a decision is required and consensus cannot be reached, the opinion of the majority will prevail. In representing the Plan Team publicly, the spokesperson, (meaning the chairperson or the chairperson's designee) will take care to relate Plan Team opinions accurately, noting points of concern where consensus cannot be reached.
  - (b) **Meetings.** The Plan Team will meet annually. An annual Plan Team meeting will be held to discuss guideline harvest levels, status and management of the scallop stocks. The Plan Team chairperson may call other meetings as necessary. The Plan Team may meet separately or jointly with the BSAI Crab or Groundfish Plan Teams to discuss areas of joint concern. A draft agenda will be prepared in advance of each meeting by the Council staff in consultation with the chairperson, and may be revised by the Plan Team during the meeting. Minutes of each meeting will be prepared by the Council staff or designee, distributed to Plan Team members, and revised as necessary at or before the subsequent Plan Team meeting. The Chairperson (or designee) will report the Team's findings to the Council.
  - (c) **Selection of officers.** Officers (Plan Team chairperson and work group leaders) will be selected for two year terms at the annual Plan Team meeting preceding the annual Plan Team meeting or as vacancies arise. The Plan Team chairperson will be selected at the annual meeting for a one year term. Work group leaders will be selected for one-year terms. There will be no limit on the number of consecutive terms that officers may serve.
  - (d) **Public participation.** Public participation is encouraged but may be limited due to time or other constraints and participation will be generally informal and at the discretion of the chairperson.

4. **Functions.** The Plan Teams' primary function is to provide the Council with the best available scientific information, including scientifically based recommendations regarding appropriate measures for the conservation and management of the Alaska scallop fisheries and compliance with the FMP, the Magnuson Stevens Act and all applicable federal laws. All recommendations must be designed to prevent overfishing while achieving optimum yield (National Standard 1). All recommendations must also be scientifically based (National Standard 2), drawing upon the Plan Teams' expertise in the areas of regulatory management, natural and social science, mathematics, and statistics. Finally, uncertainty must be taken into account wherever possible (National Standard 6).

(a) **SAFE report.** The Plan Team compiles a SAFE report for the Alaska scallop fisheries on an annual basis. The SAFE report provides the Council with a summary of the most recent biological condition of the stocks and the social and economic condition of the fishing and processing industries. The SAFE report summarizes the best available scientific information concerning the past, present, and possible future condition of the scallop stocks and fisheries, along with ecosystem concerns.

(b) **Plan amendments.** The Plan Team may also play a role in the development and evaluation of amendments to the fishery management plan, as well as evaluate amendments to other management plans that may affect the conservation and management of scallop resources.

(i) The Plan Team may evaluate amendment proposals and forward their recommendations to the Council.

(ii) In addition, the Plan Team may develop their own amendment proposals.

(iii) Once an amendment proposal has been accepted for consideration by the Council, an analytical team may be assembled by the responsible agencies. Every analytical team should include at least one member from the Plan Team, drawn from the appropriate working group(s), whenever possible.

(iv) Once an amendment analysis has been completed, it may be reviewed by the Plan Team. The Plan Team's comments, if any, are then forwarded to the SSC, AP, and Council.