

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**

**MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY REPORT**

**THE WESTMARK BARANOF HOTEL
TREADWELL ROOM
JUNEAU, ALASKA
AUGUST 10-12, 2004**

Tuesday August 10, 2004

Full Committee Convened at 8:30 AM

Industry Vice Chair, Alvin Osterback, called the meeting to order, summarized the agenda and logistics for the day and turned the meeting over to Dr. William (Bill) Hogarth for an overview update on agency activities and initiatives, and his objectives for the meeting. Key items included the Pew Commission and Oceans Commission reports and the establishment of NOAA's matrix team – the National Ocean Council co-chaired by Dr. Hogarth and Dr. Spinrad, Assistant Administrator for the National Ocean Service, to help prepare the Administration's response to the Oceans Commission's recommendations. A related item is an ecosystem management meeting scheduled for late August in Charleston, South Carolina. This meeting will include approximately 60 scientists and managers from around government to begin discussions on how to approach ecosystem management and identify potential pilot projects on the east coast for which Congress appropriated \$2 million. Dr. Hogarth will do a follow-up on these items at the next MAFAC meeting.

Dr. Hogarth also referenced a number of reviews and reports that will be prepared by the National Research Council (NRC). These include a review of the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS) and a review of contaminants and mercury in fish. A final NRC report dealing with the best available science has also just been completed and Dr. Hogarth will have that forwarded to the members.

Other key items of interest and discussion included the shrimp business plan, and a two day meeting of all Fishery Management Councils members to discuss the Oceans Commission recommendations, how to better train new council members and continue improving the management process. Lead by Jack Dunnigan, Director of Sustainable Fisheries, this meeting is scheduled for October, in Baltimore, Maryland, and will be the first time since 1976 that all council members have met together.

Dr. Hogarth reviewed a number of staff and position changes throughout the agency including the creation of a MAFAC Executive Director position, the hiring of liaisons for recreational fisheries and environmental organizations within the Office of Constituent Services, and discussions about creating a commercial fisheries liaison as well.

"Management of U.S. Marine Fisheries, Simply Stated" (pgs.49-75) Dr. Hogarth introduced a rough draft document to the full Committee for their review and comment. Dr. Hogarth's intent for the document was an explanatory summary suitable for a variety of audiences including congressional staff, internal NOAA executives, interested stakeholders and the media. A lengthy discussion took place and the document was deferred to the Outreach Subcommittee to compile all comments and corrections from members. ([Subcommittee Report Attachment A](#)).

Individual Quotas (pgs. 76-165): Jack Dunnigan initiated a lengthy dialogue with the full committee to discuss various policy considerations and options related to individual quota systems. Jack outlined an internal process the agency anticipates taking to address IQ issues over the next year and announced his desire to return to MAFAC in both January and April 2005 with updates for further discussion about what recommendations could be suggested to Congress should legislative activity occur. Jack discussed the various IQ terms and their differences, outlined the four options that have been identified for establishing an IQ, ranging from referendums to petitions to Council initiated action, who should take part and what factors should determine participation, and what and how should administrative costs be recovered and redistributed. Jack and Bill thanked the committee for their input and acknowledged the recorded transcript ([pgs.76-165](#)) would be helpful over the next several months as Jack re-establishes an internal working group to develop a package for the 109th Congress, which he will discuss with the Committee at the next MAFAC meeting in January 2005. It is anticipated that in addition to being featured in response to the Oceans Commission recommendations, IQs may also be featured during the National Fisheries Management Conference scheduled for March 2005.

Recreational Fisheries Draft Strategic Plan (pgs. 168-245): Michael Kelly, Division Chief, Office of Constituent Services, briefed the Committee on the status of the draft strategic plan for recreational fisheries, an initiative launched by Dr. Hogarth in response to MAFAC's discussion of recreational fisheries at its December 2003 meeting. Michael Kelly outlined the thrust of the draft strategy and comments received to-date at eight recreational constituent meetings held around the country. Briefly, the plan focuses on the need to improve and expand scientific data collection through observer coverage and an improved MRFSS (Marine Recreational Fishing Statistical Survey) program. The plan also increases the internal profile of recreational fishing issues within the agency and NOAA by integrating the priorities throughout Fisheries and other NOAA programs, including the National Ocean Service's Marine Sanctuaries program and Center for Marine Protected Areas. Michael Kelly discussed the timing of a final plan and the implementation strategy through regional team leads.

There was a detailed discussion over how the agency should pursue developing the strategic plan and budgeting for effective implementation. Some of the points raised included the need to gain support both within Fisheries and throughout NOAA and the importance of having dedicated monies as incentive for the program to move forward. The issues of collecting scientific data, accounting for discards and mortality, prioritizing stock assessments, accounting for private anglers and international tourism, and coordinating with states and leveraging resources already being dedicated to these efforts were discussed at length. The need for transparency and reaching the non-English speaking public was also highlighted.

With regard to the fisheries management process it was noted recreational fisheries advisory panels are in need of being legitimated by NOAA Fisheries as an important element within the council process. The need for performance measures to be included in the plan was also identified as critical for demonstrating progress. As currently written, there is concern the agency may have set itself up for failure by committing to specific goals rather than overarching objectives aimed at moving the process forward over the long-term.

Mr. Ed Ebisui, a recreational fishing representative serving on the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council, presented the region's views regarding recreational fisheries and the cultural resistance to the collection of any salt water license as a mechanism for gaining data and funding the science and management of the resource. On behalf of the Western Pacific council, Mr. Ebisui discussed the Council's preference of identifying a trusted third party to collect a license fee and ensure the funds were reinvested back into the science and management of the region's recreational fishery resources. Dr. Hogarth was very appreciative of Mr. Ebisui's presentation and reiterated the agency's support for a state recreational fishing license process as the preferred method rather than developing a federal license program. The debate over a recreational saltwater fishing license was discussed as being more of an emotional issue in the Western Pacific. However, the lack of being able to dedicate funds from a federal fishing license back into the resource is universally distrusted and frustrating.

Lastly, Don Bremner, Southeast Alaska Inter-Tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission, identified the need for the final document to include and reflect tribal representation and sensitivities.

[Bycatch – Implementation Update & Regional Activities \(pgs. 248-354\)](#): Ralph Rayburn, Chair of the Bycatch Subcommittee, provided a summary overview of MAFAC's December meeting at which the Committee dedicated a day-long discussion to review and advise the agency on the national bycatch reduction strategy which embraces standardized bycatch reporting methodology and regional implementation plans that focus on education and outreach. The education and outreach elements served as the focus of Committee discussions, which subsequently recommended the agency greatly expand its use of the Sea Grant Extension program as a ready resource for implementing the regional plans. MAFAC requested periodic updates on the agency's activities as they relate to this recommendation.

Jack Dunnigan provided an overall status review from the national level, announcing that the “Powers” report by Dr. Joe Powers from the Southeast Regional Science Center, who lead a national effort to establish a standardized bycatch reporting methodology, was completed and will be published as a technical memorandum. Jack referenced the report’s handling of “precision goals”, confusion over the various definitions of bycatch, full retention issues and the need to account for all of the harvest and mortality as being key for conservation purposes. Jack also referenced the requirements for each of the fishery management councils to develop and document effective and efficient standardized bycatch reduction methods for each of their fisheries, that these need to be periodically reviewed as part of the ongoing fishery management process, and the need to development more effective and efficient data collection methods including electronic monitoring for estimating bycatch and total catch. This protocol will be made part of the larger report that the agency hopes to get published in September 2004. With regard to outreach and education goals, Jack referenced the Northeast industry bycatch workshop put on with Sea Grant earlier in June 2004. Many other outreach efforts were not funded in 2004. However, bycatch is a standing agenda item for every Leadership Council meeting within the agency, so these issues are continually discussed and raised to keep the process moving forward.

Jim Balsiger, Regional Administrator for the Alaska Regional Office, introduced his staff, Sue Salverson, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Bridgett Mansfield, Protected Resources Division, and Kim Rivera, National Seabird Coordinator, to give presentations on the aspects of regional bycatch implementation plans relative to their areas of authority and expertise ([pgs. 269-293](#)). Briefly, all three presenters featured ongoing collaboration, the importance of observer data, establishing routine partnerships and outreach capacity, and clearly identifying the objectives and providing the resources and incentives for active participation and partnerships with industry as key elements for success in implementing their regional plans.

Jim Murray, Director, National Sea Grant Extension Program, ([294-313](#)), summarized the various bycatch reduction projects Sea Grant was participating in with NOAA Fisheries. As a continuation of the discussion with MAFAC in December 2003, Jim gave an overview of the fisheries extension projects and the national review process Sea Grant undergoes to select proposals for the purpose of enhancing fisheries outreach and education. Members of NOAA Fisheries have participated in this selection process, as have one or two members from outside constituencies to provide stakeholder representation and guidance in the process. Jim, with the concurrence from Dr. Hogarth, suggested MAFAC consider fulfilling the necessary ‘stakeholder’ review role and routinely participate in this annual review and selection process. This would help NOAA Fisheries and Sea Grant establish a more efficient and routine process, help identify those priority issues and proposals that can help to “enhance fisheries outreach and education,” and provide greater visibility inside and outside NOAA for fisheries outreach and education needs.

Members were positive and very supportive about MAFAC providing a role but cautious about the staff time and resources the agency and Sea Grant would be able to commit.

Further discussion was extended to the next morning.

5:15 PM Committee Adjourned for the Day

5:30 – Members picked up by shuttle to tour Mendenhall Glacier

7:00-9:00 – Members dropped off at the Hanger for an Awards Ceremony and Farewell to four members.

Wednesday August 11, 2004

Committee Reconvened at 8:30 AM

Industry Vice-Chair, Alvin Osterback, called the meeting to order and recognized Ralph Rayburn, Bycatch Subcommittee Chair.

Sea Grant Extension Program (pgs. 327-354): Ralph continued the discussion over the proposal to involve MAFAC as a review body for identifying and selecting proposals aimed at enhancing fisheries outreach and education. After brief discussion over the need to ensure enough staff time and resources will be committed, the Committee passed the following motion:

Rod Moore motioned: “The MAFAC ask NMFS or the MAFAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to come back at whatever your next meeting is with a report on the staffing and time and fiscal commitments and a suggested plan of action from the Federal side to allow MAFAC the opportunity to consider establishing a working group that would serve as a continuing oversight of Sea Grant/NMFS interactions.”

Following a brief discussion of support for the idea and the MAFAC as a reviewing body rather than a staffing entity, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Fisheries 101 Document – MAFAC Action (pgs.354-358): The Committee briefly held a follow-up discussion regarding the process for obtaining Committee member input on the draft document presented by Dr. Hogarth the day before. It was decided that all comments and suggestions be e-mailed to Tony DiLernia, Chair, Outreach Subcommittee, who will compile all comments and broadcast-e-mail them to the members and the DFO to be forwarded onto the author of the document.

National Standard 1 Guidelines (pgs.358-369): Jack gave a brief and informal talk on the status of the agency’s efforts to revise the National Standard 1 Guidelines since the Committee meeting in December 2003. As a small working group began to take apart the August 2003 workshop discussions they began to realize the issues needed further clarification to be amendable for regulatory language. The working group also realized a lot of issues that had been raised in the process dropped out and might need to be reconsidered. In addition, it was realized that a National Environmental Policy Act document would need to be drafted to accompany this initiative. As discussed with MAFAC in December, the agency opted to not go out with a proposed rule. Rather, the agency simply posted a document on what the agency thought were important changes

and opened the document up to public consumption and input with the intent of incorporating that into a resulting proposed rule down the road. At the time of this meeting the document has received little attention but is still available on the web for comment. To accommodate some of the Council meetings, the agency likely will not have a proposed rule out until sometime in October. The agency hopes to have a final rule out in January 2005. Jack expressed interest in coming to MAFAC in January for an Executive Session to have an opportunity to discuss the issue and talk about the public comment and gain the committee's feedback.

There was discussion over MAFAC's recommendations on NSIG made in December 2003, which Jack confirmed will be considered along with all comments. It was suggested that Jack with the MAFAC NSIG Working Group to coordinate this issue for the next meeting. Jack also agreed to identify the key high-level policy issues and conduct a full dialogue and discussion with the Committee at its next meeting, similar to the IQ discussion held yesterday.

[Aquaculture Panel Discussion \(pgs 370-649\)](#): The rest of the day was devoted to discussing marine aquaculture. Following a brief break, the Committee received an impromptu visit from Governor Murkowski who briefly referenced Alaska's concern over farmed fish and the current state ban on any fish farming activity. Following the governor's departure, Dr. Hogarth and Industry Vice-Chair, Alvin Osterback recognized Don Kent, Chair of the Aquaculture Subcommittee.

Don Kent briefly outlined the agenda for the day and the invited guests and presenters that the Committee would be hearing from. The following presentations were made in order. All materials are posted on the web site.

1. Linda Chaves, Aquaculture Coordinator (Acting) ([pgs.381-454](#))– status of aquaculture activity and legislative initiatives within the Administration and the key provisions its anticipated to contain.
2. Dr. Gunnar Knapp, Professor of Economics, Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage ([pgs.456-496](#))- provided a socio-economic overview of potential costs and benefits in the context of globalization.
3. Matt Rand, Director, Marine Fish Campaign, National Environmental Trust ([pgs. 499-519](#)) - presented the ecological concerns surrounding marine aquaculture.
4. Mark Vinsel, Executive Director, United Fishermen of Alaska ([pgs.520-539](#)) - an umbrella organization with 33 regional or gear specific groups, including six non-profit aquaculture associations, presented the concerns of fishermen about marine aquaculture, as well as potential opportunities and infrastructure improvements to the region that could be accrued.

5. Don Bremner, Executive Director, Southeast Alaska Inter-tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission ([pgs.540-556](#)) - presented the agency with the concerns and cultural sensitivities of many Alaskan natives from Alaska's southeast tribes.

6. Dr. Rich Langan, Director, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Institute for New England Mariculture and Fisheries ([pgs.557-613](#)) - presented an overview of an offshore aquaculture project in New Hampshire that has now reached commercial productivity and is entering into a technology transfer phase to local fishermen.

Lengthy question and answer sessions followed each presentation, all of which can be viewed on the transcripts.

There was a unanimous sense by Committee members, participants and observers that the panel discussion was informative, inclusive and balanced. Dr. Hogarth suggested that the format utilized at MAFAC be adopted as a format to take on the road around the country for regional discussions as the issue of marine aquaculture progresses. Dr. Hogarth requested the Committee provide advisory recommendations on how the agency should proceed further with marine aquaculture.

5:00 PM Committee Adjourned for the day.

Thursday August 12, 2004

8:30 AM – 1:30 PM Subcommittees Convened

1:00 PM Full Committee Reconvened

Recreational Fisheries Working Group (pgs. 668-687): Rob Kramer reported out for the Recreational Fisheries Working Group, detailing specific recommendations and changes to be made to the draft Recreational Fisheries Strategic Plan. The recommendations were unanimously accepted. ([Attachment B](#))

Bycatch Subcommittee (pgs. 689-699): Ralph Rayburn reported out for the Bycatch Subcommittee, including a recommendation for routine updates at each meeting from the agency regarding implementation and Sea Grant activities and requesting an update on a pending 'petition' regarding bycatch to the agency. The report was unanimously accepted. ([Attachment C](#))

Outreach Subcommittee (pgs. 700-722): Tony DiLernia reported out recommendations from the Outreach Subcommittee, including comments for the draft Fish 101 document from Dr. Hogarth, requesting the Outreach Subcommittee be allowed to review the recreational fisheries implementation document and other critical documents of the agency such as Fisheries of the U.S., Status of Stocks, etc... The Subcommittee would not be reviewing for content but rather is interested in providing recommendations to the agency on how it communicates with the public in these critical documents. The report was unanimously accepted. ([Attachment D](#))

Aquaculture Subcommittee (pgs. 723-753): Don Kent gave a detailed report from the Aquaculture Subcommittee, the areas of concern the agency should prioritize and the strategies to be taken. Don noted that the Subcommittee had been joined by Mark Vinsel, Don Bremner and Linda Chaves in developing the recommendations. The report was unanimously accepted. ([Attachment E](#))

Pete Leipzig referenced ([pgs. 754-755](#)) the Science Committee and the two vacancies created by the retirement of Drs. Bonnie Brown and Laverne Ragster. He suggested that some outstanding science questions from the Subcommittee be included on the next meeting agenda. Also, the Capacity Working Group was down to only two members due to Rod Moore's retirement. Pete referenced that legislation did not move in this last Congress but is expected to be reintroduced and that if the agency has positions or concerns about this initiative, that too should be a point of discussion for the Committee.

Committee Administrative Issues (pgs.755-777): The Committee made the decision at its last meeting to hold the next meeting in Hawaii as it has been nearly 10 years since the MAFAC last traveled to that region. The next meeting dates are January 11-13, 2005, in Oahu, Hawaii.

Potential agenda items discussed included status of the Oceans Commission report and NOAA's response, protected resource issues, NOAA's centralized science report, Bill's

efforts to draft a 5 year plan, possible report on a national enforcement meeting being organized by Dale Jones, a budget report on appropriations for '05 and planned for '06, and results of Shrimp Business plan. Also, there were suggestions for various facilities to visit, including a trip to the main island to the Oceanic Institute to see their culture technologies, to Oahu to view some offshore cage technologies, and a natural energy laboratory on the Kona coast where they are installing tuna cages. Dr. Hogarth also suggested visiting the new fisheries complex that has been built and perhaps getting an overview of the new facility being planned to house all of NOAA for the region.

Protected Resources Discussion (pgs. 777-812): Michael Payne, Chief of the Marine Mammals Division in Protected Resources gave a brief over view of various priority issues the agency is dealing with and the steps the office has taken to deal with them. In addition to the reauthorization of the MMPA anticipated for the next Congress, Michael Payne referenced a meeting scheduled with the National Marine Sanctuaries program to better coordinate with them on protected resource issues within Sanctuaries. There were a number of questions regarding the process of consultation with states for coastal zone consistency. Dr. Hogarth made the suggestion that the agency follow-up at the next meeting. It was also suggested that should the next meeting include discussion of MMPA reauthorization that a significant portion of time be allotted due to the complexity of issues.

Dr. Hogarth and Industry Vic-Chair thanked Rod Moore, Bonnie Brown, Dick Gutting and Lavern Ragster (absent) for their years of service. Dr. Hogarth also thanked the Regional Administrator, Jim Balsiger and his staff as well as invited guests and members of the public for their time and commitment to the meeting.

4:30 Meeting Adjourned Sine Die

Note: All page numbers within text reference the transcripts for this meeting.

ATTENDEES

MAFAC Members:

Dr. Bonnie Brown
Mr. Scott Burns
Capt. Tony DiLernia
Mr. Chris Dorsett
Mr. Bob Fletcher
Mr. John Forster
Mr. Jim Gilmore
Dr. William Hogarth (Co-Chair)
Mr. Richard Gutting
Mr. Don Kent
Mr. Rob Kramer
Mr. Pete Leipzig
Mr. Rod Moore

Mr. Alvin Osterback (Industry Vice-Chair)
Mr. Ralph Rayburn
Ms. Maggie Raymond
Dr. Ken Roberts
Ms. Elizabeth Sheehan

Absent Members:

Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, (Chair)
Undersecretary for Oceans & Atmosphere
Mr. Jim Cook
Mr. Melvin Moon, Jr.
Dr. Laverne Ragster
Ms. Kate Wynne

Consultants & Staff:

Randy Fisher, Pacific States Marine
Fisheries Commission
Vincent O'Shea, Atlantic States Marine
Fisheries Commission
Larry Simpson, Gulf States Marine
Fisheries Commission
Laurel G. Bryant, Executive Officer, MAFAC
Judy Bowie, Administrative Assistant

Presenters & Speakers:

Jim Balsiger, Administrator, Alaska Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries
Don Bremner, Director, Southeast Alaska Inter-Tribal Fish & Wildlife Commission
Linda Chaves, Aquaculture Coordinator (Acting) & Matrix Manager, NOAA Fisheries
Jack Dunnigan, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries
Ed Ebisui, W. Pacific Fisheries Management Council, Recreational Fisheries
Michael Kelly, Division Chief, Office of Constituent Services
Dr. Gunnar Knapp, Institute of Social & Economic Research, Univ. of Alaska Anchorage
Rich Langan, Director, Univ New Hampshire, Cooperative Institute for New England
Mariculture & Fisheries
Bridgett Mansfield, Protected Resources, Alaska Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries
Jim Murray, Director, National Sea Grant Extension Program
Michael Payne, Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Protected Resources, NOAA Fisheries
Kim Rivera, National Seabird Coordinator, NOAA Fisheries
Sue Salverson, Sustainable Fisheries, Alaska Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries
Matt Rand, Director, Marine Fish Campaign, National Environmental Trust
Mark Vinsel, Director, United Fishermen of Alaska

Other Attendees & Public:

Sue Aspelund, Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game

Alan Austerman, Fisheries Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor, Alaska

Elizabeth Bluemint, Juneau Empire

Dorothy Childers, Alaska marine Conservation Council

Paula Cullenberg, Alaska Sea Grant, Marine Advisory

Danielle DiNovilli, Columbia University, Dept. of Anthropology

Senator Kim Elton, Alaska State Legislature, State Senate

Greg Fisk, Alaska Department of Commerce

Glen Haight, Alaska Department of Commerce

Bill Heard, Auke Bay Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

Tamara LeRoy, UAS (student)

Stephanie Madsen, Pacific Seafood Processors

Heather McCarty, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Assoc.

Chris McDowell, McDowell Group, Inc.

Sheela McLean, Alaska Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries

Sara Miller, UAS (student)

Honorable Frank Murkowski, Governor of Alaska

Susan Murray, Oceana

Bob Tkacz, Alaska Fisherman's Journal

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel G. Bryant

Executive Officer, Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

National Marine Fisheries Service

October 7, 2004

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 11, 2004
Full Committee Motion

Purpose: Motion for a report from MAFAC's Executive Officer and Sea Grant on a suggested plan, staff and fiscal commitments regarding MAFAC involvement with Sea Grant's national review panel of fisheries enhancement proposals.

“ The MAFAC asks NMFS or the MAFAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to come back at (next) meeting with a report on the staffing and time and fiscal commitments and a suggested plan of action from the Federal side to allow MAFAC the opportunity to consider establishing a working group that would serve as the continuing oversight of Sea Grant/NMFS interactions.”

Motion was unanimously agreed to ([pg. 353](#))

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Recreational Working Group
August 12, 2004

Attendees:

Bob Fletcher
Tony DiLernia
Rob Kramer

Vince O'Shea
Michael Kelly

Ed Ebisui

Vision & Mission Statements

- Don't forget states, tribes, etc
- Includes more than just American citizens
- Don't forget future generations in addition to current users

Science Goal Statement

Objective #1

- Within this goal, need to define/replace the word "exceptional" (e.g. more and bigger fish? replace "exceptional" with "improve"?). Need to involve constituents, regionally, to define "exceptional" or "improved"
- Correlating "new or improved recreational data" with existing historical data
- Third bullet: Add "cooperative research"
- Add section on improving stock assessments for recreational species
- Add section addressing the better utilization of existing committees (i.e. Council APs)
- Fifth bullet: change "doubling" to "increasing"

Objective #2

- Change second sentence to "development of regional recreational data collection systems such GULFIN, RECFIN, ACCSP, WESPACFIN"
- Delete first bullet
- Second bullet change "national" to "regional", recognizing the need to compare and standardize certain types of regional data

Objective #3

- "Recast" national standards to regional standards
- Modify first paragraph to reflect regional approach

Objective #4

- Establish standards to facilitate submission and use of socio economic data from other entities, e.g., government agencies, trade organizations, vessel owners associations, angler association, etc.
- Delete or recast bullet four

Objective #5

- OK

Management Goal Statement

Objective #1

- OK

Objective #2

- Fifth Bullet: Change “make” to “move towards ecosystem based management by adapting” etc.

Objective #3

- Bullet 1: Second sentence: Add: Require regular meetings of these bodies

Objective #4

- OK

Objective #5

- OK

Objective #6

- Bullet 4: Adds Interstate Commissions, Industry Associations, Tribes, and bigger, broaden list of partners.

Outreach Goal Statement

Objective #1

- Fifth bullet: Recast / eliminate “the benefits of”

Objective #2

- OK

Objective #3

- OK

Objective #4

- OK

General Comments

Success of this Plan will be directly related to the Agency's commitment to provide adequate funding and staff to implement the Plan.

Success of this Plan is contingent on the performance measurement plan developed by the agency to track progress and identify problems. (MAFAC should be included in this reporting).

Request response to these comments at the next MAFAC meeting.

Full Committee unanimously accepted ([pg.687](#))

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Bycatch Subcommittee
August 12, 2004

The Bycatch Subcommittee of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) met on Thursday, August 12 in conjunction with the August 2004 meeting of the full committee.

Members present:

Jim Gilmore
Rod Moore
Ralph Rayburn (Chair)
Larry Simpson (Advisory)
Chris Dorsett (invited guest member)

Members absent:

Bob Fletcher (involved in recreational working group)
Mel Moon (absent from full committee meeting)

The subcommittee reviewed and adopted the proposed agenda and then reviewed the minutes of its December 2003 meeting. While no changes were suggested, with the transcripts available on line, it was recommended that a process of rectifying minutes with the unedited transcript be undertaken.

The committee reviewed the “Evaluating Bycatch: A National Approach to Standardized Bycatch Monitoring Programs” Technical Report reflecting on the work of the National Bycatch Work Group lead by Dr. Joe Powers and being finalized for publication. The subcommittee suggested that an addition in the “Acknowledgments” of the report might have mentioned that the MAFAC reviewed the Groups report during its December 2003 meeting and found it “established a reasonable and substantive basis on which to establish a national standardized bycatch reporting system.”

While subcommittee member, Mel Moon, who also is a member of the Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee, was absent, the subcommittee reviewed the minutes of the Committee’s April 2004 meeting conducted in Key Largo, FL. It was noted that Mr. Moon was taking an active role in the “National and Regional Coordination” Subcommittee of the Committee.

The Subcommittee then considered the proper response to the periodic bycatch update request of the Committee made during its December 2003 meeting. The subcommittee recommends that periodic reports on the status of implementation of regional bycatch plans be presented at each committee meeting either as a presentation is warranted or at least an insert in meeting materials.

The Subcommittee then considered the appropriate relationship with the Protected Resources Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service. In discussion it was

suggested that a diverse assemblage of issues exist with realized impacts characterized as bycatch. Many of these are overseen by the Protected Resources Office of NMFS and therefore would justify an oversight role of protected resources by the subcommittee. Further identified in later discussion, the subcommittee recommends that as new members are appointed to MAFAC and subcommittee structure is considered, the expansion or realignment of the subcommittee to include a purview over issues related to secondary impacts of fisheries activities and resource protection be included in the subcommittee's charge with an appropriate name change such as "ecosystem impacts."

Discussion then turned to items the subcommittee wished to consider at its January 2005 meeting. These included consideration of response to coral petition including EFH impacts, review of sea turtle/longline issues to include circle hook requirements to include potential consideration for international export of these technologies and review of the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's efforts in ecosystem management.

Finally, the subcommittee requested that Rod Moore reflect on his service to MAFAC and provide insight on how the Committee and the Subcommittee might be more effective in accomplishing the goals established in the MAFAC Charter. Items discussed included how the subcommittee structure might be reoriented to better accommodate the general category of issues that could be focused through the subcommittee process to better facilitate committee discussion and actions. Mr. Moore also advised on how to elevate the profile of MAFAC to engage in the full range of its responsibilities as advisor to the Secretary of Commerce. In conclusion the subcommittee expressed appreciation to Mr. Moore for his dedicated leadership and service to MAFAC and the subcommittee as well as his untiring efforts to secure a sustainable fishery regime at the national and regional levels.

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Outreach Subcommittee
August 12, 2004

Tony DiLernia, Chair
Dick Gutting
Maggie Raymond
Vince O'Shea

Fish 101 Draft – The Subcommittee recommends the following points and process:

1. Many documents currently available
 2. Send comments to Tony who will forward to Laurel
 3. Web based site to support paper document
 4. Need to incorporate visual materials and photographs
 5. Refine flow chart
 6. Identify the audience
 7. Replace Council plans with a listing of Council sites
 8. When is this project schedule to be completed
 9. Will MAFAC have an opportunity to review the revised document
-

Additional recommended Committee work:

1. Recreational Fisheries implementation plan should be reviewed
2. Request a report on the status of the Office of Constituent Services
3. Appreciate the agency incorporated Committee comments in the current Report to Congress
4. The Committee would welcome the opportunity to provide similar comments regarding the Status of the Stocks, Living Oceans, Fisheries of the US.

Motion was unanimously agreed to ([pg. 687](#))

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Aquaculture Subcommittee
August 12, 2004

Members Present:

Dr. Bonnie Brown
John Forster
Don Kent – Chair
Ken Roberts
Elizabeth Sheehan

Others:

Don Bremner
Linda Chaves
Mark Vinsel

Expanded Case Needs

- Devise ways to demonstrate localized economic benefit
- Put the challenges up front
 - * Potential environmental effects
 - * User Conflicts
 - * Socio-economic
- Expand on catfish example to include real open ocean farming examples (e.g. Hawaii)
- Consequences of action and non-action
- Create incentives e.g., diminished fee rate
- Delete appendices and place in the document
- Delete “Carrying Capacity” & replace with appropriate water quality terms
- Move “Ocean Policy” recommendations into the text as additional rationale

Identifying Sites

- Identify sites for aquaculture
 - * Aquaculture Development Zones or
 - * Development Criteria
- Reinforce CZMA process
- Ensure State input on:
 - * Acceptability of aquaculture
 - * Input on site selection determined by State
 - * State input legislatively (?) mandated

Obtaining a Permit

Consider a “point” system to maximize benefit to the local economy, e.g.

- Ownership
 - Cooperative over Individual
 - Domestic over Foreign
- Integration with local university
- Meeting local salary standards

Programmatic Action Items

- Consolidate all available technical and economic information
 - Develop best responses to economic & environmental concerns
- Staffing @ NMFS needs to increase
- Conduct regional meetings mimicking this forum and localizing representation where possible
- Promote regional demonstration projects using same incentive criteria
 - Technological, permitting, sociological, economic

Unanimously accepted ([pg. 753](#))