



North Pacific Fishery Management Council

*Managing our nation's
fisheries off Alaska*

NAVIGATING THE NORTH PACIFIC COUNCIL PROCESS

A guide to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council



North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 907-271-2809

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WHO IS THIS GUIDE FOR?

This guide is designed for a variety of people. It is for those who want a voice in fisheries management issues; for those who may not want to become involved in fisheries management but have a need to know how it works; for fishermen who want more control over the decisions affecting their livelihood; for those concerned about environmental issues; and for students, managers, fishing family members, and recreational anglers.



This guide is designed for both those who are unfamiliar with fisheries management as well as those who are already involved in the process. It can be used to guide you through a formal Council meeting, or to get involved in management issues when there is no time to attend Council meetings. The **Reference Desk** chapter provides contact information, mailing list information, and useful telephone numbers.



The eight regional fishery management councils

WHAT IS THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL?

Alaska's fisheries are valued at over \$1 billion per year and provide over half the volume of fish landings in the United States. The fisheries are a powerful economic engine for over a hundred coastal communities, thousands of vessels, and tens of thousands of workers in the fishing and processing industries throughout Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. This national treasure demands responsible stewardship and management to provide sustained benefits to all users.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976 to manage fisheries in the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The Council primarily manages groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands, targeting cod, pollock, flatfish, mackerel, sablefish, and rockfish species harvested by trawl, longline, jig, and pot gear. The Council also makes allocation decisions for halibut, in concert with the International Pacific Halibut Commission that biologically manages the resource for U.S.-Canada waters. Other large Alaska fisheries for salmon, crab, and scallops are managed jointly with the State of Alaska.

Each Council decision is made by recorded vote in a public forum after public comment. Final decisions then go to the Secretary of Commerce for a second review, public comment, and final approval. Decisions must conform with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act, and other applicable law including several executive orders. Regulatory changes may take up to a year or longer to implement, particularly if complex or contentious.

THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS ACT

The fishery management council system was set up by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, which Congress originally passed (as the Fishery Conservation and Management Act) in 1976. We refer to it as the Magnuson-Stevens Act. It is named for the late Senator Warren Magnuson of Washington and Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act is the main law governing management of living marine resources in the United States and guides nearly all Council actions. Originally designed to encourage local-level participation and representation through the eight regional Councils, the Magnuson-Stevens Act set up a regional fishery management council system and described how it would work. The Act

extended control of U.S. waters to 200 miles offshore; phased-out foreign fishing activities within the EEZ; and created measures to prevent overfishing - especially by foreign fleets - to allow overfished stocks to recover, and to conserve and manage fishery resources.



The Magnuson-Stevens Act has been amended several times since it was first passed in 1976. For example, the Act was revised by the Sustainable Fisheries Act in 1996 to include provisions that reduce bycatch, consider the effects of management decisions on communities, protect essential fish habitat, and modify council procedures. The Magnuson-

Stevens Act was most recently revised in 2006, and included new provisions for limited access privileges, annual catch limits, environmental review, and other matters.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act sets forth 10 National Standards to guide the regional councils in development of fishery management plans. A brief listing of the National Standards is provided in the following table.

**National Standards of the
Magnuson-Stevens Act
(abridged)**

Conservation and management measures shall:

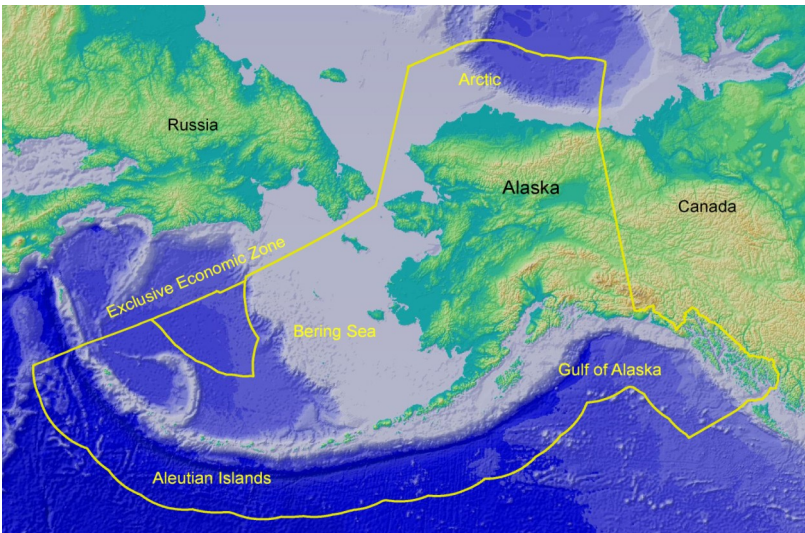
1. Prevent overfishing while achieving optimum yield.
2. Be based upon the best scientific information available.
3. Manage individual stocks as a unit throughout their range, to the extent practicable; interrelated stocks shall be managed as a unit or in close coordination.
4. Not discriminate between residents of different states; any allocation of privileges must be fair and equitable.
5. Where practicable, promote efficiency, except that no such measure shall have economic allocation as its sole purpose.
6. Take into account and allow for variations among the contingencies in fisheries, fishery resources, and catches.
7. Minimize costs and avoid duplications, where practicable.
8. Take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities to provide for the sustained participation of, and minimize adverse impacts to, such communities (consistent with conservation requirements).
9. Minimize bycatch or mortality from bycatch.
10. Promote safety of human life at sea.

THE COUNCIL'S ROLE

The North Pacific Council has a very important role in the management of marine resources off Alaska. The Council prepares and amends fishery management plans and regulations for the fisheries occurring in federal waters (3-200 nm from shore).

The Council also works very closely with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Board of Fisheries to coordinate management programs in federal and state waters (0-3 nm from shore). Many fishery resources are harvested in waters under both state and federal jurisdiction. As such, the Council and State work together to address habitat concerns, catch limits, allocation issues, and other management details through coordination meetings and delegation of management oversight to one agency or the other.

MANAGEMENT AREA



Map showing the EEZ and fishery management areas in the Alaska region.

FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

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

COUNCIL STAFF

Council staff support the Council by providing information for management decisions, providing information to the public about Council activities, helping the public participate in the process, coordinating the process and meetings, assisting advisory groups, and creating fishery management documents.

The Council staff consists of an Executive Director, Deputy Director, technical staff and support staff. Technical staff prepare regulatory and fishery management plan amendment analyses for decision-making, with a focus on economics, social science, biology, ecosystems, and habitat. As of August 2009, there are 13 members of the Council staff.

The Council is a nonprofit governmental organization. The Council staff are not federal government employees. The Executive Director carries out tasks assigned by the Council and, with the Deputy Director, directs and oversees staff.

For a complete list of staff members and their contact information, please visit the staff page of our web site at www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc.

ADVISORY BODIES

When reviewing potential rule changes, the Council draws upon the services of knowledgeable people from state and federal agencies, universities, and the public, who serve on panels and committees.

Advisory bodies include an Advisory Panel (AP), the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), Plan Teams, and other committees.

Advisory bodies provide comments, both written and oral, on relevant issues being considered by the Council.

Advisory Panel (AP) - The Council receives advice at each meeting from a 20-member Advisory Panel representing user groups, environmentalists, recreational fishermen, and consumer groups.

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) - The Council also receives reviews and recommendations from highly respected resource economists and biologists who are knowledgeable about the technical aspects of fisheries of Alaska.

Plan Teams - The Council has teams of scientists and managers that review annually the status of the Fishery Management Plans. BSAI Groundfish, GOA Groundfish, Scallop and Crab plan team members are appointed by the Council.

There are also ad hoc **Committees**, which focus on specific timely topics and are appointed to advise the Council on a single issue.

Meetings of the various advisory bodies are open to the public. Anyone may attend and provide comments for the public record. Written comments are also accepted and considered by the Council.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council meets five times each year, usually in February, April, June, October and December, with three of the meetings held in Anchorage, one in a fishing community in Alaska and one either in Portland or Seattle.

Most Council meetings take seven days, with the AP and SSC usually following the same agenda and meeting two days earlier. All meetings are open to the public, except for an occasional short, closed session in which the Council deals with personnel, administrative, or litigation issues. Minutes are taken for each Council meeting and are available to the public.

COMPONENTS OF THE COUNCIL SYSTEM

The Council system is composed of Council members, Council staff, advisory bodies who advise the Council, and the public who participate in the Council decision-making process.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Council is the system's decision-making body. The Council has eleven voting members and four non-voting members.

Council members must balance competing interests while trying to make decisions for the overall benefit of the nation. Council members are advised by the Council's advisory panels and committees, Council staff, the public, states, academia, and NMFS.

The eleven voting members include:

- ◇ The director of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game or a designee.
- ◇ The director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, or a designee
- ◇ The director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, or a designee
- ◇ The Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Alaska Regional Office or a designee.
- ◇ 7 private citizens who are familiar with the fishing industry, marine conservation, or both. These citizens (5 members from Alaska and 2 from Washington) are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce from lists submitted by the Governors of Alaska and Washington.

There are also four non-voting members who assist the Council in decision making. They represent:

- ◇ The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (data and research)
- ◇ The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (seabirds, ecosystems, otters and walrus)
- ◇ The U.S. Department of State (decisions that have international implications)
- ◇ The U.S. Coast Guard (enforcement and safety issues)



2008-2009 Council Standing, left to right: Nick Klingensmith, Roy Hyder, Bill Tweit, Earl Krygier, Lisa Ragone, Denby Lloyd, Doug Mecum, Greg Balogh, Dave Benson, Dave Hanson, Sue Salvesson. **Seated, left to right:** Sam Cotten, Duncan Fields, Ed Dersham, Eric Olson, John Bundy, and Gerry Merrigan.
Not pictured: John Henderschedt, Dan Hull

BRIEFING BOOKS

Council members and staff receive a briefing book at the meeting. The briefing book contains brief summaries that provide background information for each agenda item, reports and materials for each item, and written public comment. The briefing book table of contents is categorized by subject and coordinated with the agenda. The material has an identifying tab/number located in the upper right corner.

Copies of the materials in the briefing books are available to the public at the meeting. Due to the size of the briefing book and the effort required to assemble each one, requests for hard copies are limited to the section relevant to the subject of interest.

The deadline for written public comments to be included in the briefing book is one week prior to the meeting. Public comments to be included in the books can be mailed or faxed to the Council before the deadline.

HANDOUTS

Copies of the agenda and pertinent briefing book materials are provided at a table in the back of the Council chambers, or just outside the meeting room. Copies of all reports, handouts, and statements generated during the Council meetings are also provided at the table.

AGENDAS AND AGENDA ITEMS

The Council works from an agenda. The agenda is posted on the Council's web site, mailed, and e-mailed to individuals who have requested to be included on our mailing list, and provided on the table at the back of the Council chambers. The contents of the agenda are set by the Executive Director, in consultation with the

Council Chair. To have an item placed on the agenda, talk to the Executive Director, Chairman, or an individual Council member. To propose changes to regulations, testify to the Advisory Panel when they get to the Staff Tasking agenda item, or make the suggestion during the public comment period to the Council.

Each agenda item has several parts. First, a staff person usually gives an overview of what to expect during the agenda item, based on the written summary provided in the briefing book. This may be followed by more detailed staff presentations and AP and SSC reports. Before the Council begins deliberations on the agenda item, they will take public testimony from those who signed up on the sheet. Finally, the Council discusses the topic and may vote on it.

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

The Council meeting process follows “Robert’s Rules of Order,” rules for parliamentary procedure that were first developed in 1876. Traditionally, one of the Council members serves as the “parliamentarian” and sits next to the Council Chair to assist with questions regarding rules of order.

MOTIONS

During discussion, Council members may move to take action. The motion must receive a second by another Council member before it is voted on. Sometimes Council members will move to amend a motion. An amendment is a suggestion for a change to the main motion. Other times, a Council member may make a substitute motion, which is used to propose action significantly different than the motion on the floor. Amendments may be made to any action on the floor and must be voted on. The main motion, as amended, must receive at least a majority (one over half) to pass. A roll call vote is taken on all “final action” votes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Council, AP, and SSC allow public comment on every agenda item.

If you'd like to testify during the comment period, you must sign up at the back of the room on the sign-up sheet before the staff report is completed on that particular agenda item. When your name is called, approach the podium, introduce yourself, your affiliation, and give your testimony. Due to time constraints, public comment is limited to 3 minutes per person, or 6 minutes for an organization or group.

You can also distribute written copies of your testimony during the meeting. You will need to provide 15 copies for the SSC, 25 copies for the AP and 25 copies for the Council. Copies can be handed to staff for distribution either before or during oral testimony. Oral or written statements shall include a brief description of the background and interests of the person testifying.



Public input is encouraged and appreciated as the Council works toward managing and conserving our fisheries.

Dave Fraser testifies at a national meeting in Washington DC

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

The Council prepares and modifies fishery management plans (FMPs) for fisheries under its jurisdiction. Each FMP contains a suite of management tools that together characterize the fishery management regime. These management tools are defined in the FMP or its implementing regulations and require a formal plan or regulatory amendment to change. Amendments to the FMPs or regulations are considered at each meeting by the Council, with proposed amendments submitted by both the resource agencies and the public. As a result, the FMPs and fishery regulations are dynamic and are continuously changing as new information or problems arise.

The North Pacific Council has prepared and implemented five fishery management plans (FMPs) for fisheries off Alaska.

Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP: This FMP includes all species of groundfish (pollock, cod, flatfish, sablefish, rockfish, etc.) and management measures for vessels using trawl, longline, pot, and jig gear. Inseason management of these fisheries is conducted by NMFS in Juneau.

Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP: The GOA Groundfish FMP also includes the major groundfish target species except for a few that are managed by the State of Alaska. Many management measures mirror the BSAI groundfish FMP.

Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab FMP: This FMP includes fisheries for king and Tanner crab (red, blue, and brown king crab, Tanner crab, and snow crab). Inseason management of these fisheries is provided by ADF&G in Kodiak.

Alaska Scallop FMP: This FMP was developed to control fishing effort in the weathervane scallop fishery. Only 9 vessels are permitted under a license limitation program. Inseason management of the fishery is provided by ADF&G in Kodiak.

Alaska Salmon FMP: The Salmon FMP was developed to prohibit fishing for salmon in the EEZ except by a limited number of vessels using troll gear in Southeast Alaska. All other salmon fisheries are conducted in State waters and are managed by the State of Alaska.

WHY GET INVOLVED IN MANAGEMENT?

Different people have different reasons for becoming involved in the fisheries management process. Many groups are concerned about fisheries, including commercial fishermen, fishing families, recreational fishers, environmentalists, consumers, scientists, the tourism industry, and local communities. Whatever background or motivations, these groups share a common desire to ensure the health of fish populations and the marine ecosystems on which they depend.

If you are a member of the commercial fishing community or if your business serves recreational fishers, the best reason to get involved is because the process affects your livelihood. And while you have no control over the weather, ocean conditions, or market prices, becoming involved in the Council process gives you a voice in the decisions that affect your business.

Getting involved means commitment and hard work. It may mean reading documents, talking to people you don't know, attending meetings, speaking in public, writing letters or e-mails, joining or forming an association, or becoming a member of an advisory committee.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

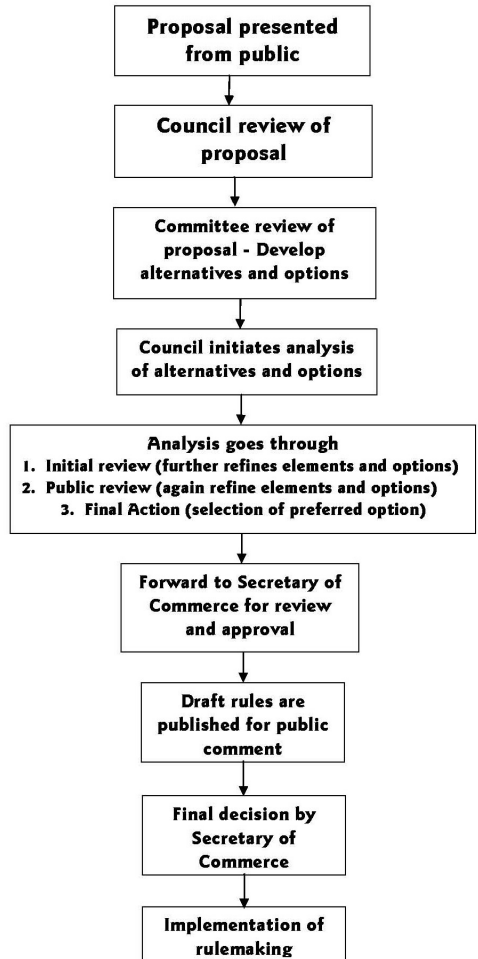
Many members of the fishing community and the public don't have the time or resources to attend Council meetings. Fortunately, there are other ways to get involved without leaving home. Many of the suggestions below come from the publication *Fish or Cut Bait*, a guide to fisheries management written by anthropologists Bonnie McCay and Carolyn Creed (1999).

CHANGING REGULATIONS

Many times people get involved in order to change one small part of their business. This may involve changes in regulation and usually requires six months or longer to analyze, deliberate, and implement.

Oftentimes the first step to influencing decisions is talking to people at a Council meeting. Public testimony to the Advisory Panel may lead to a proposal to the Council, which may then lead to a discussion paper and Council development of alternatives to address the problem or situation identified. The flowchart shows the many stages a proposal must go through before it becomes a regulation change. There are opportunities for public input into the process at each step.

Being involved throughout the process is an important part of ensuring that your ideas are taken into account when changes are being made.



LEARN

The first step to getting involved in the Council process is to learn about it. Learn how the Council system operates. Learn the background of the problem in which you are interested. Learn the views of Council members and why they hold those views. Learn the meaning of terms and acronyms like “CPUE” and “optimum yield”.

Remember, knowledge is power. The more you know, the greater your level of confidence and the more valuable your input. Some ways to learn include:

- ◇ Visiting other websites related to fisheries management.
- ◇ Getting on a mailing list. The Council maintains extensive mailing lists of organizations and individuals who wish to receive meeting notices, agendas, newsletters, statistical documents, FMPs, and proposed regulations. If you would like to be on our regular mail, or e-mailing list, call our office or e-mail a staff member.
- ◇ Calling the Council office and talking to Council staff.
- ◇ Reading the Council newsletter to learn about recent issues and decisions.
- ◇ Reading other resources about how fisheries management works. Attending Council, committee, or advisory panel meetings.

JOIN A GROUP

Groups are organized around different issues and interests (For example, environmental issues, fishing gear types, fisheries, communities, and other interests.) There are also groups that cut across interests and gear types. Join a group that represents your interests. If you can't find a group, create one. Joining a group will give you a greater voice, more motivation, and a larger pool of knowledge from which to draw.

MAKE INFORMED COMMENTS

Your comments will be most effective if they show that you know about the issues being considered and how you or members of your group will be affected by the proposed actions. Is there an alternative that you prefer? And if so, why?

Whether writing or testifying, make sure that your comments are relevant to whatever the Council is discussing at the moment. Know what stage of the process the Council is in. For example, are there important deadlines approaching? What political pressures are influencing the decision?

GET TO KNOW SOMEONE

Getting to know someone is one of the best ways to make sure your voice is heard. Get to know your Council representatives, committee members, and staff.

TALK INFORMALLY

One of the best ways to interact with the Council is simply to call or meet personally with a Council member or staff person. This type of contact provides a more personal way to discuss issues that concern or interest you. When calling, explain who you are, what your question or problem is, and ask for help in understanding the issue.

Ask for a list of the committees and Council members most directly involved with the fishery in which you are interested. Ask to whom you should speak to get more background or advice. You can also speak at meetings and hearings, in the halls during meetings, or at the Council offices. Be sure to attend informal events associated with Council meetings. You may also want to speak with state agency staff and your state and federal representatives.

ATTEND A MEETING

All regular Council meetings, committee meetings and advisory panel meetings are open to the public. Council meetings include a section for public testimony on each issue on the agenda. Council and other public meetings are held throughout Alaska and occasionally in Portland and Seattle. Written public comments and summaries are provided to Council members in their briefing books.

TESTIFY

Members of the commercial and recreational fishery, the environmental community, and the public at-large are encouraged to testify at Council meetings and hearings. This involves speaking in a formal public forum. You will have to speak into a microphone to make your comments. Due to time constraints, public comment is limited to 3 minutes for individuals and 6 minutes for group representatives. Comments submitted and received by fax or mail at least one week before the meeting are included in the briefing book that is distributed to Council members at the Council meeting.

It is best to be well prepared when providing testimony. Read up on Council decisions related to your topic of interest, and make sure that your comments are organized and relevant. Sign-up sheets are provided at the entrance of the meeting room for those who wish to address the Council. Sign up must be completed before public comment begins on that item.

WRITE

The Council is very interested in hearing your opinions and comments on current management issues. Council members read and consider all letters that arrive prior to the deadline and are included in the briefing books. You can also provide written

comments to be distributed during your oral testimony. Generally, letters are addressed to the Council Chair or the Executive Director. However, depending on the situation and the stage of the decision-making process, you may write letters to specific Council members, the Regional Administrator of NMFS, or others.

Following is a list of tips for writing the Council.

- ◇ **Keep it short.** A one-page letter is best. If your letter is too long you run the risk that key points may be overlooked.
- ◇ **Stick to one subject.** If you are writing concerning an FMP plan amendment that addresses a number of issues, it's okay to comment on all the issues in one letter. However, when writing about separate issues, it's best to write separate letters.
- ◇ **State your credentials at the beginning.** Are you a marine scientist, recreational fishermen, commercial fisherman, etc.? If you are representing a group, provide the name of the group and the size of its membership.
- ◇ **State your opinion.** State the reasons for that opinion. Be explicit. Don't leave the reader guessing your meaning.
- ◇ **Make sure your letter is legible.** If the reader has to decipher handwriting, it will detract from the message. A typed or printed letter is best.
- ◇ You may also write letters to trade magazines, such as the *Pacific Fishing* or *National Fisherman*, which many managers read. Since the National Marine Fisheries Service reviews all Council decisions, it is also effective to write the Alaska Regional office of NMFS during the comment period on the proposed rule.

SERVE

Interested citizens may serve on workgroups or committees. If you are interested in serving, talk to the Executive Director or Council Chair.

WILL I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Your influence on Council decisions is relative to the amount of energy you put into being involved. Involvement can range from writing a letter to serving on a committee or the advisory panel.

No matter what your level of involvement, your views will have more weight and influence if you learn about the context of the decisions being made, the timeline for the decision-making process, and the best ways to communicate with Council members and advisory panel members.

REFERENCE DESK

MAILING LISTS

To receive notices, newsletters, and other information by US mail, call 907-271-2809 and request to be placed on our mailing list. If you prefer to receive information via e-mail, just call our office or e-mail a staff member and request to be put on the e-mail list. All our agendas and newsletters are sent out to our e-mail lists on a regular basis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
Telephone: 907-271-2809
Fax: 907-271-2817

Additionally, more web resources can be found on the [Links](#) page of our web site—www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc

WEB SITE RESOURCES

www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) provides the Council with research information, environmental modeling, stock assessment advice, analytical assistance, restricted access management, regulatory implementation, and inseason monitoring and management of the fisheries. NMFS also reviews and approves recommendations through the office of the Secretary of Commerce.

www.state.ak.us/adfg

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) conducts research and management of groundfish, crab, scallop, and salmon fisheries in cooperation with the NMFS and Council.

www.state.ak.us/adfg/boards/fishinfo

Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) sets management policies for State of Alaska managed fisheries, and works closely with the Council on issues of mutual concern or where cooperative management is needed.

www.iphc.washington.edu

International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) establishes the annual catch limits for halibut, conducts biological research on halibut, and provides biological information to the Council for allocative decisions such as IFQs, bycatch, subsistence and guided sportfish fisheries.

www.psmfc.org

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) coordinates fishery research, data, and management among the Pacific region.

www.uscg.mil/d17

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) is responsible for enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to fisheries, pollution, and safety. They provide the Council with advice on fisheries enforcement and safety.

www.fws.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducts research and management activities for seabirds, freshwater fish, sea otters, walrus, polar bears, and other animals. They provide advice on how to minimize the effects of fisheries on these and other ecosystem components.

www.fisherycouncils.org

A website used by the 8 Regional Fishery Management Councils to post current events and noteworthy news affecting management of federal fisheries.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

North Pacific Fishery Management Council (907) 271-2809

NMFS Alaska Region: Toll free: (800) 304-4846

[Sustainable Fisheries](#): (907) 586-7202 #3

[Restricted Access Management](#): (907) 586-7202 #2

[Protected Resources Division](#): (907) 586-7236

[Habitat Conservation Division](#): (907) 586-7636

[Enforcement](#): (907) 586-7202 #1

[Administrative Appeals](#): (907) 586-7202 #4

General Information: (907) 586-7221

General Fax: (907) 586-7249

Email: alaska.webmaster@noaa.gov

ALASKA SCIENCE CENTERS Research Facilities

[Alaska Fisheries Science Center:](#)

National Marine Fisheries Service
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bin C15700,
Building 4
Seattle, WA 98115-0070
PH: (206) 526-4000

[AFSC Kodiak Laboratory](#)

Kodiak Fisheries Research Center
301 Research Court
Kodiak, AK 99615
PH: (907) 481-1700
FX: (907) 481-1701

Ted Stevens Research Marine Institute

National Marine Fisheries Service
17109 Pt. Lena Loop Road
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 789-6005

To apply for permits online: www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/ram

NMFS nationwide federal fishing violations
hotline 800-853-1964

Regional NMFS Office for Law Enforcement 907-586-9349

NMFS Enforcement Field Offices:

Anchorage	907-271-3023
Dutch Harbor	907-581-2061
Homer	907-235-2337
Ketchikan	907-247-5804
Petersburg	907-772-2285
Kodiak	907-486-3298
Seward	907-224-5348
Sitka	907-747-6940

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission 503-595-3100

U.S. Coast Guard, 17th District 907-463-2065

International Pacific Halibut Commission 206-634-1838

North Pacific Fisheries Observer Training Ctr. 907-257-2770

State Agencies:

State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game:	907-465-6085
Information on Commercial Fisheries	907-465-6133
Division of Wildlife Conservation	907-465-4910
Subsistence Division	907-465-4147

About this Document

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