

Information on NPFMC Crab Advisory Committee:
4/07

Following direction from the April Council meeting, a Crab Advisory Committee has been appointed. The Committee will be co-chaired by Jake Jacobsen and John Iani. Additional members (4 from the harvesting sector and 4 from the processing sector) are: Clyde Sterling (Peter Pan), Rob Rogers (Icicle), Dave Hambleton (Trident), Phil Hanson (Unisea), Chris Hueker (Oregon), Lenny Herzog (Alaska), Rick Shelford (Washington), and Mike Woodley (Alaska).

Following receipt of the 18-month review on crab rationalization, the Council requested “a discussion paper analyzing how B shares are being used and whether their uses are consistent with the original intent, and other regulatory issues raised in the 18-month review....to be prepared by June 2007 for discussion by a BSAI crab advisory committee....with a final draft to be presented to the Council in October 2007”.

The Council further directed that “the Committee will work with staff to make recommendations to the Council (in October 2007) on issues such as the elimination of market reports for crab fisheries not likely to open in a given year, to change the 50 day market report requirement for golden king crab to 30 days, to allow timely supplements to the market reports, alternatives to extend the time periods for share matching, and other relevant issues.”

The Committee's tentative schedule will be to meet in late June (place and date to be determined), and again in late July, and at least once more prior to providing a report to the Council in October. An initial discussion paper will be prepared for the first Committee meeting in late June. Based on Committee discussion and input, a more fully developed draft can be prepared by July. The Committee will then meet again with the goal of a completed paper by October. Council staff contact for this committee and related issues is Dr. Mark Fina.