



Celebrating 40 Years of Sustainable Fisheries

December 2016

Forty years under the
MSA has taught us that
“sustainable fisheries” are
not an end point

or destination, but rather a dynamic process
of continuous monitoring, improvements, and
adaptability.

-Eileen Sobeck, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Throughout the history of the Council, success has depended on great working relationships and effective partnerships with federal/state agencies, the fishing industry, and other stakeholders.



**DAN HULL,
CHAIRMAN**

This booklet commemorates the commitment and dedication of people who have contributed to the Council's success over the last 40 years.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Through the efforts of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the National Marine Fisheries Service and many other agency partners, fishing industry participants, and subsistence, recreational, and conservation interests, the management program developed for the fisheries off Alaska has been very successful. This success is a direct result of the commitment and dedication of the people who have participated in the stewardship of our resources and management of our fisheries. This booklet commemorates these people and the contributions they have made over the past 40 years.

Through these efforts, the Council has developed a world-renowned fishery management program that has evolved to meet new challenges and address new scientific information. Prior to 1976, most fisheries of Alaska were prosecuted by foreign nations. Monitoring was minimal and resources were depleted. The passage of the Magnuson Stevens Act in 1976 provided the opportunity for the U.S. to develop domestic fisheries and manage the resources within its 200 mile EEZ through regional fisheries management councils. The North Pacific Council quickly established the foundations of a science-based conservation program, and implemented policies to encourage harvesting by domestic vessels. By the late 1980s the domestic fleet had grown to the point where the Council management focus shifted to improved monitoring and controlling fishing effort by the burgeoning domestic fisheries. In the 1990s, the

Council focused on protecting fish habitat, reducing bycatch and discards, and protecting seabirds and Steller sea lions from potential effects of fisheries. In the new century, the Council has worked to stabilize the fisheries through dedicated access programs, reduce bycatch, protect communities, and implement ecosystem-based fishery management through all of its actions. With increasing awareness of changing environmental conditions in the North Pacific and the Arctic, and growing international collaboration in marine resource management, the Council's work has taken on new meaning and significance.

Throughout the history of the Council, success has depended on great working relationships and effective partnerships with federal/state agencies, the fishing industry, and other stakeholders. There is a shared responsibility and trust in the process. The fishing industry steps up to fund the observer program, engage in cooperative research with scientists, and support science-based catch limits and other regulations when needed. The Council, in turn, listens closely to the fishing industry and other stakeholders and addresses issues as they arise through an open and public process. The Council has also entrusted the industry cooperatives to address management concerns that could not be addressed by regulations in an effective or timely manner. Continued success will depend on building upon these partnerships and working together towards a shared goal of sustainable and profitable fisheries in a world of changing environmental conditions and public interests.

If success can be measured in terms of sustainable and abundant fish resources and profitable fisheries, then we have been achieving this goal. I am proud of our process and our commitment to ecosystem-based management. I thank all of you for the contributions you have made to achieve 40 years of successful management.

Dan Hull

NPFMC: A HISTORY

The Magnuson-Stevens Act is the primary legislation governing our federal marine fisheries; this year, we celebrate 40 years since it was first signed into law on April 13, 1976. Throughout the last four decades the North Pacific fisheries have experienced sweeping changes.

The Early Years

Fish have been commercially harvested off Alaska since 1864, when the schooner Alert sailed north to Bristol Bay to catch cod with handlines. Only 10 years after the U.S. purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867, the salmon fishery became established with the opening of a cannery in Klawok. The salmon fishery quickly expanded in subsequent years with additional canneries built along the Alaska coast. Other domestic fisheries in these early years targeted Pacific cod, sablefish, and halibut using handlines and setlines. By the early 1930s, the Japanese had initiated trawl fisheries for crab, flounders, and pollock in the Bering Sea, but further development of the fishery was suspended with the beginning of World War II.

Major commercial fisheries for groundfish and crab developed in the late 1950s with the resumption of fishing by the Japanese and a

developing Soviet distant water fleet. The trawl fleets first focused on yellowfin sole in the Bering Sea, with very large catches (totaling 1.62 million mt) made in the 1959-1962 period. Pacific ocean perch and other rockfish were intensively harvested in the Aleutian Islands area and Gulf of Alaska from 1963-1968 (totaling 1.56 million mt). Over 240 Japanese and Soviet trawl vessels and motherships were operating in these fisheries by 1963. In addition to the trawl fleet, approximately 60 Japanese longline vessels targeted sablefish, rockfish, Greenland turbot, and halibut during the early 1960s. By the end of the 1960s, the foreign trawl fleets shifted their focus to catching and processing pollock as catches of Pacific ocean perch and yellowfin sole decreased.

The foreign fisheries were virtually unregulated through 1965, and thereafter only minimally regulated until the mid-1970s. During this

time period, separate agreements were made between the US and foreign nations with fleets fishing off Alaska (Japan, U.S.S.R, South Korea, Taiwan). The bilateral agreements established closure areas intended to minimize gear conflicts and address allocation issues between the different foreign fleets, as well as to protect growing domestic fisheries for crab, shrimp, and halibut. By the early 1970s, about 1,700 vessels were fishing the high seas off Alaska. For the first time in 1973, bilateral agreements included catch limits for some species, namely pollock and flatfish in the Bering Sea and Pacific Ocean perch and sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska. Thereafter, catch limits were included in all bilateral agreements in effect through the implementation of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (renamed the Magnuson-Stevens Act in 1996).

The 1980s

Passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Act in 1976 marked a new era in fisheries management. This Act established the 200 nautical mile (nm) Fishery Conservation Zone (later called the Exclusive Economic Zone), and set up the regional council system to allow fishery management decisions to be made at the more local level. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council, which was (and remains) responsible for

Over 240 Japanese and Soviet trawl vessels and motherships were operating in these fisheries by 1963.



Julianne Curry with a pair of shortraker rockfish caught in the Gulf of Alaska.

developing management plans for fisheries off Alaska, quickly convened and prepared preliminary fishery management plans. These preliminary plans allowed foreign fishing within 200 nm, but under much more restrictive measures designed to arrest the suspected decline of some stocks. During this same period, the North Pacific ecosystem was undergoing an atmospheric driven regime shift. Ocean circulation patterns were drastically altered after 1976, causing changes in ocean upwelling and temperature and resulting in different levels of ocean productivity and diversity. Many species (such as king crab and shrimp) fared poorly, including Bristol Bay red king crab, which collapsed in 1981 due to poor recruitment after the mid-1970s.

Fishery management plans were implemented for GOA groundfish fisheries in 1979 and BSAI groundfish fisheries in 1982 to replace the preliminary management plans, which had applied only to foreign fisheries. Both FMPs included most of the provisions of the preliminary plans, thus establishing the fundamental basis for future management of domestic fisheries. The primary objectives of the early FMPs were to conserve target groundfish species, and protect certain species utilized by domestic fisheries. The FMPs established allowable catch limits for each target species, and fisheries were closed when the limits were reached. Additionally, an overall optimum yield (OY) limit for groundfish was established, thus limiting the total annual catch of all species combined to 2.0 million mt in the BSAI and 800,000 mt in the GOA management area. Further, the FMPs prohibited retention of all salmon, crabs, shrimp, and halibut taken incidentally in groundfish fisheries (prohibited species), and established



trawl area closures to limit bycatch of crab and halibut.

One of the stated goals of the Magnuson-Stevens Act was to encourage the development of domestic fisheries for groundfish off Alaska, and this goal was rapidly achieved in the 1980s. The Act required that domestic operations be given priority in the allocation of optimum yield. As such, domestic fisheries and U.S. vessels participating in joint ventures were allocated as much of the optimum yield as they could potentially catch. Joint ventures of U.S. catcher vessels delivering to foreign motherships began in 1980, and by 1987 accounted for about 75% of the groundfish catch. Harvests by fully foreign operations had virtually ended by 1988. Throughout this time, the domestic fleet and infrastructure was expanding, and by the end of the decade the entire catch was taken by domestic operations. Americanization of the fishery had occurred more rapidly than anyone had anticipated.

The 1990s

Management efforts in the 1990s focused on limiting effort of the burgeoning domestic groundfish fleet. By 1991, the fleet already had excess capacity, with vessels competing for the allowable catch limits. Despite challenges to raise the OY limit in the BSAI, the Council chose not to raise the limit because of

concerns regarding stock assessment uncertainty and potential ecosystem effects. By 1992, the fleet had grown to over 2,200 vessels, including about 110 trawl catcher processors (factory trawlers). The symptoms of overcapacity intensified; the 'race for fish' resulted in shorter fishing seasons and bitter allocation disputes. One of the most contentious issues during the early 1990s was allocation of pollock among trawl catcher vessels delivering shoreside and the trawl catcher processor fleet. In 1998, the American Fisheries Act was passed by Congress, and implemented by the Council and NOAA Fisheries the following year. The Act limited access to the Bering Sea pollock fisheries only to qualifying vessels and processors, eliminated a number of large catcher processor vessels from the fleet, and established a system of fishery cooperatives that allows for individual catch and bycatch accountability.

To more directly address the overcapacity problem, the Council, working together with the NOAA Fisheries Alaska Regional office, aggressively pursued capacity limitations in all managed fisheries. An Individual Fishing Quota program for halibut and sablefish fisheries was adopted in 1992. A moratorium on new vessel entry for groundfish and crab fisheries was implemented in 1996, with a more restrictive license limitation program in place

One of the stated goals of the MSA was to encourage the development of domestic fisheries for groundfish off Alaska, and this goal was rapidly achieved in the 1980s.

by 2000. A very restrictive limited entry program was implemented for the scallop fishery, and the Council allocated the BSAI Pacific cod TAC among the different fishing sectors.

Measures implemented in the 1990s also were designed to limit impacts on target and bycatch species, marine mammals and seabirds, and habitat, and provide opportunities for disadvantaged coastal communities along the Bering Sea. A comprehensive domestic groundfish observer program, funded by participating vessels, was instituted in 1990 to provide the basis for controlling catch within allowable levels and monitoring bycatch levels. Closure areas and bycatch limits were established for chinook and chum salmon taken in Bering Sea trawl fisheries. Additional year-round trawl closure areas were established to reduce bycatch and protect habitat for Bering Sea crab stocks. In 1990, Steller sea lions were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, and numerous measures were implemented over the following decade to minimize potential interactions with fisheries and potential competition for prey.

The 2000s

In the 2000s, the Council worked to stabilize the fisheries through dedicated access programs. The BSAI crab fisheries were rationalized, with a share-based cooperative program beginning with the 2005 season. Latent LLP permits were eliminated to constrain potential growth. Access to the BSAI Pacific cod fishery was limited with LLP endorsements and refined sector allocations. In 2006, the Council adopted a rationalization program for the BSAI non-AFA trawl catcher-processor fleet (Amendment 80). Several adjustments were made to the halibut and sablefish IFQ program.

The Council actively pursues an

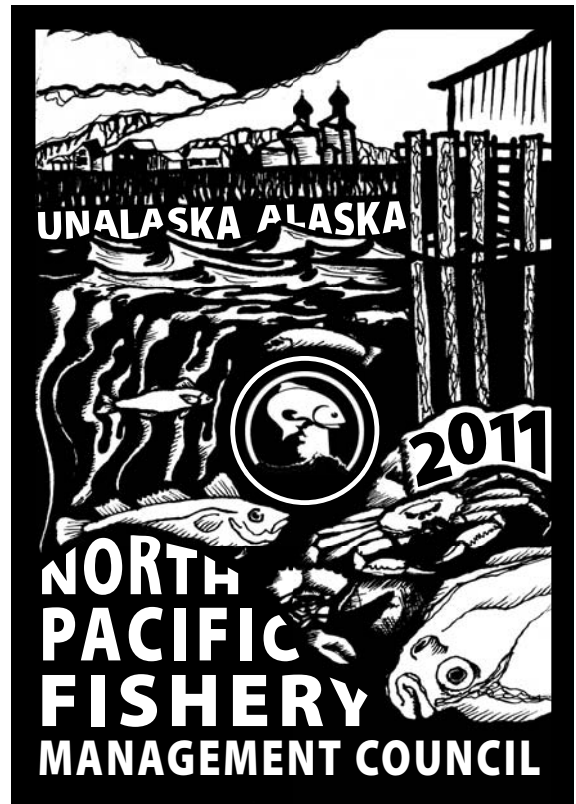
The Council actively pursues an ecosystem-based approach for fisheries management.

Working in the hold, fishermen unload cod using a brailer.



ecosystem-based approach for fisheries management. Extensive marine protected areas were implemented to conserve essential fish habitat, and habitat areas of particular concern. The Council developed a FMP for the Arctic region that prohibits all commercial fishing until adequate scientific information is available, and developed a fishery ecosystem plan for the Aleutian Islands area. The Alaska Marine Ecosystem Forum was established to increase communication among federal and state agencies involved in managing marine resources and activities.

In 2003 and 2006, the North Pacific Council organized and convened the first two Managing Our Nation's Fisheries (MONF) conferences. These conferences provided an opportunity to explore potential improvements in national fishery management policy. The MSA reauthorization in 2007 contained many of the provisions brought forward at the MONF conferences



and modeled after management in the North Pacific, including annual catch limits.

Artist Sabrina Wilt designed a print to welcome the Council to Dutch Harbor.



The 2010s

In this decade, the Council continues to work on refining many of the existing programs to enhance its conservation and management objectives. The Council relaxed vessel replacement provisions for the AFA, Amendment 80, and freezer longline fleets to allow construction of new and modern vessels to operate in these fisheries. Increased efficiencies were authorized with the flexibility in flatfish TAC use by the Amendment 80 sector, establishment of transit zones through the walrus haulout closed areas, and allowing a small boat Pacific cod CDQ fishery. A new rationalization program for GOA rockfish was implemented. A restructured observer program was implemented in 2013, and the Council tweaked it several times to improve statistical estimates of catch, as well as provide options for the fleet, including development of electronic monitoring.

Bycatch remains a major issue in this decade. Chinook salmon stocks throughout Alaska declined substantially in the late 1990s, and measures were implemented to

further restrict bycatch of chinook salmon in both the GOA and BSAI. Due to a decline of halibut biomass following its peak in 2000, halibut bycatch limits were significantly reduced in all areas. The Council has been actively developing a program to improve the fleet's ability to manage bycatch of halibut in GOA trawl fisheries.

The Council has formally adopted an Ecosystem Policy to guide all of the Council's work, including long-term planning initiatives, fishery management actions, and science planning to support ecosystem based fishery management. The Ecosystem Committee provides guidance and a fishery ecosystem plan for the Bering Sea is being prepared. Habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC) were established for skate egg deposition areas, grenadiers were added to the groundfish FMPs as ecosystem components, and the 'other species' category was split into the component complexes (sharks, skates, and octopus) as target species. Devices to elevate trawl sweeps off the bottom were required for GOA flatfish fisheries to protect habitat and reduce crab mortality.

Looking Ahead

The Council's course has been set and there is smooth sailing ahead. But as a good captain knows, you need to be prepared for any situation that arises. As we scan the horizon, we feel confident that we can successfully navigate through environmental change and other unexpected obstacles. The Council process is seaworthy, durable and adaptable, and built on sound science. The crew has the knowledge, experience, training, and determination to achieve success. With these strengths, we have confidence that the future is bright for fisheries off Alaska.



The AP meets in Old St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Nome, Alaska.



Theresa Peterson baits hooks with squid on a longline trip in the GOA



Testifying to the Council allows everyone to have input into decision-making.



Replacement hooks on a rack await use aboard a Bering Sea longline catcher-processor.



Gulls are attracted to a fishing groundfish pot vessel in the Gulf of Alaska.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE



It's been 10 really short years since our 30th Anniversary celebration. Since then we have lost some of the giants in the world of Alaska fisheries, some of the key players have moved on to retirement or other venues, and some new faces have risen to take on the leadership of our Nation's best

managed fisheries. I have been part of the North Pacific Council process for 'only' 27 of these 40 years, but I am proud and fortunate to have been able to devote the bulk of my career to helping manage the North Pacific Council process, and the still bountiful resources of the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska.

When people unfamiliar with the fisheries management process ask me "Why is fisheries management so complicated, don't you just have to set fishing quotas?"; my response goes something like..."Well, actually, setting the catch limits is probably the easiest thing we do...deciding who gets to catch it, where, when, and how, is the hard part!" Top-notch science is a luxury we enjoy in the North Pacific, and our strict adherence to that science, combined with an overall philosophy of conservation and sustainability, are what make setting catch limits the easy part. It really helps that the fishing industry in the North Pacific shares that philosophy of science, conservation, and sustainability.

The people and the partnerships are what make the hard part actually doable. Sure, there are differences of opinion, many of our management decisions are hotly debated, and as with any system which allocates finite resources, there are winners and losers associated with some of these management decisions. The partnerships we enjoy take many

forms – the fantastic working relationship we enjoy with our primary management partner, NMFS Alaska Region; the cooperation and coordination with numerous other Federal and State agencies, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission; the marriage of science and management facilitated by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, and other research entities including the North Pacific Research Board; government/industry partnerships for surveys and other cooperative research initiatives; numerous standing and ad-hoc Council committees which allow affected stakeholders to directly shape management programs and specific regulatory measures; our SSC and our AP are a critical 'part' of partnership; outreach efforts which allow the Council to both inform stakeholders, and to learn from them....the list goes on and on...

The Council process is a spider web of such partnerships – trying to diagram it would result in something akin to the Bering Sea food web plots we have all seen. But it mostly comes down to individuals, and the hard work and precious time these people devote to making the larger partnerships work. It also takes leadership, and in my time we have had a string of great Council Chairs- Rick Lauber, David Benton, Stephanie Madsen, Eric Olson, and now Dan Hull. Leadership at the State level is critical too – currently Roy Hyder, Bill Tweit, and Sam Cotten all exemplify those leadership qualities. And of course at the Federal level – Jim Balsiger, Doug DeMaster, and now Glenn Merrill. And there are the leaders from industry, and other groups active in the Council process, too numerous to mention here. And lastly but not least, the incredible staff people that have supported, and many times led, the Council process during my tenure – what a luxury it is to have the greatest staff, literally in the world!

My kudos and congratulations to all of the individuals involved in this process – it is you who have made the North Pacific the best managed fisheries in the world for 40 years...and counting.

Executive Director



PAST COUNCIL CHAIRS



ELMER RASMUSON
OCTOBER 1976 - SEPTEMBER 1977

With a background in finance and public service, Rasmuson was a Chairman of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission before leading the newly appointed Council. Rasmuson provided financial backing to developing domestic fisheries even before the Act was passed.



DON COLLINSWORTH
SEPTEMBER 1989 - DECEMBER 1990

Active in fisheries policy on a state level, and as former Commissioner of ADF&G, Collinsworth stated the importance of public policy as a course of action, thereby saving time and effort.



HAROLD LOKKEN
OCTOBER 1977 - SEPTEMBER 1978

Active in public policy, Lokken served on many fishery boards and commissions, and was manager of the FVOA for over 20 years. He helped establish the 200 mile limit.



RICHARD LAUBER
MARCH 1991 - AUGUST 2000

Lauber spent many years with the Council, beginning as an AP member in 1976. Also a judge in district court, he served on various seafood association boards. As Chariman, Lauber encouraged thoughtful Council debate and public input.



CLEM TILLION
OCTOBER 1978 - 1983

In addition to serving on the Council as a member, then as Chairman, Tillion also served on many boards, commissions, and in the Alaska State Legislature in addition to fishing commercially. He remains active and involved in Alaska fishery policy to this day.



DAVE BENTON
SEPTEMBER 2000 - AUGUST 2003

Benton began his time with the Council while serving as Deputy Commissioner of ADF&G. Benton noted that sustainable fisheries are good for business. He emphasized the science-based decision making process.



JIM CAMPBELL
OCTOBER 1983 - AUGUST 1988

Campbell had been indirectly involved in fisheries through his business ventures and noted that public fisheries managers should be prepared to defend and sell the programs that are being designed, or they may never be implemented.



STEPHANIE MADSEN
OCTOBER 2003 - AUGUST 2007

As Council Chair, and having served on the AP and on other various fishery boards and commissions, Madsen emphasized the transparency and participatory nature of the Council process. Under Stephanie's leadership, NPFMC organized the first two Managing Our Nation's Fisheries conferences.



JOHN PETERSON
SEPTEMBER 1998 - AUGUST 1989

Peterson had been very involved in the fisheries industry, serving on numerous boards and associations. He emphasized stability in fishery regulations, and continued to work so this could be done more efficiently.



ERIC OLSON
OCTOBER 2007 - AUGUST 2013

Eric Olson started as an AP member in 2002, as a representative of a CDQ group. He was appointed to the Council in 2005, and served 6 years as chair. Olson had a knack for using humor at just the right time to break the tension and keep the deliberations productive.



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alverson, Robert, 8/88–8/94
 Anderson, Stosh, 8/01–8/04
 Austin, Dennis (WDFW), 6/96–5/05
 Balsiger, Jim (NMFS), 6/00–present
 Barker, Morris (WDFW), 1/95–4/97
 Bedford, Dave, 02/07–04/12
 Behnken, Linda, 8/92–8/01
 Benson, David, 8/03–8/2012
 Benton, David (ADFG), 12/94–8/00,
 8/00–8/03
 Berg, Ron (NMFS), 4/92–6/99
 Bevan, Donald, 11/79–8/82
 Blum, Joe (WDFW), 12/86–8/92
 Brooks, James (NMFS), 5/88–1/89
 Brooks, James (ADFG), 8/76–7/77
 Bundy, John, 8/99–8/08
 Bush, Karla (ADFG), 2/16–6/16
 Campbell, Cora (ADFG), 8/10–10/14
 Campbell, James, 1/78–8/88
 Campbell, McKie (ADFG), 1/05–8/06
 Collinsworth, Don (ADFG), 1/83–12/90
 Cotten, Sam, 8/07–present
 Cotter, Larry, 8/86–8/92
 Cross, Craig, 8/12–present
 Darm, Donna (WDFW), 4/92–9/92
 DeHart, Doug, 6/98–2/99
 Demmert, Jr. Joe, 8/80–8/83
 Dersham, Ed, 4/08–8/15
 Downs, Kenny, 4/15–present
 Duffy, Kevin (ADFG), 9/01–10/04
 Dyson, Oscar, 8/85–8/94
 Eaton, D. Bart, 8/76–8/82
 Eaton, Henry, 8/76–8/77
 Ellis, Ben, 1/03–8/06
 Evans, Dale (NMFS), 9/91–4/92
 Fields, Duncan, 8/07–8/16
 Fluharty, Dr. David, 9/94–8/03
 Fuglvog, Arne, 8/03–8/06
 Hanson, Dave (PSMFC), 4/88–present
 Hartill, Trent (ADFG) 9/16–present
 Harville, John (PSMFC), 8/76–5/87
 Hau, Frank (WDFW), 4/77–6/77
 Hegge, Ronald, 8/89–8/95
 Hemphill, Sara, 8/83–8/86
 Henderschedt, John, 8/08–2/15

Hoedel, Doug, 8/04–8/07
 Hull, Dan, 8/09–present
 Hyder, Roy (ODFW), 10/01–present
 Jensen, Gordon, 8/77–8/80
 Kimball, Nicole (ADFG), 6/12–12/15
 Kinneen, Simon, 8/14–present
 Knowles, Tony, 8/88–12/89
 Koenings, Jeff (WDFW), 6/05–8/09
 Krygier, Earl (ADFG), 1/95–4/08
 Kyle, Joe, 8/97–8/00
 Lauber, Richard, 1/90–8/00
 Lloyd, Denby (ADFG), 02/07–8/2010
 Lokken, Harold, 8/76–8/84
 Long, Dave, 8/13–8/16
 Mace, Bob (ODFW), 8/76–6/01
 Madsen, Stephanie, 8/01–8/07
 McKernan, Donald, 8/76–5/79
 McVey, Robert (NMFS), 5/80–5/88
 Meacham, Sr. Charles, 8/76–8/81
 Mecum, Doug, 4/08–2/10, 11/04–7/05
 Merrigan, Gerry, 02/07–06/09
 Merrill, Glenn (NMFS), 2/12–present
 Mezirow, Andy, 8/15–present
 Millikan, Al (WDFW), 9/92–1/95
 Mitchell, Henry, 8/84–8/93
 Moos, Don (WDFW), 8/76–3/77
 Moreland, Stefanie (ADFG), 8/08–10/11
 Nelson, Hazel, 8/02–8/05
 O'Leary, Kevin, 8/95–8/01
 Olson, Eric, 08/05–8/14
 Pederson, Mark (WDFW), 6/86–12/86
 Pennoyer, Steve (NMFS), 1/89–5/00
 Penny, Bob, 8/00–10/02
 Pererya, Walter, 8/90–8/99
 Petersen, Rudy, 8/82–8/88
 Peterson, John, 8/84–8/90
 Peterson, Theresa, 8/16–present
 Rasmuson, Ed, 8/03–8/07
 Rasmuson, Elmer, 8/76–11/77
 Rietz, Harry (NMFS), 8/76–4/80
 Rosier, Carl (ADFG), 1/91–12/94
 Salvesson, Sue (NMFS), 12/97–10/10
 Samuelson, Robin, 8/93–8/02
 Skoog, Ronald (ADFG), 7/77–1/83
 Specking, Keith, 8/81–8/84

Stephan, Jeffrey, 8/82–8/85
 Thornburgh, Guy (PSMFC), 9/87–1/88
 Tillion, Clement, 8/76–8/83, (ADFG)
 1/91–1/94, 8/94–8/97
 Tweit, Bill (WDFW), 6/05–present
 Wilkerson, Bill (WDFW), 6/77–3/86

US Department of State

Nakatsu, Lorry
 Price, Carl
 Arnaudo, Ray
 Dawson, Chris
 Walters, Charles
 Ford, Robert
 Miotke, Jeff
 Herrfurth, George
 Dilday, William
 Tinkham, Stetson
 Riddle, Kevin
 Klingensmith, Nick
 Ricci, Nicole
 Clark, Mike

ADM Arthur E Brooks
 CAPT Mike Inman
 CAPT Mike Neussl
 ADM C.C. Colvin
 CAPT Mike Cerne
 CAPT Greg Sanial
 LT Tony Keene
 CAPT Phil Thorne
 RADM Tom Ostebo
 RADM Daniel Abel
 RADM Michael McAllister
 CAPT Stephen White

USFWS

Jan Riffe
 James Barry
 Donald Hales
 Leroy Sowl
 Gordon Watson
 Keith Shreiner
 Robert Putz
 Robert Gilmore
 W. Steiglitz
 Jon Nelson
 Steve Rideout
 E. Robinson-Wilson
 Doug Alcorn
 Tony DeGange
 Lenny Corin
 Greg Balogh
 Denny Lassuy
 Don Rivard
 Doug McBride
 Geoffrey Haskeet
 Aaron Martin

USCG

RADM J.B. Hayes
 RADM R. Duin
 CDR Ralph Griffin
 RADM R. Knapp
 RADM R. Lucas
 CDR Richard Clark
 RADM E. Nelson
 CDR George White
 RADM D. Ciancaglini
 RADM R. Ruffe
 CDR Joe Kyle
 RADM R. Ruitta
 CDR Terry Cross
 CAPT Bill Anderson
 CAPT Vince O'Shea
 RADM Terry Cross
 RADM Tomas Barrett
 CAPT Rich Preston
 RADM James Underwood
 RADM Jim Olson
 LCDR Lisa Ragone

COUNCIL IN NOME, 2014

The Council normally holds its June meetings in an Alaska coastal community, providing an opportunity for local fishermen and other stakeholders to participate easily. In June 2014, the Council meeting was held in Nome, Alaska - end point of the historic Iditarod sled dog race.





THROUGH THE YEARS

“The North Pacific Fishery Management Council shall have 11 voting members, including 7 appointed by the Secretary in accordance with subsection (b)(2), (5 of whom should be appointed from the State of Alaska and 2 of whom shall be appointed from the State of Washington).” -MSA

1976

Standing, L to R: James Brooks, Harold Lokken, Henry Eaton, Clem Tillion, Lorry Nakatsu, Jan Riffe

Seated L to R: Harry Rietze, Adm. J.B. Hayes, Henry Wendler, Donald McKernan, Charles Meacham. Not pictured, Elmer Rasmuson



2006

Standing, L to R: McKie Campbell, Ed Rasmuson, Adm. Jim Olson, Doug Hoedel, Bill Tweit, Dave Benson, Roy Hyder, Lenny Corin
Seated, L to R: Eric Olson, Dave Hanson, Stephanie Madsen, Arne Fuglvog, Sue Salvesson, John Bundy



1986

Standing, L to R: Jon Nelson, John Peterson, Bob Mace, Don Collinsworth, Russ Cahill, Rudy Peterson, John Winther
Seated, L to R: John Harville, Cdr. Richard Clark, Henry Mitchell, Sara Hemphill, Jim Campbell, Oscar Dyson, Bob McVey



2016

Standing, L to R: Bill Tweit, Dave Long, Sam Cotten, Kenny Down, Dan Hull, Roy Hyder, Capt. Phil Thorne, Simon Kinneen, Jim Balsiger. Seated, L to R, Andy Mezirow, Nicole Kimball, Duncan Fields, Dave Hanson, Craig Cross, Glenn Merrill. Not pictured: Theresa Peterson, Buck Laukitis, Trent Harthill, RADM Michael McAllister.



1996

Standing, L to R: Robin Samuelsen, Steve Pennoyer, Bob Mace, Dave Benton, Dave Fluharty, Morris Barker, Capt. Bill Anderson
Seated, L to R: Kevin O'Leary, Rick Lauber, Dave Hanson, Linda Behnken, Wally Pereyra, Clem Tillion



As trustees of the nation's fishery resources, all voting members must take an oath specified by the Secretary. "I... promise to conserve and manage the living marine resources of the United States of America by carrying out the business of the Council for the greatest overall benefit of the Nation..."

POLAR PLUNGE

A long summer day, giant bonfire, and a sandy beach makes the perfect setting for the council family to participate in Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation's Polar Bear Plunge in Nome, Alaska.





SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

Adkinson, Milo, 10/09-4/10, 10/14-6/15
 Alverson, Lee, 12/76-12/78
 Ames, Robert, 12/07-4/08
 Anderson, Chris, 12/13-Present
 Aron, Bill 9/80-12/95
 Balsiger, Jim, 1/96-6/97
 Berkeley, Steve 6/00-12/02
 Bevan, Don 12/76-8/79, 12/82-4/90
 Buel, Troy, 6/08-6/10
 Burgner, Bud, 9/79-12/88
 Burke, Patty, 1/04-3/04
 Burns, John, 12/79-12/92
 Burns, Jennifer, 1/11-Present
 Cheng, Henry, 4/12-12/12
 Clark, Bob, 10/08-Present
 Clark, Bill, 12/86-12/93
 Clark, John, 1/81-12/84
 Coggins, Lew, 10/15-Present
 Collinsworth, Don, 4/77-10/78
 Criddle, Keith, 1/93-12/10
 Crutchfield, James, 12/78-5/79

Dressel, Sherri, 4/12-Present
 Eggers, Douglas, 2/85-12/02
 Fay, F.H. "Bud", 1/93-12/93
 Fenske, Kari, 10/15-8/16
 Fukuhara, Frank, 9/78-2/80
 Gasper, Jason, 1/16-Present
 Hare, Steven, 1/99-12/06
 Harris, Brad, 10/14-Present
 Hartmann, Jeff, 1/00-10/02
 Herrmann, Mark, 4/01-Present
 Hilber, Susan, 10/10-6/11
 Hills, Susan, 1/94-3/11
 Hollowed, Anne, 3/03-Present
 Hreha, Larry, 10/79-9/93
 Hunt, George, 4/01-Present
 Huppert, Dan, 4/90-1/95
 Kimura, Dan, 9/97-2/03
 Kloieski, Steve, 10/97-6/99
 Kruse, Gordon, 1/90-92, 10/02-Present
 Kuletz, Kathy, 2/08-12/12
 Langdon, Steve, 3/81-12/84

Larkins, H.A., 2/80-9/80
 Larson, Doug, 3/95-12/00
 Lechner, Jack, 12/78-12/84
 Livingston, Pat, 2/03-12/14
 Loeffel, R., 12/76-2/77
 Lowry, Dayv, 11/16 - Present
 Macinko, Seth, 12/96-Present
 Marasco, Richard, 9/79-12/04
 Marshall, Scott, 2/85-5/85
 Martell, Steve, 12/12-12/15
 Meuter, Franz, 1/04-Present
 Miles, Edward, 12/76-7/82
 Miller, Marc, 4/91-4/97
 Millikan, Al, 5/78-12/84
 Mundy, Phil, 1/86-12/86
 Murphy, Jim, 1/11-5/13
 Northup, Tom, 2/85-12/86
 Parker, Steve, 3/04-6/07
 Pennoyer, Steve, 12/76-12/80
 Pitcher, Ken, 10/02-11/06
 Quierolo, Lew, 6/07-12/15

Quinn, Terry, 1/86-Present
 Reedy, Kate, 1/11-Present
 Reimer, Matt, 12/13-Present
 Rigby, Phil, 1/93-12/96
 Robinson, Jack, 3/77-10/79
 Rogers, George, 12/76-12/80
 Rosenberg, Don, 12/76-12/92
 Rosier, Carl, 12/76-10/78
 Sampson, Dave, 1/03-12/05
 Schmidt, Dana, 1/88-12/89
 Stewart, Ian, 1/16-Present
 Skud, B.E., 12/76-2/78
 Tagart, Jack, 12/88-10/03
 Tsou, Theresa, 1/07-2/07
 Tyler, Albert, 1/94-12/01
 Wallace, Farron, 12/03-Present
 Webster, Ray, 1/09-10/12
 Weeks, Hal, 9/93-4/00
 Whitman, Alison, 12/11-Present
 Woelke, C.E., 12/76-5/78
 Woodby, Doug, 1/03-12/11

1986

Standing, L to R: Robert Burgner, Douglas Eggers, Don Bevan, Phil Mundy, Larry Hreha, Bill Aaron

Seated, L to R: John Burns, Terry Quinn, Don Rosenberg, Rich Marasco, Tom Northup



1996

Standing, L to R: Keith Criddle, Doug Larsen, Phil Rigby, Sue Hills, Terry Quinn, Jack Tagart

Seated, L to R: Hal Weeks, Seth Macinko, Jim Balsiger, Al Tyler



2006

Standing, L to R: Franz Mueter, Doug Woodby, Ken Pitcher, George Hunt, Farron Wallace, Steven Hare, Terry Quinn

Seated, L to R: Steve Parker, Gordon Kruse, Pat Livingston, Anne Hollowed



2016

Standing, L to R: Sherri Dressel, Kate Reedy, Matt Reimer, George Hunt, Franz Mueter, Brad Harris, Steve Martell

Seated, L to R: Lew Queirolo, Alison Whitman, Anne Hollowed, Robert Clark, Farron Wallace, Lew Coggins, Gordon Kruse, Kari Fenske. Not pictured: Jason Gasper, Seth Macinko, Chris Anderson, Ian Stewart and Terry Quinn.





NPFMC STAFF

DIRECTORS

Branson, Jim – Executive Director
Davis, Steve – Deputy Director
Hutton, Mark – Deputy Director
Oliver, Chris – Executive Director*
Pautzke, Clarence – Executive Director
Witherell, David – Deputy Director*

ADMINISTRATION

Allen, Helen – Executive Secretary
Bendixen, Gail – Administrative Officer
Gleason, Shannon – Admin Assistant*
Kircher, Peggy – Admin Assistant*
McCalment, Peggy – Executive Secretary
Murray, Janet – Secretary
Mynarsky, Florence – Executive Secretary
Nelson, Irma – Secretary
Roberts, Linda – Graphics/Secretary
Shawback, Maria – Communications/IT Specialist*
Stein, Joy – Finance Officer*
Stewart, Regina – Secretary
Vivian, Shannon – Secretary
Wetzler, Becky – Bookkeeper
Willoughby, Judy – Administrative Officer
Zuspan, Elise – Bookkeeper

FISHERIES ANALYSTS

Coon, Cathy – Fishery Analyst
Dinneford, Elaine – Fishery Analyst
Evans, Diana – Fishery Analyst*
Heltzel, Jeannie – Protected Species
Kimball, Nicole – Fishery Analyst
MacLean, Steve – Protected Species*
Melton, Sarah – Fishery Analyst
Robinson, Matt – Fishery Analyst
Wilson, Bill – Protected Species

PLAN COORDINATORS

Armstrong, Jim – Plan Coordinator*
DiCosimo, Jane – Senior Plan Coordinator
Duff, Maggie – Plan Coordinator
Glock, Jim – Plan Coordinator
Herschberger, Mike – Plan Coordinator
Lloyd, Denby – Plan Coordinator
Paine, Brent – Plan Coordinator
Povolny, Jeff – Plan Coordinator
Stram, Diana – Plan Coordinator*
Weeks, Hal – Plan Coordinator

ECONOMISTS

Brannan, Darrell – Senior Economist
Cornelius, Jim – Economist
Cunningham, Sam – Economist*
Fina, Mark – Senior Economist
Hamel, Chuck – Economist
Harding, Russell – Economist
Hartley, Marcus – Senior Economist
Larson, Doug – Economist
Marrinan, Sarah – Economist*
McCracken, Jon – Economist*
Richardson, Jim – Economist
Rogness, Ron – Economist
Smith, Terry – Economist
Tremaine, Dick – Economist
Tsu, Maria – Economist

ANALYTICAL ADVISORS

Fey, Michael – Data Manager, PSMFC*
Lowman, Dorothy – Special Advisor
Miller, Ron – Special Advisor
Provost, Diane – Data Manager

* current staff

2016



NPFMC staff, starting in the back, L to R: Matt Robinson, David Witherell, Sam Cunningham, Jim Armstrong, Chris Oliver, Peggy Kircher, Maria Shawback, Jon McCracken, Joy Stein, Shannon Gleason, Steve MacLean, Diana Evans, Sarah Marrinan, Diana Stram

2006



Standing, L to R: Gail Bendixen, Jane DiCosimo, Mark Fina, Elaine Dinneford, Chris Oliver, David Witherell, Peggy Kircher, Jim Richardson. Seated, L to R: Maria Shawback, Diana Stram, Bill Wilson, Cathy Coon, Nicole Kimball, Diana Evans

1996



Standing, L to R: Marcus Hartley, Chris Oliver, Darrell Brannon, David Witherell, Clarence Pautzke, Jane DiCosimo.

Seated, L to R: Linda Roberts, Diane Provost, Helen Allen, Gail Bendixen

1986



Standing, L to R: Clarence Pautzke, Ron Rogness, Steve Davis, Jim Glock, Terry Smith, Ron Miller

Seated, L to R: Judy Willoughby, Gail Bendixen, Jim Branson, Peggy Kircher, Hellen Allen



ADVISORY PANEL

Aadland, Arne, 1/88–12/89
 Acuna, Erika, 1/99–12/99
 Alstrom, Ragnar, 1/96–12/02
 Alverson, Bob, 12/76–8/88
 Anderson, George, 1/90–12/91
 Andrews, Rupe, 1/86–12/87
 Ayres, Judy, 11/76–5/77
 Baker, Terry, 1/88–12/88
 Baker, Greg, 12/81–7/83
 Barker, Pat, 9/83–2/85
 Beaton, Jim, 11/76–8/78
 Benson, Dave, 1/93–6/03
 Berikoff, Emil, 2/78–12/78
 Blake, Robert, 1/81–2/85
 Blake, Robert, 8/78–2/85
 Blott, Tim, 1/98–12/99
 Boddy, "Bud", 11/76–2/85
 Boisseau, Dave, 1/00–12/03
 Bruce, John, 1/91–12/05
 Burch, Al, 12/79–12/06
 Burch, Orel, 11–76–12–79
 Burke, William, 11/76–8/77
 Butzner, Lisa, 2/06–12/07
 Cadd, Gary, 1/92–12/92
 Carroll, Shannon, 10/16–present
 Childers, Joe, 1/05–12/08
 Chimegalrea, Joseph, 3/85–12/87
 Chitwood, Phil, 1/89–6/93
 Chlupach, Robin, 1/79–9/80
 Christiansen, Ruth, 4/13–present
 Clampitt, Paul, 1/89–12/90
 Cochran, Kurt, 1/11–present
 Collier, Barry, 12/83–3/85
 Cooper, Mark, 1/08–12/10
 Cotant, Jack, 11/76–8/78
 Cotter, Larry, 1/81–6/85
 Cotton, Bruce, 1/94–12/97
 Crome, Cora, 1/04–2/06
 Cross, Craig, 1/96–6/12
 Crowley, John, 9–12/88; 1/08–present
 Curry, Julianne, 6/06–10/12
 Demantle, Joe, 2/78–12/79
 Dietrich, Kim, 2/01
 Donich, Dan, 10/15–present
 Donohue, Joe, 9/89–12/89
 Downing, Jerry, 9/08–present
 Drobnica, Angel, 1/16–present
 Easley, Paula, 1/81–3/81
 Elias, Tom, 1/93–12/93
 Ellis, Ben, 1/01–12/02
 Emberg, Truman, 11/76–5/81
 Enlow, Tom, 11/01–12/13
 Ernest, Mark, 1/88–12/88
 Evers, Tim, 6/08–10/13
 Falvey, Dan, 1/92–12/04

Fanning, Chris, 1/96–12/00
 Farr, Lance, 3/01–12/02
 Farvour, Jeff, 1/09–present
 Favretto, Gregory, 3/85–12/86
 Fields, Duncan, 1/01–6/07
 Fisher, Barry, 1/83–12/88
 Foster, Jesse, 2/79–9/83
 Fraser, David, 1/90–12/05
 Fuglvog, Arne, 1/96–6/03
 Fuglvog, Ed, 3/87–12/91
 Gage, Jay, 11/76–8/77
 Ganey, Steve, 2/96–12/99
 Gilbert, John, 1/89–12/89
 Gisclair, Becca Robbins, 3/09–6/15
 Goldsmith, Richard, 2/81–5/83
 Granger, Pete, 1/88–12/88
 Gross, Shari, 8/78–9/79
 Gruver, John, 1/13–present
 Gundersen, Justine, 1/96–4/00
 Gunderson, Bob, 1/06–12/08
 Guy, Paul, 11/76–1/78
 Hanson, John, 2/78–12/78
 Hegge, Ron, 3/85–6/89
 Henderschedt, John, 1/01–6/08
 Highleyman, Scott, 1/96–12/96
 Hilyard, Heath, 1/14–12/14
 Holm, Oliver, 3/85–12/87
 Horgan, Vic, 1/90–12/90
 Huntington, S, 11/76–2/78
 Isleib, Pete, 3/85–12/90
 Ivanoff, Weaver, 7/80–12/83
 Jacobs, Jan, 1/04–12/12
 Jacobson, Jon, 9/77–12/78
 Jacobson, Bill, 1/02–12/04
 Jacobson, Bob, 1/05–12/11
 Jaeger, Gig, 11/76–9/80
 Jensen, Charles, 11/76–5/80
 Johnson, K., 11/76–12/78
 Jolin, Ron, 1/83–12/83
 Jones, Spike, 1/94–12/01
 Jordon, Eric, 7/80–9/86
 Jordon, Melody, 1/99–12/00
 Kaldestad, Kevin, 1/90–12/94
 Kandianis, Teresa, 1/99–12/05
 Kauffman, Jeff, 1/14–present
 Kilborn, Mitch, 1/03–12/04
 Kinneen, Simon, 1/05–12/10
 Kurtz, Joseph, 11/76–2/85
 Kwachka, Alexis, 1/11–present
 Lauber, Rick, 11/76–12/89
 Lecture, John, 2/84–9/84
 Leslie, Kent, 1/03–12/07
 Lewis, John, 4/96–4/99
 Lewis, Ray, 11/76–5/84
 Linkous, Ed, 1/79–4/80

Little, David, 1/90–12/94
 Long, Kristi, 12/81–5/83
 Lowenberg, Craig, 1/12–present
 Lure, Loretta, 1/91–12/91
 Lynch, Brian, 12/12–12/14
 Macklin, Sharon, 12/79–12/80
 Madsen, Stephanie, 1/93–9/01
 Maloney, Pete, 1/90–4/96
 Martin, Mike, 1/07–12/09
 Mayhew, Tracey, 11/01–12/03
 McCallum, Chuck, 12/07–present
 McNamee, Tina, 1/07–2/08
 Mezirow, Andy, 1/12–12/13, 1/15–6/15
 Miller, Jack, 1/91–12/91
 Moir, Matt, 1/05–12/12
 Moller, John, 1/04–12/08
 Moller, Sandra, 1/03–12/03
 Morrow, Jeb, 1/05–12/07
 Moss, Robert, 11/76–10/78
 Munro, Nancy, 3/85–12/90
 Murphy, Rex, 3/07–12/09
 Nelson, Art, 10/15–present
 Nelson, Hazel, 1/94–12/01
 Norosz, Kris, 1/01–12/04
 O'Donnell, Paddy, 1/14–present
 O'Connell, James, 3/82–9/84
 Ogden, Doug, 1/93–12/00
 O'Hara, Dan, 12/76–12/91
 Olsen, Ken, 12/76–5/82
 Olson, Eric, 6/02–12/04
 Osterback, Alvin, 3/85–12/86
 Otness, Alan, 12/76–2/81
 Paddock, Dean, 1/92–12/98
 Pagels, Penny, 1/92–12/94
 Parsons, Charles, 1/81–2/81
 Peterson, Theresa, 3/09–6/16
 Peterson, Joel, 10/12–present
 Peterson, Ron, 1/87–12/89
 Pfundt, Byron, 1/92–12/94
 Phillips, Jack, 1/79–1/84
 Pletnikoff, Perfenia, 1/91–12/93
 Poulsen, Ed, 1/05–2/13
 Preston, Jim, 1/02–12/06
 Rawlinson, Don, 9/77–12/86
 Ridgway, Michelle, 4/00–12/08
 Rodriguez, Neil, 1/11–10/13
 Roos, John, 1/91–12/97
 Rowley, Jon, 1/88–12/88
 Samuelson, Harvey, 5/82–2/85
 Schnaper, Lewis, 1/81–12/81
 Scott, William, 12/79–4/80
 Settle, Julie, 3/85–12/86
 Sevier, John, 1/92–12/96
 Sharick-Jensen, C., 3/85–12/87

Skordahl, Jay, 1/90–12/91
 Smith, Thorn, 12/85–12/87
 Smith, Steve, 1/89–4/89
 Smith, Walter, 7/82–12/86
 Sparck, Harold, 1/89–1/95
 Specking, Keith, 12/76–3/81
 Starck, R., 12/76–1/78
 Steele, Jeff, 1/00–12/03
 Stephan, Jeffrey, 2/79–12/05, 2/15–present
 Stevens, Ben, 1/16–present
 Stevens, Michael, 1/92–12/95
 Stewart, Beth, 1/91–12/95, 1/08–6/11
 Stewart, Tom, 1/83–12/86
 Swanson, Lori, 1/06–12/14
 Szabo, Nick, 12/76–8/79
 Turk, Teresa, 1/97–4/98
 Upton, Matt, 1/15–present
 Uri, Konrad, 1/81–5/81
 Vanderhoeven, Anne, 1/10–12/15
 Vaska, Anthony, 12/79–2/85
 Ward, Robert, 2/97–12/01
 Weiss, Ernie, 1/12–present
 Welfelt, Carlene, 6/77–8/79
 White, Richard, 3/85–12/88
 Wilde, Sr. Harry, 12/76–3/80
 Wilt, Sinclair, 1/14–present
 Wojeck, Edward, 3/82–3/84
 Woodruff, Dave, 3/85–12/91
 Woodruff, John, 3/85–1/93
 Wurm, Robert, 1/90–12/97
 Yeck, Lyle, 1/89–12/02
 Yutzenka, Grant, 6/96–12/99
 Zharoff, Fred, 1/88–11/89



1986

Standing, L to R: Ron Hegge, Dave Woodruff, Oliver Holm, John Woodruff, Barry Fisher, Al Burch, Thorn Smith, Don Rawlinson, Pete Isleib, Larry Cotter, Rupe Andrews

Seated, L to R: Joe Chimegalrea, Dan O'Hara, Rick Lauber, Cameron Sharick, Nancy Munro, Julie Settle, Al Osterback, Walter Smith, Rich White, Bob Alverson, Terry Baker, Greg Favretto, Eric Jordan, Tom Stewart



1996

Back row, L to R: Kris Fanning, Pete Maloney, Dan Falvey, Craig Cross, Dave Fraser, Ragnar Alstrom, John Roos

Middle row, L to R: Bruce Cotton, Mike Jones, Rob Wurm, John Lewis, Dave Benson, John Sevier

Seated, L to R: Dan Paddock, Arne Fuglvog, Justine Gundersen, Stephanie Madsen, John Bruce, Hazel Nelson, Lyle Yeck, Al Burch



2006

Standing, L to R: Simon Kinneen, John Henderschedt, Jeb Morrow, Craig Cross, Jeff Stephan, Jim Preston, Michelle Ridgeway, Bob Jacobson, Jan Jacobs, Kent Leslie, Dave Fraser, Ed Poulsen,

Seated, L to R: Joe Childers, John Bruce, Matt Moir, Duncan Fields, Al Burch, Tom Enlow, John Moller, Cora Crome



2016

Standing, L to R: Alexis Kwachka, Matt Upton, Jeff Farvour, Sinclair Wilt, Art Nelson, Mitch Kilborn, Anne Vanderhoeven, Jeff Stephan, Chuck McCallum, Kurt Cochran, Joel Peterson

Seated, L to R: Daniel Donich, John Crowley, Theresa Peterson, Jeff Kauffman, Paddy O'Donnell, Ernie Weiss, Ruth Christiansen, Jerry Downing, Craig Lowenberg. Not pictured: Shannon Carroll, John Gruver, Angel Drobnika, Ben Stevens.

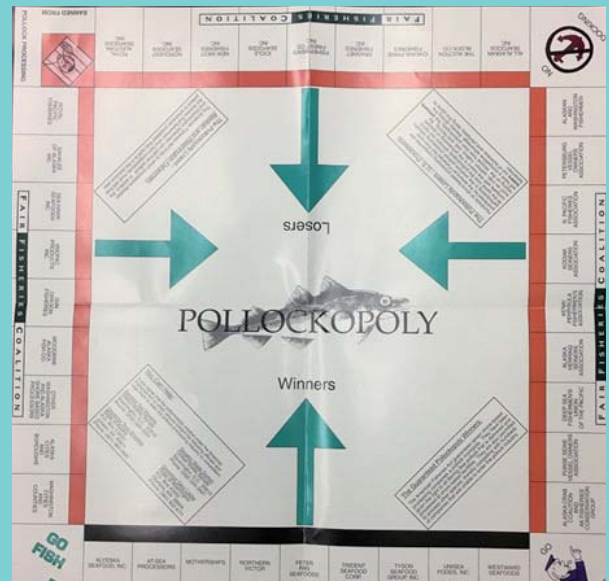


Pollockopoly

During the late 1980s and almost all of the 1990s, efforts to rationalize the Bering Sea Pollock fisheries were waged at the Council and in the U.S. Congress. As the effort to rationalize was reaching a conclusion during the late 1990s, processing companies and others not involved in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery were opposed to the idea, and formed a group called the Fair Fisheries Coalition. One of the illustrations this group used to state their case was a play on the board game Monopoly; they named it POLLOCKOPOLY. The game set out to illustrate winners and losers, and to provide contact information of

decision makers for those wishing to become involved in promoting their point of view on the issue.

When looking through the lists of “winners” and “losers” illustrated on the game board, now almost 20 years later, we see some dramatic changes. In the losers category, of the 15 individual companies listed only 2 remain in business. Of the 10 winners, 8 remain. Purchases and mergers account for a fair amount of the change, along with bankruptcies and perhaps other causes. It should be noted, when you look at the individual companies listed on the POLLOCKOPOLY board, many were dependent on salmon fisheries. It’s likely that most of those companies are gone more as a result of the tough times in the global salmon industry between 2000–2004 than any other reason. Companies



listed on the POLLOCKOPOLY board who were diversified in multiple fisheries and/or regions when the board game was created are to a large degree still operating. Many people familiar with this period

in Council history may agree that POLLOCKOPOLY is a game that shouldn’t be played more than once, of course there are those that would likely disagree.

The Bob Mace Award



Bob Mace was the deputy director at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and a Council member for over 23 years. He coined the phrase “watchable wildlife” to replace “nongame” as a reference to nonhunted species, forever changing how state and federal agencies manage everything from songbirds to butterflies. In addition, at the time of his death in November 2006, Bob left an estate gift permanently endowing the Bob and Phyllis Mace Watchable Wildlife chair at OSU and an annual scholarship fund to benefit dedicated undergraduates.

Bob was the epitome of a true gentlemen, and known for his dedication, professionalism, and conservation ethic as a member of the Council. Former executive director Clarence Pautzke noted that Bob “was always a class act” and rarely had an unkind word to anyone. He always provided support to the staff and looked out for them in many a dire situation

when the big chips were on the line and everyone was tearing up the analyses. He had a knack for coming up with just the right bit of humor when the room was infused with tension and his down-home wisdom could always be trusted. One of the best was offered up by Bob when someone started getting rather nasty and argumentative during public testimony at a Council meeting. Bob commented that “You never want to get down in the mud and wrestle with a pig. You’ll just get dirty and the pig loves it!” Good advice to last a lifetime. Executive Director Chris Oliver summed it up when he said “Bob was the Council’s moral compass.”

In Bob’s honor, the Council established the Bob Mace Distinguished Service Award. This award is only occasionally bestowed by the Council, when an individual exemplifies the highest levels of dedication, professionalism and conservation ethic necessary to make the fisheries off Alaska the best managed in the world. Recipients of the Bob Mace award are as follows:

- 2006. Staff members — North Pacific Fishery Management Council
- 2007. Stephanie Madsen – Pacific Seafood Processors Association and former Council Chair
- 2008. Thorne Smith – Freezer Longliner’s Association
- 2010. Sue Salvesson – National Marine Fisheries Service, and former Council member (alternate)
- 2012. Ken Hansen – NOAA Office of Law Enforcement – Alaska Division
- 2015. Martin Loefflad – National Marine Fisheries Service – Observer Program



OUR STORIES

The success of the Council management program is due to many, many people who have participated in the stewardship of our resources and management of our fisheries.

Several people have offered to tell their story and give their perspective on the Council process.

DAN HULL



COUNCIL MEMBER 8/09 - PRESENT; COUNCIL CHAIR 10/14 – PRESENT

Reading the messages and stories penned by Council members and staff in the 30th MSA anniversary program in 2006, it's striking that so many themes from the past are just as relevant today. The value of maintaining good relations among the interests of Washington, Oregon and Alaska, and between the Council, NMFS and ADF&G. The importance of having a transparent, well structured and respectful public process. The outstanding work of Council staff, and Federal and State agency staff, many of whom we as Council members never meet. And the increasing complexity of management programs, socio-economic and biological information needs and allocation decisions for an expanding list of interests – and our apparent tendency to create more complexity; a consequence of the advances in marine science, computer modeling and intricate social and economic objectives.

One of my favorite themes is the description of serendipitous events and pathways by which Council members and staff have found themselves at the Council. My path to becoming a Council member was also by chance. I had been active primarily in halibut issues at the Council, mostly related to the commercial-charter sector conflicts, since around 1999 as a representative of Cordova District Fishermen United. (And to this day, I still can't seem to shake halibut issues from my work on the Council!) I had a satisfying fishing business gillnetting salmon and longlining halibut in Cordova, and my wife and I had two young boys. I was content with my state in life and wasn't thinking of becoming more involved. Then one day in December 2008 Gerry Merrigan calls me out of the blue to ask if I would consider putting my name in for his seat on the Council. He wanted to pursue other challenges and was losing interest

in the Council issues of the time, and he thought that he could help persuade the State administration to consider my name, with support from all the stakeholders who expected and wanted him to continue. I was obviously surprised, but agreed to it. Although it was a challenge, after a number of phone calls with Commissioner of ADF&G Denby Lloyd and different industry groups and leaders, the State was convinced of my viability as a candidate and it was smooth sailing through the nomination and appointment process.

Of course, many of you know that's an apocryphal tale, because the State administration did not want to reappoint Gerry, although he very much wanted to continue, was dedicated to it, and well respected by many. And so the decision to replace him caused some friction for the State and some challenges for me as well. Ultimately, Gerry was magnanimous and helped me prepare for my first Council meetings, and we continue to work together on various Council issues. But telling the story this way gives me a chance to highlight another theme from past MSA anniversary stories. That theme is of the Council as a family, and of the well accepted social standards for how we conduct the Council process; that in spite of our passionate disagreements we have far more goals in common than apart, and that achieving them requires an extra effort to listen to each other as well as to speak our minds. Without question there are hard decisions that impact friendships and working relationships, but with time most are pardoned. That's a good theme to keep in mind in this day and age of polarization and distrust in society. And there's no doubt in my mind it will carry the Council through the challenges of the next decade and beyond.

GORDON KRUSE



SSC MEMBER 1/90 – 12/92 AND 10/02 – PRESENT; CRAB PLAN TEAM 1/86 – 12/89; SCALLOP PLAN TEAM 6/93 – 11/01

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) changed my life. I am not kidding! Let me explain...

I earned a B.S. in Biomathematics from Rutgers in 1977. Where to go from there? Despite my love of pure mathematics and the urging of one of my math professors, it was the practical application of mathematics to real-world problems that I enjoyed most. The Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 had just become law when I was searching for possible careers. It became readily apparent to me that fishery scientists with strong quantitative skills would be needed to successfully implement the Act. Although I had taken a few courses in marine ecology, I never took an undergraduate fisheries course. However, I had three summers of practical fisheries experience working for a professor on quantitative fish genetics and another professor on stock assessment and population dynamics of Atlantic surf clams and I tremendously enjoyed those experiences. My search culminated when I accepted an offer to enter the graduate program at Oregon State University to work with Al Tyler on the recruitment dynamics of English sole off the Oregon coast. My fate was sealed thanks to the Act!

After a post-doctoral position in Newfoundland, I started in Alaska in 1985, first as the statewide shellfish biometrician right on the heels of the collapse of the king crab fisheries, and later as the head marine fisheries scientist for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). Since 2001, I have been a professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). Throughout my entire career, I've been involved in many state-federal partnerships. One of my first major activities was to help prepare a draft Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that was agreeable to all parties – not at all a simple task after previous decades of

contentious, failed attempts. This FMP provided a framework of the shared state-federal responsibilities without which the plan could not be implemented. As evidenced by 23 plan amendments, this FMP has become a “living” document that continues to address emerging fishery issues. Another good example was the Scallop FMP. Alaska essentially had sole deferred authority to manage this fishery out to 200 miles. In the early 1990s, fishery landings were getting out of control and I was tasked to lead the development of a state FMP for sustainable fishery management. However, in 1995 when the 168-foot scalloper “Mr. Big” turned in its state registration and continued fishing in federal waters after the quota was taken, it became apparent that the State of Alaska could no longer manage this fishery alone. As a result, a federal scallop FMP was developed and implemented that provides a framework of state and federal responsibilities for cooperative management.

These are just two examples of successful state-federal partnerships that have fostered successful implementation of the MSA. Those and many others would not have been possible without crucial involvement and partnerships with industry and other fishery stakeholders. In my 16-year career at ADF&G and my ongoing 15+ year career at UAF, I've been so impressed by the invaluable, constructive involvement of fishery stakeholders in the fishery management process. I've treasured the many friendships cultivated over a cup of coffee or pint of beer. Moreover, the research investments by the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center, Bering Sea Fisheries Research Foundation, scallop industry, and others, bear strong testimony to the high value that the entire Council family places on the science that underpins successful implementation of the MSA by the NPFMC. It has been, and continues to be, a great honor to be involved in the Council process. And I owe my gratitude to the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 for its influence on my wonderful and rewarding fisheries career!

JEFF FARVOUR



AP MEMBER 1/09 - PRESENT

I'm sure everyone has a story about how they became involved in the Council process. Mine was especially eye opening and rewarding but also with some humor and encouragement from an unlikely source. Although I started commercial fishing in 1989, my involvement with the Council began in 2005, 10 years after I moved to Sitka, around a single, just slightly contentious issue: an open-ended reallocation of halibut from the commercial IFQ sector to an expanding for hire charter sector. As a new entrant into the halibut fishery and with the level of tension that had built up over the years in my community of Sitka from this one

issue, it was especially important to me to quit bitching on the docks and get involved.

The Halibut Coalition, an especially strong group of fishing associations, businesses and individuals, had already formed, so with the encouragement of my skipper, some fishing buddies, and the help of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, I started going to meetings to testify on behalf of myself as a relatively new entrant in the Halibut IFQ fishery and a resident of Sitka. Like many others, I was nervous and passionate, but the AP and Council were a big help and encouraged folks to stick around and pay attention. Sounds easy enough! I had no idea how this was going to change my life.

Well, when I got to my first Council meeting to testify, and navigated my way through the halls, rooms and eventually to the all-important sign-up sheet, the AP room was packed with commercial fishermen and charter operators from all over Southeast and Southcentral Alaska. The room was standing room only (and very little of that) and it seemed like the lights were heat lamps. When I got up to testify to the AP in my usual heartfelt and passionate way, I told them I was sweating my ___ off. The chair of the AP (Tom Enlow) assured me that they were too. After my sweaty testimony, I took my post in the back of the room between some folks I didn't know yet. The guy to my left leaned over and said "Good testimony man." "Thanks," I replied, assuming he was a commercial fisherman. The very next person to testify told the AP that he moved to Alaska from another state, started a guide business and felt there shouldn't be any regulations at all for the guided sector. He seemed rather pleased with himself that he had solved all the problems by escaping a state that limited guided sport fishing. I found myself thinking, "Wow, I know you can ask the Council to take whatever action you think they should take, but no regulation?? Did I hear that right?? The guy standing next to me who had complimented me earlier leaned over again and said with a concerned look "You need to stay with this and help us figure it out!" I introduced myself and he introduced himself. "I'm Tim Evers," he said. We shook hands, and I asked him what he did. He told me he was a long-time charter operator out of southcentral Alaska. I was amazed, and didn't know what to think because I thought these guys just wanted our 100 year old, well-managed commercial halibut fishery to go away. I decided to stick around.

A few meetings later I showed up to testify on the same issue with an exceptionally colorful black eye. Denby Lloyd, the ADFG commissioner at the time, and Cora Crome, a fishery advisor to the governor, asked me what happened. I told them that the charter guys jumped me in the ally last night. They looked horrified and I assured them I was just kidding, but that I would try to weave that into my testimony based on their response. In testimony, I told the Council that this shiner I had was a color-coded example of the tensions in my community over this charter issue. One of the Council members took the bait and asked me a question "What does the other guy look like?" I replied that he's not doing so good, he's in the hospital. Some laughed, some looked concerned. Then I laughed, told them no, that it was just a relic from a

friendly wrestling match with someone from my own sector. That made them laugh even more. Sheesh....

So I stuck with it, ended up getting appointed to the AP about the same time as Tim Evers did. Although we were on opposite sides of an often nasty allocation issue, we worked through them with respect, found many things that we had in common, and became good friends.

It didn't take long to appreciate the many issues under the Council's purview and the relationships between them. Being part of this Council process has been, and will continue to be, an amazing journey unlike anything else I have ever known. One big highlight is getting to work with the amazing people that make up the Council family and building great friendships along the way. But for me the most rewarding part was doing my part to look after the fish and the habitat, having the opportunity to participate at the AP and Council level to make sure that there is still a place in Alaska's fisheries for small boat, independent, Alaska community-based fishermen. That's because it's who many of us are and who we are passionate about providing for in the future. If I have made a difference, then all the sweat—and the black eye—was worth it!

ANNE HOLLOWED



SSC MEMBER 4/03 - PRESENT

It has been a privilege to work with the NPFMC throughout my career. The Council's adherence to science-based management, as well as open and transparent policy making, serves as an example of best practices in fisheries management throughout the country and the world. In my opinion, the success of the NPFMC relies on an early adoption of catch monitoring, continued support for resource assessment and monitoring and a commitment to an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. I can't wait to see what the future holds.

Thanks for letting me be a part of the fun!

LINDA KOZAK



INDUSTRY ADVISOR

When I walked into my first Council meeting in 1987 I never imagined that I'd still be involved with the Council process nearly 30 years later. Nearly everyone has an interesting story on how they got involved in the federal regulatory process and mine is no exception. I was approached by a member of a newly formed fishing association in Kodiak asking if I would agree to travel to Council meetings to monitor and report back on issues important to the membership. With my salmon fishing background, I had no clue what groundfish was and thought blackcod and sablefish were two different kinds of fish. And what the heck was true cod? Was there a false cod?

Several days before the meeting, the members of the group met to give me my instructions. I was surprised when they told me I would be testifying and produced a letter from an attorney which I was to read to the Council threatening to sue if halibut trip limits were adopted. What a way to introduce myself to the Council process!

Things went downhill from there. I got into an allocation battle against Paul MacGregor and his clients when my group proposed a sablefish split between fixed and trawl gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. Surprisingly, I won that first issue, with the help of Council member Oscar Dyson, and learned a valuable lesson. Paul came up to me and congratulated me on the win. I learned that your adversary on an issue today could be your ally on another issue tomorrow. Don't take anything personal and keep things in perspective. Paul MacGregor was, and continues to be, a class act.

Then there was the night I spent with the trawlers. I was the last longline representative at the meeting and was asked to negotiate the first halibut cap for trawl gear in the BSAI. With IPHC staff assistance and several phone calls during the night, we reached agreement and the Council approved it the next day. That was a terrifying experience.

Even conflict can sometimes be humorous. One time when Jeff Stephan and I were feuding about something, I asked him to watch my purse while I left the meeting room for a minute. I wasn't aware he was scheduled to testify next and I entered the room to see him walk up and set my purse on the table. He informed Chairman Lauber that it wasn't his purse, but that I had asked him to watch it and without missing a beat, Rick asked, "Is it ticking?"

Speaking of testifying, I may hold a Council record. I testified at 22 regular and special Council meetings against the halibut/sablefish IFQ program. It was the best loss I think I ever had. When it was approved, I decided to try to make it work for my clients and Kodiak. I worked with others to form an IFQ brokerage firm and was able to keep a lot of quota in Alaska and in my community.

When I think of the North Pacific Council and my years of participation, I don't think of the many controversial issues and often bitter disputes between various factions. I think of faces and names I have grown to admire and respect, of people I can call a friend. Each Council meeting provides an opportunity to hear about changes in people's lives and share in their joy or sadness – marriages, births, illness, and sometimes even the loss of a family member or someone associated with the Council. I've been able to share kidney transplant issues and experiences, learned that Rick Koso and I have the same birthday, and talked with people about the interesting things going on with their children or parrots. Coming to a Council meeting wouldn't be complete without visiting with Clem Tillion as he holds court in the hotel coffee shop.

While the Council is involved in serious and often controversial issues, my memories will always be about the positive experiences I've had and friends I have made. I am very grateful for the past 30 years and know it's helped me become the person I am today. I wouldn't change it for anything.

CRAIG CROSS



COUNCIL MEMBER 8/12 - PRESENT; AP MEMBER 1/96-6/12

I had attended a day or two of council meetings before I attended my first Advisory Panel as a member. I had heard about the Council process from Dr. Pereyra at association meetings, he and others spoke of how exciting and interesting they were. I volunteered to fill a spot on the Advisory Panel (AP), I should have been a little suspicious when no one

else was stepping up, and the look of relief on everyone in the room when someone actually volunteered. In those days new members started at the end of the table closest to the door and public, and moved toward the front with time. I wasn't put at the end of the table but between Lyle Yeck and Spike Jones (two representatives from Oregon) this was not by accident. LESSON 1 (nothing in this process is by accident).

My first meeting in 1996 began with the Council staff and AP member's speaking in tongues (incomprehensible talk about blocked and unblocked shares on A and D class vessels for permanent or specified years); I had no idea what was being said. Lyle leaned over and said, "You might be the deciding vote, and none of us know what side you are on." I replied, "You mean there are sides and I have to pick one, and I might be the deciding vote?" I was naïve to say the least. LESSON 2 (it seems you always have to pick a side, even if you don't want to).

I began to understand a little more as each meeting went on, but I had entered the process thinking everyone was as enamored as I was with large "factory trawlers". LESSON 3 (not everyone thinks a large catcher processor is cool). I also had no appreciation for the importance of where you lived or where your company was based. I believed fishing was fishing and that bond was enough, that it didn't matter if you were from Alaska, Oregon or Washington. LESSON 4 (it does matter where you live and where your company is based).

I came to this industry by default, even though I left home at 17 and started purse seining and crabbing around Kodiak in 1970 during the summer, I put my way through college each year by fishing in the summer and crabbing in the fall before school. I never thought of becoming a full time fisherman, and surely wouldn't become one of those "fishery biologists" that the wise old fisherman and captains said didn't know their "a--from a hole in the ground." I believed them because these were wise and experienced men of the sea who knew everything. LESSON 5 (fisherman and captains are wise and know a lot, but not everything).

I spent summers fishing and going to college and wanted to be a journalist, but after 2 ½ years, my journalism advisor told me I couldn't write and to find a new major. I headed down to forestry and spent a quarter there, my advisor Dr. Tabor, told me I did not have the math skills to continue in forestry. He saw the desperation in my face and decided to help; he said, "What do you do in the summer?" I said, "I work on fish boats in Alaska." He smiled as if he just solved the Rubik's cube, I know the perfect place, go down to the canal and stop in the new building there, it is the College of Fisheries, and they are desperate for students and will take anyone. I did and received my Bachelor of Science in Fisheries in 1974. I went to work immediately in Dutch Harbor, Alaska in a crab and shrimp plant. I stayed and lived in Alaska and eventually went to work for Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Ketchikan, Alaska as a Fisheries biologist. LESSON 6 (captains and fishermen are right about young fishery biologists, see LESSON 5).

I was fortunate enough to be mentored by many great people in fisheries and fish production, both catch and processing. I was extremely lucky to be in circumstances that allowed me to be in

places as the fishery evolved. I was in crab when we switched from blocks of crab meat production to sections, when we started processing tanner and opilio. When we were running both shrimp and crab at the same time in Dutch Harbor, when floating processors became the rage; I was sadly there when the King crab disappeared, when we converted a crab boat to one of the first freezer longliners with Mustad auto gear setting. I left crab and salmon in 1983 and started managing a couple of groundfish factory trawlers (they were factory trawlers in those days, before the politically correct term of catcher processor was adopted.) I spent years trying to understand how to make money out of bait fish like cod, and garbage fish like pollock. LESSON 7 (what is a valueless fish today, may be a treasure tomorrow, so treat them as such).

I remember my first time going back in to watch the Council after a few years on the AP, I was in the back of the room during the inshore/offshore debate, and it was near vote time. I stood back there trying to count on my fingers which way the vote was going to go (like I even had a clue). Robin Samuelsen saw me counting on my hands and got up from the table and stopped and whispered to me, "Craig, you only need one hand to count the votes for your side". It took me a second to realize what he meant (I am not the quickest sometimes). LESSON 8 (it takes 6 votes at the Council).

I also would be remiss not to advise all AP, SSC, and present and future Council members of a lesson I have learned the hard way; the Council and NMFS staff are your best friends in this process. They have studied the issue longer, have discussed it more, and are usually unbiased as to the outcome, and thus give the truest analysis. They work very hard and deserve our utmost respect. LESSON 9 (don't try to show up staff or catch them in a mistake, you will need their help next time).

I am blessed and humbled to have been allowed to add my small voice to this process now for 20 years, why my peers have continued to let me serve for 16 years on the AP, and for 4 years now on the Council is a mystery. I do not take this responsibility lightly, and always strive to do what is best for the resource and the industry as a whole. LESSON 10 (being earnest, sincere and respectful, will take you a long way in this process).

BECCA ROBBINS GISCLAIR



AP MEMBER 3/09 – 6/15

It's a common story – people come to Alaska to fish for a summer and never leave. I, on the other hand, came to Alaska to do fish policy work for a summer, and I was hooked. Simeon would probably say it's because I got to visit St. Paul that summer, and while that didn't hurt, the truth is I fell in love with the issues and the place. After finishing law school I returned to Alaska, passed the bar exam, and found myself a job in fisheries policy working for the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. A few months later I found myself at the Anchorage Hilton at my first Council meeting – living the dream!

At that first meeting, I stared at the schedule for a while before I finally gave up and asked someone where I was supposed to be. After four years of going to Council meetings I was ready to step to the other side of the table as an AP member. My first meeting on the AP was final action on Bering Sea salmon bycatch (Amendment 91). Talk about getting thrown to the wolves! I was on the losing side of a lot of 5-12 votes that meeting, even a few that were worse than that. As the only representative for subsistence interests at the table at the time it was a bit lonely, but I also learned one of the things that I value most about the Council process at that meeting. After the voting was done, one of the AP members who represented the pollock fleet and had been yelling at me at the AP table moments earlier complemented me on my handling of motions and the action before the AP that day. This has been a common theme throughout my time in the Council process. Despite what happens at the table, most people are able to put differences aside and be nice—even friends—once the meeting is over.

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I think what keeps us all
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coming out the other end.*

When I first started going to Council meetings the term "Council family" made me slightly uncomfortable. After 11 years in the process, I understand what it means, and am actually proud of it. I have many valuable friendships thanks to the Council process, and really appreciate that, like a family, we can all put aside our differences when we're done fighting. The ability of the AP to elect me, a member of the "angry eight" (though I maintain the only thing "angry" about us was making someone else angry enough to give us the name), as Chair, is one of many pieces of evidence of this unique trait of the Council family which I've come to value.

Of course, being part of the Council family also requires a certain amount of suffering, including spending an inordinate amount of your life in the Anchorage Hilton. As the wise man Paul McGregor says about the Council process: "it's excruciating boredom interspersed with moments of extreme agony." He's certainly right, and there is a lot of pain and suffering involved in the Council process. But I think what keeps us all going is that once in a while all that work results in something amazing coming out the other end. For me, that includes the Council setting bycatch limits on salmon across a number of fisheries that didn't have them before, adopting a precautionary approach in the Arctic FMP, and seeing subsistence users give heartfelt testimony about the importance of salmon to them when the Council met in their home town of Nome, Alaska.

After 11 years in the Council process—a short timer by many measures—I've seen many things change; we no longer have giant stacks of paper, and I can look at a Council schedule and know exactly where I'm supposed to be. Looking back at pictures over the last 40 years of the Council, I also see changes, including the presence of women and Alaska Native representatives across the Council bodies.

As a conservation and community representative in the Council process, more often than not I've found my role to be criticizing the status quo and asking the Council to take additional action. As my work has taken me beyond the North Pacific though, I've developed an appreciation for the leadership of this Council, and feel a sense of pride in our work. Not to worry, I'll always be pushing for action within our Council, and I look forward to working with the Council to continue to lead the way in the application of Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management, moving to the next generation of bycatch management with abundance-based caps, and adapting to the challenges posed by our rapidly changing climate. I have the highest hopes that with support from the entire Council family, especially the fantastic staff, the next 40 years will see the Council's continued role as a leader in fisheries management.

C/P Northwest Enterprise

The fishing vessel Northwest Enterprise was built in 1980 by Halter Marine, Corp., a shipyard in Moss Point, Mississippi. The vessel was originally designed to be a Bering Sea King crab pot-boat, but a stern ramp and trawl gantry were included in anticipation of future use in the developing Bering Sea groundfish fishery. The principal owner of the boat was Mr. Francis Miller, of Aberdeen, Washington. His partners on the vessel were four partners in the Seattle law firm of Mundt, MacGregor. Our firm also represented Mr. Miller's fishing company, Arctic Alaska, at the time.

As it turned out, the king crab fishery in the Bering Sea went into a steep decline in the early 1980s and many Bering Sea crab fishermen began to shift their focus from crab to the Bering Sea groundfish fishery—a fishery that was mostly dominated at the time by large-scale foreign fishing vessels from Japan, Korea, Russia and Poland. The owners of the NW Enterprise followed suit—changing from pot fishing for crab to trawl fishing for cod and other groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea.

To accomplish the transition from crab fishing to groundfish, a shelter-deck was built on the stern of the NW Enterprise and processing equipment (such as the new high-speed filleting machines then being developed by Bader) were installed to begin production of cod and pollock fillets—product forms that were frozen on board and then sold to US-based seafood restaurants like Long John Silvers and



MacDonalds, as well as to foreign buyers in Japan, Korea and Europe. The transition from crab to groundfish and the subsequent development of the US groundfish fishery in Alaska was accelerated by the construction of

shoreside processing facilities by Unisea, Alyeska, and Trident Seafoods, among others.

By the end of the 1980s, the entire groundfish fishery in the Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska and Aleutian Islands was being fully utilized by US fishermen and US processors—both shoreside and at-sea. In the relatively short span of 15 years, one of the largest groundfish resources in the world had been fully Americanized by US fishermen and processors. This is truly a great success story; and the NW Enterprise played a small, but important role in the development of that fishery. Although the NW Enterprise has been out of active service for a number of years, she is still docked at Fishermen's Terminal in Seattle.

Contributed by Paul MacGregor



Tillion Painting

Diana Tillion was a wonderful woman and a very well-known Alaska artist. She frequently travelled with her husband Clem to Council meetings, and thus knew most everyone in the Council process until her passing in 2010. In 1996, she did a watercolor painting of the Council in session, and donated it to the Council office, where it hangs today. Easily recognizable figures in the painting include Helen Allen (staff), Steve Pennoyer, Dave Fluharty, Clem Tillion, Bob Mace, Rick Lauber, Clarence Pautzke, Judy Willoughby (staff), Linda Behnken, and Dave Benton. Can you name the others?

BRENT PAINE



INDUSTRY ADVISOR; COUNCIL STAFF 4/91 - 1/94

Inshore-Offshore III and the Birth of the AFA: Those of us engaged in the NPFMC process post enactment of the American Fisheries Act (AFA) have little understanding of the damage inflicted by the pollock sector wars of the 1990s, otherwise known as 'Inshore-Offshore'. In over more than a decade worth of Council meeting time, the Council took final action three different times on Plan Amendments to the BSAI Groundfish Fishery Management Plan that allocated the BSAI pollock fishery to the Inshore and Offshore sectors (Inshore Offshore I, II, & III). The Council struggled to find a solution to the over-capitalization of the Bering Sea pollock fleet and the ensuing battle between the inshore and offshore sectors. After the Council had made recommendations on two Inshore-Offshore pollock sector allocation battles beginning in 1991 and again in 1995, the Council was in position to recommend its final action on its third BSAI pollock sector allocation decision at its June 1998 meeting.

Prior to the enactment of the AFA in fall of 1998, the Bering Sea pollock industry was in fairly poor condition. Up to 15 pollock catcher processors had entered into bankruptcy proceedings and exited the fishery, the shore-based pollock trawl catcher vessels were at extreme odds with the processor plants and went on strike once or twice a year to seek a fair price for their fish and the ex-vessel value of pollock was hovering around six cents a pound. The Asian pollock market was in the toilet. In 1998, the pollock A-season lasted just 37 days for the Inshore sector and 25 days for the Offshore sector. The B-season length was less than two months for the Inshore sector and just 49

days for the Offshore sector. The race for fish was in full throttle and the fleet owners were stuffing capital into their operations just to stay in the game.

Needless to say, the June 1998 Council meeting in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, was one of the more intense, emotion-filled, standing-room only type of Council meetings. The entire BSAI pollock industry flew into Dutch Harbor for the week and were fully engaged in the meeting, including the owners of all the catcher processor and mothership processors, the Dutch Harbor and Akutan shore plant owners and managers, and the trawl catcher vessel owners and their crew. At stake was the movement of up to 5% of the BSAI pollock allocation from the at-sea sector to the shoreside sector. The industry sector trade groups had established 'war rooms' in the Grand Aleutian Hotel for the week and spent long hours negotiating possible options.

Themes of stability and preemption were the key points in industry member testimony, and culminated with a special industry group testimony from all sectors of the pollock industry just prior to the Council taking action on Inshore-Offshore III. This group represented the entire pollock industry except for the owner of the Trident shoreplant located in Akutan. The solution to the movement of 5% of the pollock TAC to the inshore sector, as suggested by this almost-unified pollock industry group was to allow for the establishment of voluntary cooperatives, as put into place a year earlier in the West coast whiting offshore C/P sector. At that time, the mothership and catcher/processor sectors were both in the offshore sector and racing against each other.

The State of Alaska's lead representative at that time, Dave Benton, argued strongly against allowing the C/P sector to form a voluntary cooperative, stating that the MSA had a moratorium on the establishment IFQs. Moreover, some in the Inshore sector felt that if the offshore sector formed a cooperative then the offshore sector would be more able to out-compete the inshore sector in the race for fish.

The Governor of Alaska, Tony Knowles, sent his "Fisheries Czar" to Dutch Harbor to get the Alaskan block to support the "Alaskan 5% reallocation position". His pressure on the delegation was not successful and the 5% reallocation motion failed on a 4-7 vote. In the end, the final amended motion that passed the Council was a movement of just 4% of the TAC to the Inshore sector (39%), and that only inshore boats less than 125 feet in length would be able to harvest the increase, and just in the A season. The offshore sector allocation was set at 61%. This was the NPFMC's solution to solving a very unstable and over-capitalized pollock fleet.

During the Inshore/Offshore pollock debate throughout 1997, Senator Stevens expressed concerns about how the fallout of the Inshore/

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Offshore debate was having on the Council process and decision making. In late September, 1997 he introduced the Stevens Americanization Bill, S. 1221, that called for 75% U.S. ownership of all U.S. commercial fishing vessels and the removal of the re-flagged vessels from the U.S. fishery. He was concerned about the rebuilt vessels in foreign yards coming into the fisheries as U.S.-built fishing vessels and of foreign ownership of U.S. fishing companies. At the time, a number of the pollock catcher/processor companies had some percentage of Norwegian, Japanese and Korean ownership utilizing a number of re-flagged foreign vessels. The Seattle-based catcher-processor companies asked Senator Slade Gordon to oppose Senator Stevens' 'Americanization' bill and to try to solve the ownership issue.

Shortly after the NPFMC took its final decision on Inshore/Offshore III, Senator Gorton and his key staff person, Jean Bumpus invited all the participants in the Bering Sea pollock industry to meet with them in his Seattle office to discuss legislative options to the NPFMC's decision on Inshore/Offshore III. Three themes emerged from this meeting: Americanization, Decapitalization and Rationalization, as a counter to Senator Stevens' Americanization bill.

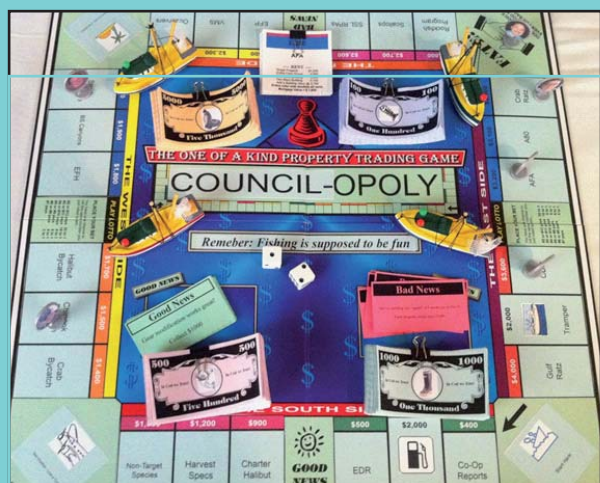
Senator Stevens then called a meeting of all parties to Washington DC in August 1998. With Senator Stevens' fishery staff person Trevor McCabe as meeting moderator, the interested parties met a number of times in the Senate Appropriations meeting room in the U.S. Capital building. Senator Stevens gave the industry group one week to resolve the issues and set the overall agenda and guidelines with the understanding that if the industry group didn't resolve the Inshore/Offshore issue, he would do it unilaterally and no one would be happy. He also told the State of Alaska representative "I have tools that you and the NPFMC do not have."

By the end of the week the group reached agreement that became the framework for the AFA. Key elements of this agreement included: 1) an Offshore vessel buyback program associated with a 15% shift to the Inshore sector with the Inshore sector; 2) an \$85 million loan from the government and the removal of 12 catcher/processor vessels and their associated fishing permits; 3) set allocations to the C/P, Mothership, Inshore and CDQ sectors (4 sectors); 4) the ability of the sectors to form voluntary cooperatives; and, 5) a new 75% U.S. ownership requirement.

And the rest was history. In October of 1998, the President of the United States signed into law HR 4328, the Omnibus and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1998 and included in this bill was an amended version of S. 1221, known as the American Fisheries Act.



Representatives of the pollock industry meet with Senator Stevens staff Trevor McCabe to develop a framework for the American Fisheries Act.



COUNCILOPOLY

In December 2013, Tom Enlow termed out (with seven years as AP Chair), so the rest of the AP demonstrated their appreciation and affection the best way they know how – with creativity and humor. Thus was the birth of the one-of-a-kind Councilopoly. Similar to the Monopoly board game we're all familiar with, only better.

The game board is a seemingly never ending loop of Council issues such as AFA, charter halibut and Gulf rationalization (which fetches the highest rent if you can ever get there). Players move around the board with tokens featuring the faces of larger than life personalities from the Council family – Frank Kelty and Clem Tillion to name a few. Landing on opportunity spaces can be good news (gear modification works great! Collect \$1000), or not (Your seasick observer doesn't make it outside. Pay \$300). Of course, it couldn't really be like Monopoly without the all mighty dollar! Rather than

dead presidents, this version features iconic images like sea lions and XtraTuff boots, and the phrase "In Cod We Trust". For a couple of days, my office looked like I was up to something sinister as sheets of freshly minted fish cash hung drying from every possible surface in the BBEDC office.

Like the game says, "Remember: Fishing is supposed to be fun!"

Contributed by Anne Vanderhoeven

BOB ALVERSON



**COUNCIL MEMBER 8/88 - 8/94; COUNCIL VICE CHAIR 10/90 – 8/94;
AP MEMBER 12/76 - 8/88**

Thank you for the opportunity to share some thoughts after some 40 years of management through the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC). My first meeting was January of 1977. It was an exciting time. The halibut fleet, salmon harvesters, king crab fleet, and the Washington and Oregon trawl fleets had been united in the efforts of extended jurisdiction and felt they had won a great battle.

Some of the first Council efforts were to control foreign fishing and to develop a more accountable observer program, control halibut and salmon bycatch, and move the foreign fleets off bairdi and opilio crab. The management of the Council in the late 70s and early 80s gave the foreign fleets 5 years to reduce halibut and salmon bycatch by 50%. They did it in two years. Approving elimination of the Japanese crab fleet was opposed by strong forces at the U.S. State Department. It was not an absolute that this would happen. I remember Council Member, Bart Eaton, asking "Is there anyone at the State Department who supports U.S. fishermen?"

During the 1980s, the "Fish and Chips" policy strongly promoted by Magnuson and Stevens opened foreign markets to American-caught fish. The policy also encouraged American-foreign joint venture operations, while U.S. processing capacity grew to displace them. Creative American financing schemes built the "Enterprise" fishing fleet and by 1988 all foreign fishing came to an end. The Japanese longline fleet was the last to go. There was much coalition building to bring this about.

In 1989 a coalition of the Council came together for the largest observer program implemented in the world. The controversy over observers resulted in Senate hearings in Washington, D.C. that vindicated the majority on the Council. The first fin fish IFQ program was approved in 1991 and implemented

in 1995 with much debate. I remember one person testifying, "I was a sniper in WWII and I am not sure I was aiming at the right enemy." He was opposed. Senator Stevens passed legislation in 1996 that disallowed NMFS appropriations being spent even thinking about new IFQ programs. By the late 1990s, Stevens had seen the benefits of quota programs and became a real advocate for them. The Council received strong support from Slade Gorton, Patty Murray, and Maria Cantwell in the Senate, and from Don Young and Cathy McMorris-Rogers in the House.

The NPFMC has led the nation in science-based sustainable management since 1976 and led the nation in innovative IFQ programs and observer programs. Attainment of these programs was achieved with open, healthy public debates, a signature goal of MSA.

Congratulations to the NPFMC for 40 years of dedication to marine resources off Alaska. The fish come first and then followed by maximizing jobs associated with the difficult job of extracting these fish from the sea.

BILL TWEIT



COUNCIL MEMBER 6/05 - PRESENT; VICE CHAIR 4/15 - PRESENT

I began on the Council in 2005, and immediately was involved in developing the fishery restructuring program for the "head and gut" sector, a group of factory trawlers fishing primarily in the Bering Sea for Yellowfin Sole, Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Atka Mackerel and Pacific Ocean Perch. At that time, their bycatch rates were unacceptably high and their retention rates were unacceptably low, particularly when compared with the rates in the recently rationalized pollock fishery. When I came onboard, the Council had just voted to establish requirements for increasing their retention rate (Amendment 79) as a separate action from restructuring the fishery by allowing the formation of cooperatives, and the sector was very concerned that the Council would force increased retention without finishing work on the restructuring. Earl Krygier, who was the Commissioner's designee on the Council, and I worked together on the Amendment 80 package (my first Council partnership!). I met regularly with the sector representatives, who were remarkably patient with my steep learning curve, and then met with Earl to craft a program that would achieve the retention targets, bycatch reduction targets and yield objectives that the Council had established. I'm certain the sector became very nervous when they learned that I would make the motion for adoption

of a preliminary preferred alternative of Amendment 80, as my first major Council motion! Fortunately, it went smoothly, with only a few contested amendments. One reason it went so smoothly is that Craig Cross shepherded the motion through the Advisory Panel, which at the time was not overly sympathetic to the sector. He did a great job, and the AP motion provided a solid foundation for the Council motion. I'm sure that the sector was relieved when Earl Krygier made the final motion in June 2006 and it passed unanimously. The program was implemented in 2008, and has more than met our initial expectations.

I was fortunate to have this opportunity so early in my Council tenure, as I learned important lessons about the kinds of partnerships that are crucial to successful outcomes at the Council. One critical partnership is within the Council; when Alaska and Washington members work together towards common objectives we can make a lot of progress in a relatively short timeframe. I also learned how important it is to work in partnership with industry. The Amendment 80 sector was extremely nervous about the Council's intent; some members saw this as an attempt to simply remove them from the fishery. Yet, they worked in partnership with me and other Council members to craft a workable program. Without their involvement, I doubt the new program would have been a success. The program created two kinds of partnerships: establishing fishing cooperatives within the sector and establishing allocations for the Community Development Quota (CDQ) entities which became partners with the sector. The first cooperative to form, including most of the sector members and boats, now manages their quota and the CDQ quota, as well as bycatch, sideboards, and other fisheries in partnership with the NMFS. The story is remarkable, this sector has transitioned from a high bycatch, high wastage fishery to a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified fishery in less than a decade!

JOHN HENDERSCHIEDT



**COUNCIL MEMBER 8/08 – 2/15; COUNCIL VICE CHAIR 10/12 – 2/15;
AP MEMBER 1/01 – 6/08**

Figuratively speaking, the world of Alaska fisheries and the NPFMC has always been, for me, a land of giants. My recollections start with Sam Hjelle and Ted Evans, who in 1988 chartered a plane to fly the boundary line of the U.S. EEZ and document foreign trawlers fishing illegally in U.S. waters. To a shy kid from Pennsylvania, the highliners, the entrepreneurs, the advocates, and the great Alaskan legends (and all combinations thereof!) like Sam and Ted, who had such a profound impact on our fisheries were, and remain, larger-than-life. My desire

to start naming them is overshadowed by a fear of mistakenly overlooking someone dear. But many of you reading this, and certainly those of you who have been around for all forty years of the Council, know the kind. And I hope that giants still with us might read these lines and be reminded of their importance and legacy as leaders. In any case, it has been a profound honor to stand on their shoulders and play just a small, supporting role in ensuring the sustainability, safety, and value of fisheries in the North Pacific.

But we cannot all be giants. And, at least within our Council process, there are mountains of work behind every achievement of management and conservation. The quality of those achievements in the North Pacific is worth special recognition, and they are without a doubt a reflection of the talent and dedication of the entire Council family. The amazing contributions of, among others, the states of Alaska, Washington, and Oregon, the Alaska Regional Office and Alaska Fisheries Science Center of NMFS, and the Council staff are engines of that success. These outstanding professionals deserve our thanks and praise. The value of their efforts goes far beyond technical advice and support. Throughout the amazing journey of the NPFMC and the fisheries it manages, the staffs of these outstanding organizations have withstood the forces of strong political, economic, and social dynamics of "the process" to always ensure sound and informed decision making. While it is common to view government policy and bureaucracy as hurdles to progress, it is in fact the dedication, creativity, and "grit" of those who work within these systems that enable the Council's success, and they all deserve our recognition and gratitude for their individual and collective efforts.

Add to this mix the input and engagement of every stakeholder – fishers, processors, advocates, attorneys – that dedicates his or her energy, money, and time to the Council process and it is not difficult to understand the success of the Council and the health of North Pacific fisheries. The soundness of character, the quality of advocacy, and the commitment to sound conservation are world-class. It is a wonderful community, and in many ways, a family. As we celebrate the last forty years of the NPFMC, we might also look forward to the next forty. As long as stakeholders remain committed to sound conservation, and our agencies (and the Council) are able to maintain the excellence that they've achieved, the NPFMC and the fisheries are certain to enjoy another great forty! Who might be the next giants?

LINDA BEHNKEN



Photo: ASMI / Josh Roper Photography

COUNCIL MEMBER 8/92-8/01

The Council process! What a roller coaster. Despite years of issues, mountains of facts, days of tension, ultimately what comes to mind are the times when we laughed together—especially when we laughed after contentious meetings and remembered to be human. I have learned so much from all of the people involved with the North Pacific Council—the Council staff, who shine above all, NMFS staff, Council members, members of the industry, members of the SSC, and the non-industry public who bravely show up despite sentences such as:

“As stated in 4.4.3, we recommend basing RPP DMRs for NPT CVs on the DMR for GOA CPs fishing NPT gear.” (DMR analysis, October 2016)

We pretend the process is not opaque, we try to make it accessible—and then we smack folks with a sentence like that! Insiders rule!

I guess I have been around the process long enough to tell a few stories. Of course, I have to tell a few about Clem, who inspires and traumatizes all of us. Clem was famous for wanting to vote before staff reports or public testimony, and was known to hitch his chair over to mine when we served on the Council together at the tensest and most inappropriate moments to ask, “Hey, Behnken, when are you going to get married and start making babies?”

Because it only happened once, I want to relate the time when Clem was speechless. This was after he had left the Council but I was still slogging away in a Council seat and Clem came forward to testify on the Steller sea lion recovery plan. He revealed to us the REAL cause of Steller sea lion decline, which went something like this: excess bulls make it very difficult for the females to get done what needs to get done to

rebuild populations; if NMFS had a shred of common sense they would see that what the population needs is less bulls. Once Clem quit talking, I posed a question. I noted that the Council was often accused of getting nothing done quickly, and I asked whether he thought we, the Council, might suffer from the same affliction—excess bulls, or bull, whichever he considered the more likely culprit. For exactly five seconds Clem was speechless. Then he rallied to say, “Touché!” and a new path to better management was found!

Of course, Clem has also shared other wisdom, such as: “take care of the long-lived species” (referring to fish, not people I think), and “take care of the little people.” Being small and (now) approaching old, I value those words. Rick Lauber, who I still miss at every Council meeting, imparted similar wisdom, and always knew when to break the tension with a joke or wry comment. Then there was the unshakeable Bob Mace, who liked to remark: I start each day fresh! and Robin Samuelson, who could bring down the house with just the right cut-to-the-bone comment sheathed with humor at exactly the right moment. These were my mentors, and while I could never match their humor I hope I have upheld their legacy.

The Council family...we laugh together, we clash together, and in the end we share a common goal of sustaining fisheries into the future. Surprising friendships and equally surprising partnerships have been forged from that shared goal and I am proud to be a small part of the North Pacific team.

A Full Codend

The Muir Milach arrived in Alaska in the fall of 1980, just in time for the last hurrah of the Bering Sea Red King Crab fishery. After the crab season closed, we had secured a market with Wally Pereyra fishing for the Sulak, a 600 foot Russian factory ship (later to be fictionalized as the Polar Star in Martin Cruz Smith’s novel). Together with the American #1 we began fishing in the first Soviet pollock Joint Venture in February. The Sulak had a stern ramp from its days as a whaling ship, but the ramp hadn’t been used for codend deliveries and was pitted with rust. Every time we delivered we’d hold our breath as the bag made its long journey up the abrasive ramp, hoping that there wouldn’t be another geyser of pollock erupting from the bag. All too often we’d get a call from the ship that we’d delivered an empty codend, or worse, that the rigging had parted and the bag had been lost.

After the pollock fishery Wally asked if we would be willing to try fishing Atka mackerel in the Aleutians. No Americans had ever tried it before, but the Royal Sea (now the Sea Freeze) had been fishing cod in Seguam Pass and kept running into this fish they had no market for. “What the heck, why not?”

Well, we didn’t have big roller gear or a high rise net, and our boat had half the horse power that it has today. So we weren’t really equipped to fish the current or the grounds in Seguam Pass. We went through our supplies of spare web and twine in short order. Ocean Harvester, the other boat on the market was better equipped to fish mackerel and did well. We, however, could only seem to catch cod on the flats next to the pass.

DAVE HANSON



COUNCIL MEMBER 4/88 - PRESENT

In the mid-1990s, Bering Sea crab stocks had declined to the point that crab fisheries were subject to extremely low guideline harvest levels (GHLs) or outright closed. The Council was under a lot of pressure to take action and reduce crab bycatch in trawl fisheries as a way to help rebuild the stocks. After prohibited species catch (PSC) limits were negotiated for Bristol Bay red king crab and Tanner crab, the Council established a committee to negotiate recommended PSC limits for opilio crab. Chairman Lauber appointed me to mediate the committee, and Dave Witherell was assigned to staff it. Committee members were Kris Fanning, Vince Curry, Gordon Blue, Brent Paine, Teresa Kandianis and Dave Fraser.

The Committee met at the science center and, per usual process, Council, NMFS, and ADF&G staff provided a summary of available data, and then each industry group put their opening offer on the table. I then broke up each fishing group to meet in separate rooms, and worked with

them to see where they could move from their initial positions. The group came back together every hour to discuss progress and offer revised positions.

Unfortunately, one of the public present was a large, loud and obnoxious person from the crab industry. He was disruptive and adamantly demanded the crabbers stay entrenched and not budge an inch from their original position, preventing the Committee from making any progress. So, I came up with a plan. I privately told each representative of each group to stay in the room after the Committee meeting "adjourned". After one final breakout session, I brought the groups together and announced that the Committee could not come to agreement, and that we would have to inform the Council of this failure. With that announcement, the public and staff present packed their bags and left, assuming the meeting was over.

The next morning, I received a phone call from a totally shocked Dave Witherell asking about a FAX he received with a signed agreement from committee members with agreed upon PSC limits. I had to confess to Dave that I used him to walk the previously described individual out of the building so the committee could get something done!

When we would go over to the Sulak for the Saturday night banya and dance, we would get flack for our inability to catch much mackerel. Fortunately, for us the Soviets didn't fully grasp economic incentives. They were paying 5 cents/lb for mackerel - the target, and 15 cents/lb for cod - the bycatch...so throw us in that briar patch.

Back during the pollock fishery we had offered the Sulak's observer (Lori Swanson) a ride in to Dutch at the end of her trip. Our crew talked her into hiring on as cook for the mackerel fishery. Toward the end of the mackerel fishery, Lori and the crew cooked up a punch line to the standing joke about our cod filled codends. During the limited 'time off' between deliveries and repairs, they built a miniature codend complete with riblines, container lines, and chafing gear.

The last day of our trip, we called up the Sulak on the radio and told them we had caught a full codend of mackerel ('we couldn't stuff another fish in it!') and were ready to deliver. The Russians were pleasantly surprised at the news and trailed out the hawser to take our bag. Our crew went through all the usual motions of making a codend transfer. We did attach a full bag of mackerel to the Sulak's hawser...though this bag was only three feet long and could hold only two dozen fish...but they were all mackerel. We blew the horn, our signal that we had released the codend, and the Sulak started heaving on the winch. When the hawser came back slack the ship called to ask if there was a problem. "No, we attached the codend as usual, keep hauling."

Typically, with a 20 to 30 ton codend, the winch would groan as they took the weight. The Russians worried the trip was ending on a sour note with another lost codend. We assured them everything was okay.

At this point we should remember that during most joint venture fisheries people seldom slept. Since mackerel tend to school at night, taking a delivery meant rousing the Sulak's deck crew to don their rain gear, set up the retrieval lines, notify the factory that fish were arriving, and wait out in the bitter cold for the 30 minutes to an hour it took to make the transfer.

As the mini-codend approached the stern of the Sulak, we were laughing ourselves silly at the puzzled looks on the faces of the Russian crew. There was radio silence. Long radio silence. It's not appropriate to print what they finally said, but they really didn't appreciate the joke.

Contributed by Dave Fraser



DOUG DEMASTER



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH DIRECTOR, ALASKA REGION, NOAA FISHERIES

The following thoughts were solicited from a small number of AFSC staff regarding their role in providing information to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the Alaska Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries for the purpose of managing living marine resources in the US EEZ in Alaska. In reading all five of these collective statements, there is little doubt that the partnership among the Center staff, Council staff, and Regional staff has been one of the most important aspects of successfully managing fishery resources in Alaska since the MSA was first passed. Others at the AFSC have submitted individual statements to recognize the importance of the MSA legislation.

AFSC1: I have always been impressed about the degree of respect and transparency involved in Council dealings. With respect to the surveys, we've always been able to have good, productive conversations about the strengths and weaknesses of our methods. The Council and its stakeholders have always been supportive of the surveys, our efforts to improve them, and our efforts to provide additional information through research that will improve the assessments. The support has been there regardless of whether or not the data resulted in increased TAC.

AFSC2: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council should be commended for their support of the science and management being done by the AFSC and AKR, and in particular, their longstanding and continuing support for the Observer Program, without which we would not be able to successfully and sustainably manage our North Pacific living marine resources. With the Council and the fishing industry's support we have become one of the world's largest and most productive observer programs. Just think of the numbers:

- Over 45,000 sea days observed year after year by more than 450 observers who collect data used to manage dozens of stocks representing 60% of all seafood harvested from U.S. waters with a wholesale value of \$4.2 billion;
- Over \$18 million invested annually by the fishing industry in support of our Observer Program;
- Observer data collected from more than 170 catcher processors, motherships, and other vessels in full (100%) coverage fisheries and 372 longline, pot, and trawl vessels in partial coverage fisheries.

These numbers are nothing short of amazing! The Observer Program, perhaps more than any other scientific data collection enterprise, exemplifies the collaborative and cooperative nature of science and commercial fishing in Alaska fostered by the MSA and the Council process. Other regions should be so lucky to enjoy the support that we have had from our Council and industry. Here's to another 40 years of successful management of our living marine resources!

AFSC3: My direct interactions with the Council have not spanned the storied careers of many of the others sharing words about the 40th anniversary of the NPFMC. When the Council was birthed from the primordial soup of the genesis of domestic fisheries in Alaska, I was graduating from diapers to pull-ups. That analogy seems fitting, because trying to contain all the good work the Council does in one small paragraph is a challenge. When I was a graduate student in Alaska, I perceived the Council to be an elite Illuminati of wise leaders that I would never have the gravitas to kneel before. A decade or so later, I still lack that gravitas, but have learned that the Council is indeed wise, but is also a diverse group of real people that have real concerns and a strong desire to continue to guide Alaska fisheries to be sustainable and lucrative for everyone. My experience with the Groundfish Plan Teams and stock assessments has given me great opportunities to be part of those goals. I have also been fortunate to represent Alaska fisheries for several national committees, where other regions frequently get to hear Alaska being called the "gold standard." The envy from managers and scientists from these other regions is often palpable, and over post-meeting drinks, the phrase "I'm so sick of hearing how great Alaska fisheries are..." is not uncommon. In summary, I am grateful to be a small part of a process that is so respectful of both the science and the practical application of it, and look forward to many more years of successful fisheries management in Alaska.

AFSC 4: Many AFSC staff have been involved with deliberations of the NPFMC a lot longer than I have. I recall my first presentation to the Council was in about 1992, where I presented a proposal for a new regime to manage marine mammal-fishery interactions. Rick Lauber was chair. I was treated quite well considering Congress had charged us with developing a new regime for managing the killing of

marine mammals incidental to US fisheries and the implementation of this new regime had the potential to restrict commercial fishing in US waters. The new regime had to be both effective and practical. In the end we received support from the NPFMC, after a revision that allowed for a "soft landing" in terms of management, once a certain threshold had been reached. That adjustment was really important, and reflected an alliance between Agency and Industry people that has served us well over the past two decades. I also went before the Council several times in an effort to develop a way forward to mitigate potential interactions between Steller sea lions and groundfish. That was quite a ride. I inherited a few nicknames, that still persist after over a decade. As before, when the Council and Agency worked together, workable solutions were found and implemented. Further, a sense of trust among the different constituent groups was established. I was only truly embarrassed once in front of the Council. I was sitting next to Thorn Smith at the front table. I'm still not sure why Thorn asked me to testify with him. I should have known better. Within a minute of the light turning green, he was comparing the size of right whale testicles to a VW bug he used to own in an effort to explain why the recovery of Steller sea lions was so difficult. Before the metaphor got too far afield, the Chair mercifully stopped him. It was not the first or last time I have appreciated an intervention on the part of the Chair during Council deliberations.

AFSC5: I wish I knew the answers to the following questions. Just thinking about the answers, makes me proud to have worked at the AFSC on issues related to the management of living marine resources in Alaska.

The AFSC has been doing bottom trawl surveys since the 1980s. What is the number of fishery surveys we have performed over last 40 years? How many trawls have been launched and recovered?

How many observer DAS on commercial fishing vessels have been realized since the start of the program? How many individual observers have been trained?

How many AFSC staff hours have been committed to all of the various Council meetings, Plan Team meetings, and other Committees of the Council?

How many AFSC staff that have served as chair of SSCs (either NPFMC or PPMC)? How many hours have AFSC staff contributed to the proceedings of SSCs?

How many stock assessments have AFSC staff written or contributed to since the MSA passed?

How many salmon genetic samples have been examined and identified to region of origin since the MSA was passed?

The AFSC has been working with its sister-lab, PMEL, since the 1980s in an effort to better understand recruitment of groundfish and how climate change might influence patterns of recruitment. How many cruises have been done in over 30 years of research on ecosystem science?

The AFSC has provided stock assessment information on marine mammals since about the time the MSA was passed. How many aerial surveys and vessels hours have been logged in enumerating abundance and trends in abundance for marine mammal stocks in Alaska?

While the answers to the above might not be known specifically, the message is clear. The AFSC has worked hard over the last 40 years to provide the information needed by the Alaska Regional Office and Council to manage living marine resources. It is a record to be proud of.

Picture Day

Some people in the Council family, like industry representative Jeff Stephan and staffer Peggy Kircher, have been involved since practically the beginning. Peggy was quite young when she hired to be the AP secretary in 1980. She told me that she was very nervous at her first meeting, so to remember who everyone was, she wrote a little description of each person next to their name on the AP membership list. She also told me what she wrote, and I filed this little nugget away in my head for future use.

At the October 2015 meeting, I was informing the AP that we would be taking pictures the next day, and that everyone should plan on looking their best because you never know how these pictures might be used in the future. Then I singled out Jeff Stephan for his long service on the AP, and related the story Peggy had told me about her first meeting, revealing what she wrote next to Jeff Stephan's name: tall, dark, and handsome. And then I held up the framed picture taken of Jeff when he was a AP member in 1980 and declared "I'll let you decide!". At the cost of some embarrassment and laughter, I think I made my point.

Contributed by Dave Witherell



ROY HYDER



COUNCIL MEMBER 10/D1 - PRESENT; STATE OFFICIAL DESIGNEE FOR OREGON

At our last Council meeting, October 2016, Chris Oliver referred to Bob Mace's "load of poles" description for the amount of work the Council was going to ask staff to get done for the next meeting. It was an appropriate description of the discussion at the time, properly referenced and credited to Mr. Mace.

I think Bob Mace would agree that 40 years of North Pacific Fishery Management qualifies as a "load of poles". I am sure that during his 25 years representing Oregon at the Council, and certainly in my 15 years, the staff has hauled that load successfully and in doing so made the North Pacific Fishery Management Council a success.

A sizeable share of that load is carried by the public. Both those that have lived with the consequences of Council action and those at the Council meetings sorting that load of poles for what should be discarded, trimmed, or replaced. These are the men and women of the fishing fleet, the processing plants, and the non-governmental agencies that hold the Council's feet to the fire. These are stakeholders that support scientifically-based sustainable fish management and expect the Council to act accordingly.

That is why it works. Not without argument, that's for sure. Sometimes complete disagreement and even lawsuits are part of getting that 'load of poles' where it needs to go. But, bottom line, just about everybody agrees to keep at it and keep the pressure on the Council to get it done.

If I tried to name the individuals I know have been key players over the years I would exceed Mr. Witherell's allocation for comment many times over. And who knows what the enforcement action would be for that overage! I would have to start with Stosh Anderson's lesson in voting management at the North Pacific

Fishery Management Council in October 2001 and continue all the way through October 2016 when Mayor Simeon Swetzof, Jr. once again reminded the Council of their responsibilities in the Bering Sea.

There are too many individuals to mention, but it is an honor and a privilege to know and work with each and every one.

JULIE BONNEY



INDUSTRY ADVISOR

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council process is transparent for sure; everyone has an opinion and those opinions can be pretty diverse. Add in the State of Alaska administration who can influence the process and you end up with what seems like an ever changing landscape for fish policy. Your constituency group can get dragged hither and yond – a dynamic sausage making machine with or without a policy result.

I have been involved with the federal fisheries since 1991 when I was hired on by Chris Blackburn, owner of Alaska Groundfish Data Bank based in Kodiak, Alaska; first as an analyst and later as the owner when I bought the business from Chris in 2001. I attended my first Council meeting in October of 2000.

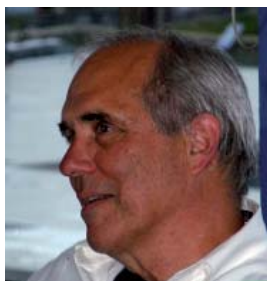
My biggest challenge for sure has been working to change the fishery management structure for the Gulf of Alaska trawl industry – from a race for fish to some type of fishery cooperative system. This issue has been in the works within the Council process for fourteen years so far and still has not resulted in a management change. Advocacy aside, there are some pretty outrageous stories (and pictures) over the decades of the debate.

The first Gulf Ratz Council discussion paper happened in 2002 – it seemed we were on our way. Then Bering Sea (BS) Crab rationalization hit the water in 2005; dramatic consolidation of the crab fleet resulted – a shock to the system with crew jobs lost and an unhappy Kodiak waterfront. The NPFMC met in Kodiak June of 2006. The Council hosted a town hall meeting regarding GOA rationalization – nearly 100 people testified and boy did the Council get an ear full. The police were called in to make sure the crowd behaved, there was a man sized rat interacting with the testifiers and anti-rationalization posters displayed around town. Not pleasant if you were advocating for change. The state of Alaska gubernatorial election occurred next (Nov 2006) resulting in a new Governor, Sarah Palin. Between the backlash of BS crab and a new administration the issue was dead – round one over.

Next came the promise of bycatch tools during the June 2012 Kodiak Council meeting; the promise a result of all the new bycatch restrictions imposed on the fleet through Council actions starting in 2011. Round two had begun – first discussion paper in October 2012, adoption of a purpose and need statement followed by a set of alternatives – definitely good progress on a new fishery management system. Another State of Alaska gubernatorial election (Nov 2015), another new Governor, Bill Walker this time. Another meeting in Kodiak in June 2016, this time with a groundfish parade and festival celebrating the groundfish trawl industry. Over 1,000 processing workers, trawlers, and support industry folks parading down cannery row marching behind a sign that read, “Save Kodiak’s trawl fishery, we are the working waterfront.” Many of the cannery workers carried signs like, “Gov. Walker don’t take away my job.” Over 2000 plates of food were served at the celebration.

At this point, the round isn’t over. Difficult to predict if this is the knock out round or if we are going for round three. Guess I will have to wait to report the results at the 50th MSA celebration. Hopefully I won’t be pushing a walker by then! I certainly can’t give up!

JOHN BUNDY



COUNCIL MEMBER 8/99 – 8/08; COUNCIL VICE CHAIR 10/05 – 8/08

The Magnuson-Stevens Act of 1976 set the stage for the most successful fisheries management system in the world, and the leading agent for implementation since then has been the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Looking back over the past 25 years, we have rationalized all major federal fisheries in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands: halibut, black cod, CDQ, pollock, cod, crab, the major flatfishes, Atka mackerel and POP. The result has been the creation of far more value from these resources for the benefit of all of us directly involved, our families, communities and the states of Alaska, Washington and Oregon. When I say “we” have done this, I mean primarily the fishing industry working with NMFS and this Council through the process set up by the MSA.

Of course the process can be messy at times. To say it is “rough and tumble” would be an understatement, particularly when it comes to allocation battles. Everyone who has been through them has experienced dark days when it seemed the world would soon end. To

survive requires perseverance, civility and some humor where you can find it. I remember the day when Senator Stevens filed SB 1221 “to decapitalize the Bering Sea Pollock fishery.” Unfortunately for us he meant only to decapitalize the Seattle-based offshore

fleet. A group of us went to Washington D.C. for an audience with the Senator, who could be very blunt and intimidating. He listened to us a few minutes, without expression, and we were ushered out. Our little group huddled in the hallway to debrief the meeting. As we lamented the apparent lack of any success, the back door to Senator

Stevens’ office opened and the Senator himself stuck his head out and said, “Would you fellas like to come over to my place for pizza this evening?”

SB 1221 ultimately became the American Fisheries Act, implemented by the Council, which settled the Pollock Wars and set the stage for rationalization of all pollock sectors.

The Council process in the North Pacific, set up by the MSA, has produced objective, successful results now recognized worldwide by markets and professional fisheries managers. We have been working on sustainability since long before the word became popular and the critics have been pretty much muted. So what are the keys to the success of this Council process created by the MSA? Of course, what we call “politics” is always involved, at times to a degree that is not constructive, but this is offset by: (a) a forum open to the public in which anyone can come to make his or her case; (b) a reliance on science and input from individual scientists from NMFS and other sources; (c) creative individuals who have developed and who prosecute the fisheries; (d) a process in which Council members take an oath “to act as a trustee and steward of our Nation’s fishery resources,” ... “responsibly weigh all information bearing on issues being acted upon by the Council and vote on such issues with objectivity and fairness” and who must vote and explain their positions in public, and, finally; (e) a highly experienced, professional and honest Council staff that also seeks objectivity and fairness in its work to assist the Council in making its policy and management decisions.

We have been working on sustainability since long before the word became popular and the critics have been pretty much muted.

DAVE FLUHARTY



COUNCIL MEMBER 9/94 – 8/03

Over the last 40 years the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC or the Council) has established itself as a national and arguably global leader in implementing an Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM). Maybe it had a lot to do with the unique opportunity afforded because the early Council was managing a fishery largely dominated by foreign fishing nations. Scientists and managers like Lee Alverson, Donald McKernan, Jim Branson, Don Bevan and many others clearly articulated that the NPFMC decisions for management should be science-based and that the Council should manage sustainably. The early NPFMC wanted to rein-in the apparent overfishing under the previous international fishery. This principle led to requirements from the start for accurate catch accounting with scientific observers on every fishing vessel, if only to collect the fees charged foreign fishing vessels for fishing in US waters off Alaska. More importantly, as the first decade of management of North Pacific fisheries led to the Americanization of these fisheries, that same principle was applied to the rapidly developing US fleet. What is more fundamental to EBFM than conservative, science-based management of fisheries?

A big part of the Americanization of the North Pacific fisheries was creating market access for developing US fisheries in the North Pacific. Americanization meant that we prioritized allocation to those fisheries entities that were either totally US or were engaged in joint ventures with US participants. The critical development that allowed this to have teeth was the determination that stock assessments would determine how much fish could be sustainably caught. The step forward by the NPFMC was to consider the results from ecosystem models developed by Taivo Laevastu in addition to traditional single-species yield

information in the determination of long term sustainable ecosystem yield for the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska. This resulted in caps being adopted by the NPFMC on total removals from these areas. Even if the sum of Allowable/ Acceptable Biological Catches for these regions was greater than the caps, the Council chose uniquely to adopt total quotas below the caps. Some might argue as well that such caps were essential at drawing the line on how much fish could be allocated to foreign fishing entities. The caps helped to establish limits on harvests against which Americanization could be measured, and by 1990, Americanization of the fisheries was complete. While there has not been a retrospective analysis done on the ecological or economic effect of the caps, it is safe to say that these have been a hallmark of NPFMC success in managing fisheries conservatively.

The next development in EBFM came in 1995 as a result of the NPFMC Groundfish Plan Teams, particularly the contributions by David Witherell and Richard Merrick, and their early recognition of the need to educate and inform the Council on the newly emerging literature and issues in ecosystem-based fishery management and marine mammal and seabird population trends relative to the groundfish fishery. NMFS Alaska Fishery Science Center scientist Pat Livingston, who worked with Laevastu in the development of various ecosystem models, was inspired in 1999 to develop a more structured and comprehensive Ecosystems Considerations Chapter in the annual Stock Assessment Fisheries Evaluation (SAFE) process. This detailed information about what was happening in the North Pacific ecosystem relative to fisheries was intended to provide stock assessment scientists and Plan Teams with ecosystem information useful to interpret what was happening in their fisheries. There were several motivations to the enhancement including tracking EBM efforts and efficacy, tracking ecosystem changes, bringing ecosystem research efforts to the attention of stock assessment scientists, providing a link between ecosystem research and fishery management, and providing an assessment of the past, present, and future role of climate and humans in influencing ecosystem status and trends. Certainly, the ecosystem changes that resulted from the 1977-78 regime shift in the North Pacific was an important piece to include. This got the attention of the Council family and there were eager ears to explain what happened / happens in ecosystems.

I was a new Council member in 1994 and was very impressed by the Ecosystem Considerations Chapter of the SAFE. However, I was disturbed that it did not seem to have much traction in the Plan Teams or the Council process. Despite the overall commitment to scientifically-based management the Council process did not seem sufficiently keen on bringing ecosystem indicators into management. I discussed this with Pat Livingston and Anne Hollowed, with Plan Team leaders, Council members like Wally Pereyra and Clem Tillion, Council Staff –Dave Witherell especially, and representatives of the fishing industry, including interested organizations like the Alaska Marine Conservation Council. There was pretty universal agreement that there was an opportunity to do more with ecosystem science to engage fisheries management in the North Pacific. What to do?

As many in the Council family know, it is the corridor conversations and the late night trips to the bar where a critical mass of ideas, individuals

and inspiration strikes. Council meetings in Anchorage are held at the Anchorage Hilton which has a sky-top bar with compelling views. I found myself drawn to a night cap to console my nerves after the usual Council meeting tensions. There I met Terry Quinn from the Scientific and Statistical Committee. Over a few (or more) courses of Lagavulin single malt scotch [try it you'll like it or hate it] we devised a strategy we thought would be beneficial to the Council process. The elements of this scotch infused mix included the establishment of an ecosystem committee that would be non-regulatory and focus on and carry EBFM into the Council processes. Quinn agreed to discuss the formation of such a committee with the SSC and seek its recommendation that an Ecosystem Committee be formed. I agreed to discuss this with the Council Executive Director Clarence Pautzke. Sure enough, the SSC made the recommendation. My initial conversation with Pautzke was a bit difficult. Like any good Executive Director he was reluctant to commit to additional expenses, wanted there to be a clear justification, and wanted to be assured there was a clear benefit to the Council process. Once we negotiated the size, purpose and operational approach of the Ecosystem Committee, I made the motion and the Council established the Ecosystem Committee, and Council Chairman Rick Lauber asked me to chair it. The purpose of the Ecosystem Committee was to provide advice to the Council, to serve as an educational forum on ecosystem issues, to interact with the groundfish Plan Teams and to provide direction and feedback for specific ecosystem related research projects.

Our first big impact as the Ecosystem Committee was to hold a workshop organized by Pat Livingston and others. The basic idea was to explore what EBFM meant and how it could benefit the NPFMC management. This presented the Council family an opportunity to explore the concept and how it could be used to better manage fisheries—the bottom line being more sustainable fisheries to benefit stable conditions for the fishing industry [of course with a dose of climate variability thrown in]. We were on the cutting edge of EBFM!

In the reauthorization of the Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act in 1996, Congress asked National Marine Fisheries Service to convene a committee to consider how ecosystem principles were being employed in US fisheries management. Somehow, I got committed to serve as chair for that group of 21 folks in preparing recommendations to Congress. It really helped to have a peer review paper authored by David Witherell, Clarence Pautzke and David Fluharty to assert the NPFMC approach on which those recommendations were patterned. Not long after, both the US Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission were convened and each recommended an ecosystem approach to management of our oceans. Asked where this concept derived, many members said it was the Ecosystem Principles

Report that prompted their recommendation—thus, indirectly NPFMC efforts have influenced national policy.

In 2004, the Council reconstituted its Ecosystem Committee with a new membership, and then-Council Chair Stephanie Madsen as chair. The committee's mission statement was to discuss current ecosystem-related initiatives and assist in shaping Council positions relative to developing guidelines for ecosystem-based approaches in the region, and coordinating with NOAA regarding ecosystem-based management. During the next several years, the Committee was instrumental in guiding the development of the Aleutian Islands Fishery Ecosystem Plan, and the memorandum of

understanding creating the Alaska Marine Ecosystem Forum. The Committee also advised the Council on the Arctic Fishery Management Plan, Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), and habitat of particular concern.

In February 2013, the Council once again rearticulated the Committee's purpose, and added two new members to the Committee, including a new chairman, Council member Bill Tweit. In response to Committee discussions, the Council requested the Committee both to continue to provide advice on immediate Council issues, but also to take a longer-term view of how the Council could take a leadership

role in the continuing evolution of ecosystem-based management. Currently, the Ecosystem Committee is active with respect to revisiting the EFH policies, the development of a Bering Sea Fisheries Ecosystem Plan and responding to the NMFS EBFM Policy and Roadmap Implementation initiatives. Always looking ahead, a key issue is how climate change will affect the North Pacific ecosystem relative to fisheries. Information on the Ecosystem Committee can be found at: npfmc.org/committees/ecosystem-committee.

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PAUL MACGREGOR



INDUSTRY ADVISOR

In 1976, I was an aspiring associate in a prominent Washington, D.C., law firm, specializing in anti-trust and other trade regulation issues. In the spring of that year, however, I was enticed by several of my former Stanford Law School classmates (Carl Mundt, Henry Happel, and Jim Falconer) to quit my job in D.C. and move to Seattle to join with them in the formation of a new law firm that would specialize in providing legal services to fishing companies, fishermen, and vessel owners who were gearing up to take advantage of the opportunities created by the passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. Carl Mundt had been working at a large law firm in Seattle (the venerable Bogle and Gates) and was, in his spare time, working on a graduate degree at the U.W. School of Fisheries. His main professor at the School of Fisheries was Dr. Lee Alverson, who was also one of Dr. Wally Pereyra's professors.

In the fall of 1976, the Mundt MacGregor law firm opened its first office in the Bank of California Building in downtown Seattle. Some of our earliest clients included Dr. Wally Pereyra, who was about to launch his career in the commercial fishing industry via participation in joint venture fishing operations with Russian processing vessels operating off the coasts of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska; the Japanese Longline Association, a group of Japanese longline vessel owners who were operating a fleet of longline fishing vessels in the Gulf of Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, and the Bering Sea; Mr. Frank Stewart, who operated a fleet of trawl vessels off the Pacific Coast and in Alaska; and Mr. Francis Miller, who was actively

engaged in developing what was to become one of the largest fishing companies in the Pacific Northwest at the time—Arctic Alaska Fisheries, a publically traded company that was eventually listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange. Another prominent client of the Mundt MacGregor firm was Mr. Kjell Røkke, who was in the process of establishing what was to become American Seafoods.

It was the Japanese North Pacific Longline Association (NPL), however, that got me personally involved with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) process. I was the only lawyer in the office the day that the NPL representatives (referred to us by Dr. Alverson) showed up to request help in preparing comments on the first Gulf of Alaska (GOA) fishery management plan (FMP). (Note: At the time, NPL vessels were fishing for blackcod, Pacific cod and rockfish throughout the GOA and into the Aleutian Islands and Bering Sea. There were only a few US-flagged fishing vessels fishing for “groundfish” in the GOA or the Bering Sea Aleutian Islands (BSAI) at that time. The U.S. fishery in Alaska in those days consisted primarily of halibut fishermen, a few GOA blackcod fishermen, crab fishermen, and, of course, the traditional fisheries for salmon and herring. Groundfish was considered

The U.S. fishery in Alaska in those days consisted primarily of halibut fishermen, a few GOA blackcod fishermen, crab fishermen, and, of course, the traditional fisheries for salmon and herring. Groundfish was considered “trash-fish” to most domestic fishermen at the time.

“trash-fish” to most domestic fishermen at the time. Indeed, the less valuable species were routinely discarded while domestic vessels focused on more valuable species such as crab, halibut, and salmon. To the extent that the less-valuable groundfish species were being harvested or processed at all, it was by large fleets of foreign-flagged catcher-processors or foreign catcher vessels delivering to motherships operating in the GOA and in the BSAI—vessels that flew the flags of Japan, Korea, Russia, Poland, and even Taiwan.

Reluctant to pass up on such an attractive fee-paying client, I agreed to draft the NPL's comments on the draft preliminary plan for GOA groundfish myself. After many, somewhat awkward drafts, the NPL signed off on the comments. They then asked me to accompany their representatives to

the next meeting of the NPFMC in Anchorage so that I could present testimony on the draft GOA groundfish FMP. I agreed to do so and thus began my career as a full-fledged “fish lawyer”. I can't say that I handled my testimony to the Scientific and Statistical Committee, or the highly skeptical Advisory Panel (AP), very well (future Council Chairman Rick Lauber was on the AP at the time), but the Japanese Longline Association seemed pleased and I was hired to represent the NPL at subsequent meetings of the NPFMC; a gig that lasted for 10 years. During that time, NPL vessels began a staged withdrawal from certain fisheries in certain areas – starting first with sablefish in the Eastern GOA – but eventually they were “phased-out” of all the directed groundfish fisheries in the GOA and BSAI altogether. Even then, however, they managed to hang on for another couple of years by conducting internal water processing operations for small boat coastal fishermen in the Bering Sea. Their fishing days in the U.S. zone were

gradually phased out and, by the end of the 1980s, they had moved their fleets to other parts of the world.

At that point, my Mundt MacGregor partners and I decided that I needed a more stable client base. So, at the encouragement of Dr. Pereyra and others, I signed on with what was to become the At-Sea Processors Association (now known as APA). I have been happily associated with APA ever since – as an advisor to the Association and even serving as Executive Director for most of the 1990s (the tumultuous period known as Inshore/Offshore #1, #2, and #3, which culminated in the passage of the American Fisheries Act [AFA] in 2000). When the AFA was passed, APA hired Ms. Stephanie Madsen to be its full-time Executive Director. I have continued to serve as an advisor to the Association ever since. Stephanie has done a masterful job in her role as Executive Director at APA. She has been a close friend and colleague over the years.

In the meantime, I have continued to attend NPFMC meetings—having missed only one such meeting since 1980 (to attend my daughter Laura's graduation from Dartmouth College). I have also served on various Council-related panels and committees over the years; and, in order to keep my hand in the game, I am also a part owner in the fleet of Amendment 80 vessels operated by Iquique.

Post Script: I retired as a full-time partner at Mundt MacGregor Law Firm several years ago, but continue to serve in an "Of Counsel" role with the firm.

NOW FOR THE BEST PART: Far and away the best thing that has happened to me during all these years was meeting Ms. Janet Murray at a party at Clem Tillion's house in Halibut Cove—way back in 1978. Jan had been the third employee of the NPFMC. She started with the Council in 1976. In 1980, I persuaded Jan to quit her job at the NPFMC, move to Seattle, and change her last name to "MacGregor". We were married here at our home in West Seattle, Washington.

EARL KRYGIER



COUNCIL MEMBER 1/95 – 4/08

At my first Council meeting in 1980, I represented Southeast Trollers struggling to maintain a Chinook fishery that shared harvest with Canadian and West Coast fisheries. Chinook stocks had declined due to complex terminal and area harvest, in-river habitat destruction (that included 90% smolt loss during dam passage), and lack of transboundary harvest sharing agreements. I participated full time in the Council

process (1989–2008) when I joined Commissioner Collinsworth and Dave Benton at ADFG to focus on managing groundfish, scallop and crab fisheries. Our charge was to develop sustainable and responsible fishing practices and balanced allocation between large and small entities and the industrial catcher processors and the harvesters and processors based in coastal communities. Amendments included: A prohibition on pollock roe stripping; separating groundfish harvests between seasons; Improved Utilization/Improved Retention to reduce wastage of groundfish; closed groundfish trawl areas to reduce bycatch of crab, salmon and groundfish; an Arctic Fishery Management Plan; and many others. Our attempts to develop sustainable fisheries included efforts to consolidate and rationalize fishery participation: Halibut/Sablefish IFQs; Scallop Crab and Groundfish License Limitation Programs (LLP) and further rationalization. Our focus on fishery habitat and non-target species added to the Council's program of seeking sustainable stocks and healthy fishing communities. Working with the extremely talented staff at ADFG (Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, fishery scientists in HQ and in our regional offices, Extended Jurisdiction staff and administrative support) made a wonderfully fulfilling career, and I arose each day anticipating the adventure.

I also participated in the back and forth between Council and committees to develop policy. This required hundreds of days meeting with scientists, user groups, community representative and environmentalists, all striving to maintain sustainable fisheries and a healthy ecosystem. Here I made friendships and shared technical expertise with talented staff at the NPFMC, scientists at NMFS, individuals representing users and the public at large. I have dealt with and was exposed to hundreds of people in the Council process. I am often amazed at how many wonderful and dedicated people participate in the Council process. It allowed me to become friends and share experiences with so many talented people. The system developed to manage the federal fisheries off Alaska has produced sustainable stocks. Its ability to allocate and distribute the benefits has had success and failure. But it provides a system to rectify failures, so we can look to the future with hope.

STEPHANIE MADSEN



**COUNCIL CHAIR 10/02 – 8/07; COUNCIL MEMBER 8/01 – 8/07;
AP MEMBER 1/93 – 9/01**

April 13, 2016 is the 40th anniversary of the primary law governing fishing in the waters of the United States. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (the “Magnuson-Stevens Act” or “MSA”) was a bipartisan effort by two great leaders, Senators Warren Magnuson of Washington and Ted Stevens of Alaska. From the perspective of the At-sea Processors Association (APA), whose members own and operate a fleet of at-sea catcher-processors in federal waters off the coasts of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, the MSA has been an unparalleled success in the area of responsible fishery management.

One of the primary goals of the MSA was to provide for the development of the groundfish fisheries in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska “on a continuing and sustainable basis”. During the mid-1970s, only a few US-flagged fishing vessels were operating in what was to become the new 200-mile “U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone” (EEZ). Most of those U.S.-flagged vessels were small shore-based boats that operated in the crab, salmon, halibut, sablefish and herring fisheries in the Pacific NW, Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. The larger-scale groundfish fisheries for cod, pollock and various flatfish species were dominated by hundreds of foreign-flagged fishing vessels from countries such as Japan, Korea, Russia, Poland and Germany that operated just outside the US “territorial sea”, which at the time only extended to 12 miles.

With the passage of the MSA in 1976, the waters between three miles and two-hundred miles off the US Coast fell under the jurisdiction, management and control for the National Marine Fisheries Service. Eight Fishery Management Councils were authorized to develop fishery management plans (FMPs) for the various fisheries in their respective management areas, including the Pacific Fishery Management Council for Pacific Coast and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in Alaska. The FMPs must

comply with a number of conservation and management requirements, including the 10 National Standards-principles that promote sustainable fisheries management.

Under the new FMPs, US fishermen and processors were provided priority access to the federal groundfish resources in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. The assurance of priority access to the groundfish resources managed by the Pacific and North Pacific Fishery Management Councils provided the economic incentives for our members, other US fishermen and their shore-based colleagues, to make the financial investments necessary to develop the harvesting and processing capacity to fully utilize the groundfish resources in the US EEZ off the Pacific Coast and Alaska. Today, forty years after passage of the MSA, the entire groundfish fishery in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska have been fully Americanized by US harvesters, and fisheries management has become a transparent and robust process of science, management, innovation, and collaboration with the fishing industry.

There have been two amendments to the MSA. One in 1996, the Sustainable Fisheries Act, which made significant amendments to strengthen conservation and added the name of Alaska Senator Ted Stevens. The other, in 2006, the MSFCM Reauthorization Act strengthened the Act to prevent overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, increase long-term economic and social benefits and ensure a safe and sustainable seafood supply. With these amendments, solid science and the robust process outlined in the MSA there is no dispute that it has been an unqualified success—one that sets the “gold standard” not only for US fisheries in general, but for fisheries in other parts of the world as well.

Thank you Senators Magnuson and Stevens for providing your vision through guiding principles that have proven to work 40 years later.

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JIM IANELLI



GOA GROUNDFISH PLAN TEAM 1995 - PRESENT

My first direct involvement with the Council was in 1992 having completed a couple of Pacific Ocean Perch (POP) assessments, which I nervously presented to the BSAI and GOA Plan Teams. This work led to developing and analyzing a POP rebuilding plan (Amendment 32). I recall that going before Rick Lauber and, the POP God himself, Clem Tillion, and the rest of the Council members was really intimidating but also super stimulating. Surviving that and feeling part of the process, this led to Plan Team activity which continues to this day. Bringing all the stock assessments before the SSC each year and prepping to answer questions about any of the 20-odd assessments our Team covers each year was, and continues to be, a fantastic challenge. Whereas I identify professionally more with the SSC, I have to say interactions with the AP over the years has been most fun and enlightening. The questions they ask, be it about the GOA specifications, EBS pollock, salmon or halibut bycatch, have really helped draw the connection of how scientific considerations match (or not) with perceptions on the fishing grounds and within the communities in general.

Speaking of salmon and the AP, my most embarrassing moment (that I can remember) occurred in Nome testifying before the AP on salmon bycatch analyses. Three of us were tag-teaming and during one of our rather long-winded explanations, and I managed to nod off ever so slightly. Thankfully, Jeff Farvour's subtle photography skills with his phone only managed to get our feet as he tried to document my keen interest in our explanation.

To summarize, feeling like a member of the Council Family as an AFSC scientist only took a couple of decades (Plan Team members got nice coffee cups this year, thanks!). But seriously, Council involvement is critical. For me it really brought forward the importance of clear communication and the use of common sense when explaining how data are interpreted. Also, this and the successful two-way interactions have helped resolve nervousness about presenting results that so affect fisheries and people's livelihoods. Finally, when I look back on my career the colleagues and friends made over the years from being part of the Council process will be most fondly remembered. From the wonderful SSC dinner and song at my 50th birthday (celebrated in style in Kodiak) to the fantastic and always fun staff, thanks for the memories!

RICK LAUBER



COUNCIL CHAIR 3/91 - 8/00; COUNCIL MEMBER 1/90 - 8/00; AP MEMBER 11/76 - 12/89

It is hard to imagine that it has been forty years since I attended the first Council meeting in the old ADF&G offices in the sub port building in Juneau. Elmer Rasmuson was the chairman and Jim Branson the acting Executive Director. Elmer had been a Commissioner on the INPFC and the Council organization took on much the same character. I was appointed to the first Advisory Panel which met at the second Council meeting held at the Sheffield Hotel in Anchorage. Early meetings were more frequent but shorter.

While chairman Rasmuson served only about 18 months, he had a major impact on the direction the Council took through the years. He followed the agenda and issues the Council was working through. Jim Branson, ex-chief of enforcement for NMFS-AK, during his years as Executive Director was able to get the organization up and running.

I served 14 years on the AP where I made many friends. So many of them are no longer with us. All of them are remembered and contributed to the success of the Council.

My nomination and appointment came as a surprise to me (maybe a shock to some) with the resignation of Tony Knowles to run for governor. The next year I was elected Chairman, the first of 10 times I was so elected. Being the chairman may not be a full-time job, but is close. I was fortunate to have some outstanding members to serve with. We were able to set a standard and be recognized as the best in the country. We established management measures that were the best in the world. This was reflected in the fact that not one fishery was listed as overfished, yet provided adequate resource for a successful commercial fishery. None of this could have been done without the leadership of Dr. Clarence Pautzke and Chris Oliver and their staff.

Looking back at a long and varied career, I find nothing to compare to my 24 years in the Council family!

LEWIS QUEIROLO



SSC MEMBER 6/07 – 12/15; NMFS ALASKA REGION ECONOMIST

"It's PSC, damnit!"

To borrow from the vernacular of the 1970s when this excursion into participatory marine resource management began, "... what a long, strange trip it's been". Thinking back to the years leading up to this great experiment, it seems clear, to me at least, that the council process owes its existence to a serendipitous confluence of disparate historical events. Among these were global challenges to status quo ocean governance, an infant but emerging conservation ethos, by-partisan political resolve in the United States to change the way living marine assets were managed within the newly established 200 mile zone, and the economic imperative of entrepreneurial opportunists (I mean that in the best sense), willing to invest their fortunes (and sometimes their lives) to extract economic value from the North Pacific and Bering Sea.

The functional means to resolving the myriad challenges involved in conserving, stewarding, and ultimately Americanizing our newly claimed fisheries wealth off the coast of Alaska, fell to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. This was a staggering assignment, by any measure. Ethereal concepts and lofty abstractions had to be transformed, in short order, into protocols and procedures, management structures, rules and regulations; then harmonized with existing state and international governance structures. Fortunately, these tasks were met by an amazing collection of "characters" ... bigger than life, some ultimately legendary (occasionally, only in their own minds) ... statesmen and scoundrels, pragmatists and dreamers, pioneers and speculators, policy-wonks and pirates ... they were all present at the table and, from time-to-time, any given individual might appear to wear any one of those hats. The only constant in those early years seemed to be an abiding commitment to wrest "our" fisheries from the hands of the foreign fleets operating in the Fishery Conservation Zone (a.k.a., EEZ) by any means necessary.

The early Council meetings were a 'learn-as-you-go' process, with everyone doing their best, but without the institutional experience, sophisticated technology, or agreed conventions enjoyed by the present Council. Often, the meetings were great political theater, bluster and fury signifying nothing. Other times, life and death matters were literally in the Council's hands. And, in every case, millions, tens of millions, even hundreds of millions of dollars could be a stake in a Council decision. Remarkable times, remarkable people!

The early Council meetings might be unrecognizable to the many of the present day participants. For example, with the preponderance of foreign fleets active in the North Pacific fisheries, the audiences at Council sessions were always a diverse mix of U.S. and international delegations. Typically, the largest foreign contingent was from Japan. Those of us who were present likely recall that the Japanese delegation, all male, uniformly dressed in dark suits, neck ties, and shined shoes, moved about as a unit. These company men were supported and shepherded around by one or two impeccably attired, beautifully composed young women who translated the goings-on from English to Japanese, through little handsets wirelessly linked to ear pieces worn by the men. The group, often comprised of a sizable number of individuals, always occupied a tight block of seats, usually near the back of the meeting room. They were most easily identified by the nearly impenetrable cloud of blue cigarette smoke engulfing them. When supplemented by the all too prevalent chain-smokers, located elsewhere in the meeting room, conditions for we 'non-smokers' were miserable, to put it mildly.

Anchorage, too, has undergone change since those early Council days. In earlier times, the Council alternated meetings between the Hilton and the Sheraton. For some of us, that meant frequent hikes between the two hotels, up and down 4th Street. Now, for context, I spent four years in the military, some of it in underway training with the Navy, in San Diego, CA, circa the late-1960s. Walking from the Anchorage Hilton to the Sheraton, along 4th, was very much a déjà vu experience, albeit 15 years on and a couple thousand miles north. From a 'standard issue' military town, urban renewal in downtown Anchorage has by-in-large displaced the topless/bottomless establishments, like the Wild Cherry (whose door was always open to the street) and the infamous downtown Alaska Bush Company. They've given way to tourist traps and furrier shops. Gone too are the "young ladies" that carried on a continuous, colorfully entertaining narrative as any guy passed, seemingly, from each doorway, cross street, or alleyway. While the walk is surely more genteel, it's far less amusing.

During evening hours, when 'off-the-clock' at the Council meetings, there was a certain comradery or community that seems in shorter supply these days. Folks wandered in and out of open doors along the hotel hallway, sampling from a bottle or two set up on the bureau for walk-in guests; listening to the "old-timers" tell wonderful and wondrous tales of pre-statehood exploits. Most of these men are gone and with them their stories.

To my great good fortune, I have participated in the NPFMC process from its beginning. And, as I've said elsewhere, while it has not always been a pleasure, it has always been an honor to be part of the Council family. This organization has faced truly unique challenges; political, logistical, societal, and cultural. It has confronted institutional inertia and forged new pathways forward, establishing itself as the model for participatory fisheries management, worldwide. As in any human endeavor, the Council has had its failings, as well; occasionally shrinking from difficult decisions, squandering opportunities, or succumbing to provincialism. Yet, on the whole, any objective assessment of the contribution made by the women and men of the NPFMC 'family,' over these 40 years, would have to conclude it has been an impressive run.

On the 40th Anniversary of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, thinking about what faced those individuals that took on the initial challenge and promise of this experiment, and how very much has been achieved, I take enormous personal pride in having been a part of this process. It really has been a long, strange trip, indeed! Congratulations on FORTY AMAZING years, to everyone who joined in the great experiment that is the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

The SSC listens to a report on the scientific analysis prior to deliberation.



Celebrating the Contributions of Jay Ginter

A celebration of the 40th year anniversary of the MSA isn't complete without recognizing the contributions of the many staff who support the Council process and the development of fishery conservation and management programs implemented under the MSA. Foremost among those we remember as a key contributor over many years and through many eras of MSA implementation is Jay J.C. Ginter. Jay was a valued colleague, mentor, and friend who passed away in 2011.

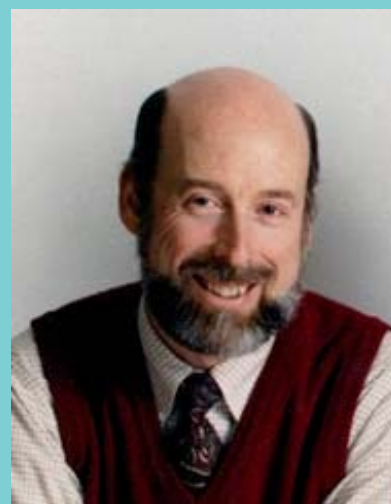
Jay contributed to the fishery conservation and management process over a 30-year career with the National Marine Fisheries Service that started at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in California (1980–1985) and continued in the Sustainable Fisheries Division of the Alaska Region (1985–2010). Jay's career paralleled many of the important steps in the history of the MSA from management of the foreign fisheries off Alaska, the transition to the joint venture and domestic fisheries, and the implementation of world class catch share programs for the halibut, groundfish, and crab fisheries off Alaska.

Jay was most closely associated with the development and implementation of the Halibut and Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program and the Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program. He worked for many years both behind the scenes and at the table developing key elements of these programs. His detailed notes of the progress of IFQ

Program development over the course of ten plus years are still being referred to by staff in the Alaska Region. He was a fixture at Council meetings and in the Regional Office where he spent long hours in conversation with fishermen, Council members, and colleagues explaining the history of an issue and his perspective on the application of the MSA and other laws that guide our process. He also was a valued mentor and teacher to all of the staff he supervised or worked with over the years. Jay set the standard for professionalism in his respectful treatment of everyone he worked with. He also set the standard for impeccable professional attire with his trademark suits, sweater vests, and ties!

His work with NMFS, the Council, and the Alaska fisheries was a very big part of his life, but bigger still was his love and devotion to his family. Jay is survived by his wife Jane and his children Jason and Sarah. All his colleagues at the Alaska Region knew that his work day started only after he had walked his children to school. Jay is remembered fondly and greatly missed by all who knew him.

Contributed by Sally Bibb



LORI SWANSON



AP MEMBER 1/06 – 12/14

I began working in North Pacific fisheries in 1980, as an observer on board South Korean trawlers at a time when 'Americanization' of the fishery resources was starting in earnest. I was the only American and the only woman on board, with about 80 Korean fishermen, for two months. Most of them just could not believe that a 21-year-old girl could possibly work at sea, or even be allowed on board a fishing boat. The views ranged from puzzlement to disapproval to romance (I received four marriage proposals in one month).

Shortly after that, the United States required any foreign fishing vessel operating in the US 200-mile zone to accept deliveries from American fishermen (initially, in addition to their own harvests). The 1980s saw new US vessels – mostly trawlers – being built at an amazing rate to enter these 'joint venture' fisheries, where Americans caught the fish and foreign vessels processed them. It involved the tricky process of transferring codends at sea, something that proved to be more practical than it first seemed. Labor aboard the foreign vessels was cheap by US standards, and profits to the American catcher vessels were good.

There was a 2.0 million metric ton cap on Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands harvest, but domestic catch was far below that. Every year we could catch and deliver more; it just meant reducing the foreign catch, which was easy. During that time I continued to work as an observer, then as a cook/deckhand on an American catcher vessel, then as a representative on joint-venture processors to coordinate deliveries and make sure fishermen were paid fairly.

Most of my work was on Russian processors. This was during the Cold War, and every Russian vessel had a Commissar responsible for political correctness. It was common for this person to tell the crew that I was a CIA spy, and to keep away from me. Usually after the first couple of days working together we all became

friends and were able to laugh about that. One time in particular, two crewmembers volunteered to help me get back at the Commissar after finding out that I had vodka (never scarce, but highly prized at sea). Payback involved three bottles labeled as vodka, two of which were actually filled with water. We invited the poor guy to have a drink with us, and continued toasting 'friendship' and 'good business' and 'good fishing' throughout the evening. The Commissar was drinking from the bottle that had vodka; we were drinking from the ones that had water. We didn't see him for three days after that.

Of course, the expanding joint-venture fisheries caught prohibited species (particularly crab and halibut), which alarmed American fishermen dependent on those fish. Council meetings, industry meetings, committee meetings...you name it, everyone showed up and yelled at everyone else. At one meeting between trawlers and halibut fishermen, Bob Alverson (representing the longliners) was waving around a report that the trawlers had commissioned showing that bycatch wasn't such a big deal. It was produced by Natural Resources Consultants, which happened to be owned by Bob's father, Lee Alverson. Bob was raving "This is GARBAGE! This is NONSENSE! This is WORTHLESS.....except maybe as an inheritance..."

I also recall a Council meeting where the fight between trawlers and crabbers was reaching a peak. Barry Fisher, the 'godfather' of joint-venture fisheries, claimed that he had hired a pair of hookers to visit the room of the leader of the crab fishermen, offering to "let you do to us what you want to do to the trawlers." We were never able to prove whether it really happened.

Joint ventures gave way to full-on American catcher/processors that no longer needed catcher vessels for deliveries. A few US motherships remain, but most catchers deliver shoreside nowadays. As US harvesting and processing capability expanded, foreign and joint-venture activities were reduced and finally curtailed altogether. At that time, rather than simply kicking the foreigners out when we needed



more fish, we had to figure out how to divide the 2 million ton cap among domestic fishermen—much more complicated and adversarial. Much of what the Council addresses now involves allocations between different fishing groups, in one form or another.

I am very fortunate to have participated in the transition from primarily foreign fishing to full Americanization of the fishing fleet. It was a magical time, when people from different countries met on the high seas and learned how to work successfully together in spite of differences in ideology and language. Russian fishermen, in particular, were eager to invite their American partners on board the processing vessel for food, drink and entertainment. In turn, Russian crewmembers were able to visit US ports and spend 'real US dollars' on things that they could never have found at home. I was able to accompany some of these fishermen as they discovered boom boxes, chewing gum, clap-on-clap-off keychains, and of course blue jeans.

From the 1990s to the present, US fisheries and fisheries management has matured. We now have state of the art fishing vessels, mathematical models run by highly educated scientists to translate catch and survey data into sustainable harvest levels, multiple conservation measures including gear modifications and closed areas to protect habitat, programs designed to protect and promote local fishermen in Alaskan communities...and still five Council meetings a year to address new science and allocation decisions. The meetings are often heated, if not perhaps as raw as in the earlier days. I have had the pleasure and frustration of working with the Council as a fishing gear supplier (explaining why gear vendors developed a rule-beater 'para-pelagic' trawl), as a representative of Groundfish Forum, and as an Advisory Panel member. Now, as the executive director of the Marine Conservation Alliance, I look forward to more good and bad times, more battles in front of the council that end with shared drinks in the bar, and to working with all of the diverse players to maintain healthy and sustainable fisheries in the North Pacific.

We have a great history, and we have a great future.

Chuck's Checks

At the 30th Council Anniversary Banquet, Al Burch made a special presentation to Chuck Bundrant, the founder of Trident Seafoods. Al took the stage and began to tell the story about how Chuck got his start fishing crab out of Kodiak with him and his brother in the mid-60's. He then calls on Chuck to come up to the podium. Al pulls out a framed display with cancelled checks the Burch's paid out to Chuck, and begins to read off the dates and amounts of each check. Then Al asks Chuck to turn the frame over, and through little window cutouts, read where they were cashed. Chuck said he didn't have his glasses, so I read the names...."Solly's Bar, Pioneer Bar, Solly's Bar..." They were all cashed at the bars!

Contributed by Stephanie Madsen

DAVE BENSON



Photo from August, 2009 at US/Russia ICC meeting in Stevenson, Washington. L to R, Chris Oliver, Dave Benson, Rick Lauber.

**COUNCIL MEMBER 8/03 – 8/12, COUNCIL VICE CHAIR 10/08 – 8/12
AP MEMBER 1/93 – 6/03**

Now that I have procrastinated until the last minute I can think of so much to say about my 20 years with the Council family. The 30th Anniversary publication contained some very thoughtful (and lengthy) comments from past personalities and I won't try to mimic those. I perused through my collection of photos, and though they were sporadic recordings of events, I had compiled quite a few over the years, particularly if I included all the international meetings I had the privilege to attend with some of the Council members and staff.

And so I concluded it would be best to submit this single photo which kind of epitomizes the river (of people) that runs through the process we know as the NPFMC. When I was fresh off the boats in the Bering Sea and beginning my stint in government relations for a fishing company known as Arctic Alaska, I had an opportunity to fill a vacancy on the Advisory Panel left by Phil Chitwood. Rick Lauber was just starting his 10 years as Chairman in 1990 and he approved the replacement. The following January I was re-appointed for the beginning of my 10 years on the AP.

In those early days of Inshore/Offshore, Rick and I were on opposite sides of the issue and it was a real learning experience watching a master chairman at work in the middle of an allocation fight over pollock. Whether he knows it or not, Rick was a mentor for many of us who came behind. I thought he brought a certain dignity and wisdom to the proceedings, just as he did when he represented the Council in international forums. This photo was taken at the US/Russia ICC meeting in 2009 at Stevenson, Washington.

And so the torch gets passed and the sausage keeps getting made. No shortage of issues ahead. Allocation, bycatch, habitat, endangered species and a new administration to shuffle the deck and re-invent stuff. Good Luck and good listening to all involved!

JEFF STEPHAN



AP MEMBER 2/79-8/82; 9/85-12/05; 2/15-PRESENT
COUNCIL MEMBER 8/82-8/85

My first Council meeting was in December 1978. I was appointed to the Council Advisory Panel soon thereafter, and served my first meeting as an AP member in February 1979. I was nominated for a Council appointment by Governor Jay Hammond in 1982, appointed by Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige, and served on the Council between August 1982 and August 1985.

I first came to Kodiak in 1973 to fish shrimp. I became interested in how ADF&G managed the status of stocks and harvests of shrimp (Kodiak 1973: 70.5 million lb.), king crab (Kodiak 1973: 14.4 million lbs.), Tanner crab (Kodiak 1973: 29.9 million lbs.), salmon and other fisheries. I was impressed with the many ADF&G, NMFS, IPHC and other management and research biologists with whom I came into contact. ADF&G and NMFS were in the process of making significant investments in building the capacity of their respective agencies in the 1970s, and were recruiting well-trained biologists, biometricians, statisticians and other scientists from Alaska and around the country who expanded the expertise and capacity of their respective agencies.

I was a crewman on a king crab vessel in Kodiak during the 1978 Kodiak king crab season (1978 harvest: 12.0 million lbs). I was offered an opportunity to crew on a friend's vessel for the 1979 Bering Sea C. bairdi and C. opilio tanner crab fishery (1978-79 Bering Sea C. bairdi catch was 42.5 M lbs; C. opilio catch was 32.2 M lbs.). I intended to take advantage of that opportunity. Between the closure of the Kodiak crab season, and my anticipated travel to Dutch Harbor for the start of the Bering Sea C. bairdi crab season, I was asked to travel to Juneau on behalf of United Fishermen's Marketing Association to interact with the Alaska Board of Fisheries on a salmon allocation issue.

I had just completed my work in Juneau when I received a call from some UFMA Kodiak-based Bering Sea crab fishermen asking me to stop by the December 1978 NPFMC meeting in Anchorage to contribute to an ongoing crab industry initiative that was then underway to encourage the Council to further limit the amount of Bering Sea C. opilio crab allocated to the Japanese crab fleet as TALFF (Total Allowable Level of Foreign Fishing), and instead, designate it for domestic harvesting and processing; that is, move more C. opilio from TALFF to DAH (Domestic Annual Harvest).

My interactions and experience during the December 1978, Council meeting with AP, SSC and Council members on the C. opilio issue engaged my interest in the process. I was impressed with the objectives, complexity of issues, challenges, economic opportunities, science, the people and the significant importance of the Council issues and process. The people who were involved were smart, dedicated, problem solvers, and clearly understood that they were embarked on an important mission.

I participated in my first AP meeting less than a month after the implementation of the GOA Groundfish FMP (January 1979), and, as a member of the Council two months prior to the implementation of the BSAI Groundfish FMP (October 1982). The implementation of these plans provided a feeling of accomplishment, a general awareness of the significance of these milestones, and the recognition that a great deal remained to be addressed. One could hardly ask for a better seat at the table, or for a better time to join the team. I was privileged to be on the AP and the Council to participate in the development of several elements of the early amendments that further advanced the potential of the GOA and BSAI groundfish FMPs. It was clear that our goals and objectives were multiple and varied as we attempted to assist in the development of a U.S. seafood

industry, provide opportunities for diverse economic growth, reduce bycatch, habitat modification and other environmental challenges to the productivity of those fisheries resources within the jurisdiction of the Council and the FCZ (Fishery Conservation Zone; later proclaimed by President Regan as the Exclusive Economic Zone, or EEZ).

While the Council has achieved an impressive list of accomplishments during the past 40 years, there is no doubt that the Council family will address many more significant and difficult issues in the future. I am confident that the Council family is clearly capable of, prepared and dedicated to addressing whatever issues may arise.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served on the Council and on the AP at various times during these past 40 years. I have worked with many good, intelligent, thoughtful and dedicated people, made many good friends, and learned a great deal. Largely because of my participation in the Council family, I possess an abiding satisfaction that I have made positive contributions to the sustainability of our fisheries resources, and helped advance the opportunity for those who depend on and benefit from a vibrant and sustainable resource.

*The diversity of thought,
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I offer my recognition, gratitude and best wishes to all those who have served on the Council, AP and SSC, to those Council, ADF&G, NMFS, IPHC, PSMFC, Coast Guard and other agency staff, and to those members of the public who participate in the process, and who otherwise informed the Council accomplishments during the past 40 years. The diversity of thought, expertise, dedication and interests has helped the Council process to design necessary solutions, protections and opportunities. I would like to provide a personal measure of recognition, appreciation and thanks to Clarence Pautzke, Chris Oliver and David Witherell, and past and present Council staff, for the tremendous job that they have done.

GLENN MERRILL



COUNCIL MEMBER 2/12 - PRESENT
AKRO ASSISTANT REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

As a child growing up in Colorado, I dreamt of becoming a mid-mid-level Federal bureaucrat in the North Pacific fishery management process. Seriously, it's been a rewarding ride. I started as an observer on the F/V Commodore in 1990—a humbling experience that gave me an appreciation for the hard and complicated work of catching fish. It was my first glimpse at the critical role of science-based management. After many stops along the way, I was fortunate to take the helm at Sustainable Fisheries (SF) in 2011 from the incredibly talented Sue Salvesson. I inherited a great team with tremendous skill, a fantastic work-ethic, and a whole lot of important work to do.

In the last 10 years we've implemented over 110 FMP amendments, and 80 regulatory amendments. Nearly 40% of all the regulations developed by the Council since 1976 were implemented in the last 10 years. Our recent major accomplishments include a precautionary

Arctic FMP, implementation of several new catch share programs, major improvements to our observer program, and innovative new ways to manage bycatch. We are on the cusp of implementing a groundbreaking and important new electronic monitoring program. Behind the scenes, SF staff rebuilt our catch accounting system, developed new tools to improve our inseason management, and enhanced our relationship with Council staff. Our collective efforts paid off. We have significantly improved the quality of our analyses and the timeliness of our rulemaking.

By almost any measure, the Council is doing a great job managing the majority of the seafood harvested in the United States. However, there is always room for improvement, and we can't rest on our laurels. Looking ahead 10 years to the 50th anniversary of the MSA, I see two major challenges facing the Council family—effectively responding to climate change and developing the next generation of leaders.

Climate change exists (no, really, it does), and its impacts are affecting our fisheries now. Not only do we face a challenge building the scientific capacity to measure and understand its impacts, but we have to create regulatory flexibility to respond to those changes. Most of our management programs are designed with a single fishery in mind. We have built high walls of sideboards, gear restrictions, and other limitations. We need a thoughtful review to ensure that our management will be able to adapt to changing conditions proactively and not reactively.

At 40 years, the Council has firmly entered middle age. When I look around a Council meeting, most of those engaged on a regular basis are a lot older than 40 and have been attending meetings for at least a decade or two. As with any institution, succession planning is difficult, but it is something that we should be thoughtfully pursuing. Tomorrow's challenges will require new quantitative and management skills, better awareness of the growing demands of seafood markets, and a willingness to reconsider old ways of doing business. Personally, I look forward to the challenge of building and supporting the next generation of leaders in SF. My hope is that when our 50th anniversary rolls around I'll have already turned over the reigns to someone far more capable.



The Gift Bag

In 2011, the Council had an amazingly successful first Council meeting in Nome, at which NSEDC distributed fancy canvas tote bags with clip on sanitizer as a welcome gift. Not to be upstaged in 2012, Kodiak delivered to Gail a set of glamorous-looking blue gift bags for each Council member. Glenn had now held his position of alternate for the NMFS Council seat for 12 months, and was starting to believe in his own importance. But there were just not enough Kodiak gift bags to go around, and NMFS only got one... which went to Jim Balsiger. Fortunately, Gail came to the rescue. She found a discarded bag, and stuffed it with a "special" surprise for Glenn (firewood scavenged from the roadside!). He was so excited that she came through with the gift bag that he felt he so deserved... and enjoyed the laugh at its sabotaged contents!

Contributed by Diana Evans

NICOLE KIMBALL



COUNCIL MEMBER 6/12 – 12/15; COUNCIL STAFF 10/99 – 1/12

Clarence Pautzke hired me as a fisheries analyst with the North Pacific Council when I was 25 years old. I remember very clearly thinking that this was a great opportunity; it was the job I had come back home to Alaska for and it wasn't one I took lightly. But I never dreamed I'd stay with the Council for almost 13 years, let alone continue to work in this process today. I'm sure most of us are like that. Once you dedicate time to the North Pacific, it's hard to let go.

I could write about all the wonderful people who supported and mentored me and made me better at my job in those early years: Sally Bibb, Sue Salvesson, Darrell Brannan, Chris Oliver, David Witherell, Phil Smith, Rich Marasco, and many others. But I was enlisted (last minute) to write about one of the 'other duties as assigned' that made Council work more interesting and memorable than most of my analyses.

I'm proud to be the first ever staff of the Rural Outreach Committee, a committee task like no other. Mark Fina and Glenn Merrill started an informal Urban Outreach Committee in response, but I believe that consisted only of having beers in downtown Anchorage. (I was not a member.) The Council's formal rural outreach efforts started with the Chinook bycatch actions and had the support of Chairman Olson. It was clear that salmon users in rural Alaska had no easy way to provide input to the Council, or to understand what the Council was trying to accomplish and why. It was the first time the Council decided to send staff and Council members (two at a time) to villages to present the Council's proposed action, hear input, answer questions, incorporate that input into the analysis, and report back to the rest of the Council. It was a genuine effort, and I was glad to craft outreach plans to help make this happen.

The best part of this effort was obviously the travel, and getting to parts of Alaska that we wouldn't

otherwise. It was nerve-wracking being responsible for Council members in a different environment, where weather wreaks havoc with the plane schedules, or the planes don't come at all. Where you sleep on a cot and have to bring your own sleeping bag and food. Where things are slowed down. But it was truly a great experience and Diana Stram—my partner in outreach—and I also got to see a side of Council members we wouldn't otherwise. For her part, Diana went on every trip, every single one, and talked through her powerpoint like a champ, with me whacking her leg to slow down. It's my opportunity to give her credit.

All of our trips were in the winter, which made things extra interesting. There was our first trip to McGrath, where Diana slept in all of her clothes and her parka in her sleeping bag, and I warned she would wake up a 'sweat-ball' and never get warm again (true). Where we had to leave the door open to get any heat at all, and when the heater did come on it sounded like an airplane taking off. Where Dave Benson didn't get any sleep because he kept feeling (imagining?) water dripping on his forehead all night. And where Sam Cotten and I and Diana walked across the frozen Kuskokwim River to see the other side.

In Bethel, I can still picture madly waving my arms at Diana to slow down her presentation — I've never been more self-conscious of our unending fishery acronyms than when I was watching a Yupik translator try to keep up and seriously consider the worth of translating 'hot spot reporting' and 'incentive plan agreements'. In Fairbanks, we were thankful Dan Hull is such a good runner, as he did a 50-yard dash to get the shuttle for us. The schedule had been flipped, our flight was already boarding, and we were still doing our presentation. Dan was motivated — if he missed the flight, he would've missed his family vacation. In Naknek, we sat in the D&D for hours, waiting for our presentation and eating pizza. It's the best way to get to know people. We did this in Nome, in Dillingham, in Kotzebue. In Galena, we got a tour of the village, then walked to the radio station (KIYU) and they gave us coffee mugs and free advice.

Our most memorable trip came in Mountain Village in February. After our presentation, we were told the plane could get into St. Mary's but not into Mountain Village due to weather. We had been there one night already, and local residents problem-solved immediately and offered to take us to St. Mary's by snowmachine down the Yukon River. Me, Diana, Roy Hyder and John Henderschedt were plied with more coats and snowpants and hats than we already had—and off we went. I remember Diana wondering if she really needed yet another coat—and then we forced it on her. I've only been on snowmachines enough to know that I'm always freezing. We had a long time to think as we zipped down the Yukon. I remember thinking how nice it was for these people to help us out, how fast we were going, how it was white-out conditions, and how I might get frostbite because my ankle was exposed but I couldn't reach down and fix it for fear of falling off. When we arrived in St. Mary's, we ran for the plane. I realized that my sleeping bag was gone—it had flown off the back of the snowmachine somewhere along the river. I remember how thrilled Roy and John were to have that experience, and a recognition that this was the best part of outreach. (Two weeks later I

got a call from the airline – someone had found my sleeping bag on the river and shipped it back to Anchorage.)

I can't name all of the other communities I had the privilege to visit through other Council work, typically as part of the CDQ Program: Kotlik, Nunam Iqua, Emmonak, Mekoryuk, Platinum, Hooper Bay, Atka, Toksook Bay, Quinhagak, and more. In every community, there were hard issues to talk about, but everyone made us welcome and invited us back to continue the conversation. There was never a time when we didn't return thinking it was well worth the trip for how much we learned. It was the best part of my job.

GLENN REED



INDUSTRY ADVISOR

The first time I attended a Council meeting was 1989. I was the Assistant City Manager of Unalaska. I walked into the Council room with Paul Fuhs (then Mayor of Unalaska). Dave Fraser was standing just inside the room and Paul introduced me to him. The topic being discussed as I recall was bycatch (I don't recall the species). I don't recall much else about that meeting, either.

My Council testimony in June of 1997 in Kodiak comes to mind as a likely candidate for the worst testimony in the history of the Council. John Iani agreed to come up to the table with me, and as I began to completely bomb, piss people off, and harm my own cause—John slowly, a little bit at a time, moved his chair away from me at the table with a horrified look on his face. The issue was Inshore/Offshore III, tension was high, everything was very serious, and nothing was light hearted or funny (particularly me). I thought I lost my job, but as it turns out, being willing to consistently embarrass yourself in public can solicit sympathy and is a valued quality by some employers. Working on allocation driven or other divisive issues can be taxing in many ways. It can be exhilarating, exciting, draining, career and relationship changing, bad for your health in many ways and good or bad for your ego depending on the outcome.

During summer Council meetings for many years there were fundraisers for the Women's Fishery Network. The generosity of the seafood industry has been amazing to behold over many years. At one of these fundraisers in Dutch Harbor I was asked to emcee a live auction. One of the items auctioned was a round-trip flight on Pen-Air from Anchorage to Dutch. With a value of around \$1,000 it sold for \$5,000 and was purchased by an executive who had flown to the meeting on his own plane. At that same auction, \$10,000 was raised for the privilege of throwing a pie in the face of Wally Peyreya. One overzealous participant had to pay an extra few hundred dollars for adding chocolate sauce to the pie....after the pie was already on Wally's face. Another \$5,000 was raised for the privilege of throwing a pie in John Iani's face, that pie was bought, and thrown, by Wally Peyreya.

I have enjoyed being involved with many creative people in our sometimes passable, and sometimes lame, attempts to humor and entertain people in the Council process. We've staged games such as Jeopardy, The Dating Game, Council Trivia, and fundraisers in many towns for many good causes. It's been a great joy to be involved in those efforts.

I've always had the greatest respect for the Council staff, and to show my appreciation at one Dutch

Harbor meeting I invited some staff to stay out late with the promise of buying drinks. This effort did not work out particularly well for anyone, and there were incidents of people sleeping while sitting during the meeting the next day. Staff was encouraged to avoid these offers from me in the future. (This may not have been a one-time incident.)

Former Chairman Rick Lauber once heard me suggest that an item on the agenda at a meeting didn't appear to be at all important. In a stern tone

and language he reminded me, appropriately, that every issue the Council takes up is very important to someone. He suggested I remember that, and I have. In hindsight, I'm thankful he took the time to tell me.

I have enjoyed being involved with many creative people in our sometimes passable, and sometimes lame, attempts to humor and entertain people in the council process.

TERRY QUINN



SSC MEMBER 1/86 - PRESENT

It is hard to believe that I have been the longest-serving member of the Statistical and Scientific (SSC, or is it Scientific and Statistical?) member of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. I remember getting a phone call from Ron Dearborn, then the director of the Alaska Sea Grant College Program at University of Alaska Fairbanks, in November 1985, persuading me to be willing to accept a seat on the SSC. I was incredulous then at the time, being a junior member of the faculty since August 1985, arguing I would play a better role as a Plan Team member. But Ron was insistent, and when I consulted my Dean Ole Mathisen, he said this would be very important. So I agreed to do this, and I started in early 1986, 31 years ago, over 75% of the Council's history!

When I walked into the SSC room at the Hilton in early 1986 for the first time, I was very uneasy. There sat all these prestigious men such as Don Bevan (who was on my PhD committee until I graduated in just 1980), Bud Burgner, Bill Aron, Rich Marasco, and Larry Hreha. I had all my documents via FedEx from Gail Bendixen, and I listened in bewilderment at all of the arcane issues being discussed. Finally, the discussion was focused on stock assessment of crabs, which Bob Otto presented. There was some formula that was supposed to lead to an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), and SSC members discussed the formula. At some point I chimed in: "This is an over-depleted stock; the ABC should be 0!" SSC members looked up and smiled and nodded their heads in agreement. At least a majority agreed with me! I knew I could play a role on the SSC.

I feel especially privileged to be a part of system that has abundant groundfish fisheries, a cooperative and thoughtful fishing industry and NGO's, a Council that engages in science-based fisheries management, and a shining light in this world of degradation and negative climate change.

In 1986, the chair and co-chair were responsible for writing our report. Although it was decided soon after to spread the burden among individual SSC members, it was easy-going at the start. We had an SSC secretary (Gail) who unfailingly typed our pen-and-paper scratching into text on the first PCs without complaint. A legend of SSC meeting, which continues to this day, is SSC dinners on Monday or Tuesday. Most of the SSC members attend, enjoy camaraderie, discuss the day's events, and share with each other. I think this has really helped the SSC maintain continuity.

This experience led to re-evaluation of the objective recommendations provided by the SSC, including redefinition of biological reference points such as overfishing provided in the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Act. Eventually this led to the development of the Tier System, in which

recommendations were based on the level of available information, according to National Standard 2 (best scientific information available). This Alaska model has since been utilized all over the World. Grant Thompson of NOAA, SSC historian, was instrumental in this process.

Despite some tensions during the years, we are appreciative of the Council's efforts to include our scientific advice into their actions. The reason I continue on the SSC is because I feel that my advice will be used. I will close with two anecdotes to reflect how the SSC advice has been used:

1. In the first Inshore-Offshore analysis, the SSC referred to the analysis as "speculative". This led to a virtual firestorm, as the Council did not agree.

2. In 1989, the SSC was concerned that there would be a major data gap due to the conversion

of the fishery from joint ventures to the domestic fleet. It proposed a Plan Amendment to the Council that fishing be illegal without an approved data collection plan. In other words, fishing would cease if there were not some kind of observer plan. This caught the attention of the fore-named Ron Dearborn, who funded a pilot observer program, which was a success. The following year, the Council approved an Observer Program, which has continued to evolve.

I am proud to be a member of the SSC along with my colleagues. I am proud that the Council has chosen to listen to us, unlike many Councils around the country. And I feel especially privileged to be a part of system that has abundant groundfish fisheries, a cooperative and thoughtful fishing industry and NGO's, a Council that engages in science-based fisheries management, and a shining light in this world of degradation and negative climate change. We will cope with whatever happens.

THERESA PETERSON



COUNCIL MEMBER 8/16 - PRESENT; AP MEMBER 3/09 – 6/16

Like many Alaskan fishermen, I didn't know much about the Council process when I began my fishing career. I didn't know that the decisions made by the Council under the authority of MSA would shape my future, both on deck and in the professional world. I just wanted to go fishing.

I remember fishing sablefish on the edge of the Western Gulf of Alaska next to a Japanese longliner in the 80s. We were chasing them around because they set us down. My skipper demanded to know what they were still doing in our waters, but they wouldn't answer over the radio. So he thought we would attempt to yell at the other vessel, rail to rail. They never did respond, but they did tie one of their fancy light buoys to our raggedy flagpole, to apologize for setting us down. Evidently there was still some kind of fishing agreement, but I was too busy trying to survive my first sablefish trip to care much about international grounds disputes. All I cared about was nursing my sore hands, turned into pincushions from handling endless J hooks. I knew nothing about the Magnuson Stevens Act, the eight Councils, the Americanization of the fleet, or the long hours and dedication by so many others that led to my opportunity to go work on the edge.

Years later, in 2004, I found myself flying to Sitka to attend my first Council meeting. I still didn't know much about the Council process, but as I wandered into Centennial Hall with an armload of charts, I looked forward to learning what it was all about. I had recently started working for the Alaska Marine Conservation Council, and my first task was to work with Kodiak Tanner crab fishermen to put together local knowledge maps identifying areas of high crab abundance around the island. Round two of Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Rationalization was on the table, and crab fishermen wanted to introduce an option providing Tanner crab protections in the developing program. They sent the greenhorn advocate to deliver the message. I was so afraid of testifying

behind that table, I had a back-up plan in case I froze or fainted—my friend Walter Sargent would read my testimony for me.

This was the beginning of a suite of unique friendships in the Council arena with many fishermen in my community, fishermen I would not have come to know had it not been for common interests in the policy process. As I continued to attend the meetings, I came to know and respect many others who were dedicated to the stakeholder process and advocating on behalf of their fishery. There is an interesting and colorful cast of characters in the Council arena and passions run high. It is a process where a wide range of viewpoints

There is an interesting and colorful cast of characters in the Council arena and passions run high. It is a process where a wide range of viewpoints can be brought forward, and through a sometimes painfully slow, methodical process, a final rule will eventually emerge.

can be brought forward, and through a sometimes painfully slow, methodical process, a final rule will eventually emerge. Engaging in the Council process is an educational journey where time, patience and the willingness to learn will eventually result in outcomes that stakeholders can help to shape.

I am continually impressed by the Council staff's ability to synthesize input from the Council and generate comprehensive analyses that can then guide the discussion to a final rule. They are a talented group with a strong analytical skillset and the patience of saints.

The NPFMC represents the gold star of sustainability throughout the nation and around the world. By pursuing the best available science, and the commitment to use that science to guide decisions, we can maintain healthy fisheries for generations to come. In the end, it takes strong partnerships and communication from scientists, fishermen, environmentalists, community leaders, native leaders, subsistence users, recreational fishermen, the Coast Guard, National Marine Fisheries Service—and the list goes on. But at the end of the day, it is everyone working together that achieves the primary goal—to conserve the resource.

After seven years on the Advisory Panel I am honored to have the opportunity to serve on the Council and look forward to my continuing education.

JOHN GAUVIN



INDUSTRY ADVISOR

Inshore /Offshore One was up for reconsideration shortly after I started working for the American Factory Trawler Association and we were all pretty focused on gaining back pollock lost to the Shoreside in the previous go-around. The plan was to go back to the unfettered "race for fish" which would allow the factory boats to regain honor and fish. Dutch Harbor was set to be the venue for Inshore /Offshore Two and both sides were stirring up the public through media campaigns claiming that Alaska would be left barren if the wrongs of I/O were not corrected. Local support businesses in Dutch had signs blasting one side or the other, and school kids wore buttons with slogans condemning the fishing practices of the other side. The final action was set for June 1995 BC (before co-ops).

For the Millennials who are increasingly entering into the fisheries of the North Pacific, you may be surprised to learn that in the old days pollock was not allocated by rational catch share programs. Back then, it was by tribal warfare orchestrated in front of the North Pacific Council, sort of an early form of mixed martial arts. In fact, most of the people I worked with when I started in 1993 were war generals wearing medals and showing visible wounds from Inshore/ Offshore One.

The first Inshore/Offshore spawned years of acrimony, something which might not be obvious from historical records like the 500-page council document. Back then that was a very big document because they didn't just cut and paste 300 pages of boiler plate. The I/O allocation had been decided amidst media campaigns ripping the other sector for being foreign, being bad for the nation, bad for Alaska, bad for the environment. The kind of stuff reserved for presidential elections today.

As the generals focused on the battle plans for the Second Great Pollock War, one of my assignments was to scour the fishing and processing data for areas where it showed our side was better. Better could be better for America, Alaska, the environment, housewives in Chicago, whatever, just better. In

looking at the fishing data I came to wonder if our strategy to return to an unconstrained race for fish was really a good idea. The numbers showed that the Shoreside tribe had added many young warriors, and in an all out race it seemed that the Offshore tribe might actually go backwards. I checked the figures again and again. How could the pesky catcher vessel tribe that said it needed protection in the last go-around have such force? In a visit to Dutch Harbor I saw why. The family fishing trawlers at the local docks no longer looked the part. Many looked just like the same industrial boats on all the posters attacking the Offshore clan. Anyway I decided to keep the data analysis to myself. For the moment no one in the Offshore tribe seemed interested in hearing what it suggested.

Arriving in Dutch Harbor in June of 1995 I saw how the battle ground was set to occur and it didn't look like we would have any high ground. But being the new guy, I was encouraged to seek out the other side, see if they would share any information. The day before the Second Great Battle I happened to pass near a table in the Grand Aleutian where sat the great spiritual leader of the Inshore tribe, none other than Chairman Rick. He was with Terry Shaff, Greg Baker, and other titans of the shoreside processing tribe. They invited me to sit and talk. Wow, would this be treason if I accepted? I hesitated but then recalled that Chairman Rick had taken pity on our tribe's rocksole boats when they had huge red king crab bycatch. Many in the Alaska nation wanted the rocksole tribe to be "done and gone" but the Chairman had been the swing vote that saved the rocksole fishery from a kill shot, giving some recognition that rocksole's new system to dodge bycatch hotspots had changed the dynamic. I decided to accept and sit down for a talk, but still wondered if I was being set up.

At first I just listened for confidential trade secrets but after a while we just talked. I recognized a lot of the bad feelings from their side were from the same kind of things that made our side mad about them. But like our side, their motivations were not about what was best for the fishery anymore, it was about who was right in the first Inshore / Offshore dust up. Thus, I came away convinced that the upcoming bloodshed was for no gain, both sides were not going to benefit from a return to a race. Frankly, the future was in making better products and not about getting more fish. Everyone seemed to know that but no one was acting like they did.

I went back to my tribe's pre-battle morning meeting on the day of reckoning and decided to make a pitch for why it was better to stay with what was done in the First Great War and refocus on making more out of what each side had. I even went out on a limb and said that maybe we could ask them to give up something, not fish of course but access to a slice of their sacred territory in the Catcher Vessel Operations Area.

Most of the old guard in our camp doubted it would do any good but finally the green light was given to go back and try to put the deal together. I was warned to not be surprised if the Inshore tribe changes its tune and laughs at my proposal or says "hell no" to my request for a small peace offering. A few of the younger warriors from our side were tasked with joining to oversee things in the event things went off track and a return to battle stations was necessary.

Time had nearly run out. The lights were on, the mics were hot, and the staff would soon be wrapping up their multi-dimensional mother-of-all cost-benefit/socio analyses. Public testimony was about to start and we were still trying to write up an agreement, spoken words were not to be trusted.

Ten minutes before public testimony we were still framing the language but we made the call to have someone sign us up as a group. This drew great suspicion in the big room that foul play was afoot. With the paper in hand, we came into the big room together when our names were called and a pin drop would have seemed loud. With the ink still wet we read the agreement as public testimony "Keep the current pollock split and trim off a small sliver of the CVOA". Peace in the land had prevailed for now. This would be better than fighting for no gain.

This was well before Mixed Martial Arts, but think about going to an MMA match and paying for a seat within reach of the Octagon, when all of a sudden you see a group of guys in tights awkwardly hugging in the cage. Sorry, try to get that image out of your head. Face it, no one goes to MMA for a "love fest" as they called the agreement. The only thing that made sense to the crowd was that it made no sense to have a fight with no gain. And that is still true. And the pollock fishery and several others (some still left out) were eventually, after Inshore Offshore Three, able to find a better way to divide the fish, end the bloodshed, and make more out of what they have (with less bycatch!).

Testing a salmon excluder net in a flume tank. John Gruver et. al. St. John's, Newfoundland.



Alaska-Style Turducken

In 1948, Clem Tillion (left, age 23) and friend Bill Wakeland went on a hunting trip to Rocky Point slough at the head of Kachemak Bay. Being that this was before statehood, hunting regulations and enforcement were almost non-existent, and the men shot everything they could. After bringing their bounty back to Seldovia, they made an Alaska-style turducken with a teal stuffed inside a mallard, stuffed inside a goose, stuffed inside a moose quarter – a Moogooduckteal!



Got Fish Meal?

Allocations are always contentious. Defining sector allocations of the Bering Sea cod TAC in 2006 was no exception. When the AFA CPs saw that they might not receive the allocation they wanted, their premiere lobbyist Paul McGregor pulled out all the stops. Hearing the Council was considering excluding catch that went to fish meal from the history of his members' boats Paul felt the need to prove a point, testifying that,

"Of course, fish meal counts toward your allocation." Taking a healthy pinch of

American Triumph meal he asserted, "It is a legitimate product, suitable for human consumption.... Where is the bathroom?"

Based on his compelling demonstration, the Council declared fish meal a primary product for AFA CPs, awarding them almost a full percent more of the Bering Sea cod TAC to satisfy customers of discriminating taste (like Paul).

DAVE FRASER



AP MEMBER 1/90-12/05

Peace, Love, and Free Mushrooms - Parable of a Hippie Grocery Store, or How I Learned About Co-ops and Fishery Management

"There are those who make history and those who write history—and it's the writers who have the last word." I forget if it was William F. Buckley or George Will who said that, at any rate, it's the revisionists who rewrite history who have the last laugh.

And so this story comes to be told—somewhere after ending my studies for the ministry; segued into being a hippie, and early in 1970, found myself in the basement cafe called Toad Hall in Fairhaven eating organic pizza, listening to the Hunger Brothers play bluegrass, and talking about righting the world's wrongs ... when Ed says:

"The right to eat ought to be part of the Bill of Rights, I mean, what good is freedom if you're starving."

"Right on, why should the ability to eat be tied to the ability to pay?"

"Yeah, like Marx said, from each according to his abilities to each according to his need."

"Sexist pig, what about her needs?"

"What this community needs is a free grocery store."

"Far out, let's do it."

Out of a night like that the "Everybody's Good Earth Grocery Store" was born. We talked the Good Earth Peoples and Trust out of space in a dilapidated old building and a bunch of hippies put their muscle where their mouth was and set to work creating a store—shoveling out old plaster, building shelves, painting—the Little Red Hen Brigade we called them.

Only one problem remained—how to stock the shelves. Luckily, there were a few rich hippies with trust funds and guilt complexes. Billy's uncle had been the original Pillsbury dough boy, and his trust fund had been well invested to assure maximum sustained yield. Billy signed over the interest off the fund to the store in perpetuity so we could count on being able to restock the shelves on a regular basis.

Everything was groovy for a while ... until business started improving, that is, pretty soon we had more customers than we could handle—especially after Ed wrote up a story in his "cheapos" column of the local underground rag about what a good deal the store was.

After a nasty power struggle within the Little Red Hen Brigade the anarchist faction was purged and a Board of Directors created to manage the store. The seeds of a bureaucracy had been planted. From now on there would be more and more meetings and more and more rules. But one principal would guide us. The right to eat is a fundamental human right. Free groceries for the People!

But the reality was that the yield from the trust fund that Billy's uncle had set up only allowed us to restock the store once a month. And with business booming, we found ourselves shutting down sooner every month, until we were down to one-day openings that were little more than a riotous mob scene.

An emergency Board meeting was called. "Look," someone said, "We're not meeting our objective. The first customers through the door are going away with all they can carry but most folks are going away hungry."

Reluctantly, the Board concluded we needed some sort of rules to impose some order on the chaos. But what is to be done? There was no consensus. And so we tried something different every month. There was talk for a while about limiting membership. Figuring the yield from the trust fund would at least provide free groceries for a limited number of people. But this was rejected as anti-egalitarian. Also, narrowly defeated, was a proposal that customers wear a potato sack over their legs and have one arm tied behind their back.

The first thing we tried was a limit on the number of shopping carts per customer. That helped until folks started showing up with 15-foot long carts. Next meeting we passed a rule restricting carts to a 3-foot wheel base. That too helped until the carts appeared with 6-foot sides. You should have seen the accidents that happened as customers careened through the aisles with those top heavy carts. And the waste when they'd tip over! Broken glass, pickles, and apple sauce all over the place. Not a pretty sight.

Another emergency Board meeting. "This still isn't working. Even with all these restrictions on cart size. Now the customers are high-grading. Going for the steaks, avocados, and kiwi fruit first. The next customers are stuck with brown rice and soybeans. No one's getting a balanced diet. And some folks are still getting nothing."

So we began to develop time/area closures within the store. The meat counter wouldn't open until the soybeans were half gone. It was a start in the right direction but now we needed another layer of bureaucracy. In order to know when to open and close areas we had to monitor our inventory. We needed real-time information on each customer's withdrawals. And so we instituted checkout counters. But, as I said, this was only a start in the right direction—and we soon realized that too much of the yield from the trust fund was being used to restock the high-value foods and that customers still weren't getting a balanced diet.

Another Board meeting—more rules. In order to see that folks got a balanced diet we required that a certain percent of each basket load (by then we had set the maximum basket size at a hand-carry only—2.7 cubic feet and only allowed one visit to the store per month) come from each aisle—30% brown rice, 14% soybeans, 10% dairy products (excluding imported cheeses which could be up to 25% of dairy products or 4% of the overall basket load), 20% vegetables (of which 50% had to be green vegetables), 15% fruits—the balance could be the customer's choice, but no more than 10% of the balance could be from the "Luxury Foods" aisle.

Well, this was all good and well except that it increased the workload of the check-out counters with all this detailed quota monitoring. We tried hard to find enough volunteers but eventually we had to face up to the fact that we would have to pay the clerks. Another crisis - another meeting.

It was no easy meeting. We had to make some hard choices. The cost of clerks would cut into our ability to restock the shelves—meaning we'd be providing less free food. After long hours of wrangling and tortured semantics, we decided to impose a fee to cover the cost of clerks and that this did not conflict with our principle that the groceries themselves were free.

Crisis after crisis, meeting after meeting, it seemed like we were never accomplishing more than sticking our thumbs in the hole in the dike. We simply couldn't stem the tide of ever-increasing business—demand simply out-stripped supply.

And then came the meeting that changed everything. A new Board member suggested a radical idea. "Why not have customers pay for their groceries?" she asked.

"WHAT?!" responded a dismayed chorus. "That goes against everything we believe in; it's racist, sexist, capitalist, and profit-mongering. What about the natives on the reservation who can't afford Safeway's rip-off prices, or single mothers on welfare, or the unemployed?"

"We do need to re-think our principles," she answered, "because we're not achieving our goals, but that doesn't mean abandoning them. We don't need to make a profit necessarily, but if we do, we can use it to subsidize those customers who are disadvantaged—give discounts to native peoples, seniors, single women with children, or we can work to achieve our social goals politically," (she went on, not too surprisingly, to become a state representative, active in welfare reform, and saw to it that folks who need it, had food stamps to spend at Everybody's Good Earth Grocery Store), "but we aren't going to solve basic social inequities with one free store."

"What we must recognize is that we are distributing a finite amount of benefits. That is to say, the yield from the trust. We aren't in the business of distributing loaves and fishes; we can do some good deeds, but we can't perform miracles."

Somehow she convinced the Board, though it wasn't easy, and things have changed a lot at the old hippie grocery. In some ways it's hard to tell it apart from Safeway. Oh, the food is cheaper and there are discounts for the disadvantaged, but it's just as efficiently managed.

If there is a moral to this story, I suppose it's that managers can come up with some pretty looney-tune ideas when they pass out free mushrooms at the meetings; then again, shopping was never so much fun as it was in the early days of the Everybody's Good Earth Grocery Store, and I wonder if everything might not just have worked itself out eventually if we'd just stuck firm to our principles of Peace, Love, and free mushrooms.

Epilogue

This story didn't end in a Pollyanna world where everyone lived happily ever after. In fact, the decision of the Board led to acrimonious bitter splits in the community. The Board was accused of being anti-democratic, of selling out, and there is an element of truth in the accusations. You see, I left something out of this story. I neglected to explain the make-up of the Board. The Board was not elected by the customers; had it been, I'm sure it wouldn't have turned its back on the principle of free groceries.

No, the Board was in part appointed by representatives of the trust fund and in part chosen by the membership of the Little Red Hen Brigade—those hard-working hippies who had built the store and kept it going, who realized that the principle of "to each according to his/her need" couldn't be divided from that of "from each according to his/her ability."

Still, a cynic might see a sell-out by brigade members who traded their support for "pay for groceries" for inclusion along with the disadvantaged among those who could shop at a discount. But perhaps it's inevitable that hard choices beget hard feelings. (And while Board members weren't likely candidates to win popularity contests, it's interesting to note that one member did go on to be elected County Commissioner and State Representative. What that proves I'm not sure—an ability of the electorate to see beyond their narrow self-interest? A short memory? Or, just the basic irrationality of the democratic process?)

Post Script

I trust the reader recognizes this his/her story is broadly fictitious. However, the good Earth Building and Southside Food Co-op were real enough, products of a community of the finest hippies that ever there were. And just so there is no chance of unintentional slander, I should make it clear that even in their most drug-crazed daze the Board of the Food Co-op never attempted to manage the store with the measures I've described.

Drinking the Kool-Aid



Chinook salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery had been a prominent issue for over a decade. The April 2009 North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting proved to be quite contentious with regards to the Bering Sea Chinook salmon bycatch management issue. Over 200 people signed up to testify over multiple days and presented the NPFMC with very touching testimony. The BSAI Pollock

industry groups had developed and presented a novel incentive-based management program that provided individual Pollock trawl vessels incentives to keep their bycatch of Chinook salmon to a minimum at all levels of Chinook abundance. Elements of these incentive plans, eventually called IPAs (Incentive Plan Agreements), combined with in-season rolling hotspot closures, as put forth by the ADF&G leadership at that time, was the final recommended alternative for Amendment 91 to the BSAI Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. The other option, preferred by many Western Alaska coastal community representatives, was a simple 30,000 Chinook hard cap.

During the deliberations on the final vote for the preferred alternative by the NPFMC, the then State Department representative on the NPFMC, Nicole Ricci, made an emotional speech in support of the 30,000 Chinook hard cap option. Realizing that the majority of the Council was about to vote for the IPA alternative which potentially would allow for a higher bycatch harvest amount than 30,000 Chinook salmon, Ms. Ricci used the "Drinking the Kool-Aid" figure of speech in an impassioned statement, insinuating that the Council had drunk the industry-provided Kool-Aid, not unlike the followers of Jim Jones' group in the Jonestown Massacre in 1978. Ms. Ricci just could not comprehend how an individual vessel-based incentive program, with a higher possible cap, could result in annual incidental take of Chinook far lower than a 30,000-cap limit.

At the subsequent Council meeting, Trident Seafoods representative Joe Plesha had acquired an original Kool-Aid smiley face pitcher, filled it with cherry Kool-Aid, and placed it in front of Ms. Ricci's seat at the NPFMC table during one of the Council meeting breaks. And the rest was history.... Since implementation of the Chinook Salmon Amendment 91 IPAs in 2011, the Chinook bycatch amount for the Pollock fishery has averaged under 17,500 Chinook/year.

Contributed by Brent Paine

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THE JOURNAL, MARCH 1982

Fishermen want share system for halibut fishery

by Brad Matsen

A limited access system for the crowded Pacific halibut fishery appears to be on the near horizon, and in February, fishermen met in Seattle to come up with a plan for deciding who gets what.

They settled on a share system, after many hours of discussion, and have written a letter to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council outlining their five point plan. "The below signed organizations request the Council to draft a limited entry program for the halibut fishery based on a share system at the earliest possible time and distribute the plan for public comment and to pursue simultaneously to enact a moratorium for the halibut fishery limiting participants to those who made landings during the 1981 season," said the 12 fishermen's representatives in the letter to Council chairman Clem Tillion.

According to the plan, shares would be based on the average of the annual percentage of landings of halibut that a vessel made for the years 1979, 1980 and 1981. Shares would be freely transferable, and the owner of a permit would be required to be aboard a vessel when his share was being fished. A provision for sickness or disability

of the permit holder will be made. Fishermen also agreed that an upper limit—as yet unspecified—should be set on the number of shares any one person can own "to protect the independent character of the fishery."

Henry Mitchell, who represents the native village fishermen of Western Alaska (halibut Area 4), convinced the group that his people should be exempt from the moratorium to enable them to begin

commercial operations around their communities. That point was also included in the plan: "The system should be such that the Bering Sea village fishermen who do not have a commercial fishery are granted a three year period to enter the halibut fishery. Such a system should recognize that this fishery should be allowed to fish during June and July," the letter reads.

The recommendations to the Council are advisory, rather than binding, and the details of the plan must be worked out before limited entry can be put into place. Congress also must act, since right now the Council does not have the authority to institute limited entry in the halibut fishery. Bills to convey that authority are currently before both the House and the Senate, and the word from Washington, D.C. is that their passage is near.

"We're going to try to get it passed as quickly as we can," said Rod Moore, an aide to Alaska Representative Don Young. Moore said both Congress and the Council will have to consider the legal aspects of conveying shares in the fishery, rather than simply limiting entry to a specific number of boats.

"Legally, there could be problems," said one man who participated in the discussions on the plan. "With limited entry, the people of the State—who own the resource—gave a certain number of fishermen the right to compete for the fish. Under this plan, they're giving them the fish."


Another fisherman, who was plagued by breakdowns and illness during the proposed qualifying years, said he felt unfairly shut out since his share would be so low. "If a guy gets a big share because he happened to fish all those years, he's set for life. For life. Think about that. I'll have to buy a share to do anything but fish halibut incidentally."

When Council chairman Clem Tillion receives the letter, nothing in it will surprise him because he sat in the audience during the group's deliberations. From time to time, Petersburg's Gordon Jensen and Seattle's Bob Alverson, who together presided over the limited entry discussions, asked Tillion for preliminary opinions on the various sections of the plan.

Tillion said the Council would refer the fishermen's proposals to its lawyers and urge passage of the Bill to give them the authority to limit entry to the halibut fishery. "I can't promise you that you'll get everything you want," Tillion told the fishermen. "But we'll do the best we can." □



Bob Alverson (left) of Seattle and Gordon Jensen of Petersburg are co-chairmen of the Commission Conference Board, and also led the discussion of the share system proposed.



A national program for the conservation and management of the fishery resources of the United States is necessary

to prevent overfishing, to rebuild overfished stocks, to insure conservation, to facilitate long-term protection of essential fish habitats, and to realize the full potential of the Nation's fishery resources.

- Magnuson Stevens Act

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Produced by NPMFC under NOAA Award #NA15NMF4410013