



**PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
SUMMARY
September 2, 2009**

The PSMFC Financial Statement and the Summary of the 2008 Annual Business meeting were approved unanimously by the Commission. The Commission moved to reaffirm all of its previous motions and/or resolutions, unless PSMFC rescinded or resolved them at this meeting. These included:

- **Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee**
PSMFC supports the Tri-State Crab Committee process.
- **National Marine Sanctuary Act**
PSMFC supports the rights of individual states, subject to federal sanctuary management within their jurisdiction, to manage all resources and activities within the sanctuary.
- **Mitchell Act**
PSMFC supports full funding of Mitchell Act hatchery facilities, including production facilities, monitoring and evaluation, screening and passage.

The Commission moved to add the following language: In addition, PSMFC supports Congressional efforts to provide \$10 million dedicated to hatchery reform activities in Mitchell Act hatchery operations.

- **States' Jurisdiction**
PSMFC supports using its lobbying efforts to restore the pre-2005 state jurisdiction in the siting of liquefied natural gas or other energy facilities.
- **Pacific Salmon Treaty Funding**
PSMFC recognizes the importance of adequate funding for the Pacific Salmon Treaty process and reconfirms its desire to have its Washington, D.C. representative support, monitor, and report periodically to member states on appropriations necessary to implement the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

- **Ocean Energy**

In order to keep fisheries management agencies informed on meetings, processes and developments in ocean energy issues by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other regulatory agencies, PSMFC will act as an electronic clearinghouse for information provided by the states to help with coordination and information sharing among the states.

The Commission adopted the following new resolutions during the business meeting.

Issue 1. Ocean Policy Task Force.

The PSMFC appreciates that the attention the Administration has placed on the nation's oceans and the recognition of their importance. In order to ensure an effective outcome to development of additional ocean policy, the member states of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) respectfully request that the Ocean Policy Task Force define and utilize a comprehensive public process for developing an ecosystem framework for long-term conservation and use of our resources.

Further, the PSMFC requests that the Administration recognize the jurisdictions of coastal states and regional fisheries management councils and appropriately coordinates and coordinates with coastal states and regional fishery management councils in the development of this framework.

In addition, any ocean policy should be developed and implemented by statute or regulation rather than by Executive Order in order to maximize opportunities for an open and transparent public process.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 2. Ocean Acidification

The member states of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission support new funding for research on ocean acidification and its potential impacts to the coastal and marine ecosystems and fisheries of the West Coast and the North Pacific. We would also encourage the research be extended further north through the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. In addition, the member states encourage collaboration and utilization of West Coast and Alaska universities' expertise and research capabilities.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 3: PCSRF (Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund)

PSMFC recognizes the significant contributions of the PCSRF in promoting salmon recovery and sustainability in Alaska, California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho and in promoting the recovery and sustainability of salmon and steelhead stocks. PSMFC urges NMFS and Congress to provide enhanced PCSRF funding in future budgets

using \$90 million as the minimum. In addition, PSMFC does not support diminishment of PCSRF funding in the NOAA budget to support either current or new legislative or Executive Policy initiatives. PSMFC supports continued state-managed competitive processes to allocate PCSRF funds.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 4. Aquatic Invasive Species

Many Western states have moved beyond awareness to implementation of quagga and zebra mussel control measures. The most effective way to control the current spread requires coordinated state and federal efforts. PSMFC strongly requests that there be mandatory decontamination of watercraft and other equipment at known locations of quagga and zebra mussel infestations, as well as at other infested federal facilities. The PSMFC Commission directs PSMFC staff to work with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Invasive Species Subcommittee and other entities to coordinate interstate implementation of individual state plans and programs. PSMFC encourages the states to adopt a feedback program to determine the efficacy of decontamination efforts and monitoring programs, including PSMFC staff coordination of regionwide monitoring information. In addition, PSMFC should support federal funding for quagga and zebra mussel inspection and detection measures.

Issue 5. Review of Listing Status of Steller Sea Lions

PSMFC encourages NOAA to finish their review of the listing status of the Eastern Pacific Steller sea lions.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 6. Federal Funding for West Coast Trawl Rationalization Program (IFQ)

PSMFC should seek funding in FY 10 that would help states transition to implementation of the West Coast Trawl Rationalization Program (IFQ), including costs of monitoring and enforcement. In consultation with the states, PSMFC should seek enhanced funding for the IFQ transition in FY 11, anticipating that the program's complexity and innovation will require additional financial support for the states and the affected private sectors.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 7. Ocean Energy Projects: Derelict Equipment, Habitat/Fish/Wildlife Monitoring and Restoration

PSMFC actively supports the states' involvement in and representation of states' interests in federal agency renewable energy project development processes.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 8. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit

PSMFC staff should monitor developments regarding the EPA discharge permit issue and if necessary, support lobbying efforts in support of legislation to exempt commercial and recreational fishing vessels from the requirement for federal discharge permits if the data shows that there is no significant impact.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 9. Marine Debris

PSMFC supports increased funding for NOAA's program for recovery of marine debris, including support of community partnerships, recovery of marine debris, marine debris recycling, and marine debris disposal. In addition, PSMFC supports development of a derelict vessel removal program with the understanding that it is funded independent of the marine debris program.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 am.

Sue Aspelund, Alaska Commissioner, welcomed everyone to next year's annual meeting, which will be held in Alyeska, Alaska on August 22, 2010.

In attendance at this meeting, held on September 2, 2009, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Seattle, Washington, were:

Randy Fisher, Executive Director

Alaska	Sue Aspelund, Alaska Department of Fish and Game Bryce Edgmon, Alaska House of Representatives Eric Olson, Public Member
California	LB Boydston, Public Member John McCamman, California Department of Fish and Game
Idaho	Cal Groen, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Joe Stegner, Idaho State Senator
Oregon	Ed Bowles, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Jeff Feldner, Public Member Caran Braby, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington	Phil Anderson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Brian Blake, Washington State Representative Harriet Spanel, Washington State Senator