

DRAFT

Minutes of Forty Fourth Annual Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of the
Canada- United States Groundfish Committee
May 6-7, 2003
Sitka, Alaska

Day 1 Tuesday, May 6, 2003

III. Introduction

Mark Wilkins, AFSC: used to run bottom trawl surveys off west coast so now work for Alaska – GOA and AE resource assessment

Susan Ashcroft: CF&G: manage herring fishery in San Francisco Bay, and groundfish (taking over for Dave Thomas). Longevity, resilience, age and growth.

Lynne Yamanaka DFO PBS: science side, nearshore rockfish stock assessment and

Heather Gilroy, IPHC, program manager for data collection programs.

Renee Rensmeyer, IPHC, Sitka

Delsa Anderl: Age Lab – chair of CARE

Rick Stanley: DFO Rockfish stock assessment and research and supervise database systems

Eric Coonradt: ADF&G, Sitka, Fisheries Information Groundfish

Al McDonald: DFO, Groundfish manager for Pacific Region

Bill Barss from ODFW: supervisor for no-salmon samplers. Shoreside whiting coordinator.

Michael Schirripa: NWFSC, Newport. Stock Assessment Team leader, and leader of age and growth lab – pot survey and stock assessment for sablefish.

Stephen Phillips PSMFS host web site for TSC, publish report, misc. staff activities, manage invasive species project with PSMFS>

Tom Jagielo: WDF: Stock assessment scientist, lingcod, methodologies for using submersibles for non-trawl survey – Chair Pacific Council SSC.

Dave Clausen: NMFS Auke Bay Lab: 25 years on sablefish and rockfish.

Guest:

Bev Richardson: Petersburg ADF&G, sablefish pot surveys and Chatham fishery and surveys

Cleo Brylinsky, Sitka, rockfish and lingcod: database

Bob Piorkowski: ADF&G invasive species, AKFIN program Coordinator.

Tom Brookover: ADF&G Sport Fish Division: Management of sport fisheries throughout SE.

Mike Vaughn: ADF&G Groundfish Biologist, Port Sampling Coordinator

Tory appointed as Secretary

Tom is Chair

Eric ADF&G is host

Report: PSMFC prints the reports, and keep the web site so they can do the report.

IV. Approval of 2002 Report:

Will defer until tomorrow morning

V. Approval of Agenda

VI. Working Group Reports:

A. CARE:

2003 Committee Report from CARE: 2002 was last meeting, so minutes from 2002 are included here. Will set up 2004 meeting setup prior to TSC. 2003 Vice Chair left for non-age reading position. Pat McDonald ODFW has been nominated for that – voting on line soon. 2 Chapters to be added to CARE manual (complete on web site) – 1 chapter on lingcod (started, completed this summer: reviewed by all CARE membership by fall), 1 chapter on Pacific hake (in manual subcommittee, will be reviewed by membership soon. Charter committee has final draft of Charter – will be reviewed in next 3 weeks by full committee. Very extensive in detailing requirements and standards including minutes. 3 exchanges: Dover Sole exchange among the working group, young sablefish ADF&G and DFO, Pacific cod between AFSC and ADF&G Kodiak lab.

Recommendations to CARE from TSC: Care needs guidance: last 2 meetings – what is appropriate number of exchanges for CARE to undertake? Two types: primary: species recommended to us to exchange, secondary: CARE members identify. For primary what is an appropriate number: 12 –250 otoliths. What is necessary? Statistics on CARE report: how detailed should exchanges reports: % agreement (30% acceptable for sablefish, 75% atka mackerel),

Wilkins: one of issues: what should be included in report: last year at TSC made recommendations to CARE: 1) to keep internal statistics in CARE off the website. Tory: would like to see full results of exchange: Delsa would like to see a standardization of these reports. Mark Wilkins: stock assessment authors are the ones that need to be satisfied: rather than trying to satisfy TSC: Tom Jagielo: internal age reading experts: should satisfy yourselves. Mark Wilkins: what does Results column mean? Michael: how does a stock assessment deal with this? Specific details. Rick Stanley agrees with this but doesn't think that the table will answer questions. Not practical to have details in this table. Mark Wilkins: executive summary report might be more practical, have some bottom line (i.e % agreement that is defined to mean the same to everyone). Michael: include bias between readers - % agreement doesn't tell you if one lab is overaging another lab.

Michael and Tom: what is objective is important when defining sample size. Michael: timing is another dimension: deep-water species coming up in survey, might do exchanges right before you do those, rather than sample sizes. Tom Jagielo: not below 30. Rick Stanley: can't answer questions generally, species and study specifically. Delsa: ok. The request should include the sample size if originated from TSC. Rick Stanley, the originator should always request a sample size.

Delsa: is it necessary to incorporate all exchanges between agencies to TSC: criteria issues between agencies: Tom Jagielo – no, don't want to discourage to take early works at that. Tory and Rick: need to see why work is done but not needing all the details in the table as that is available to individual scientists.

Tom emphasized importance of care, stock assessment scientists have benefited greatly.

Mark Wilkins: third recommendation? Delsa: several meetings ago we had a lot of presentations and papers – a concern so none done the last year. Very few CARE members go to WGC or other meetings: it would be nice if we could set aside sometime when these papers could be presented to group: known age sablefish presentation should have been done. TSC wanted the emphasis to stay hands on – not presentations of research – can there be room for both? Tory: what about posters – then a few key presentations – Delsa and Mark: 2 – 4 hours out of 2.5 days. Just not at expense of hands on structure work. Michael Shireppa: standard session at WGC? Rick Stanley: not yet but there may be. CARE meeting folks don't get direct exposure to WGC.

B. Pacific Whiting Working Group

Tom Jagielo has draft statement from Rick Methot: Michael Shireppa now on working group: Feb 2002 joint stock assessment conducted and reviewed (results in report) – survey planning session for 2003 survey on Ricker, allocation issue talks were initiated: variation in distribution that has to do with El Nino so there isn't one correct allocation – but suggests a range within negotiations – tentative agreement: joint technical committee and a scientific review group (replace working group).

Mark Wilkins: can you describe results of tentative agreement? Michael: I'm not the right person to do this – Rick Methot took a new position at a national level with NMFS – Al McDonald: it adds to 100%: Canada 26.x% and States the remainder.

This is a set allocation (no provision to base it on biomass distribution or changes in that). Based on difficult negotiations between government and industry groups between nations. Locally resolved but now getting a legal scrubbing, close to being submitted to ratification process – that may take some time because of US slowdown so provisional application may be necessary in 2004.

TSC does not have to say: Don't let OY exceed 100%!!! We accept full credit for this and encourage them to finalize this.

Tom Jagielo: what is the status of whiting working group – is this still necessary?
Michael thinks absolutely stay involved because now a multinational survey –
Stephen: need committee or point person to keep this on track: Mark Wilkins: a consideration: bilateral assessments and have undergone a joint review between PSARC and STAR- perhaps that fills the role TSC was holding. Michael: lets have some overlap – not really ratified yet. Bill Barss will draft this: Michael for US and Lynne Yamanaka will take care of this for the Canadian group.

C. Pacific Mackerel and Sardine

Susan said that this was being dropped from a priority but does not have an answer: there is a sardine working group that John Hunter does, we were going to drop it but then Tom Barnes: but this tri-national sardine group is going because of TSC prodding. Mark Wilkins: Hunter is going to be retiring. Susan: Dave Thomas said it was an important subject last meeting but since then it has been dropped. This is not true: TSC to Parent Committee: keep this as working group. Susan will call Tom Barnes to see. Tom Barnes called and said the trinational committee was taking over the need for this working group. He said they met last month in La Jolla, Sandy McFarland, Kevin Hill (CA), Walterio Garcia and Tim Vangart (Mexico). CA will take primary role of taking on modeling and Mexico and Canada will share data and otolith exchange to make sure criteria for aging is the same for all nations.

Will draft statement to ourselves to drop sardine working group and task Kevin Hill (or CA person) to provide annual update in TSC report of work on trinational committee.

D. Other working groups?

If there are new working groups we need to establish terms of reference so they can be reviewed so we know why we have them.

Michael: discussion on working group: should we have a sablefish group now that sablefish workshop recommended?

Discussion on minutes having less than full recommendations: At end of meeting looked at list: assignment of sablefish workshop task as a detailed recommendation was inadvertently dropped. We were all negligent in commenting on draft minutes from last year. Mark Wilkins: we may need to redo report or an errata sheet.

Perhaps we need a working group to guide the workshop? Mark Wilkins: last sablefish symposium – there was a steering committee for that symposium. Is there a

specific problem to solve by our working group or is it an overall issues with others. Michael will point out that first sablefish symposium was in 1983, 1993, perhaps time for another one. Agreement in principal but no time. Rick Methot thought that the year between assessments is the logical one. Tory: should be focused on cooperative research between agencies and countries. Mark Wilkins: mentioned in 2001. Stephen Phillips: we need to move this along. Tom Jagielo: form committee. Rick Stanley will be on Canada side, Michael Shireppa, terms of reference: track down status of workshop, viability of holding that in recent time. Tory: want to be sure that Alaska is included because often not in these issues and Clarence is a big one. Mark Wilkins, that is the issue: Objective was to discuss survey planning for sablefish to review methodology and examine the potential for survey coordination. Dave Clausen thinks we should include tagging. Need a statement to advertise this workshop. Focus on real discussion instead of papers. Calibration could be one focus. Rick Stanley: need to have some sharing of tag data and aging is an issue. DFO may not have a person to send to the meeting. Mark Wilkins will draft a recommendation regarding a working group and workshop for sablefish.

Tom Jagielo: move VII Other Topics to tomorrow. Stephen Phillips second.

VII. Review of agency Groundfish Research, Assessment and Management (North to South)

A. Agency Overviews

ADF&G: Eric Coonradt: New Governor: Kevin Duffy Replace Frank Rue as Commissioner. Habitat Division moved to DNR. The Directors are the same. So some consistency. Tom Brookover: Habitat permitting functions: control over habitat development, culverting, stream work for permits – that function went to DNR- 30 positions – 35 absorbed into ADF&G (habitat research) – 20 positions laid off. Bob Piorkowski – 1.5 million dollar cut in Commercial Fisheries budget. Eric: manage black rockfish and lingcod in federal waters, DSR to 140, other groundfish species in state waters.

IPHC: Heather Gilroy – 80th anniversary, State Department left out the International agencies in the budget – IPHC no effect for 2003 (major pit tag projects) – but hopefully added back in 2004, 2005. Doubling port-sampling staff to accommodate PIT tag. Season extended 2 weeks, might extend 1 or 2 months.

NMFS: AFSC: Mark Wilkins: one minor change in RACE: habitat studies established habitat research team and added staff to that (work done as Trawl experiment studies in Bering Sea – extended into Gulf). Dave Clausen: nothing new to report at Auke Bay except the building project is happening: will build at Lena Point at a reduced scale then originally proposed.

Canada: PBS: Lynne Yamanaka: no big changes from last year in science, Max Stocker is no longer PSARC chair – Al Cass is. Al McDonald is head of groundfish

management unit, 2 vacant management positions: halibut and sablefish coordinator, hook and line coordinator: AI: DFO HDQ Pacific Region has moved to a new building in Vancouver. A few vacant positions (AI filling in for these) but moving forward in filling these positions. Mark Saunders transferred to non-groundfish position – now a salmon guy. Wild salmon policy.

NMFS NW: Cpt Barry Fischer Building is new building. New observer program, ambitious bottom trawl survey: combined survey to Mexican border– 30-700 fathoms in 2 passes with 4 commercial vessels. June to November. Second year of sablefish pot survey, hake acoustic survey will increase in frequency. One stock assessment position open now. Habitat program has been moved to Monitoring group out of Ecosystem group.

Washington: Tom Jagielo: Marine Fish Science Section – now in a unit, Jack Tagart is leaving in October. Michelle Robinson's position still vacant (years) – stock assessment opening. Hard time finding qualified stock assessment people.

Oregon: Bill Barss: Over a full year with new head of Marine Resources Program (reduced from region status to program status because no land base) – Tricia Burke - has a team approach to problem solving and work – need to cooperate is new. Nearshore problems take a lot of focus because increase in regulations. Head of Habitat and Research Area retired – Jim Golden left replaced by Dave Fox. Arlene Mirams now heading Habitat in interim. Funding is an issue. Neal Cohen is back to work on groundfish issues at PFMC. State Legislature wants ODFW HDQ to move to Salem from Portland.

California: Susan Ashcroft: Marine Region is intact, still working from an ecosystem based approach but structure has changed – divided into mandate teams – a lot of vacancies have been deleted so more work for each personnel in terms of number of teams. Pacific Council – LB Boydston retired. New Commissioner. Burden for commission has increased significantly because of legislations: nearshore fishery management plan was approved: nearshore restricted access (one in deep, one in shallow). Regional TACs, trap endorsements etc. 10 species in marine life management act have been transferred to State management from Council. Marine Reserves process is ongoing – a lot of constituent involvement meetings. Channel Island Marine Reserve was approved, litigation diverting staff attention. Hiring freeze for 2 more years (already 2) will lose all temporary staff.

PSMFC: Stephen Phillips: IJ stuff: industry sampling proposals (Congressional funding), Dave Colpo moved from Seattle and took AI Diediers position: AKFIN, PACFIN, observers, sealion, Dungeness crab. Lobby Congress for funding for west coast states – 40 million dollars in congress – least amount go to Idaho, California gets the most. PIT tag, coded wire tag program at Bonneville Dam.

B. Multispecies Studies:

ADFG: nothing new

IPHC: Heather: Dave Colpo in charge: processor based electronic fisheries data collection program: ADFG, IPHC, NMFS to replace processor logs, fishtickets, and IFQ swipes. Phase II is technology demonstration RFP. MOU for agencies to move forward.

AFSC: Mark Wilkins: trouble getting socio economic group to contribute to report but they are catching up – 10 pages from them this time. Electronic logbook pilot project for GOA, BSAI: providing the fleet software and the goals etc. Have 30 trawlers in pilot project. REFRM division Resource Ecology and Ecosystem Management Group has a report on Food Web Modeling and Uncertainty in this year's report. Dave Clausen: interesting section on fish behavior out of Newport, Al Stoner.

DFO: Hecate Strait Ecosystem Project: 2nd year of 3 years – detailed in report. Website listed. Rick Stanley: expand swept area biomass, introduction of species at risk – feasibility of expanding area swept – it is feasible, but expensive in number of tows to get any precision. Groundfish Trawl Society will write 350k annually to cover this new survey: 50-400 m, 40% of BC coast, on commercial charter vessels (this is in addition to 400K spent already). Cart before horse because there isn't a plan for existing surveys. Lynne: 3rd observer on the IPHC survey to look at bycatch on a hook-by-hook basis, yelloweye and sablefish sampled.

NWFSC: Jean Rodgers tried to look at foreign catch question – 65-76 was being split up in a variety of ways in assessments. Split it by year and INPFC area as stand to be used in all assessment. POP, shortbelly, widow, bocaccio and splitnose rockfish were top 5 species. Graduate student: Stacy Miller, unassessed species: can we do simple assessment using survey data – comparing her methods to species that are assessed – similar trends? Results could be standardized annual report on trends for these species.

Washington: Small shop, focus on some multispecies issues: PSMFC funding – methods for submersible surveys in trawlable and untrawlable habitats. Paper coming out in fishery bulletin in July that documents work to date – sample size requirements. Can you make an adjustment for bias sampling for trawl surveys? Quantitative video from Harborbranch – methodology development. When are you going to show it to everybody – Channel Islands demo dives for 3 beam quantitative analysis, accounts for roll and pitch of camera and speed of submersible to adjust position – can have geodetic positions of all images – FOV of camera. Wayne Paulson and Gary Greene have been mapping and surveying Puget Sound.

Oregon: new nearshore permit – certain number of boats permitted based on catch history (reduced fleet size) – only one trap boat. Restrictions on black and blue rockfish are being proposed. Hecate bank repeat survey – same three observers last year to compare with 1980's surveys on bank. Hixon, Stein, Barss. Tissot had been techie data guy then but now he is co-PI.

California: Susan: most covered in report. Part of Nearshore Fishery Management Plan is to improve fishery independent data for nearshore habitat and associated fauna. Coop Research and Assessment of Nearshore Ecosystems (CRANE) – goal is to sample 90 sites in California – dive survey 6-20 m and ROV survey deeper. Will use this to monitor marine protected areas. New nearshore reef tagging project in

southern California for multispecies and analysis of old tagging study in northern California – 1 to 7% recovery rate of 11,000 fish tagged. Mortality on rockfish? Puncturing swim bladder on those.

PSMFC: nothing

C. By Species.

1. Pacific Cod:

ADFG: Westward region (Carrie Worton) in conjunction with NMFS (Liz Chilton)– spawn cod in lab from micro otolith research and looking at OTC work. PWS Pacific cod fishery was reduced from 25% of EGOA TAC to 10% of EGOA- allocation issue.

IPHC: passed

AFSC: Alissa Albokaire defining juvenile habitat of Pacific cod in Kodiak. Barotrauma research on Pacific cod going on (Dan Nichols).

DFO: Hecate Strait stock is of concern. West Coast of Vancouver Island, increase in stocks there (concerned but improving so increased bycatch TAC still no directed fishery)

Washington: passed

Oregon: passed

NWFSC: passed

California: passed

2. Nearshore Rockfish

ADF&G: BOF cycle to pass proposals with black rockfish – small area GHL's, closed areas, groundfish and halibut fishermen must retain all black and DSR rockfish. Increase from 9 mt to 42 mt in 2002. Kodiak area more restricted so fleet movement to southeast. Westward region doing a lot of research on black rockfish. Had a statewide meeting and had Farron Wallace, Rick Stanley, and Steve Parker in to talk about potential stock assessments.

Tom Brookover: no sport fishery proposals before BOF this year – harvest in sport fishery are collected by regions. Bag limits 5 pelagic and 5 non-pelagic regions, with more restrictive bag limits in Sitka and Ketchikan.

AFSC: pass

DFO: everything in report, had a big rockfish conservation strategy team of managers, researchers and the publics for the past 2 years to deal with nearshore. Rockfish Conservation Areas – put in for 32 areas, 4 rescinded. Fishing locations as a surrogate for rockfish habitat – quantify how much area closing (1995-2002 logbook data, halibut data, trawl observer data). Expert knowledge phase, to send out maps to fishing officers to add their knowledge then industry groups via advisory process. This is to groundtruth harvest policy. Up to 50% of rockfish habitat closed in Strait of Georgia, 20% on outside. Quotas reduced by 75% because of mortality estimates. Will increase F in open areas since F is zero in closed areas. Tom Jagielo are there economist looking at this: Lynne, no. This basis is assuming that you have one big mixed stock. May surveys are finishing off now, have Delta in Strait of Georgia this summer.

Washington: pass

Oregon: black rockfish pit tagging is being done again this year with a bigger sample size. Nearshore new permit effects nearshore rockfish. Rick Stanley: injuries of black rockfish- recovery rates the same for injured and uninjured fish.

NWFSC: pass

California: Management of new restrictive management program – 10 species included in Restricted Access Permit – goal is that number of permits reduced by 65%

Regional management has divided the coast into 4 different zones for localized fishery planning and policy and resource allocation for commercial and recreation (regional TAC divided based on historic percentages). In 2002 closed nearshore fishery for sport, now have seasonal fishery July – Dec (bag limits of 10 with sub limits within that) and inseason monitoring. Creel surveys dockside and onboard sampling expanded to sport fleet. Commercial is logbooks and weekly QFS system (6 week lag in fishticket data). Sampling of live fish still a problem.

PSMFC: Pass

Meeting ended at 5 pm

Day 2 May 7, 2003
Meeting began at 8:15 AM

Read draft statements. Mike Vaughn will copy these statements.

Deidra Holum is here now, Clarence Strait Survey. Neal Gilbertson, delightful man, is her husband, wrote Little Red Riding Hood.....

3. **Shelf Rockfish:**

ADF&G: revised protocol for classifying rocky habitat so anyone could figure it out. Delta will be here to do work in CSEO and Fairweather Grounds, in conjunction with a longline survey. Tory pushed through a proposal to close slope rockfish. We use logbook data to assess habitat and may back off multibeam data. Lynne uses 1 sq km grid – take mean of start and end locations and take mean and bin it...3 scales of catch...

AFSC: Dave Clausen: dusky rockfish assessment is moving forward, Jay Orr is in final stages of publishing dusky description: dark rockfish and dusky rockfish.

DFO: Rick Stanley, bocaccio is listed as threatened on species of risk, in theory can not kill any bocaccio, requires a recovery plan – DFOs first try at this – at then end the minister decides if recovery strategy is a reasonable thing to do.

Rumor that bocaccio is the only host for one species of tapeworm.

Washington: in report, completed yelloweye rockfish survey with in situ visual technique for assessment purposes. Grid and random sample belt transects, untrawlable area of US/Vancouver area – have density estimates for some species – including yelloweye.

Mark Zimmerman did a study that gridded area based on survey records – classified tows.

Oregon: nothing

California: no recreational fishing outside of 20 fm to protect shelf and slope areas south of Cape Mendocino. Commercial fishing allowed out to 50 fms, in March to 60 fms.

NWFSC: SW report not here. Outrage. Write to Parents...complain. No recommendations. Michael: yelloweye rockfish assessment, bottom line is that target abundance is 40% of unfished biomass, yelloweye is at 24%, fell below target in 1991. Research needs that are terms of reference: for yelloweye: abundance, new survey, total catch, historical catch, stock structure (demographic mixing), CPUE, climate effects on recruitment. Canary rockfish assessment – Cal-Canada, point of contention remains selectivity curve on adults – mortality on older females a question. Biomass is 8% of unfished biomass. Abundance surveys, habitat relationships, expanded assessment region (us/Canada border): recommend joint us/Canada assessment in future, stock recruitment relationship, and dearth of old female canary in data.

There was a general statement in last year's minutes to push for joint stock assessments with bottom trawl surveys binational cooperation. Rick Stanley said yellowtail is binational (they can have canary)...roll forward last year's

recommendation but edit to say we applaud current sharing efforts and encourage continued crucial bi-national coordination.

4. Slope rockfish

ADF&G: in southeast no directed fishing for slopes now.

NWFSC: q lowered on slope survey, which raised the biomass estimate and increased TAC

California: new stock assessments came out yesterday – bocaccio strong 1999 year class, stronger than they thought before, 290 ton rebuilding OY for 2004 (this year it was less than 20). Widow rockfish is just below threshold of being overfished so needs a plan for rebuilding 0-400 tons; widow can be a restraining fishery for yellowtail and whiting.

5. Thornyheads:

6. Sablefish

ADF&G: will due another PIT tag retention study next year, and salt commercial boats. Using pot boat to tag and release fish, see hook avoidance on longline released fish. Sperm whale interaction project funded.

AFSC: 5 fish were recovered last year that were tagged in 1973; all fish were tagged in Chatham Strait and recovered in Chatham. Juvenile sablefish studies, St John Baptist Bay good 1+ area, this year hope to put some archival tags in these juveniles. Sablefish are in moderate and improving condition.

DFO: covered in report

NWFSC: 2002: Pot work, depth distribution of sablefish, evaluation of environmental factors in the assessment of sablefish, 2002 update to 2001 sablefish.

7. Flatfish

ADF&G: pass

AFSC: push by different researchers in RACE division to elevate some species to higher management tier based on studies to estimate length and age at 50% maturity and fecundity etc – basic biological studies for dover sole, rock soles, flathead, arrowtooth, rex, and Alaska plaice

DFO: Jeff Fargo says that future research on Hecate Strait will be covered by Hecate Strait ecosystem project. Al McDonald: Halibut share TAC in recreational sector, ongoing process.

IPHC: Halibut 2003, 5th year of standard stock assessment – 12033 stations, special projects for other agencies – request form similar to observer program – DFO will look at bycatch, 1st year brought in bycatch in Washington and Oregon – tagged the other species for locations so they could be port sampled. Shark bycatch research. 12 vessels hired June 1 – August 30. PIT tag project is still ongoing for independent assessments and mortality rates – will tag 55,000 halibut coastwide, first 3 skates of each set will be tagged, and last 5 will be standard grid. Other projects: PSAT tagging in 24 fish – 12 in SE BC and Alaska, 12 in St

Paul – popped up in January and May. Otolith elementary fingerprint project on 0-1 year olds. Elemental signatures unique to nursery grounds?

Subsistence fishery in Alaska: Council allocates, NMFS implemented regulations May 15 – non-commercial use 30 hooks, 20 fish per day, NMFS has hired someone in AD&G to survey they following year. Rick Stanley: aging bomb dating for rockfish – glycerin may affect results. Steve Campana did a test to look at this – glycerin has no effect. IPHC has otoliths from 1950s on from juvenile surveys.

Washington: nothing

Oregon: selective flatfish trawl is yielding good results.

California: experimental trawling permit, to let flatfish fishermen with low bycatch go out and fish

8. Lingcod

ADF&G: fin ray and otolith exchange within ADF&G agency

Sport fish: research – survey collection, management is stable – minimum size is 35 inches in Central Gulf, now they will reevaluate. In SE prior to 2000 sport fishery managed May – November, 2 per day 4 in possession. In 200 the overall GHL was lowered and sport catches were encompassed in GHL, this had the effect of reducing sport fish harvest by 30% in first year. Bag limit 1 per day 2 in possession, size limit on guided and non-resident, reduced number of fish but saw a much higher poundage – sport fishery focused on halibut and salmon, behavior changed somehow – 15% of anglers retained lingcod – don't know the targeting practice, do think that there was selective behavior to retain larger fish, in 2002: 30-40 inch slot limit to try and get a better male/female distribution to avoid selection of large females – plus 2 month closure in middle of season. So now below allocation. In 2003, will have a 1 bag limit, closure from mid June to mid August, 20-40 inch slot limit for guided and non resident anglers.

AFSC: pass

DFO: genetics study: sample egg masses, 1 female, up to 5 males.

Recreational fishery operating in St of Georgia closed (commercial closed since 1990) – controversial. AI: this closure was implemented in 2002 (report incorrect).

Washington: pass

Oregon: pass

NWFSC: pass

California: update on sport fishing regulations but lingcod are include

After morning break, start on recommendation review

9. Whiting, Pollock, Dogfish

ADF&G: commercial dogfish fishery denied, no liberalization of bag limits.

IPHC: dogfish, sharks, and whales on logbook.

AFSC: Mark Wilkins: Pollock summer echo-integration survey resumed gulf wide this year (first time in 10 or 15 years).

DFO: none AI: hake: in 2002 new domestic allocation plan – 5years, no offshore foreign processors, all shoreside Canadians. Dogfish: implemented seabird avoidance measures for dogfish fishery.

Washington: pass

Oregon: high observation rate for hake shoreside deliveries, and salmon bycatch rate came way down from last year. Expect high Chinook bycatch this year because good salmon returned expected. Mixed signals on hake fishery, variable catch in areas.

NWFSC: continuing assessment on whiting

CA: shoreside whiting EFP will be discontinued next year, fleet will be able to fish without bringing in their whole catch. (Michael Shireppa Stock assessment point of view – this is disappointing because want sablefish length, age and catch in full retention)

12. Mackerel and Sardines

ADF&G: pass

AFSC: pass

DFO: AI: sardine stock has increased and sardine fishery opened (first time in 1000 years), no market so not much production.

Washington: pass

Oregon: pass

NWFSC: surface trawl off Columbia River to look at predators of salmon. 2 occurrences of hake feeding on salmon but might have been net feeding.

California: will add section to final document, removed because thought it was not relevant this year.

13. Other Species

ADF&G: contaminant analysis on long nose skate and sleeper shark, parasite analysis on sleeper shark. IPHC is providing samplers for this too.

AFSC: Dean Courtney – sleeper shark abundance based on longline survey – increase in relative population numbers – biggest increase in the mouth of Shelikof trough.

DFO: Rick Stanley: species at risk problems: a non-government COSWIC panel is the panel that lists these species also requests documents on these species – needing screening device for picking animals for further review (documents)- huge impact to Rick's group in writing documents, supporting others on documents, surveys now need to be geared to non commercial species. AI: sponges, 5 sponge reefs in Hecate Strait in QCS. Voluntary closure of trawl fishery in these areas, 2002 formal regulations to close these areas to trawling and reviewing other fishery impacts. New sponge reef off Frasier River discovered last year. Trawl advisory panel thinks they are ubiquitous.

AFSC: NPFMC: non-commercial species are more and more important in discussion of impacts on ecosystem – aging of non-commercial species, biological studies, Plan Team has included some non-commercial

Oregon: higher catch of skates this year, possibly due to reduced opportunity. Taking 2-4 pound skates. Mark Wilkins: landing a lot of skates in Kodiak lately

NWFSC: Michael S – Josie Thompson is looking at age and growth of longnose skates (vertebrae), Sandy and Jackie at DFO are looking at all skates, and six gill sharks.

d. Other Related Studies

ADF&G: *R/V Ranier* is here mapping Sitka Sound and other areas in SE – multiyear plan on their website. Cleo Brylinsky has contacted them and they are going to provide us with their backscatter data. We need to contract out post-processing of this data so still looking at costs. Will provide us habitat data at a much-reduced cost. **AFSC:** trawl-gate issue at NWFSC there was a panic to standardize all bottom trawl surveys throughout nation – tasked to hold workshop in November for 3 days – there is a final report on standardization requirements for NOAA trawl surveys: 5 major protocols including length measurements of trawl warps, whether or not to use autotrawl systems, operational procedures of obtaining trawl sample etc. National and regional protocols. Rick Stanley finds document very useful. A discussion followed on the results of this workshop and applications. Now echo integration is in same process and fixed gear will follow. Auke Bay lab. Bob Stone used Delta in Aleutians Islands looking at coral “gardens” – dense soft corals. Video clip on website. Funded to look at this area in more detail this year. Evidence of fishing effects by crab pots. Sleeper sharks: no evidence of sea lions in stomach- whale tissues was about 1/3 of the diet by weight, most likely carrion. Satellite tags on sleeper sharks – 12 of them with data – move less than 100 km from release. This is in the report.....

DFO: DFO and Simon Fraser have a coop agreement and fund 2 partial possession at U. Lynne is working with Shawn Cox – genetic tag for rockfish – hook that has been developed in Australia – tip like cheese grater which takes a biopsy from the rockfish (which is not caught) – can do microsatellite DNA fingerprint on this fish – subsample dockside samples to look for matches. Genetics lab is looking for loci to reduce cost of sample (currently 20 per fish) – have 200 hooks this year- will screen research survey samples this year. Rick Stanley working with Nina Barton looking at localized depletion over time from logbook to look at sizes of MPAs. Also looking at a way to combine management and assessment in the same simulation model.

AI: at sea monitoring program. 2002 IPHC did an experiment on this system. Technology has promise to replace on board observers. There are some rockfish species id issues to sort out. Conducting a national review of at-sea monitoring program in an effort to reduce costs. At sea monitoring (partial) for sablefish and hake trawl (last two fisheries previously not covered).

IPHC: graduate student looking at electronic monitoring system for bycatch and tori lines (on 2 survey boats) – Tim Loher genetic study with UW.

Washington: continuing survey method development for in-situ survey. Added new capabilities for 3 beam quantitative measuring system - test in Channel Island this October 2-9.

California: Cowcod ROV survey – designed to establish baseline data inside and outside of reserves in place of hook and line surveys. But too few cowcod to remove. Size composition and density – 139 cowcod observed in 34,000 meters.

NWFSC: highlights: Western Groundfish observer program, at sea hake observer program, bycatch modeling by Jim Hastie, cooperative resource survey (with industry), cooperative aging unit: this year had 6 agers (4 new ones) – new scopes, training went well and got ages for assessment (29,000 otoliths aged). Looked at hake variable growth increment correlation with El Nino, took over hake aging (Delsa trained agers) and there is a documentation of training in document.
Waldo stuff: Where's Waldo? Habitat studies for west coast groundfish, Hecate bank (scale of morphology and relationships of fish density), Delta and ROPOS surveys.
Trawl survey catchability study based on sled video.

VII. Other Topics

A. **IJF Funding:** Stephen Phillips funding concentrated on nearshore rockfish – funded Gregor Cailliet, MLML, Tom Jagielo, and ODFW. In 2003 will not fund CA or OR but will fund Tom's work because it is relevant for Groundfish EIS. Dave Colpo is going to do community earnings/socio-economic work, commercial landings and GIS layer, Dungeness crab work CA, OR, WA – get management agreement for federal waters fishery.

B. **Groundfish Research Plan:** Cyreis brought this up several years ago. Michael S this is still ongoing but is not used very often, no longer hot topic at NWFSC. Utility was to gear up NW center for taking over west coast survey.

** This item should be struck from next year's agenda

C. Age Validation

1. **Updated list of species and techniques:** Delsa refers to CARE website for list and techniques. There is a column for validation (often "none"). Bomb Carbon dating is increasing in popularity. Radiometric validation for Pollock is being done at NMFS. ADF&G radio-validation with MLML on Pacific Cod. Criteria for young POP and shortraker rockfish. Master's thesis done on back calculated age on Pacific cod (somewhat validates aging technique).

2. **Review prioritized list of species:** Delsa thinks that sablefish is the only species on the priority list. Michael S thinks there has been some work on validation of sablefish – what about thornyhead (no work). Delsa: Radiometric aging doesn't give exact ages (old versus young instead of 25 vs 30), but there has been some done on thornyheads. Delsa and Mark Wilkins will track down the list of priority species for age validation for review at next year's meeting.

D. Marine Reserves

TSC noted that in general discussion of TSC there was a lot of mention of research directed at design and implementation of marine reserves. This remains an important topic and is going to become more prevalent as a management tool on the West Coast soon.

ADF&G: has developed a protocol for dealing with proposals for marine protected areas. A committee will be nominated by the Alaska Board of Fisheries to review proposals for MPAs.

Washington: Subcommittee for MPAs at PFMC, Cindy Thompson is the chair of that group.

California: Goal to work MPAs as a network – including monitoring and evaluation.

E. GIS

This item was placed on agenda when there were a lot of data gaps in coverage – and this was to facilitate sharing of information. Lynne: importing charts into GIS has helped a lot with work.

**Remove this item from the agenda

F. Webpages

TSC website: Karen McGill is the mistress of the web for PSMFC. She formats the reports, puts the draft up – should be sure to CC Stephen if you have a request for Karen. There are two cites – a public cite (TSC2) and our working page (TSC).

** Remove this item from the agenda

G. Genetic and Stock Structure

Apparent that there could be genetic databanks. These could be cataloged to facilitate stock structure work. TSC members request that this info be brought to TSC – this was put in some reports this year. Rick Stanley gave Stephen Phillips his list, **ADF&G** has their list in the annual report – PSMFC will keep this master list on their website.

H. WGC

February 9-13, Victoria Delta Oceanside Resort, Sponsored by DFO. May meet through Friday if we have a lot of participation. First call for papers
Mark Gross, University of Toronto is keynote speaker (Chair of COSWIC). New logo. Big sum of money (seed money) available and will use a lot of this for seed money.

VIII E. Other related items: Deidra poetry reading:

Sablefish, sultry smoky sablefish.....

IX. Progress on TSC recommendations

A. From TSC to itself:

- 1. TSC Report Format:** Mark Wilkins passed out a format for standardization of report. Karen would prefer to receive agency reports as PDF files. Should use agenda as report guide and numbering. Mark will email this handout to Tory for submission in minutes. Also landings data are appended to report now (from Will Daspit). TSC approves recommendations for report format.

2. **Genetics list** was compiled by Rick Stanley and handed over to Stephen Phillips for posting on website.

B. TSC to Parent Committee

1. DFO asked to be invited to NMFS trawl meeting, had a one-day workshop thanks to Stephen Phillips and TSC request. Three Canadians met with NWFSC and AFSC about design and objectives issues for trawl survey.
2. sablefish workshop: no progress last year, crafted new statement this year
3. standardized hake statement not necessary, all taken care of.

X. 2003 Recommendations

TSC to Itself

The TSC recommends that the Pacific hake working group, consisting of Michael Shireppa and Lynne Yamanaka, be tasked to track progress towards ratification of the agreement on harvest shares for Pacific hake between Canada and the US. The TSC also directs the Pacific hake working group to provide a progress report at the next annual TSC meeting to summarize ratification efforts.

TSC to itself:

The TSC recommends that a sablefish working group, consisting of Michael Shireppa and Rick Stanley, be formed. Their first task will be to develop terms of reference for the sablefish workshop and circulate this via email to the TSC members for comment prior to submission to the parent committee. The working group should consider survey methods, feasibility of survey calibration, tagging programs, aging techniques, and the exchange of other data when drafting terms of reference.

TSC to itself

The TSC is pleased to recognize that a tri-national committee for Sardine fulfills the role previously held by the Sardine Working Group and therefore, recommends that this working group be discontinued. However, the TSC wishes to continue tracking the activity and progress of the tri-national committee through updates in the annual California report.

TSC to Parent Committee

The TSC applauds the recent progress in negotiations between Canada and the US with regard to the harvest shares of Pacific Hake. We express special appreciation to industry representatives from both nations for their willingness to reach a consensus and establish harvest shares within the adopted coast-wide yield options. The TSC notes that the combined Canadian/US harvest of hake may continue to exceed the recommended coastwide yield until an agreement is ratified. The TSC recommends to the Parent Committee that both parties endorse yield options for 2003 that remain within the coastwide yield.

The TSC urges the Parent Committee to encourage both nations to provide a timely ratification of the agreed upon harvest shares.

TSC to Parent Committee

At the 2000 annual meeting the TSC recognized the variety of surveys being used to assess sablefish stocks and recommended that a workshop be held to discuss sablefish survey methods and the feasibility of survey calibration. The proposed workshop was never arranged, though the need for it continues. The TSC recommends that a working group be formed to develop terms of reference for this workshop. The TSC asks that the parent committee support this endeavor through funding, administrative support, and identification of participants and meeting venue.

TSC to Parent Committee

Many important stocks including yellowtail rockfish, sablefish, canary rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, lingcod and others have transboundary distributions. The TSC notes many collaborative bi-national activities in recent years. These include:

- Yellowtail rockfish and bocaccio assessments
- Development of submersible, ROV and remote sensing survey methodology
- Joint surveys and assessments of hake
- Yellowtail and yelloweye rockfishes genetics studies
- Analysis of Canadian trawl observer data by University of Washington faculty to examine potential value of IVQs in the California to Washington trawl fishery
- C¹⁴ and radiometric ageing of rockfish by Moss Landing Marine Lab
- Joint analysis of the effect of glycerin storage on C¹⁴ aging of groundfish.

Nevertheless, the TSC encourages researchers and managers to expand efforts to exchange data, hold workshops, conduct assessments, and coordinate management of these stocks.

TSC to CARE

Three TSC to CARE recommendations were published in 2002 report care has not yet net to receive these address respond to these recommendations, the plan for CARE to meet before the annual TSC meeting will help address this type of delay in conveying this type of information to TSC.

Appointment of 2003/2004 Chair: Tom Jagielo will continue as Chair next meeting.

XI. Schedule and location of 2003 Meeting. Mark will have AFSC host next meeting, venue to be announced later. Possible dates are May 4 and 5th.