

Minutes of the 46th Annual Meeting
of the
Canada-US Groundfish Committee
(aka “Parent Committee”)

I. Call to Order

Chair Stephen Phillips, PSMFC, the US representative, called the meeting to order at 12:25, Wednesday, May 5, 2004. Ms. Kim West, DFO Canada, represented Canada. Also in attendance: Tom Jagielo (WDFW and 2003-4 TSC Chair), Mark Wilkins (NMFS, AFSC Seattle), Dave Clausen (NMFS, AFSC Auke Bay Lab), Delsa Anderl (NMFS, AFSC Seattle)

II. Mark Wilkins was appointed secretary for the meeting.

III. The agenda, following the format of previous meetings, was approved.

IV. Adoption of May 2003 meeting minutes: The minutes were adopted as presented.

V. Progress on 2003 Recommendations from TSC to Parent Committee

- A. Negotiations regarding harvest shares of Pacific hake: The committee noted that an agreement had been reached, although both nations have yet to ratify it.
Status: Completed.
- B. Sablefish survey methods and calibration: Planning for another International Sablefish Symposium in 2006 is progressing and will include the topic of survey methods.
Status: Progressing nicely.
- C. Continuation of bi-national collaboration and cooperation: The committee noted that scientists from both nations continue to work collaboratively on research and management issues pertinent to transboundary stocks.
Status: Being done.

VI. Progress on 2003 Recommendations from Parent Committee to TSC

None had been made.

VII. Progress on 2003 Recommendations from Parent Committee to Itself

- A. Seeking ways to enhance participation at TSC by various agencies: The committee noted that the PFMFC was represented by Dan Waldeck in 2004, which added a lot of new dimensions to the meeting. Diana Stram (NPFMC) contacted Stephen, sending regrets that she couldn't attend this year, but wishes to receive information about future meetings.
Status: Doing what we can.

VIII. 2004 Recommendations from the TSC to the Parent Committee

- A. The TSC notes that researchers at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) conduct significant age validation work. Given the multinational and multi-agency membership and purpose of CARE, it would be beneficial to have a MLML representative as a regular member of CARE. The TSC requests that the Parent Committee write a letter to Dr. Gregor Cailliet at MLML explaining the history of CARE, the importance of MLML participation, and encourage regular attendance by MLML at the biennial CARE meeting.
ACTION: The Committee will send MLML a letter as described from Al MacDonald and Randy Fisher.
- B. The TSC recommends that the parent committee support and endorse the continued effort towards planning the Third International Sablefish Symposium as discussed at the 2004 TSC meeting. Dr. Michael Schirripa is the working group chair of this effort. A letter of support from the Parent Committee directed to the NWFSC/FRAM Division Chief (Dr. Elizabeth Clarke) could help facilitate this effort.
ACTION: The Committee will send Dr. Clarke a letter as described from Al MacDonald and Randy Fisher.
- C. Re: trawl survey committee: TSC notes the ongoing annual inter-agency meetings, as well as data and information exchange, related to the design, execution, and analysis of bottom trawl surveys. TSC recommends the creation of a trans-boundary bottom trawl survey working group, to include representatives of the NMFS groups at the NWFSC and AFSC, and DFO, as well as any other interested party.
ACTION: The Committee concurs and authorizes the TSC to form this new working group.

IX. 2004 Recommendations Parent Committee to Itself

None made.

X. Other Business

- A. The Parent Committee thanks Mark Wilkins for hosting this year's meeting and Tom Jagielo for chairing said meeting and thanks Mark for recording minutes.
- B. The Parent Committee notes that this is the last meeting that Bill Barss will represent ODF&W, as he will be retiring in the fall. They thank Bill for his many years of attending TSC meetings.

XI. Meeting Location

Rick Stanley will arrange the 2005 meeting, which will be held somewhere in British Columbia May 3-4.

XII. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Wilkins