



Fish News

Feb. 23, 2012

NPFMC Conducts Teleconference Tomorrow on Possible Measures Limiting Chum Bycatch in Bering Sea Pollock Fishery

Tomorrow morning (from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Feb. 24, 2012) analysts with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will answer questions about possible new measures to limit chum salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery. The Council is evaluating new measures to limit bycatch. A teleconference is open to the public. Council analysts will be on the line to provide information and answer questions.

If you plan to ask a question, please RSVP via email (Steve.MacLean@noaa.gov) or call the Council (907-271-2809) with your name, location and question. Due to the possibility for a large number of participants, the RSVP list will have first priority for questions. The Council is asking each participant to limit their question to 2 minutes.

**If you'd like to take part in the teleconference, please call:
(877) 214-2906, code 1214**

A short presentation will be given at the beginning of the call. If you wish to follow the presentation, click on the following link:

<http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/bycatch-controls/BSChumBycatch.html>

For more information, click on the link below:

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/bycatch/ChumOutreachNotice22412.pdf>

Joint Protocol Committee Meeting of BoF and NPFMC scheduled for March 19th

A Joint Protocol Committee of the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BoF) and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will be held on March 19, 2012 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. Issues on the agenda include the status of salmon bycatch, such as Bering Sea Chinook, Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Chinook and Bering Sea chum salmon. Another issue up for discussion is revising the Pacific cod "A" season opening date in the GOA. This will be another opportunity for fishermen to testify in front of both the Board and the Council about changing P.cod season dates. Other topics to be discussed include the status of the GOA Pacific cod reverse parallel jig fishery and the status of GOA halibut bycatch.

For more information, click on the link below:

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/meetings/212JntProtocolAgenda.pdf>



NOAA Seeks Nominations for Appointments to Two IPHC Commissioner Seats

NOAA is soliciting nominations for two individuals to serve as United States Commissioners to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). Two U.S. Commission seats will expire in March 2012.

Established by international convention in 1923, the IPHC oversees research and management of halibut in U.S. and Canadian convention waters.

U.S. representation consists of three Commissioners appointed by the President of the United States to represent the interests of the United States and all of its stakeholders in the Pacific halibut fishery.

The three U.S. Commissioners are described in the Northern Pacific Halibut Act as:

(1) One shall be an official of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
and

(2) Two shall be knowledgeable or experienced concerning the Northern Pacific halibut fishery; of these two, one shall be a resident of Alaska and the other shall be a nonresident of Alaska.

Of the three Commissioners, one shall be a voting member of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

U.S. Commissioners are appointed for a term not to exceed 2 years, but are eligible for reappointment.

Public solicitation for nominations was published in the Federal Register today and can be found at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-02-16/pdf/2012-3697.pdf>

Nominations are due by March 19, 2012.

This action is necessary to ensure that the interests of the United States and its stakeholders in the Pacific halibut fishery are adequately represented. The intended effect of this action is to improve transparency and stakeholder participation in the nomination process.

Nominations for U.S. Commissioners to the IPHC should be made in writing to:

Patrick E. Moran
Office of International Affairs
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East- West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Nominations can also be sent via fax to 301-713-2313 or by email:

Pat.Moran@noaa.gov

For more information, contact Patrick E. Moran, (301) 427-8370.

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