

Central Bering Sea Pollock Workshop on Allowable Harvest Level and Stock Identification June 6-9, 2005 Seattle, Washington USA

Background: At the Ninth Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea held last September in Kushiro, Japan, the Parties agreed on a Scientific and Technical (S&T) Committee Work Plan for 2005. This Plan requires that two workshops be undertaken: 1) a genetics workshop to address research on the composition of pollock stocks in the Bering Sea, and 2) a workshop to identify scientific factors that should be considered in deriving an AHL (Allowable Harvest Level) after the Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) is determined by the S&T Committee. The United States offered to host an AHL workshop in May-June 2005 at the NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center in Seattle, Washington, and suggested that the Parties consider holding a Genetics Workshop at the same time.

Agenda

Day 1 (June 6, 2005):

1. Introductions and Election of Meeting Officials
2. Health, status and trends of the Aleutian Basin pollock stock
3. Present biomass level of the stock
4. Safe exploitation rates on the stock
5. Anticipated exploitation rate of different AHLs on the stock
6. Biological reference biomass levels for the stock; such as minimum biomass, $B_{40\%}$, B_{msy} and optimum biomass

Day 2 (June 7, 2005):

7. Desirable rebuilding schedule of the stock;
8. Effects of different levels of AHL on the rebuilding schedule of the stock;
9. Biological relationships between the Aleutian Basin pollock stock and those in the adjacent waters;
10. Effects of fishing outside the central Bering Sea Convention Area on the status, biomass, and trend of the Aleutian Basin stock; and
11. Other scientific factors that are considered relevant

Day 3 (June 8, 2005, morning session)

12. Recommendations to the Scientific and Technical Committee on Determination of AHL
13. Summary Report of the Workshop

Workshop for Genetic Research on Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Day 3 (June 8, 2005, afternoon session):

1. Introductions and Election of Meeting Officials
2. Review of Current Information and Research

Day 4 (June 9, 2005):

3. Research Planning, Specimen Collection and Sample Exchanges
4. Recommendations to the Scientific and Technical Committee
5. Summary Report of the Workshop

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