

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Charge to Steering Committee:
Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Rationalization
2003 - 226 – FB

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is working towards a plan to “rationalize” the groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. Through the Board of Fisheries and NPFMC’s Joint Protocol Committee, the council has requested the board provide input regarding state waters fisheries under the options identified through the council’s motion at its June 2003 meeting, including observer coverage.

While the council is developing its plan, it is important that the state identify options for the groundfish fisheries in state waters, in order to coordinate full implementation of a rationalized fishery regime in the Gulf. The board shall appoint a committee develop alternative actions for board action concerning structure for state waters rationalized groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska, and make recommendations on new regulations. These recommendations will be submitted to the board process for opportunity for full public comment.

The stakeholder membership to the steering committee will be chosen at the board’s October 2003 work session. The following board members will work with the steering committee: Ed Dersham, Art Nelson, Mel Morris. Staff will include the Executive Director, and the Interjurisdictional Coordinator, and an Assistant Attorney General. It is anticipated that this steering committee will work very closely with staff from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The committee shall report to the full board in February 2004.

The calendar of events is as follows:

OCTOBER 2003

Board GOA Groundfish Rationalization Steering Committee is formed

DECEMBER 2003

Joint BOF/NPFMC Protocol Committee meets and receives updated report from steering committee

Early FEBRUARY 2004

Full Joint BOF/NPFMC meets and receives updated report from steering committee and board

FEBRUARY 2004

GOA Groundfish Rationalization Steering Committee brings recommendation(s) to full board
Board reviews recommendations, and identifies timeframe for promulgating state regulations.

Adopted: _____
Anchorage, Alaska



Ed Dersham, Chair

Vote: 7 – 0