

15th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Pursuant to agreement of the Parties at the 14th Annual Conference of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea, the United States will host the 15th Annual Conference and Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting via electronic means. The proposed process for conducting both meetings is outlined below.

1. Virtual meetings for both the Science and Technical (S&T) Committee and the Annual Conference: The United States proposes using a series of timed e-mails to complete the process.
2. Timing of Meetings:
 - a. Science and Technical Committee Meeting – We propose to utilize the entire month of August 2010 to complete the virtual meeting of the S&T Committee via a sequence of e-mails.
 - b. Annual Conference – We propose that the Annual Conference be completed during 20 September – 1 October 2010 using the same process as for the S&T Committee Meeting.
3. Update of Documents for S&T Committee Meeting

Fishery statistics, research, and enforcement reports will need to be updated. National updates and reports will be emailed to the U.S. Party (Dr. Loh-Lee Low, Low-Lee.Low@noaa.gov) by 23 July 2010. The data and reports will be made available to the Parties through the CBS Pollock Convention website (<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM//CBS/Default.htm>). Late reports will be e-mailed to all Parties and added to the website as they become available.

4. Format and Timing of the S&T Committee Meeting:
 - a. The United States will send out the proposed S&T Committee and Annual Conference agendas 90 days in advance of the Annual Conference. The agendas will be the same as in previous years.
 - b. 23 July 2010 – Parties provide all national data updates, research and enforcement reports to the U.S. Party.
 - c. 2 August 2010 -- The S&T Chair will draft and email to all S&T participants the S&T Committee Draft Report based on data and reports received in 4.b. above. The Draft Report will have questions in key places for the Parties to respond to.

d. 9 August 2010 -- Parties will be asked to return their edited draft reports to the S&T Chair and indicate their concurrence (or not) with respect to recommendations in the Draft Report.

e. 13 August 2010 -- The S&T Chair will compile all edits and responses to questions and provide an updated Draft Report to all participants for final approval.

f. 20 August 2010 -- Participants will reply to the S&T Chair regarding the final S&T Committee Report.

g. 25 August 2010 -- The S&T Chair will finalize and e-mail out the S&T Final Report.

5. Format and Timing of the Annual Conference:

a. 20 September 2010 – A draft Annual Conference Report will be e-mailed by the U.S. Party Chair, James Balsiger, to all Party points of contact for the Annual Conference. The draft Annual Conference Report will be drafted to reflect all reports submitted and the S&T Committee Final Report. The draft report will highlight key issues for the Parties to respond to and vote on.

b. All Parties will edit and respond to the Chair regarding questions in the draft Annual Conference Report. Parties will be invited to provide closing statements on the process.

c. 1 October 2010 – The U.S. Party will incorporate all email responses and send out the re-drafted Annual Conference Report for final comment and adoption. The Chair will finalize the report and e-mail it to the party representatives for final adoption by 1 October 2010. If all do not concur on adopting the report, then a teleconference or another series of e-mails may be required to finalize the report.

Agenda for the Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting

15th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Virtual Meeting hosted by the U.S. Party
August 2010

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Appointment of the Rapporteur (U.S. will undertake this task)
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Discussion of Science Issues
 - 4.1 Update catch and effort statistics
 - 4.2 Review results of trial fishing
 - 4.3 Review results of research cruises
 - 4.4 Review the status of Aleutian Basin pollock stocks
 - 4.5 Factors affecting recovery of the stocks
 - 4.6 The effects of the moratorium and its continuation
 - 4.7 Methodologies to determine Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) and Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)
 - 4.8 Recommendation on AHL
 - 4.9 Research plans
5. Discussion of Enforcement and Management Issues
 - 5.1 Violations of the Convention
 - 5.2 Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing for the following year
6. Other Issues and Recommendations
7. Report to the Annual Conference
8. Closing Remarks

Agenda for the Annual Conference

15th Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Virtual Meeting hosted by the U.S. Party
20 September – 1 October 2010

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Opening Statements of the Delegates
3. Elections (Chair, Vice-Chair, Chair of Scientific & Technical Committee, and Rapporteur)
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Report of the Scientific & Technical Committee
6. Action Items
 - 6.1 Review of scientific data and conservation measures of the Coastal States related to pollock fishing in the Bering Sea
 - 6.2 Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee
 - 6.3 Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level
 - 6.4 Establishment of Individual National Quotas
 - 6.5 Adoption of appropriate conservation and management measures based upon the advice of the Scientific and Technical Committee
 - 6.6 Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing
 - 6.7 Trial Fishing Plans for the following year
 - 6.8 Measures taken to investigate and penalize violations of the Convention
 - 6.9 Consideration of matters related to the conservation and management of living marines resources other than Pollock in the Convention Area
 - 6.10 Meeting observers
7. Future Annual Conferences
 - 7.1 Consideration of virtual meetings.
 - 7.2 16th Annual Conference (virtual meeting)
 - 7.3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
8. Other Issues
9. Closing Statements

Annex III
Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea

Annual Conference Rules of Procedure

Rule 1. Each Party participating in the Annual conference shall designate one representative to act on its behalf at the Conference and shall notify the other Parties promptly of any changes in that designation. Representatives may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers.

Rule 2. The Parties shall elect as Chairperson a nominee of the Party hosting the next Annual conference. The Parties shall elect the Vice-Chairperson if necessary. The Parties shall also elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Committee. A vacancy shall be filled by a nominee of the same Party, subject to the approval of the other Parties.

Rule 3. The Chairperson and, in the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside over the Annual Conference and facilitate the carrying out of its functions.

Rule 4. The Party that hosts the Annual Conference shall distribute to the other Parties and maintain the record of the Conference.

Rule 5. Each Annual Conference shall prepare a preliminary agenda for the next Annual Conference. Each Party shall submit any comments and amendments to the Chairperson at least 90 days before the beginning of the next Annual Conference. The Chairperson shall circulate a draft agenda reflecting comments received not later than 60 days before the beginning of the next Annual Conference. The final agenda shall be approved by the Annual Conference.

Rule 6bis. The Annual Conference may be held in person or remotely via telephone, videoconference or any other similar communication system. The Party that hosts the Annual Conference shall be responsible for making necessary technical arrangements to host the Annual Conference remotely in those years in which it is so held.

Rule 6ter. In exercising its vote on issues of procedure at the Annual Conference pursuant to Article V of the Convention, a Party may either exercise its vote during the Annual Conference, or if a Party will be unable to participate in the Annual Conference that Party may submit its vote to the Chair in advance of the Annual Conference.

Rule 6quat. For the 2010, 2011, and 2012 Annual Conferences, the Parties intend to conduct the Annual Conference via remote communications systems, unless:

- a. The Scientific and Technical Committee reports pollock biomass in the Convention Area at the level needed to trigger the establishment of an AHL, as

determined by the Annex of the Convention, Part 1, Section b-d, in which case the Annual Conference will be in-person as soon as practicable; or

- b. A Party to the Convention requests an in-person meeting during the preceding Annual Conference, in which case that Party shall host the next Annual Conference.

During the 2012 Annual Conference, the Parties will review the effectiveness of conducting meetings via remote communications technology, and decide whether to continue holding the Annual Conference via remote communications technology for an additional three years.

Rule 7. Any proposal to amend the rules of procedure of the Annual Conference or the Scientific and Technical Committee shall be considered by the Parties at the Annual Conference in accordance with Articles III and V of the Convention.

**Annex IV
Scientific and Technical Committee Rules of Procedure**

Rule 1. Each Party shall designate its representatives to the Scientific and Technical Committee, one of whom shall act as the chief representative of the Party.

Rule 2. The Scientific and Technical Committee shall hold meetings in accordance with Article IX of the Convention, allowing sufficient time to prepare its report for presentation to the Annual Conference. The Scientific and Technical Committee meeting may be held inperson or remotely via telephone, videoconference or any other similar communication system. The Party that hosts the Annual Conference shall be responsible for making necessary technical arrangements to host the Scientific and Technical Committee meeting remotely in those years in which it is so held.

Rule 3. Additional meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee may be held as agreed by the representatives to the Committee and approved by the Parties.

Rule 4. The Scientific and Technical Committee shall make a recommendation to the Annual Conference as to the site of the Committee's next annual meeting.

Rule 5. The Chair shall distribute and maintain a record of the annual meeting, and any additional meetings, of the Scientific and Technical Committee. The Chair shall report the results of the Scientific and Technical Committee to the Annual Conference.

Rule 6. Each annual meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee shall prepare a preliminary agenda for the next annual meeting. The Chair shall prepare and circulate a draft agenda reflecting comments and amendments received from the Parties prior to the annual meeting. The final agenda shall be approved by the annual meeting.