



# NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH PACIFIC ANADROMOUS FISH COMMISSION

## Enforcement Planning & Coordinating MEETING

TOKYO, JAPAN, 1-3 MARCH 2000

The representatives discussed lessons learned and stressed the importance of better communication

REPRESENTATIVES FROM Canada, Japan, Russia, and the United States met in Tokyo, Japan in March for the first NPAFC Enforcement Planning and Coordinating Meeting (EPCM). The meeting was proposed and accepted by the NPAFC Committee on Enforcement (ENFO) during the 1999 NPAFC Annual Meeting. Japan hosted the meeting, with arrangements coordinated by the Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ).

The meeting opened with remarks from Captain Vince O'Shea, ENFO Chairman, and Vladimir Fedorenko, Executive Director. The meeting included discussions on enforcement plans and resources for 2000, organizational structure of the agencies primarily responsible for High Seas Driftnet (HSDN) enforcement, points of contact for HSDN cases, and information needs to improve and standardize enforcement practices.

The representatives discussed lessons learned, and stressed the importance of better communication. Points of contact and methods for sharing information were validated.

Meeting participants visited the Tsukiji Market, the largest wholesale fish market in the world. During the visit, marketing experts analyzed the salmon market in Japan. They described a continuing shift away from wild salmon toward farmed salmon. In 1961, 90% of the world salmon production was wild, and 10% was farm produced. Recent Japanese projections for 2000 are 41% wild and 59% farmed. The market is shifting to farmed salmon because of its consistently high quality, reliable supply, and steady price. The year-round supply is stabilized with sources from both the northern and southern hemispheres. The analysts concluded that the wild salmon industry can no longer sit

*continued on page 2*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ENFORCEMENT PLANNING	1
ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES	2
PROFILES	3
RESEARCH PLANNING	4
RUSSIAN SALMON FORECAST	6
NPAFC & PICES	7
PENNOYER'S RETIREMENT	8
UPCOMING EVENTS	8



*Captain Vince O'Shea, ENFO Chairman, addresses the participants at the Enforcement Planning and Coordinating Meeting (NPAFC)*

still, and must market its product for freshness and appearance. The industry must also be more willing to make wild salmon prices competitive with farmed salmon prices.

Meeting participants also observed operations at the fishing port of Choshi, one of the largest fishing ports in Japan, with significant landings in sardine, anchovy, mackerel, skipjack, tuna, and Pacific saury. Choshi occasionally receives salmon that have previously been landed in the northern island of Hokkaido. Officials from the local fishing cooperative gave an overview of operations and fisheries in the region.

The meeting was highlighted by receptions hosted by FAJ and NPAFC, where participants had the opportunity to strengthen relationships and exchange views in an informal and friendly setting.

The productivity of the meeting was exemplified by the successful detection, coordination, and apprehension of the driftnet vessel *Arctic Wind* this May (see article at right). ■

## Seizure of Illegal Salmon Fishing Vessel *Arctic Wind*

ON 1 MAY 2000, a US Coast Guard (USCG) C-130 aircraft from Kodiak, Alaska detected a suspicious vessel approximately 620 miles south of Attu, the westernmost island in the Aleutian chain. Low cloud cover prevented identification of the vessel; however, radar showed what appeared



*Fishing vessel Arctic Wind* (Greg Busch)

to be a 7.4 km net in the vessel's vicinity. The USCG Cutter *Sherman* was diverted from the Bering Sea to investigate.

On 3 May, a USCG C-130 relocated the vessel and three nets ranging in length from 3.76 to 6.27 km. All identifying features of the vessel had been painted over, and the vessel was not flying a flag.

On 7 May, the Cutter *Sherman* arrived on the scene; markings on life rings and life rafts identified the vessel as the *FFV Arctic Wind*, a 200-foot high-seas driftnet vessel registered in Honduras. The vessel did not acknowledge the cutter's radio calls, maneuvered evasively, and fled the area.

On 9 May, the *Sherman* received permission to use warning and disabling fire to stop the vessel. When this information was passed to the *FFV Arctic Wind*, the vessel stopped to allow a USCG team to board. Coast Guard personnel found approximately one metric ton of salmon on board.

On 10 May, the *Sherman* directed the *FFV Arctic Wind* to recover eight nautical miles of abandoned driftnet. Approximately 700 salmon, 64 seabirds, and one porpoise were recovered with the nets.

On 11 May, with permission of the Honduran government, the vessel was seized by the Coast Guard for violations of US Law. The vessel was escorted to Adak, where the master and crew were repatriated. Samples of the salmon catch were flown to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for analysis to determine river of origin. The vessel was then moved by NMFS to Seward, Alaska.

Throughout the entire case, the USCG coordinated closely with its enforcement counterparts from all NPAFC Parties. The activity was conducted in accordance with the enforcement plan developed during the EPCM in March in Tokyo (see article, page 1). Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer, President of the NPAFC, was briefed on the details of this plan and the *Arctic Wind* case at the 17th USCG District Headquarters. ■



*Minoru Morimoto, Deputy Director-General, Fisheries Agency of Japan, receives a token of appreciation on behalf of the NPAFC from Dennis Brock, outgoing ENFO Chairman (NPAFC)*

*Captain Vince O'Shea  
Chief, Planning and Policy, 17th Coast Guard District, USA*

# P C O M M I T T E E C H A I R P E R S O N S

At the 1999 Annual Meeting, NPAFC committees elected chairpersons who will serve until the adjournment of the Ninth Annual Meeting in 2001.

## ENFO Chairman

### Vincent O'Shea, USA

Captain Vince O'Shea has been Chief of Plans and Policy for the 17th Coast Guard District, headquartered in Juneau, Alaska since 1996. He has over 26 years of service with the USCG, including ten years of sea duty, and has commanded two ships, one of which patrolled the Bering Sea.

Prior to his current assignment, Vince served in USCG Headquarters in Washington, DC, where he managed the Coast Guard's fisheries law enforcement program. In that capacity, he served on various US delegations negotiating international fisheries agreements including the

NPAFC, the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea (Donut Hole Treaty), and bilaterals with Canada and the People's Republic of China.

He has served as Chairman of the Enforcement Working Group of the Donut Hole Treaty for four years, developing monitoring and compliance measures for use in the Convention Area. Recently, he was elected Chairman of ENFO.

Since 1996, Vince has served as the District Commander's designee to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, where he advises the Council on fisheries law enforcement and safety issues.

Vince is a native of Long Island, New York, and worked as a commercial fisherman before joining the US Coast Guard.

## CSRS Chairman

### Yukimasa Ishida, Japan

Dr. Yukimasa Ishida worked for 16 years at the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF), Shimizu, Japan, and now works as the Research Coordinator of Oceanography and Resources at the Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute in Kushiro, where the prosperous coastal salmon fishery is conducted.

Yukimasa was born in 1953 in Osaka, Japan. In his boyhood, he loved rearing goldfish. That may be one reason he began his career as a fish biologist. He received his bachelor's degree from the Tokyo University of Fisheries. Then, he studied life history and population dynamics of *Rudarius ercodes* (a kind of filefish) for MS and PhD theses under Professor Shoichi Tanaka at the Ocean Research Institute, University of Tokyo. During his undergraduate study, he met Dr. Kazuya Nagasawa, who had joined NRIFSF. The two scientists together helped lead Japanese salmon research in Japan.

In 1982, when Yukimasa began working at the Salmon Management Section, NRIFSF, the high-seas driftnet salmon fishery was declining but continued under the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission. He mainly studied stock identification using scale analysis to estimate the catch of Japanese chum salmon by the Japanese mothership salmon fishery in the Bering Sea.

Yukimasa has participated in NPAFC meetings since NPAFC's inception in 1993. He still remembers the words of Dr. Leo Margolis, the first Chairman of the CSRS, at the inaugural meeting in Vladivostok, "I will be proud to talk to my grandchildren about my involvement in this historical event." Yukimasa believes that he will do so to his grandchildren. ■



Vincent O'Shea (Greg Busch)



Yukimasa Ishida (Masa-aki Fukuzawa)

# Research Planning & Coordinating MEETING

**THE RESEARCH PLANNING & COORDINATING** Group (RPCG) met on 27–28 March 2000, in La Jolla, California, USA. The meeting was presided over by CSRS chairman, Yukimasa Ishida, and a PICES representative, Pat Livingston, participated as an observer.

## Salmon research cruises planned

The RPCG reviewed salmon research cruise plans for 2000 (see summary table). Since some countries are still in the planning process and awaiting government approval, the plans may change. The RPCG also discussed exchange of scientists among NPAFC Parties on research cruises.

## Sub-Committee & working groups

The Science Sub-Committee reviewed the status of the NPAFC Science Plan. Development of a new plan was postponed until the 2000 Annual Meeting because three of the Parties (Canada, Japan, and Russia) are undergoing major restructuring of their fisheries research and management agencies.

The Working Group on Stock Assessment agreed

to produce a document (similar to 1999) on preliminary 2000 salmon catch statistics, and to revise the document by updating the statistics for the 2001 RPCG meeting. The document will be improved by using a standardized table format.

The Working Group on Salmon Marking shared information on otolith marks that may be applied in brood year 2000 and ways to avoid duplicate marks, scheduled coordination of otolith marks and exchanged mark information, and discussed data structure and items to include in the development of an NPAFC-hosted web page on otolith marking.

The *ad hoc* Working Group on Stock Identification encouraged the Parties to collaborate and prepare genetic (allozyme) database reports on chum, sockeye, and pink salmon, including a list of baseline populations in each database. The group reviewed the status of new genetic technologies, particularly work on standardization of the database that is ongoing in North America. Recent developments in statistical techniques for analyzing genetic data and status of non-genetic databases were briefly discussed. ■



*Research vessel  
Wakatake maru in  
port, Hakodate, Japan  
(Tetsuichi Nomura)*

VESSEL	PERIOD	RESEARCH AREA	OBJECTIVES	GEAR
<b>CANADA</b>				
<i>W. E. Ricker</i>	N/A	west coast of Vancouver Island to southeastern Alaska	ocean distribution, migration growth, and survival of juvenile salmonids	Can Trawl 250 surface rope trawl
N/A	N/A	southern British Columbia waters and off the west coasts of British Columbia and Washington State	climate effect on salmonid resources	Can Trawl 250 surface rope trawl
<b>JAPAN</b>				
<i>Hokusei maru</i>	Jun 1–15 Jun 21–Jul 5 Jul 29–Aug 12	western North Pacific western North Pacific western North Pacific	fish community fish community fish community	gillnet gillnet gillnet
<i>Oshoro maru</i>	Jun 3–Aug 19	central North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Gulf of Alaska	fish community	gillnet, longline, hook-and-line, trawl net
<i>Wakatake maru</i>	Jun 7–Jul 23	central North Pacific and Bering Sea	stock assessment	gillnet, longline
<i>Shoyo maru</i>	Jun 13–26	western North Pacific	fish community	gillnet
<b>RUSSIA</b>				
<i>R/V TINRO</i>	Aug–early Sept	southern Okhotsk Sea and waters off the Kuriles	anadromous salmon distribution abundance, and biological characteristics, and physical environment	pelagic trawl
<i>R/V TINRO</i>	late Oct–early Dec	eastern Okhotsk Sea and waters off western Kamchatka	distribution, abundance, and migration of salmon juveniles	pelagic trawl
middle-tonnage trawler	September	western Bering Sea	abundance of salmon juveniles, especially pink salmon	trawl
<i>R/V Kamshatsky Losos</i>	Jun–July	North Pacific and Bering Sea waters off Kamchatka	in-season stock assessment of anadromous salmon	gillnet
<b>USA</b>				
<i>F/V Great Pacific</i>	Aug 8–19 Aug 20–Sept 3	Gulf of Alaska Dutch Harbor to Bristol Bay and the southeastern Bering Sea	coastal migrations of juvenile salmon and the physical environment of coastal waters used by migrating juveniles	Can Trawl 400/580 surface rope trawl

N/A: Not yet available at the time of press.

*Exploring tidepools at the RPCG meeting in La Jolla, California, March 2000. Trey Walker, Nancy Davis, and Peter Hagen (Shigehiko Uraza)*



# Seasonal forecasts of Pacific Salmon Fisheries in the Russian Far East

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEASONAL fishery forecasts is a new program initiative for Russian scientists in the Far East. Reports for major commercial species include reviews of important fishery information and detailed forecasts of maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and catch per unit effort (CPUE) by region, gear, and vessel type. Typical reviews contain analyses of fish stock conditions, results from previous fishing seasons, methods of stock assessment, forecasts of weather and sea conditions, optimal plans for raw fish processing, market analyses, standard fishery regulations, etc. The Pacific Scientific Research Fisheries Center (TINRO-Center) initiated this program last year for the pink salmon fishery. Five information reports were published by the TINRO-Center. Besides pink salmon, the reports covered the autumn "fat" herring fishery in 1999, the walleye pollock fishery in the Okhotsk Sea (winter and spring) and in the Bering Sea (summer and autumn), and the saury fishery in the Pacific Ocean in 2000.

The fishery forecast report, *Pacific Salmon-2000*, was compiled in accordance with the decision of the Committee of TINRO directors. The report was released in January for use by fisheries venture managers, fishing vessel owners and captains, etc. Diverse information in the review will enhance fishery operations's efficiency, reduce infractions of fishery regulations, and facilitate marketing of fish products.

*Pacific Salmon-2000* contains all final forecasts by species and fishery regions. The forecasted MSY totals 173,000 metric tons, including pink salmon 80%, chum salmon 12.4%, sockeye salmon 4.5%, and coho salmon, chinook salmon, and chars about 3%. Most of the commercial salmon harvests in 2000 will be in western Kamchatka, eastern Sakhalin, and the Kuriles regions, as in even years since the mid 1980s.

The main predictors used in salmon forecasts are the number of adults on the spawning grounds, egg mortality, number of outmigrating smolts (from wild and hatchery stocks), coefficients of adult fish return, numbers of juvenile salmon from trawl surveys at sea, and fish size. Expected fishery season characteristics, presented in standard formats, include total numbers of Pacific salmon, numbers and MSY by far-eastern coastal regions, anadromous run statistics, distribution of fishing effort by region, and potential volume of fish products by three types of processing, etc.

Environmental conditions in summer 2000 are expected to be close to the long-term average. Last winter was characterized by intensification of the seasonal monsoon and higher than average ice cover. The seasonal transition from winter to summer monsoons was ten days later than last year.

This year's Pacific salmon season began with chinook and sockeye fishing in eastern Kamchatka in early June. Pink salmon runs also started in eastern Sakhalin and the Amur River in June. July and August are the months of pink, chum, and sockeye salmon "fleece" (i.e., the most intensive) runs in all major fishery regions. The chum and pink salmon fishery continues in Sakhalin, the Kuriles, and the Amur River in September.

Average conditions are expected for most salmon fishery parameters this year. However, some underestimation of adult salmon returns is possible for western Kamchatka and eastern Sakhalin. Fishermen must be ready for a more intensive run than was forecasted.

Vladimir Radchenko

Pacific Scientific Research Fisheries Center (TINRO-Center)



Salmon spawning (Tom Quinn)

# COOPERATION

NPAFC & PICES

AT THE FIRST NPAFC ANNUAL Meeting in 1993, the member nations agreed that NPAFC and PICES should jointly examine critical issues related to the effects of changes in ocean productivity on Pacific salmon. These issues were among the key scientific questions addressed by the PICES-GLOBEC Climate Change and Carrying Capacity (CCCC) science plan. Since then, NPAFC and PICES have sent representatives to each other's meetings, facilitating timely and necessary exchange of information.

In collaboration with several international fisheries organizations (including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission [IATTC], the International Pacific Halibut Commission [IPHC], the Interim Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species [ISC] and NPAFC), PICES organized a four-day conference, *Beyond El Niño*, to discuss climate variability and marine ecosystem effects (23–26 March 2000, La Jolla, California). This was our first major joint event since signing the 1998 Memorandum of Understanding on scientific cooperation between NPAFC and PICES. The 200 conference participants gained a broad interdisciplinary perspective of the issues surrounding ocean climate variations and of significant research advances.

During the conference, officials from both organizations, including Fran Ulmer, NPAFC President; Hyung-Tack Huh, PICES Chairperson; Vera Alexander, PICES Vice-Chairperson; Pat Livingston, PICES Science Board Chairperson; Yukimasa Ishida, NPAFC CSRS Chairperson, and other executives, met and discussed potential areas of scientific interest that might be shared by the two organizations. Pat Livingston proposed two new areas of potential cooperation:

1) co-organizing a series of workshops, led



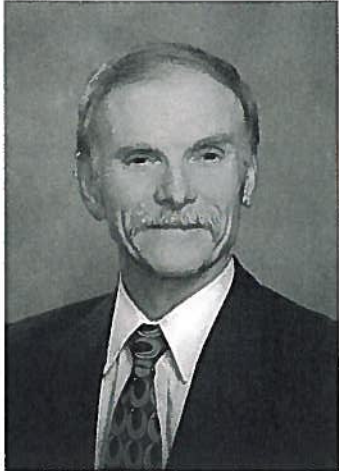
*Beyond El Niño* Conference cosponsors: (left to right) Vladimir Fedorenko (NPAFC), Alexander Bychkov (PICES), Hyung-Tack Huh (PICES), Robin Allen (IATTC), Vera Alexander (PICES), Michael Tillman (ISC), Warren Wooster and Paul Le Blond (Steering Committee Co-Chairs), Bruce Leaman (IPHC) (PICES)

by NPAFC, to examine the relationship between salmon and climate, and 2) collaboration between PICES and other fisheries organizations, including NPAFC, to produce an Ecosystem Status Report for the North Pacific. These proposals were preliminarily discussed by NPAFC scientists at the RPCG meeting (see page 4) and will be fully considered at the next annual meetings of NPAFC and PICES.

The next jointly organized event, the *NPAFC Workshop on Factors Affecting Production of Juvenile Salmon: Comparative Studies on Juvenile Salmon Ecology between the East and West North Pacific Ocean*, is scheduled for 29 October 2000, in Tokyo, Japan. Climate variability and its influence on lower-trophic level production, predator-prey relationships, and growth and behavior of juvenile salmon are important topics that will be discussed at the workshop. For detailed information and workshop registration, visit the NPAFC website (<http://www.npafc.org>) ■

Conference participants  
gained a broad  
interdisciplinary  
perspective of issues  
surrounding ocean  
climate variations and  
of significant research  
advances

# Steve Pennoyer's Retirement



Steve Pennoyer (David Gelotte)

**STEVEN PENNOYER**, administrator for the Alaska Region of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, has retired effective 31 May. He had been a Representative and Head of the US Delegation for the NPAFC since its commencement in 1993. Earlier, Steve had served as a US scientist member to the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) for 21 years, and from 1989 to 1993, as a US Commissioner for the INPFC.

When Steve began his administration of the Alaska region for NOAA Fisheries on January 3, 1989, his challenges began almost immediately. Two months into his federal career, Steve received a phone call informing him of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill in Prince William Sound. He played a key role from cleanup to recovery and the ongoing research and conservation resulting from this disaster.

In his first years at NOAA Fisheries, Steve also met the challenge of transitioning the Alaska groundfish fisheries from a joint venture with foreign participation to a wholly Americanized domestic fishery. Other changes that have contributed to effective management of the fisheries include the largest individual fishing quota system in the world, reduced bycatch programs, increased retention and utilization to eliminate wasteful fishing practices, observer programs, and stock assessment programs.

Prior to his tenure with NOAA Fisheries, Steve was employed for almost 30 years with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, giving him unprecedented experience and additional achievements in managing Alaska's fisheries.

Steve has received many awards. They include the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal in 1996, an outstanding service award from the INPFC in 1992, the American Fisheries Society's Wallace H. Noerenberg Award for Fishery Excellence in 1990, an award as Chief Negotiator for the US Delegation to the Yukon River Salmon Negotiations in 1989, and recognition from the State of Alaska for his role in the negotiations of the Pacific Salmon Treaty with Canada in 1985.

Steve, we all hope your retirement will be as fulfilling and rewarding as the career you made so successful. Enjoy your happiness—it's so well deserved!

## 2000 UPCOMING EVENTS

### Juvenile Salmon Workshop

Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation, Tokyo, Japan  
Detailed information is available on the NPAFC website.  
Registration is required by 15 September 2000.

October 29

### NPAFC 8th Annual Meeting

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo, Japan

Oct 30–Nov 2

## PUBLISHED BY

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The Commission invites you to submit articles and photos or slides on NPAFC related activities for publication in the newsletter.

Masthead photo: Hokkaido University's research vessel *Oshoro maru* leaving port, Juneau, Alaska (Jack Helle)

ISSN 1028-0227

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Visit the NPAFC website: <http://www.npafc.org> for more information on events, publications, scientific documents, and salmon catch statistics.