



NOAA Fisheries

Report on Various Overviews of NOAA Fisheries

Overview & Partnership Discussions

2003 Coastal States/National Marine Fisheries Service

Cooperative Fisheries Program Workshop





NOAA Fisheries

U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

Status: In early February, Admiral Watkins announced that the Commission will be unable to meet the June 20, 2003 date for transmitting the Commission's final Report to the President and to Congress.

NOAA Fisheries leadership have met several with Commission members and staff, and have provided a number of documents and other background information at their request.

The Commission will provide more specific timelines needed for the completion of their work after their next meeting on April 1-3, 2003.





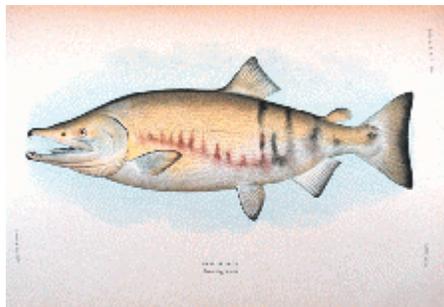
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Pew Oceans Commission

The Pew Commission has issued a series of 7 reports. The latest, on January 14, 2003, addressed managing marine fisheries.

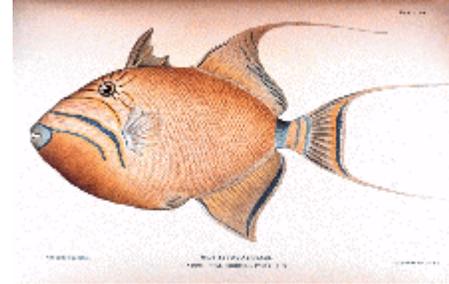
As with the U.S. Commission, NOAA Fisheries leadership and staff have worked with the Pew Commission on a regular basis, at the Commission's request, to provide information.

The Commission is now working on its final recommendations, which is scheduled for release on April 9, 2003 (this schedule may well slip to the summer or fall).





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Pew Oceans Commission

Preliminary indications are that the Commission's recommendations will include establishing:

- A National Ocean Policy Act as a generic management philosophy based on sustainable use, with ecosystem health at the core of the Act's value system;
- Regional Ocean Ecosystem Councils; (Regional Fishery Management Councils would continue to exist but with responsibilities modified as below);
- An independent ocean agency with components as yet to be specified;





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Pew Oceans Commission

- A National Coordinating Council to provide continual interactions with components of other major Departments that are not included in the independent ocean agency;
- Separation of science from allocation in fishery management decisions; and
- To the extent possible, the Regional Councils would not have the responsibility to set Total Allowable Catches (TACs).





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NOAA Fisheries Requirements Report

Initiated at Secretarial direction: “What will it take to fix the problem?”

- Focus on core issues (such as overcapacity).
- Need unequivocal science.

Created a Report:

- Synthesis of NMFS recommendations (e.g., Stock Assessment Improvement Plan, Social Science Plan) & external findings/priorities of NRC, Kammer, NAPA, IG, etc.
- Result: New integrated strategies, actions and programs.
Supported by new infrastructure.
Monitored by new performance measures.



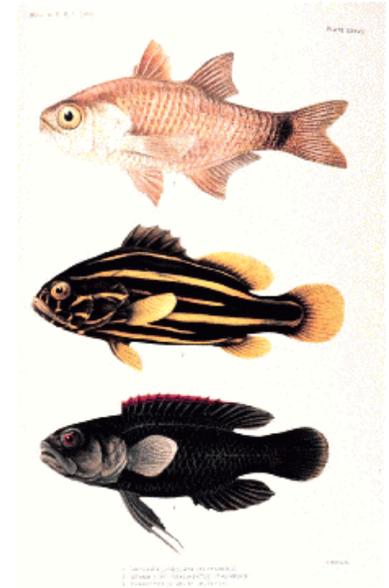


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NOAA Fisheries Requirements Report

Report contains:

- A \$750M long term suite of 5 strategies.
 1. Count fish and fishermen.
(or Improve information base for stewardship)
 2. Determine yields
(or Focus on synthesis and prediction)
 3. Reduce bycatch
 4. Reduce overcapacity and overfishing
 5. Improve infrastructure





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Thank You

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