

Fisheries Council to meet in Anchorage

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet Thursday and Friday, June 23-24 in Anchorage for its eighth plenary session.

The Council will convene with its Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee at 8:30 a.m. in the Hill Building, 6th Avenue and F St., Room 809.

Except for a brief closed session of the Council Thursday afternoon, Council meeting and advisory body sessions are open to the public. The two advisory bodies are scheduled to meet at 1 p.m. Wednesday for advance meeting preparation.

A public hearing has been set for 3:30 p.m. Thursday in room 809 of the Hill Building. Anyone wishing to address the council on fishery matters may do so at that time. A sign-up sheet will be available during the day.

Matters to be covered during the plenary session include an evaluation of the U.S. herring catch in the Bering Sea, reports on the tanner crab fishery in the eastern Bering Sea, endangered species legislation pertaining to small halibut, and others.

Council review of fishery management plans submitted

during the May Council meeting on the Alaska tanner crab fishery and Gulf of Alaska trawl fishery is scheduled and is considered a major topic for council deliberation.

If the council approves the plans, the next step in their implementation will be distribution to the public followed by public hearings to be conducted in various communities throughout the state during August. Each plan is about 300 pages long. Anyone interested in reviewing the plans may now read copies available at the Council office in Anchorage. The public hearing schedule is also an item for discussion during the upcoming session.
