



Halibut-Sablefish Committee Meeting

November 9, 2022

1:30 – 4:30 PM AKT

Bering Room, Alyeska Resort & Virtual

DRAFT MINUTES

2:01pm Meeting Called to Order by Madame Chair, Peggy Parker

Roll Call & Introduction of guests

Members Present:

Madame Chair Parker, Mister Vice Chair Sullivan, Todd Greenwood, John Jensen, Bob Barnett, Kendall Whitney, Jim Hubbard, Jessica Keplinger, Jim Lagucik, Hank Baumgart

Members Absent: None

Quorum was met.

Madame Parker started with introductions and allowed members to bring up any issues they would like to discuss. Items brought up were larger sized Halibut, domestic marketing for Sablefish, future of the stocks

Others Present:

ASMI Program Directors & Staff, ASMI Committee Members, ASMI Program Contractors, Members of Industry, Members of Press, Members of the Public

Approval of Agenda: Baumgart moved to approve, Jensen seconded, none opposed. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from November 10, 2021: Whitney moved to approve, Lagucik seconded, none opposed. Motion passed.

ASMI Antitrust Statement: Madame Chair Parker read the antitrust statement.

Chair Remarks- Madame Chair honored Mark Callahan's service on the Halibut/Sablefish committee, he will be missed.

Vice Chair Remarks- Vice Chair Sullivan echoed these remarks.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Old Business

Sustainability/RFM Update – Susan Marks and Jeff Regnart presented on RFM updates. AFDF is the client

group that represents both Sablefish and Halibut fisheries. RFM is expanding in North America. RFM continues to find ways to work with ASMI to display both logos on marketing materials. ASMI and RFMs collaboration with Holland America was shown as an example.

Keplinger asked for more details on Holland America's certification. Marks clarified that 6 vessels went through the process for getting approved as sustainable by RFM standards. They serve all wild-caught Alaska seafood.

Barnett asked if more cruise lines were interested in getting RFM certification. Marks and Peters said they are hopeful for more collaborations in the future.

Sullivan asked if he had to be an RFM member to sell fish to Holland America. Marks said there are ways to approve smaller fisheries and processors.

Madame Parker asked if there was possibility of expanding to South America. Fina replied there has been discussion, but there is no current plan at the moment.

Technical: Projects update, new research – John Burrows, ASMI Technical Program

Burrows presented on his ongoing Technical projects including working with University of Maine on the quality of Flash Frozen fish.

Burrows updated the committee on testing fish for metals with the NOAA SK Grant. He predicts both Halibut and Sablefish will be included in this study. The study is currently ongoing.

Keplinger offered helping Burrows get fish for the study. The committee is eager to help supply fish. He requires whole fish with the head, he needs fish from almost every region.

Review Issues from last year's meeting. None were brought up.

Responses to Executive Director Questions were reviewed.

Committee Generated Requests to Board/Staff

New Business

Executive Director Questions for the Halibut-Sablefish Committee

Domestic marketing Update on 2022 retail and foodservice promotions.

Potential Issues Update:

Halibut/Sablefish Production in 2023

Sullivan mentioned it has been hard for fisherman with the cut quotas. Hubbard mentioned a predicted 16-18% increase on Sablefish. Keplinger asked if ASMI can promote the growth and abundance of Sablefish.

Size limits on Halibut

The commissioner of IPHC is exploring changing the size limits. There is talk of making the size limit 26in for commercial fishing.

Good of the Order: None

Adjourn

Baumgart motioned to adjourn, Keplinger seconded. None opposed. Motion passed.