

SCOMM

#36:3

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON FISHERIES

January 25, 1983

4:06 p.m.

Members Present: Rep. Herrmann, Chairman
Rep. Bussell
Rep. Goll
Rep. Grussendorf

Members Absent: Rep. McBride
Rep. Zharoff
Rep. Fuller

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Introductory Meeting

WITNESS REGISTER

Geron Bruce
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters
Box 1186
Juneau, Alaska 99802
586-3864

Cass Parsons
Executive Director
United Fishermen of Alaska
197 South Franklin Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
586-2820

Rep. Ron. Wendte
Behrends Room 206
Juneau, Alaska 99811
465-4944
Position Statement: None

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

ACTION NARRATIVE

TAPE#1
Recording
Number 0001

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Herrmann at 4:06 p.m. Members present were; Representatives Herrmann, Bussell, Goll and

Grussendorf. Representatives McBride, Zharoff and Fuller were absent.

Number 0008

Chairman Herrmann brought before the committee a list of priorities for the committee:

- *an overall fisheries development policy

- *long range development policy

- *in addition to addressing bills, the committee should have some direction in mind and work with the Senate Special Committee on Fisheries.

Number 0050

Chairman Herrmann also stated her personal priorities:

- *Protection in management of the fisheries and working closely with the sub-committee on financing, Fish and Game, Natural Resources and Department of Environmental Conservation. Getting more protection in the Togiak Fishery.

- *Docks and harbors.

- *Transportation

- *Funding for the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute continued.

- *Tagging studies done on salmon and herring.

- *Become more familiar on what's going on in the bottom fisheries and become more involved.

- *Problems in fishery loans.

- *Loan deferment because of bad season.

- *Apprenticeship program addressed because of the price of permits for the young people are too high.

Number 0110

The meeting was open for input from other representatives present.

Number 0112

Rep. Bussell commented on the apprenticeship program and recommended the committee take a good look at what the unemployment situation is.

Number 0121

Rep. Grussendorf: Should look at the different gear groups and their problems, also processors and marketing groups and find out where we can be of help to them. Rep Grussendorf's major concern was the salmon quota placed on Southeast Alaska and stated that the committee should have 100% observation on every vessel fishing with the 200 mile limit in order to find out what exactly is out there.

Number 0149

Rep. Goll stated that the committee should hold a public hearing on the Canadian Treaty itself concerning the allocation for king salmon between Canada and United States. Halibut limited entry is a matter coming before the council soon and suggested a representative should be at all deliberations between the different groups to convey the sentiments of the State and report back on all actions by the Federal Government and the International Halibut Commission. The Committee should also be responsible for looking at the activities of the Department of Fish and Game, affecting the fisheries. Issues - including the protection and rehabilitation of streams and that the committee should have some input.

Number 0210

Rep. Grussendorf stated when the people from the Governor's task force doing the independent studies on the Canadian Treaty are finished, they should present a summary to the committee.

Number 0225

Chairman Herrmann stated that the 59th Annual Meeting of the International Pacific Halibut Commission will be held in Vancouver, B.C., on February 1 -3, 1983. There will be independent representatives from around the state present at this meeting.

Number 0243

Discussion on who to attend the meeting.

Number 0258

Chairman Herrmann stated that there will more research on the meeting and members will be informed as to who will attend the meeting. Also, requested all members to put their priorities in writing and turn them in to her.

Number 0.85

Rep. Goll: Should solicit some concern of fisherman on how stock will be managed; and

the areas of foreign interception; and the state's policy as to the international allocation agreements made by the Federal Government and policing the foreign fleets within the 200 mile limit are all subjects for review.

Number 0308

Rep. Wendte: The committee should schedule hearings on the Canadian Treaty soon over the Teleconference Network. The public should have input in making the decision. Suggested that the committee prepare a resolution addressing its position on opposing the treaty and conduct a review based on that document. Urges the hearings to be conducted as soon as possible.

Number 0400

Discussion on the time limit for a response or decision on the treaty.

Number 0430

Chairman Herrmann proposed that the committee start the teleconferences on the subject of the treaty.

Number 0440

Geron Bruce testified on the treaty which affects the drift gillnetters in the Southeast waters. Four out of five fishing areas are directly affected by proposals in the treaty and that they opposed the treaty. Also concerned on how the Task Force will operate; the management of streams and migratory patterns and would like to have some input.

Number 0500

Discussion with Geron Bruce.

Number 0517

Cass Parson spoke on the United Fishermen of Alaska's priorities: Concerned about the treaty; marketing information; wholesale prices and report done more specifically; Department of Fish and Game's budget; more money for research on stocks; interceptions on high seas from squid fisheries; loan programs and policy task force and would like some information on these concerns.

Number 0570

Discussion with Cass Parson.

Number 0585

Chairman Herrmann introduced her staff; Melanie Ludvick of Sand Point; Committee Secretary and Mel Munson Jr. of Anchorage; Professional Assistant to the Committee and further announced that Leonard Steinberg of House Research Agency will be attending all

committee meetings.

Number 0590

Adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON FISHERIES

January 27, 1983

4:02 p.m.

Members Present: Rep. Herrmann, Chairman
Rep. Fuller
Rep. McBride
Rep. Zharoff
Rep. Grussendorf
Rep. Bussell
Rep. Goll

Members Absent: None

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Informational Meeting

WITNESS REGISTER

Ed Wojek
Alaska Trollers Association
205 North Franklin Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
586-9400

Jim Cantor
Lower Yukon/Kuskokwim Aquaculture
Association
P. O. Box 634
Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3492
Position Statement: None

PREVIOUS ACTION

Informational Meeting

ACTION NARRATIVE

TAPE#2
Recording
Number 0001

Meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

Number 0015

Chairman Herrmann opened it up to the members who were not present at the January 25, 1983, meeting to voice their priorities.

Rep. McBride: Docks and harbors, marketing of fish, tagging studies and was satisfied with the Chairman's list.

Rep. Fuller: Stated that his interests are statewide, not just his district. Docks and harbors , interested in onshore processing that would get Alaskans involved.

Number 0080

Rep. Zharoff: Loan programs, halibut fisheries should have input from around the state, regulations relating to seafood processors, the botulism problem last year and the effects it could have on the upcoming fisheries, foreign intervention in the 200 mile limit and the utilization of the species by American fishermen and preferably the Alaska fishermen.

Number 0140

Chairman Herrmann requested that the committee members put a list of their priorities in writing to give to her.

Number 0150

Ed Wojek: The matters of interest and concerns of the trollers are:

1) Matters with the Canadian/U.S. treaty which directly affects the trollers in Southeast. There is direct impact that the committee can have on the matters through resolutions and the committee's ability to speak directly to the Governor.

2) Budgetary items that affect the Department of Fish and Game.

3) Habitat and habitat protection for future concerns.

Number 0182

Ed Wojek: Asked the committee to please speed up the process in getting the Teleconference hearing on the treaty scheduled soon.

Number 0209

Ed Wojek: Presented a position paper to the committee members on the treaty.

Number 0220

Discussion on the dates set for the Teleconferences and it was stated that they were scheduled too late. The committee moved to schedule it earlier.

Number 0252

Ed Wojek: Elaborated on the problems with the present treaty. In summary, the final

treaty provision relating to chinook management create a situation that jeopardized the continued existence of Alaska's troll fishery. This same agreement acknowledges and sanctions Canada's 10-year program of overfishing which had devastated natural chinook runs coast-wide. The Alaska Trollers Association cannot accept a treaty that raises these inequities to the level of international law. We urge you to help stop its ratification in the U. S. Senate.

Number 0540

Rep. Goli: Discussion with Mr. Wojek. Make a draft to change the treaty that would result in being beneficial and adaptable to the State of Alaska.

Tape #3 Number 0001

Discussion with Mr. Wojek on the U.S./Canadian treaty.

Number 0240

Some of the other concerns of the Alaska Trolling Association's are: Budgetary items that affect the Department of Fish and Game. They want increased funding for research and tagging efforts on coho and chinook salmon.

Number 0320

Discussion on the Log Book Program.

Number 0335

Mr. Wojek stated that the Fisheries Rehabilitation and Enhancement Division is the only division that's able to help the fishermen here with building the stocks of chinook salmon and enhancing the streams.

Number 0358

The third area addressed by Mr. Wojek was; maintenance of our habitat that the salmon stocks depend on. We have the time and ability now to plan for the orderly development of our resources; logging, mining and fishing.

Number 0380

The end of Mr. Wojek's testimony.
Announcement of the new schedule for the Teleconference hearings on the U.S./Canadian Treaty:

February 8, 1983 at 2:45 - 4:45 (PST)

February 14, 1983 at 5:00 - 6:45 (PST)

Number 0390

Jim Cantor: Salmon populations face increasing pressure due to growing demand caused by rising populations and the more active use of commercial permits; greater

efficiency among fisherman; continued disruption of habitat (oil and gas leasing, etc.,) and Canadian claims to Yukon River salmon.

Number 0450

End of Mr. Cantor's testimony.

Number 0452

ANNOUNCEMENT - There will be no committee meetings next week. Representatives Herrmann and Fuller will be attending the International Pacific Halibut Commission meetings in Vancouver, B.C.

Number 0455

Meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.