NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Joint Protocol Committee - 10/16/26
October 16, 2026

Joint Protocol Committee

October 16, 2026, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm AKT.

In-person: Anchorage, Alaska - Marriott Anchorage Downtown - 2nd floor Kenai/Denali Rooms

Listen-only online: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89752081977

Purpose of Meeting:

The Joint Protocol Committee is convening at the request of the Board of Fisheries, in order to provide for information exchange and education about the impacts of bottom contact from trawl fisheries, the Council's current management requirements, and measures under consideration. This information is intended to inform any future consideration of proposals that may come before the Board. **The Joint Protocol Committee does not generate proposals, and does not take action on proposals under consideration by the Board of Fisheries or the Council.**

Public Comment: The Committee will review all written public comments submitted prior to the meeting. The comment portal will open on September 8th, and the deadline to submit written comments is **Friday, October 9th, at 5:00pm Alaska time.** All comments will become visible at the close of the comment period.

The Committee will also hear public testimony from in-person attendees (no remote testimony). Please signup on the morning of the meeting (October 16th). The Chair will determine the exact time limit per testifier based on time available and how many people wish to testify, but ideally aiming for 3 minutes per testifier.

Administrative

Please submit any written comments here, between Sep 8th and Oct 9th.

Reference Documents

Attachments:
- NPFMC-Board of Fish Joint Protocol Agreement
- Joint Protocol Meeting Presentations (YouTube Link)

Introductions and Welcome

Introductions

Purpose of Meeting, Agenda

Attachments:
- JPC Agenda_10.16.26

Staff and Expert Presentations

Presentations

Attachments:
- JPC presentation_Part 1, 2 and 3
- JPC presentation_ Part 3 continued_FEM
- JPC presentation_ Part 4 GII
- JPC presentation_ Part 4 continued_Trident
- JPC presentation_Part 5

Part 1 - Pelagic and non-pelagic trawl fisheries operating in state waters in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska

Part 2 - Federal fishery management measures in effect to minimize adverse impacts of trawl fisheries (e.g., closed areas, and gear modifications including salmon excluders)

Attachments:
- North Pacific Conservation Area Summaries
- Chum salmon EFP presentation to NPFMC_June 2026

Part 3 - Statutory requirements for assessing the impacts of Council-managed groundfish fisheries on habitat, and tools the Council uses

Attachments:
- 2023 EFH Review Final Summary Report
- Current EFH 5-year Review Workplan_Dec 2025
- Dec 2025 Council motion EFH workplan
- EFH Descriptions & Maps Workplan_Feb 2026
- EFH Fishing Effects Workplan_Feb 2026
- Infographic - Fishing Effects Model (FEM)_DRAFT 10.14.26
- 2022 FEM discussion paper
- 2022 EFH Fishing Effects Evaluation

Part 4 - Ongoing research on understanding pelagic trawl gear impacts (Gear Innovation Initiative), operationality of bottom contact sensors, and other innovations

Attachments:
- Pelagic trawl gear research summaries

Part 5 - Council actions underway related to habitat (EFH 5-year review) and bottom contact (pelagic trawl gear performance standard)

Attachments:
- Pelagic trawl gear innovations discussion paper_June 2025
- June 2026 NPFMC motion_pelagic trawl performance standard
- June 2026 NPFMC motion_Tanner crab protections
- June 2026 NPFMC motion_Voluntary closures for crab

Public Testimony

On Oct 16th, sign up here to give in-person public testimony.

Discussions

Committee Member Discussions