

Pribilof Island Habitat Conservation Area Workgroup  
July 30, 2004 11:00AM teleconference  
Agenda and meeting summary

Agenda:

1. What does workgroup want to present to entire PIC group at August meeting
2. Review of Randy's draft letter to NMFS, re:

Present: Evie Witten, Lee Little, Randy Hagenstein, Paul MacGregor, Art Nelson, Bruce Robson, Claire LeClair.

**Action items highlighted in yellow**

Summary:

1. What to present to PIC in August

- Randy's draft letter to NMFS is preceded by a memo which recommends to the whole PIC group that the PIC request NMFS assistance in evaluating the efficacy of the PIHCA;
- Suggestion that the discussion about the letter to NMFS about the PIHCA at the August meeting will be a good time to also bring up the need to coordinate data requests made by the PIC as much as possible;
- Suggestion that Bruce, Mandy, Jack, Karl and any other non-government scientists get together at August meeting to put together an "omnibus" data request;
- If all the hired scientists use the same data at the same resolution, comparisons will be more meaningful.

2. Review of draft letter

- Letter should just tell NMFS that the PIC has a working group dedicated to investigating how effective the PIHCA has been and that the PIC would like NMFS to cooperate and assist the PIC in this effort; drop all the questions listed in paragraph two which seem to indicate that the fisheries are responsible for population declines;
- Didn't think the letter pointed to fisheries as responsible for population declines; don't want to ask NMFS a yes/no question but need to ask the follow-up questions;
- Need to ask follow-up questions, but later and all of them, not just the ones in the draft letter;
- Suggestion to ask NMFS to help define the questions to ask; for e.g., population trends are not the best indicator to evaluate the efficacy of the HCA, but data on specific rookeries or on specific middle shelf species may be more informative to the question;
- Letter should just ask NMFS to help us look at the PIHCA;
- Second paragraph, with the list of questions, should remain in order to give NMFS some direction;
- But PIC has not decided what direction to go in; industry asked for monitoring when the HCA was established;
- Suggestion to change second paragraph to say that many questions will arise from this inquiry, but do no specific speculating then add that Bruce, Mandy and Karl will be working to address this question and will need cooperation from NMFS to access data they need;

- Letter should stress that PIC does not want to hamper NMFS in their work, that besides their data PIC also wants to tap NMFS for their expertise;
- Suggestion to add Chris Oliver and the NMML director to the cc list;
- Randy will incorporate these comments in the next draft.