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October 2, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members

FROM: Lynn Palensky

SUBJECT: International Year of the Salmon – Announcement of Workshop

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Lynn Palensky

Summary: Staff will brief the Council on the upcoming International Year of the Salmon (IYS) events and discuss possible opportunities for Council involvement.

Relevance: The IYS is a multi-year outreach and research initiative of the North Pacific Anadromous Fisheries Commission (NPAFC) and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO). The IYS convenes salmon experts from across the globe to present on and discuss emerging scientific topics related to salmonids, with an emphasis on survival in the marine environment. The IYS has six primary themes that relate to many of our Program strategies: (1) status of salmon; (2) salmon in a changing “salmosphere”; (3) new frontiers; (4) human dimension; (5) information systems; and (6) outreach and communication. The IYS aims to encourage research and leave a legacy of knowledge, information systems, research/analytical tools, and a new generation of scientists better equipped to provide timely advice to inform rational management of salmon. Council involvement with this initiative and participation in workshops may help advance our understanding of salmon science and how to improve strategies and measures in the Program.

Workplan: These efforts relate to Fish and Wildlife Program measures under the Public Engagement, Plume and Nearshore Ocean, and Climate Change strategies.

Background: The Secretariats of both the Pacific and Atlantic commissions are responsible for management of the IYS initiative and the organizing committee. The 27th annual NPAFC meeting and the 2nd IYS three-day science workshop is being held in Portland in May 2019. Topic sessions include: 1) current status of salmon and their environments; 2) salmon in changing ocean conditions; and 3) new technologies/integrated information systems for salmon research and management.

The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) is an inter-governmental organization established by the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean, which took effect in 1993. The objective of the Commission is to promote the conservation of anadromous stocks (Pacific salmon and steelhead trout) in the Convention Area which includes the international waters of the North Pacific Ocean and its adjacent seas north of 33° North (generally north of L.A.) beyond the 200-mile zone of the coastal states. The NPAFC member countries include Canada, Japan, Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States.

More Info:

International Year of the Salmon background [brochure](#) (Attachment)

International Year of the Salmon Opening [Announcement](#) (Oct 11, 2018 Vancouver BC)

Second NPAFC-IYS Workshop - **Salmon Ocean Ecology in a Changing Climate:**
May 18-20, 2019, Portland, OR. First [Announcement and Call](#) for Papers



IYS BACKGROUNDER

The International Year of the Salmon (IYS) is a five-year outreach and research initiative of the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO). Countries across the Northern Hemisphere are banding together in a new partnership of government, Indigenous Peoples, academia, NGOs, and industry to drive an intense burst of outreach and research that will establish the conditions necessary for the resilience of salmon and people in a rapidly changing world. The focal year of the IYS will be 2019, but events have begun in 2018 and will continue through to 2022.

IYS VISION

To ensure salmon and people are resilient in a rapidly changing world

While salmon have a high degree of resilience built into their genetic make-up, increasingly extreme and highly uncertain climate conditions, coupled with continuous human activity, threaten their survival. The epic migrations of salmon through rivers and oceans take them across borders, languages, cultures and economies. Saving these beautiful and influential creatures requires a uniquely large-scale solution. To support the resilience of both salmon and the people who depend on them, we need to collectively share and generate new knowledge, make timely decisions, and engage our communities wherever salmon swim.

Resilience is the ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.

CONNECTION

Today, hundreds of organizations across the Northern Hemisphere are working on salmon issues. Yet, despite this broad and deep source of strength, we remain poorly connected and fail to take full advantage of our collective capacity to address shared goals. The IYS will bring partners together across the Northern Hemisphere to plan and implement a series of outreach and research activities that by 2022, will determine the conditions necessary to build resilience for salmon and people. **Steering Committees** in both basins bring partners together to support planning, implementation and fund raising while a **Coordinating Committee** ensures coordination of hemispheric scale activities. Staff in the NPAFC and NASCO Secretariats are responsible for the management of the IYS using funding from the member countries of the lead Organizations.

KNOWLEDGE

The IYS will establish partnerships and investments to kick start research and public action in Europe, North America, and Asia to give salmon a better chance to thrive. Establishing the conditions necessary for resilience of salmon and people by the end of 2022 is a bold objective. Examples of Signature Projects under development include: a series of high seas cruises across the entire North Pacific to address gaps in knowledge of salmon in the open ocean, a “Likely Suspects” Program to help us identify the key factors affecting the survival of salmon from freshwater to the high seas and back, the application of new technologies such as telemetry, genomics, and microchemistry to unlock the mysteries of salmon

migration and survival, high-tech solutions to efficiently bring salmon communities together, and design of modern management systems for an uncertain future.

IYS OUTCOMES

Status of salmon	The present status of salmon and their environments is understood.
Salmon in a changing salmosphere	The effects of natural environmental variability and human factors affecting salmon distribution and abundance are understood and quantified.
New frontiers	New technologies and analytical methods are advanced and applied to salmon research. Research is carried out to fill gaps in poorly studied regions of the salmosphere.
Human dimensions	Communities, Indigenous Peoples, youth, harvesters, scientists and resource managers across the Northern Hemisphere share knowledge and collaborate in the development of new tools and approaches to restoring, managing and sustaining salmon.
Information systems	Freely available information systems contain historic and current data about salmon and their environment.
Salmon outreach and communication	People understand the value of healthy salmon populations and engage to ensure salmon and their varied habitats are conserved and restored against the backdrop of increasing environmental change.

ACTION

The impact that humans have on salmon are now at crucial levels—but it's not too late. Anyone who cares about the survival of salmon can get involved in the IYS. Experts are needed—but it will take the passion and commitment of people from all walks of life to make the difference. Even the smallest contribution can be part of a cumulative change. We'll let you know what you can do to join like-minded people from across the Northern Hemisphere and help salmon.

Please stay tuned for the IYS website, where information on IYS projects and events can be found and uploaded (yearofthesalmon.org). Until the website is launched, more information can be found here:

Contacts in the North Pacific

Mark Saunders (IYS Director – North Pacific Region):

msaunders@yearofthesalmon.org

Madeline Young (IYS Coordinator – North Pacific

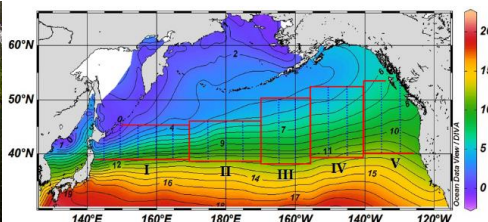
Region): myoung@yearofthesalmon.org

Websites

North Pacific (NPAFC):

www.npafc.org/new/science_IYS.html

North Atlantic (NASCO): www.nasco.int/iys.html



Images from left to right: Father and daughter observing sockeye (Jonny Armstrong); North Pacific High Seas Expedition Cruise Plan; Russian Vessel PROFESSOR KAGANOVSKY.

North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission



Purpose:

To promote the conservation of anadromous stocks in Convention Area.

Members:

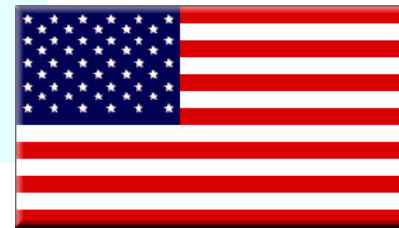
Canada, Japan, Korea, Russia, and United States

Anadromous Stocks:

Chum, Pink, Coho, Sockeye, Chinook, Cherry, Steelhead

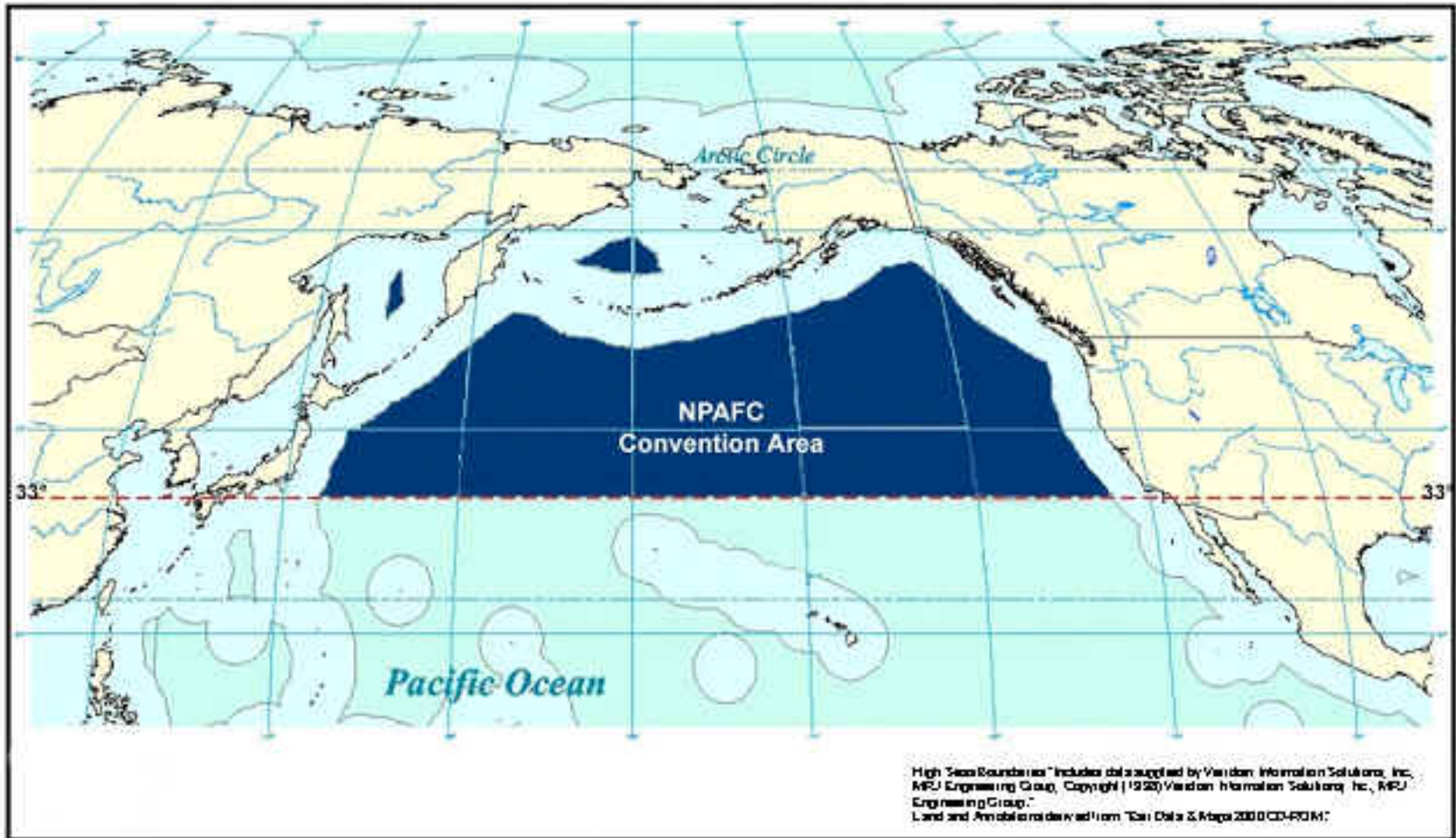
Area:

North Pacific and adjacent seas, north of 33 degrees and beyond 200-miles coastal zones



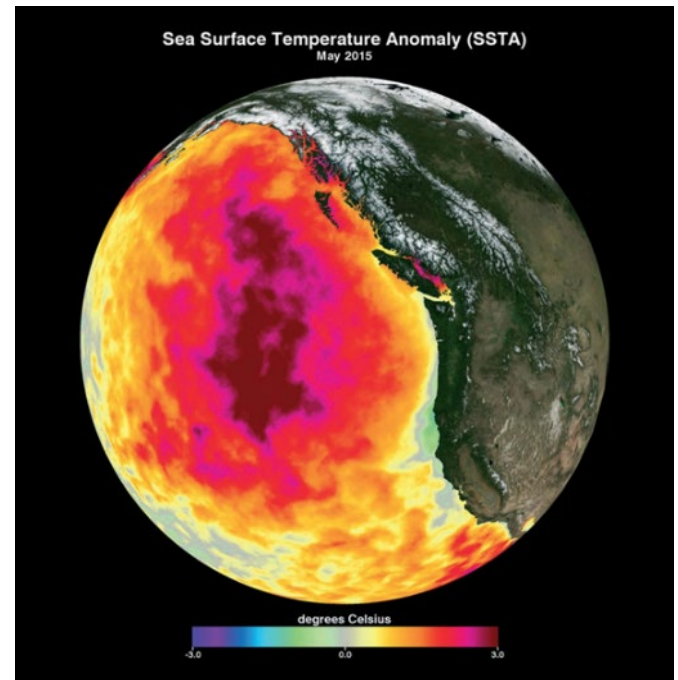
Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean

signed February 1992; effective February 1993.



VISION: SALMON AND PEOPLE ARE RESILIENT IN A CHANGING WORLD

- The IYS is a hemispheric-wide partnership (a partnership across the “salmosphere”)
- Intense burst of outreach and research IYS will fill knowledge gaps and catalyze new ways to generate and share knowledge
- IYS hopes to inspire a legacy of a well-informed community of decision makers to establish the conditions necessary for the resilience of salmon and people in an uncertain future



IYS GOVERNANCE



TIMELINE



