

**Attachment 1 : Vv SUBCOMMITTEE: POST-HARVEST TREATMENT
WORKGROUP REPORT AMENDED AT THE 1/17/02 Vv
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting held January 16, 2002. Attendees were Kirk Wiles, Don Kraemer, David Heil, and Lori Howell. The work group discussed each item on the preliminary list that was developed during a conference call on January 14, 2002. Recommendations are indicated following each item.

I. INCENTIVES

- A. **Classification** of waters specifically for harvest for PHT treatment. It was recognized that this might become an important incentive in the event that illness reduction goals are not met and waters are closed. It was also recognized that this item would require substantial work to be a viable option. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation and also suggested that a separate committee be formed to work on this issue. It was also suggested that this committee look at areas that are closed for other reasons, such as contamination caused by wildlife and see if such an area could be opened to specific PHTs if the process has been validated to reduce the risk from the contamination.**
- B. **Dockside Icing, Vessel icing/cooling.** Executive Office will provide existing studies for review. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- C. **PHT-Related illnesses.** It has been recommended that if a Vv illness is associated with PHT'd product that the illness should not be counted in calculating the illness reduction. The work group recommends this item be removed from the incentives list. **The subcommittee removed/rejected this recommendation.**
- D. **Demonstration Projects** such as trials of specific PHTs or contract PHT may have a role reducing Vv illness. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- E. **Financial Assistance Clearinghouse.** ISSC or other agencies such as Sea Grant may assist the industry by providing information concerning the availability of low interest rate loans, grants, etc. This item does not involve ISSC other than as a resource for information. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- F. **Development of validation for processes.** Development of a procedure for validation is vital to development of a PHT industry. Development of a national validation procedure, as opposed to development of such validation procedures on a state-by-state basis will assist states and industry. This effort is underway. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- G. **Development of verification process for PHTs.** Development of a procedure for verification is vital to development of a PHT industry. Development of a uniform verification procedure, as opposed to development of such procedures on a state-by-state basis will assist states and industry. This effort is underway. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- H. **Share information on benefits of PHT.** If studies show favorable attributes of PHTs, ISSC will encourage states to share that information and to consider waiving certain regulatory requirements. For example if studies were to show extended shelf life for a specified PHT, exemption from sell-by dates might be considered. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- I. **Labeling Incentives.** FDA developed its "processed to reduce Vv to non-detectable levels for added safety" message based in large measure upon the existing model ordinance requirement of non-

detectable. The work group discussed and recommended that the conference reassess at what level of Vv reduction the consumer is sufficiently protected. There was also discussion about the development of labeling language that would establish an additional level of labeling that is not as rigorous as non-detectable. Establishment of a higher “tolerance” level may make a greater range of PHTs available for labeling incentives. The work group felt that both revision of the Model Ordinance “tolerance” level and labeling incentives should remain on the list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation.**

- J. **ICSSL designation of PHT Dealers.** There are a number of alternatives. One such alternative is adding an asterisk to the certified dealer’s name in the ICSSL. Another is the establishment of one of more separate categories for the PHT process or processes to be identified by a letter designation. The later is consistent with the current procedure used in the manual. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation. In addition, a workgroup was formed to develop the outline of a PHT chapter. This will also follow the recommendations on Issues 97-205 and __-224.**
- K. **Variance for retailers in states that have Vv specific labeling requirements for shellfish.** This is an appropriate incentive in states that have point of sale warning requirements. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list. **The subcommittee adopted this recommendation**
- L. **Promoting markets.** The work group felt that this is similar to demonstration projects in the goal is to generate interest on the demand side. This would be an appropriate activity for state seafood of agricultural promotion boards. The work group recommends this remain on the incentives list.

II. HOW TO CALCULATE CAPACITY

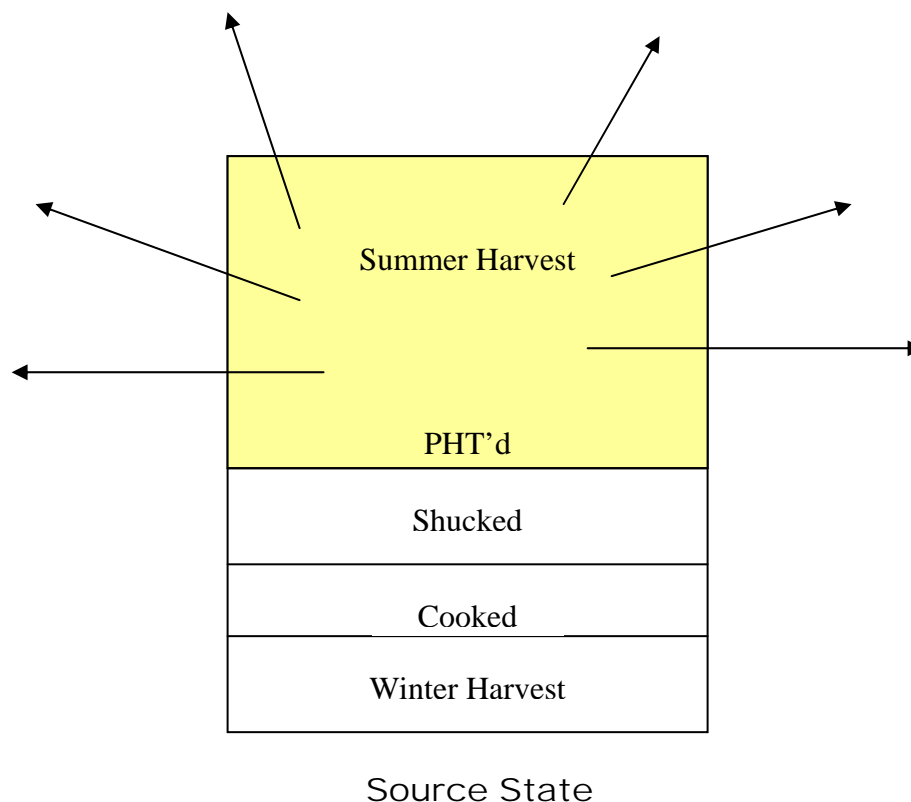
- A. Each source state must determine volume of oysters harvested for raw half-shell consumption. It was agreed that this figure would not be an exact number, but rather would reflect an estimate of the state’s production that is intended for raw half-shell consumption. The work group had a detailed discussion and developed the following formula.

$$\frac{\text{PHT Capacity}}{\text{Amt. Of Oyster Shellstock shipped in summer}^* \times 100} = \% \text{ Capacity of Total (amount intended for } \frac{1}{2} \text{ shell consumption)}$$

*Summer, as denoted here means May through September, inclusive.

(The evidenced volume could be documented by a letter from a dealer stating that X% of the oysters purchased from ABC firm was shucked.)

Calculation of oyster shellstock intended for raw half shell consumption.



All shellstock oysters from May through September that is not PHT'd in the source state must be counted as product intended for half shell consumption (shucked products are excluded). However, a dealer may produce evidenced of PHT or other non-half shell use (for example: shucked or cooked) and this quantity will be subtracted. This evidence will be a signed letter from users of the shellstock oysters indicating how much was marketed as PHT or other non-half shell use.

- B. Each source state must determine capacity of PHT plants for oyster shellstock. This can be done by asking a short series of questions of those dealers: Do you PHT oyster shellstock? What is your capacity to PHT oyster shellstock? Do you have excess (available) capacity to PHT oyster shellstock now? How much excess capacity do you have to PHT oyster shellstock? Are you currently building PHT capacity for oyster shellstock? What is the capacity for oyster shellstock that you are building? Do you have plans to build oyster shellstock PHT capacity?

In determining the amount of capacity that is available to treat shellstock oysters, only those facilities that are currently licensed by the state as certified shellfish dealers may be counted. ie., just because a vegetable freezing plant has excess capacity, it can not be counted as available capacity unless the facility is a certified shellfish dealer.