

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA PLANNING

The primary purpose of this agenda item is to provide initial information to Council Members early in the Council meeting to facilitate planning for future meeting agendas.

The Executive Director will review initial drafts of the three-meeting outlook and the September Council meeting agenda, and respond to any questions the Council may have regarding these initial planning documents. While this agenda item is essentially informational in nature, after hearing any reports and comments from advisory bodies or the public, the Council may wish to provide guidance to the staff on any preparations for Agenda Item B.7 at which time final consideration of the draft November agenda is scheduled.

The proposed November agenda tries to maintain Monday free for advisory body deliberations.

Council Tasks:

- 1. Receive information on potential agenda topics for the next three Council meetings.**
- 2. Receive information on an initial draft agenda for the November Council meeting.**
- 3. Provide guidance on the development of materials for Agenda Item B.7 (November agenda and three-meeting outlook).**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item B.1.a, Attachment 1: Preliminary Draft Three-Meeting Outlook for the Pacific Council.
2. Agenda Item B.1.a, Attachment 2: Preliminary Draft November Council Meeting Agenda, November 12-17, 2006 in Del Mar, California.
3. Agenda Item B.1.a, Attachment 3: NMFS abstract "Ecosystem Productivity Off the U.S. West Coast During 2006." A potential November Council Meeting Agenda Item.
4. Agenda Item B.1.b, HMSMT Report: Highly Migratory Species Management Team Report on Three-Meeting Outlook, Draft November 2006 Council Meeting Agenda, and Workload Priorities
5. Agenda Item B.1.c, Public Comment: Email from Rod Fujita, Ph.D., Environmental Defense.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Discussion of Future Council Meeting Agenda Topics

Don McIsaac

Preliminary Three Meeting Outlook for the Pacific Council
(Contingent Items are Shaded and Counted in Time Estimate)

November Del Mar, CA 11/12-11/17/06 Estimated Percent of Standard Floor Time = 133%	March Sacramento, CA 3/4-3/9/2007 Estimated Percent of Standard Floor Time = 105%	April Seattle, WA 4/1-4/6/2007 Estimated Percent of Standard Floor Time = 77%
<u>Administrative</u> Closed Session; Open Session Call to Order; Min. Legislative Committee Report Fiscal Matters Appointments to Adv. Bodies for 2007-2009 Term: Confirm Composition & Appoint Members 3 Mtg Outlook, Draft March Agenda, Workload Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items Res. & Data Needs: Adopt Final Document Ecosystem Based Fishery Mgmt Planning	<u>Administrative</u> Closed Session; Open Session Call to Order; Min. Legislative Committee Report Fiscal Matters Interim Appointments to Advisory Bodies 3 Mtg Outlook, Draft April Agenda, Workload Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items	<u>Administrative</u> Closed Session; Open Session Call to Order; Min. Legislative Committee Report Interim Appointments to Advisory Bodies 3 Mtg Outlook, Final November Agenda, Workload Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
<u>Coastal Pelagic Species</u> Pac. Sardine Stock Assessment & HG for 2007: Adopt Final	<u>Coastal Pelagic Species</u> NMFS Rpt Pacific Mackerel: Consider Need for Mop-up Fishery	<u>Coastal Pelagic Species</u>
<u>Enforcement Issues</u> State Activity Rpt--CDFG	<u>Enforcement Issues</u> USCG Annual Fishery Enforcement Report	<u>Enforcement Issues</u>
<u>Groundfish</u> NMFS Report 2006 Inseason Mgmt (2 Sessions) Groundfish Bycatch Work plan: Approve Final Open Access Limitation: Next Steps Whiting Monitoring (Amend. 10): Adopt Final Preferred Alt. Trawl IQ: Status Rpt Intersector Allocation EIS: Adopt Alts. for Prelim. Analysis EFPs for 2007: Final Recommendations for Approval to NMFS FMP A-15 (AFA): Next Steps?	<u>Groundfish</u> NMFS Report 2006 Inseason Management (1 Session) Pac. Whiting: Adopt Final 2007 Spx & Mgmt Measures Trawl IQ: Progress Rpt Intersector Allocation EIS: Refinement of Preliminary Alts.	<u>Groundfish</u> NMFS Report 2007 Inseason Management (2 Sessions) Trawl IQ: Progress Rpt Intersector Allocation EIS: Refinement of Preliminary Alts.
<u>Habitat Issues</u> Habitat Committee Report	<u>Habitat Issues</u> Habitat Committee Report	<u>Habitat Issues</u> Habitat Committee Report

Preliminary Three Meeting Outlook for the Pacific Council
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Highly Migratory Species

NMFS Rpt
Routine Mgmt Measures: Adopt Final Changes
FMP Amendment 1 (Bigeye OF Response): Adopt Final Alt.
EFPs for 2007: Consider Continuation of Drift Gillnet EFP
in 2007 & Approve Longline EFP Alts. for Public Review
Reference Points for OF Determinations: Preliminary Rev

Highly Migratory Species

NMFS Rpt
EFPs for 2007: Approve DGN Alts. & EA for Pub Review &
Adopt Final Preferred Alt. for Longline EFP
Reference Points for OF Determinations: Refine

Highly Migratory Species

NMFS Rpt
EFPs for 2007: Adopt Preferred Alt. for DGN EFP

Marine Protected Areas

Marine Protected Areas

Marine Protected Areas

Pacific Halibut

Proposed Changes to CSP & 2007 Ann. Regs.: Adopt Final

Pacific Halibut

Rpt on IPHC Annual Mtg
Incidental Catch Regs for 2007: Adopt Options for
Public Rev

Pacific Halibut

Incidental Catch Regs for 2007: Adopt Final

Salmon

Preseason Mgmt Sch for 2007: Approve Sch & Hearing Sites
2006 Methodology Review: Approve Changes for 2007
FMP Amend. 15 (*de minimus* Fisheries): Adopt Final
Preferred Alternative
Klamath Basin Disease Issues: Briefing

Salmon

2007 Mgmt Options: Adopt Range for Public Rev
& Appt. Hearings Officers
Inseason Mgmt: Review and Consider Recommending any
Necessary Inseason Mgmt Changes
Identify Stocks not Meeting Consv. Objectives
Mass Marking & CWT Information Briefing

Salmon

2007 Management Options: Final Adoption
2007 Methodology Review: Establish Process
& Preliminary Priorities

Information Reports

Salmon Fishery Update
HMS Safe Rpt

Information Reports

Information Reports

Special Sessions

Ecosystem Productivity off the U.S. West Coast in 2006
(Monday, Nov. 13)

Special Sessions

Special Sessions

PRELIMINARY DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, NOVEMBER 12-17, 2006, DEL MAR, CA

ANCILLARY MEETINGS AND COUNCIL AGENDA TOPICS	Est. Time In Hrs	ADVISORY BODY MAILINGS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12		
Ancillary Meetings		
A. TIQC 10 am (tentative)		
B. Budget 3 pm through 5 pm		
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13		
Ancillary Meetings --GMT continues		
C. GAP 8 am through Friday		
D. GMT 8 am through Friday		
E. HMSAS 8 am through Tuesday 10 am		
F. HMSMT 8 am through Tuesday 10 am (may need to share rooms with HMSAS on Monday)		
G. SSC 8 am through Tuesday		
H. HC 8 am through 5 pm		
I. Legislative 9 am		
Chairs Briefing 1:30 pm		
J. EC 5:30 pm through Friday		
Special Session--7 pm: Ecosystem Productivity off the U.S. West Coast in 2006		
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION (PERSONNEL & LITIGATION) - 3 pm to 4:30 pm	1.50	
Adv. Body Issues - Closed Agenda, Appointments to 3 year term & COP Changes		SSC
Litigation Status (E. Cooney)		None
GENERAL SESSION - 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm		
A. Call to Order	0.50	
A.1-3 Opening, Roll Call, ED Rpt--Swearing in of David Sones		
A.4 Approve Final Agenda		
Open Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items	0.50	
	2.50	
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 8:00 am to 5:30 pm		
Ancillary Meetings -- GAP, GMT, HMSAS, SSC, EC cont.		
B. Administrative Matters		
B.1 Future Council Meeting Agenda Planning-- <i>Discussion of Future CM Agenda Topics</i>	0.25	All
C. Enforcement Issues		
C.1 State Enforcement Activity Report by CDFG-- <i>Discussion</i>	1.00	All Adv. except SSC & HC
D. Habitat		
D.1 Current Habitat Issues-- Action: <i>Consider HC Recommendations</i>	0.75	HC; SAS; GAP; CPSAS
E. Highly Migratory Species Mgmt		
E.1 NMFS Rpt (Region & Science Ctr)--Info & Discussion	0.5	HMSAS; HMSMT
E.2 Changes to Routine Mgmt Measures-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Changes to Routine Mgmt Measures for Implementation in 2007-2009 Fisheries</i>	1.50	HMSAS; HMSMT; EC
E.3 EFPs-- Action: <i>Update on 2006 Drift Gillnet EFP & Approve Longline EFP Alternatives for Public Review</i>	2.00	HMSAS; HMSMT
E.4 FMP Amendment 1 (OF Response for Bigeye Tuna)-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Preferred Alternative</i>	1.50	HMSAS; HMSMT
F. Groundfish Mgmt		
F.1 NMFS Rpt (Region & Science Center)	0.50	GMT; GAP; EC
	8.00	

PRELIMINARY DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, NOVEMBER 12-17, 2006, DEL MAR, CA

ANCILLARY MEETINGS AND COUNCIL AGENDA TOPICS	Est. Time In Hrs	ADVISORY BODY MAILINGS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 - 8 am to 5:30 pm		
<i>Ancillary Meetings</i> -- GAP, GMT, EC continue		
K. SAC 8 am through 6 pm		
G. Coastal Pelagic Species Mgmt		
G.1 Pacific Sardine Stock Assessment & Harvest Guideline (HG) for 2007/2008 Season-- Action: <i>Adopt Final HG</i>	1.00	CPSAS, CPSMT, SSC
F. Groundfish Mgmt (continued)		
F.2 Groundfish Bycatch Work Plan-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Plan for Implemetation</i>	2.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.3 Exempted Fishing Permits for 2007 Fisheries-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Recommendations</i>	1.50	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.4 Consideration of Inseason Adjustments-- Action: <i>Preliminary or Final Recommendations for Adjustments to 2006 Fisheries</i>	2.00	GMT; GAP; EC
B. Administrative Matters (continued)		
B.2 Updated Research & Data Needs-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Recommendations</i>	1.50	All
	8.00	
Council Member Banquet: Reception 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm		
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 8 am to 5:30 pm		
<i>Ancillary Meetings</i> - GAP, GMT, EC, SAC continue		
L. STT 8 am through 6 pm [note: SAS meets via conf call prior to CM]		
F. Groundfish Mgmt (continued)		
F.5 Shore-based Whiting Monitoring (Amendment 10)-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Preferred Alternative</i>	2.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.7 Intersector Allocation-- Action: <i>Adopt Conceptual Alts. for Analysis and Further Development by GAC</i>	3.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.8 Open Access Fishery Limitation-- <i>Next Steps</i>	2.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.9 Final Consideration of Inseason Adjustments, if Necessary-- Action: <i>Adopt or Confirm Final Recommendations for Adjustments to 2006 Fisheries, if Necessary</i>	1.00	GMT; GAP; EC
	8.00	

PRELIMINARY DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, NOVEMBER 12-17, 2006, DEL MAR, CA

ANCILLARY MEETINGS AND COUNCIL AGENDA TOPICS	Est. Time In Hrs	ADVISORY BODY MAILINGS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 8 am to 5:30 pm		
<i>Ancillary Meetings</i> --EC & STT continue as necessary		
H. Pacific Halibut Mgmt		
H.1 Proposed Changes to Catch Sharing Plan & 2007 Annual Regs.-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Proposed Changes for 2007</i>	0.75	STT; SAS; SSC
I. Salmon Mgmt		
I.1 Preseason Salmon Mgmt Schedule for 2007-- Action: <i>Approve 2007 Preseason Management Schedule & Hearing Sites</i>	0.50	STT; SAS; SSC
I.2 Salmon Methodology Review-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Salmon Methodology Changes for 2007 (Include experimental design for GSI sampling)</i>	1.50	STT; SAS; SSC
I.3 FMP Amendment 15 (de minimis fisheries)-- Action: <i>Adopt Final Preferred Alternative for Implementation in 2007</i>	3.00	STT; SAS; SSC
B. Administrative Matters (continued)		
B.3 Council Meeting Minutes-- Action: <i>Approve June 2006 Minutes</i>	0.20	
B.4 Legislative Matters-- Action: <i>Consider Recommendations of the Legislative Committee</i>	0.50	
B.5 Fiscal Matters-- Action: <i>Consider Recommendations of the Budget Committee</i>	0.50	
B.6 Appointments to Adv. Bodies, Standing Com., & Other Forums, Including Necessary Changes to COPs-- Action: <i>Consider Changes to COPs, Appoint New Members & Solicit Nominations as Necessary (2007-2009 Term & EFH Committee)</i>	1.00	All
B.7 Three Mtg Outlook, Draft March Agenda, & Workload Priorities-- <i>Guidance on Outlook, Agenda, and Workload, Including Adv. Body Priorities</i>	0.75	All
	8.70	
Grand Total Hours	35.20	110%

Informational Reports (available in Briefing Book, but no time scheduled on Agenda):		
1 Salmon Fishery Update		All
2 HMS SAFE Doc		HMSMT
3 Draft HC and State Agency Rpts on Causes of KRFC Stock Depression (for OF Requirement)		SAS, STT, SSC

Contingent Agenda Items Not Scheduled		
E. Highly Migratory Species Mgmt		
E.4 Progress Rpt on Development of Draft Alts. for HMS Biological Reference Points-- <i>Council Discussion & Guidance</i>	0.50	HMSAS; HMSMT
F. Groundfish Mgmt (continued)		
F.6 Trawl IQ--Discussion & Guidance--Any Further Refinement of Stage I and <i>Status Rpt on Phase II</i>	2.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
F.10 FMP Amendment 15 (AFA)-- Action: <i>Next Steps</i>	3.00	GMT; GAP, EC; SAS
H. Salmon Mgmt		
H.4 Disease Issues for Klamath Basin Salmon--Discussion & Guidance	1.00	SAS; STT; EC
B. Administrative Matters		
B.7 Ecosystem Based Fishery Mgmt--Initial SSC & Habitat Committee Discussion Paper	1.00	
Total	7.50	

Due Dates (all dates COB):	
Meeting Invitation Memo Distributed:	29-Sep
Public Meeting Notice Mailed:	13-Oct
FR Meeting Notice transmitted:	20-Oct
Final day to receive public comments for placement in BB:	25-Oct
Final deadline to submit all BB materials:	25-Oct
Final deadline to submit cover memos for Ancillary Meetings:	27-Oct
Briefing Book Mailing:	2-Nov
Final deadline for distribution of public comments on first day of mtg:	7-Nov

ECOSYSTEM PRODUCTIVITY OFF THE U.S. WEST COAST DURING 2006

This report summarizes the most recent observations of oceanographic and biological conditions in coastal waters off the U. S. west coast during 2006. A more complete analysis, which will include additional results from ongoing and near-future surveys, is underway. However, scientists, managers, and the media are quite interested in the unusually poor productivity of the California Current ecosystem (CCE) this year, particularly in the context of similar anomalous conditions of 2005 and the associated reproductive failure of a number of fish and sea bird species.

Oceanographic Background

Coastal upwelling is the most important process for providing nutrient-rich water to surface waters in the CCE. Typically, the onset of sustained upwelling in April-May initiates the spring bloom and stimulates biological productivity. Through July 2006, coastal upwelling has been unseasonably weak off California. Coastal sea surface temperatures have been 1-4°C above normal during spring and summer, an indication of weak upwelling and low nutrient availability in surface waters. This pattern is similar to 2005, when the onset of sustained upwelling off northern California, Oregon, and Washington was delayed by several weeks and upwelling was generally weak during most of the summer. This has been implicated in the overall poor biological production of the ecosystem in 2005. Upwelling has been generally strong off Oregon and Washington in 2006, although very weak in May and June. The warm conditions in the CCE have occurred during a weak La Niña period in the equatorial Pacific; thus El Niño is not the source of the present state of the ecosystem. (Frank Schwing, POC)

West Coast Fisheries

The SWFSC and PWCC/NWFSC completed a coastwide midwater trawl survey of young-of-the-year (YOY) groundfish that lasted 45 days and surveyed the entire west coast from San Diego CA to Cape Alava WA. This is the sixth consecutive year that a large-scale pre-recruit survey has been completed. Sampling during the survey, which was conducted by the R/V David Starr Jordan and the F/V Excalibur, was designed to measure the reproductive success and year-class strength of winter-spawning species of rockfish (*Sebastes spp.*), including bocaccio, widow, chilipepper, shortbelly, and canary rockfish. The 2006 survey encountered very low catches of YOY rockfishes and other groundfish (e.g., Pacific whiting and sanddabs), similar to results obtained in 2005. Although the abundance of YOY rockfish in recent surveys has been very low, the relationship of those observations to future recruitments of groundfish stocks is uncertain and is a topic of active research. A Pre-Recruit Survey Workshop will be held September 13-15th at the SWFSC Santa Cruz facility to further explore this issue.

In addition, the survey monitors interannual variability in the distribution and abundance of the epipelagic micronekton community (e.g., krill, squid, sardines, anchovies, and lanternfishes). An assemblage analysis of those data indicates that off central California the community is shifted to a more southerly/offshore set of species. Likewise, ichthyoplankton data indicate reduced (or perhaps delayed) spawning of several species (e.g., Pacific sardine and northern anchovy). Catches of market squid (*Loligo opalescens*) were also much lower than normal. Lastly, reproduction of some sea bird species in the Gulf of the Farallones, off San Francisco, is very poor. Together these observations suggest a large-scale failure in production in the CCE during the upwelling season in 2006. (Stephen Ralston, POC)

**HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
THREE-MEETING OUTLOOK, DRAFT NOVEMBER 2006 COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA, AND WORKLOAD PRIORITIES**

At the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) meeting in August, the Team reviewed the Council’s priority list of HMS management issues, which was developed in June, and discussed our workload and the timing of the issues to be addressed. Many of the tasks that have been assigned to the Team require analysis and, in some cases, the drafting of Environmental Assessments: routine management measures; exempted fishing permits for drift gillnet and potentially shallow set longline; addressing bigeye tuna overfishing; and developing a plan for the high seas longline fishery. In addition, the Council requested the Team work with the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) to review albacore catch and effort data in response to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Resolution C-05-02. To accomplish these tasks, the Team proposes that two joint meetings with the HMSAS be scheduled: one at the November Council meeting, and one between the Council’s November and March meetings.

With regard to the Council’s current three-meeting outlook, the timing of the issues, and the processes associated with addressing them, the Team proposes this revised outlook:

Council Meeting	Routine Management Measures	Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)	Management Issues
November 2006	Provide final mgmt measures (and draft EA, as needed) for: (a) CPFV/charter vessel marking requirements (b) drift gillnet turtle closure boundary (c) recreational limits (final action)	Provide preliminary update on drift gillnet EFP (guidance for 2007) Present alternatives for shallow set longline EFP—decide whether to proceed with EFP (preliminary action)	Present plan to develop/modify HMS biological reference points (guidance) Present alternatives to address bigeye tuna overfishing (preliminary action) Potentially address yellowfin tuna overfishing (guidance)
March 2007		Present final report on drift gillnet EFP; identify EFP modifications (if any) (preliminary action) Present draft EA for shallow set longline EFP (final action)	Adopt measures to address bigeye tuna overfishing (final action) Review plan amendment on high seas longline fishery (preliminary action)
April 2007		Present draft EA for drift gillnet EFP (final action)	
June 2007	Present draft 2006 SAFE document	Consider EFP applications for 2008 (preliminary action)	Present alternatives for HMS biological reference points (preliminary action) Adopt plan amendment for high seas longline fishery (final action)

The workload associated with the plan described above is considerable for Team members, Council staff, and the Council, especially given the other items already scheduled on the Council's upcoming agendas. Therefore, HMSMT would appreciate constructive guidance from the Council on workload priorities, especially with regard to the management issues.

HMSMT Recommendations:

1. Approve two proposed joint HMSMT/HMSAS meetings: in November and between November and March.
2. Provide guidance to the Team on HMS workload priorities and the proposed schedule.

PFMC
08/28/06

Email from Rod Fujita, Ph.D.

Hi all – as you may recall, Chris Kubiak from Morro Bay and I submitted a proposal to the Allocation Committee and to the Council as a whole to allow trawlers holding federal permits to convert their catch history to fixed gear and become eligible for fixed gear permits. This would facilitate a transition from a high volume trawl fishery with relatively high discard rates to a more selective and less damaging fishery which could increase the overall value of the groundfishery. The groundfish strategic plan calls for such a transition, because it is in the best interests of all stakeholders and of the resources that you manage.

As we have been traveling up and down the coast interviewing fishermen and holding meetings in ports, we have found that several trawl fishermen are interested in switching to fixed gear. In addition, The Nature Conservancy and Environmental Defense would like to find a way to lease the trawl permits that we have purchased back to fishermen who would fish them in sustainable ways (e.g., vertical hook and line or Scottish Seine or traps). Several fishermen have submitted EFP applications to allow them to test new ways of fishing that might reduce discards and habitat damage, and I am preparing a similar EFP that would test such methods as well as video monitoring methods. Finally, some fishermen have expressed interest in converting their trawl history into fixed gear history at a steep discount rate; in other words, X million pounds of trawl history would translate into half or even one-tenth of that in fixed gear history, allowing the Council to re-allocate those fish or conserve them.

I know that this issue is important to a lot of people, but seems to have fallen through the cracks over the years. Please consider putting it on the September agenda for a fuller discussion and to position it for action.

Many thanks
Rod Fujita, Ph.D
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