

CLARIFICATION TO THE PROCEDURE FOR REPLACING NONVOTING MEMBERS ON
THE COUNCIL GROUND FISH ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

Council Operating Procedure (COP) 7 governs the Council's Groundfish Allocation Committee (GAC). This committee consists of voting members, made up of the Council Chair and agency representatives; and nonvoting members, made up of public representatives of six fishery sectors and the conservation community. All members serve indefinite terms and may designate alternates when necessary. This guidance ensures representation for each seat for voting members. However, when it is necessary to replace nonvoting members there is no specific guidance in the COP. The customary procedure for public advisory member replacement is a two meeting process involving recruitment and appointment. This process can lead to cases where a fishery sector or conservation seat may not have a representative at an important meeting. To avoid this situation, staff proposes adding the underlined text below to the end of the section on "Member Terms" in COP 7:

Member Terms

Groundfish Allocation Committee members (voting and nonvoting members) serve indefinite terms. However, a Committee member may be replaced at the Council's direction if the member 1) transfers employment or moves to a different location, 2) is absent from two or more consecutive meetings without adequate notification to the Committee Chair or Council Executive Director, or 3) appears unable to fulfill their obligations as a Committee member. The Council Chair is authorized to appoint nonvoting members and replacements to avoid a lack of representation for any of the nonvoting advisory sectors at a GAC meeting. In so far as possible, the Council Chair will consult with the Council prior to such appointments.

PFMC
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