APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY BODIES, STANDING COMMITTEES, AND OTHER FORUMS, AND CHANGES TO COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES (COP) AS NEEDED

During this agenda item, the Council will be asked to consider changes in advisory body membership, appointments to other forums, and changes in Council Operating Procedures.

Advisory Body Appointments

Groundfish Management Team (GMT)

The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) proposes that Mr. John Budrick replace Ms. Deborah Aseltine-Neilsen as one of the two CDFG members on the GMT (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 1).

Habitat Committee (HC)

The Council has been notified of the resignation of Mr. Dennis Bedford as the CDFG First Alternate to the HC. The CDFG is in the process of finding a replacement for Mr. Bedford.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has notified the Council of the resignation of their HC member, Dr. Charles Petrosky. This action is necessary as the IDFG is nominating Dr. Petrosky to fill their SSC position (see below under Scientific and Statistical Committee). The IDFG is not proposing a replacement for their HC vacancy.

Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT)

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) proposes that Mr. Corey Niles fill the current WDFW vacancy on the HMSMT (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2).

Mr. Robin Allen, Director of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) has notified us that Mr. Brian Hallman of his staff will no longer be able to serve on the HMSMT representing the IATTC. Workload and staff is such that the IATTC cannot provide a member to our HMSMT (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 3).

Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS)

In response to our solicitation for nominations to the California Sport Fisheries position on the SAS, we have received one nomination for Mr. Paul Pierce of San Leandro, California who is a member of the Coastside Fishing Club (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 4).
Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

In response to our solicitation, the Council received one nomination for the two at-large vacancies on the SSC. The Quinault Indian Nation has nominated Dr. Shizhen Wang (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 5).

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has nominated Dr. Charles Petrosky to the vacant IDFG position on the SSC (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 6).

Remaining Advisory Body Vacancies

The following advisory body positions are vacant with no nominations:

• SSC -- One At-large Position
• HC -- 1) IDFG Position (Council has received notice of the resignation for Dr. Petrosky and an indication that no replacement will be named)
  2) Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Position (First Designee Arlene Merems is filling the position for ODFW on an interim basis; no permanent member has been nominated)
• HMSMT -- IATTC Position (IATTC has stated that they cannot provide a replacement)

Unfortunately, it should also be noted that Ms. Gayle Parker from Astoria, Oregon, who was selected for the Processor North of Cape Mendocino seat on the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS), suffered a debilitating stroke earlier this year and is not able to serve or expected to recover soon. Staff recommends nominations be solicited for this position.

Appointments to Other Forums

U.S.-Canada Pacific Hake/Whiting Commission

The Secretary of Commerce has acknowledged our Council’s recommendation for Mr. Phil Anderson to serve on the U.S. Section of the Joint Management Committee of the U.S.-Canada Pacific Hake/Whiting Commission (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 7).

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Advisory Committee

The Council is involved in the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), regarding Regional Council participation in the international organizations governing highly migratory species. The MOU is with the Department of Commerce, Department of State, and the three West Coast Regional Councils. Part V.C of the Regional Councils’ proposed draft MOU establishes 15 specific Advisory Committee (AC) positions, including representatives from the Pacific Council area. The federal agency counter proposal received July 18, is for only one Pacific Council seat designation on the AC. Further, on July 11, NMFS published a Federal Register notice soliciting nominations for all 15-20 seats of the AC with a closing date of September 10, 2007. This notice, the final negotiation of the MOU, and the timing of the first meeting AC representatives could attend (early December) all make Council consideration of AC appointments rather problematic.
Pacific Council area AC positions in the Regional Councils’ proposed Draft MOU (which could change in the final MOU) are:

1) Pacific Council area commercial fishery representatives (3);
2) Pacific Council area commercial fish processor;
3) Pacific Council area conservation group representative;
4) Pacific Council area recreational fishery representative; and
5) A staff officer of the Pacific Council.

The Council should consider how best to provide input into the selection of AC representatives from our area, including the naming of candidates at this meeting. There isn’t time to go through the normal process of calling for nominations and then recommending members at the November meeting if they are to attend the WCPFC meeting in early December. Alternatively, the Council could wait for final resolution of the MOU and name or recommend AC members at that time for participation at future WCPFC meetings.

The HMSAS has provided a statement concerning the AC appointment situation in which they urge the Council to make its views known with regard to membership to the AC (Agenda Item B.6.b, HMSAS Report).

Changes to COP

For this meeting, a clarification of COP 19, Protocol for Consideration of Exempted Fishing Permits for Groundfish Fisheries, is proposed for consideration under Agenda Item B.6 on Friday. The proposed changes are editorial in nature and intended to make Section C.1 consistent with Section C.5 with regard to the review roles and procedures followed by the Groundfish Management Team and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 8).

Council Action:

1. Confirm appointments or provide guidance for handling appointments to the GMT, HC, HMSMT, HMSAS, SAS, SSC, and WCPFC.
2. Approve editorial changes to COP 19.
3. Provide other guidance as appropriate for appointment or COP issues.

Reference Materials:

1. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 1: CDFG Resignation and Nomination to GMT.
2. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2: WDFW Nomination to HMSMT.
3. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 3: Resignation of IATTC Representative to HMSMT.
5. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 5: Nomination to At-Large Position on SSC.
6. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 6: Nomination to IDFG Position on SSC.
7. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 7: Letter from Carlos Gutierrez acknowledging Council’s recommendation for Mr. Phil Anderson to serve on the U.S. Section of the Joint Management Committee of the U.S.-Canada Pacific Hake/Whiting Agreement.
8. Agenda Item B.6.b, HMSAS Report: Appointments to the WCPFC AC.
9. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 8: Proposed Change to COP 19.

Agenda Order:

a. Agenda Item Overview
   John Coon
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies

c. Council Discussion of Personnel Issues

d. **Council Action:** Consider Changes to COP and Appoint New Advisory Body Members as Needed

PFMC
08/23/07