

**DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING RECORD**  
**227<sup>th</sup> Session of the**  
**Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**November 12-19, 2014**  
Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel  
3050 Bristol Street; Costa Mesa, CA 92626

**Contents**

INTRODUCTION ..... 7

MEETING SUMMARY ..... 8

A. Call to Order ..... 8

    1. Opening Remarks [Recording 11-11-14pm1] ..... 8

    2. Roll Call [0:02:28] ..... 8

    3. Executive Director’s Report [0:03:55]..... 9

    4. Agenda [0:12:23] ..... 9

        a. Council Action: Approve Agenda [0:12:25]..... 9

B. Open Comment Period..... 9

    1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items [Recording 11-14-14pm1; 0:12:59] ..... 9

        a. Agenda Item Overview ..... 9

        b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities..... 9

        c. Public Comment [Recording 11-11-14pm1; 0:13:47] ..... 9

        d. Council Discussion of Comments as Appropriate [Begin Recording 11-14-14pm2] ..... 10

C. Administrative Matters ..... 10

    1. Marine Planning Update [Recording 11-14-14pm2; 0:16:04]..... 10

        a. Agenda Item Overview ..... 10

        b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:19:01] ..... 11

        c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities..... 11

        d. Public Comment..... 11

        e. Council Discussion and Guidance [0:37:25] ..... 11

    2. Recreational Fisheries Policy Update [Recording 11-15-14pm2; 0:58:46]..... 11

        a. Agenda Item Overview ..... 11

        b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [1:02:16] ..... 11

        c. Public Comment [0:19:48]..... 11

        d. Provide Comments on Further Development of the Recreational Fishery Policy, as needed [Recording 11-19-14am2; 0:24:05]..... 11

    3. Legislative Matters [Recording 11-16-14pm1; 0:40:13] ..... 12

        a. Agenda Item Overview ..... 12

        b. Report of the Legislative Committee [0:42:16] ..... 12

        c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities..... 12

        d. Public Comments ..... 12

        e. Council Action: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee [Recording 11-16-14pm1; 0:43:25] ..... 12

4.	Electronic Technology Plan [Recording 11-16-14pm1; 0:46:13]	12
a.	Agenda Item Overview	12
b.	National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:50:23]	12
c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:05:07]	13
d.	Public Comments	13
e.	Council Action: Consider Adoption of Electronic Technology Plan, and Provide Guidance of Further Development and Implementation [Recording 11-16-14pm1; 1:40:21]	13
5.	National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan [Recording 11-19-14am2; 0:51:53]	13
a.	Agenda Item Overview	13
b.	National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:53:01]	13
c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:01:48]	13
d.	Public Comment	13
e.	Council Action: Consider National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan and Provide Guidance as Necessary [Recording 11-19-14am2; 1:25:02]	14
6.	Approval of Council Meeting Minutes [Begin Recording 11-19-14pm1]	14
a.	Council Member Review and Comments	14
b.	Council Action: Approve Council Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)	14
7.	Fiscal Matters [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:01:19]	14
a.	Agenda Item Overview	14
b.	Budget Committee Report [0:01:25]	14
c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities[0:	14
d.	Public Comment [0:14:57]	14
e.	Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Recommendations [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:17:15]	14
8.	Advisory Body Position Appointments and Council Operating Procedures [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:42:07]	15
a.	Agenda Item Overview	15
b.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:0:44:43]	15
c.	Public Comment	15
d.	Council Action: Consider Appointments to Advisory Bodies Including Changes and Nominees for the 2013-2015 Term; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:48:25]	15
9.	Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:55:11]	16
a.	Agenda Item Overview	16
b.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:16:03]	16
c.	Public Comment	17
d.	Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [Recording 11-19-14pm1; 2:00:07]	17
D.	Habitat	17
1.	Current Habitat Issues [Recording 11-14-14pm2; 0:38:33]	17
a.	Agenda Item Overview	17
b.	Report of the Habitat Committee [0:39:42]	17
c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities	17

d. Public Comment.....	17
e. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations [0:49:12] .....	17
E. Coastal Pelagic Species Management.....	17
1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [Recording 11-15-14am1; 0:02:28].....	17
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	17
b. Regulatory Activities [0:03:12] .....	17
c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:03:19].....	18
d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities.....	18
e. Public Comment [0:29:04].....	18
f. Council Discussion [0:34:13] .....	18
2. Sardine Harvest Fraction [0:37:54].....	18
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	18
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:47:36].....	18
c. Public Comment [Recording 11-15-14am2; 0:50:02] .....	18
d. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternative for the Pacific Sardine Harvest Fraction Parameter [Begin Recording 11-15-14am3] .....	19
3. Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process [0:17:00].....	19
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	19
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities.....	19
c. Public Comment [0:19:13].....	19
d. Council Action: Consider Methodology Topics for Review and Provide Additional Guidance as Necessary [0:27:36] .....	19
4. 2015 Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Notice of Intent.....	19
F. Salmon Management .....	19
1. National Marine Fisheries Report [Begin Recording 11-15-14pm1] .....	19
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	20
b. Regulatory Activities [0:01:12] .....	20
c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:10:31].....	20
d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities.....	20
e. Public Comment.....	20
f. Council Discussion and Guidance [Recording 11-15-14pm1; 0:20:46].....	20
2. Salmon Methodology Review [Recording 11-15-14pm1; 0:23:14] .....	20
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	20
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:31:00].....	20
c. Public Comment.....	21
d. Council Action: Adopt Final Methodology Changes and Conservation Objectives [Begin Recording 11-15-14pm2].....	21
3. Preseason Salmon Management Schedule for 2015 [Recording 11-15-14pm2; 0:48:00].....	22
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	22
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities.....	22
c. Public Comment.....	22
d. Council Action: Adopt a 2015 Preseason Management Schedule [0:52:27].....	22
4. Lower Columbia Coho Harvest Matrix [Recording 11-16-14am1; 0:00:57] .....	22
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	23
b. Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Workgroup Report [0:08:21].....	23

c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:39:10].....	23
d.	Public Comment [0:56:43].....	23
e.	Council Action: Adopt Final Recommendations for any Changes to the Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Harvest Matrix [Start Recording 11-16-14am2] .....	23
G.	Pacific Halibut Management.....	24
1.	2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations [Recording 11-16-14am2; 0:18:35].....	24
a.	Agenda Item Overview .....	24
b.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:26:54].....	24
c.	Public Comment [1:55:37].....	25
d.	Council Action: Adopt Final Changes to the 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Fishery Regulations [Recording 11-16-14am2; 1:54:25].....	25
H.	Ecosystem-Based Management .....	26
1.	Report on the Atlantis Model Review [Begin Recording 11-16-14pm2].....	26
a.	Agenda Item Overview .....	26
b.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:47:29].....	26
c.	Public Comment [0:50:17].....	27
d.	Council Action: Consider use of the Atlantis Model for Fishery Impact Evaluation and Provide Additional Guidance as necessary [Recording 11-16- 14pm2; 1:10:04].....	27
I.	Highly Migratory Species Management .....	27
1.	National Marine Fisheries Report [Begin Recording 11-17-14am1] .....	27
a.	Agenda Item Overview .....	27
b.	Regulatory Activities [0:02:45] .....	27
c.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities .....	27
d.	Public Comment.....	27
e.	Council Discussion .....	27
2.	International Activities [Recording 11-17-14am1; 0:10:32] .....	27
a.	Agenda Item Overview .....	27
b.	Report on the WCPFC PAC Meeting [0:19:03] .....	28
c.	Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service [0:25:38].....	28
d.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:28:52].....	28
e.	Public Comment [0:58:49].....	28
f.	Council Action: Consider Reports on International Activities and Adopt Recommendations for U.S. Delegations to the 11 <sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission as Appropriate [Begin Recording 11-17-14am2].....	28
3.	Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries [Begin Recording 11- 17-14am3].....	29
a.	Agenda Item Overview .....	29
b.	Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:07:25].....	29
c.	Public Comment [Begin Recording 11-17-14pm1].....	30
d.	Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives for Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries [Begin Recording 11-17-14pm2] ..	30

4.	Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries [Recording 11-17-14pm2; 0:19:29] .....	31
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	31
	b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:29:36} ....	31
	c. Public Comment [Begin Recording 11-17-14pm3].....	31
	d. Council Action: Consider Associated Workload and Scheduling Issues for Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priority Issues as Necessary [Begin Recording 11-18-14am1].....	31
J.	Groundfish Management .....	35
1.	National Marine Fisheries Service Report [Begin Recording 11-18-14am2] .....	35
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	35
	b. Regulatory Activities [0:01:13] .....	35
	c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:24:00].....	35
	d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [033:59] .....	35
	e. Public Comment [0:36:58].....	35
	f. Council Discussion [Recording 11-18-14am2; 0:48:26] .....	35
2.	Widow Rockfish Reallocation and Divestiture Issues [1:07:48].....	35
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	35
	b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:40:22] .....	35
	c. Public Comment [Recording 11-18-14pm1; 0:24:41] .....	36
	d. Council Action: Adopt Range of Alternatives for Widow Rockfish Reallocation and, as Necessary, Divestiture Issues [Begin Recording 11-18-14pm2].....	36
3.	Initial Consideration of Blackgill Rockfish Reallocation [Recording 11-18-14pm2; 0:44:56] .....	37
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	37
	b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:54:14] .....	37
	c. Public Comment [1:07:55].....	37
	d. Council Action: Identify, Prioritize, and Schedule Issues for Changes in the Blackgill Rockfish Allocation from Restructuring the South of 40°10' Slope Rockfish Complex [Recording 11-18-14pm2; 1:08:31].....	38
4.	Groundfish Management Ongoing Rulemaking [Begin Recording 11-18-14pm3] .....	38
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	38
	b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:07:47] .....	38
	c. Public Comment [0:24:38].....	38
	d. Council Action: Consider Action and Additional Guidance for Issues Related to Rulemaking, as Necessary [Recording 11-18-14pm3; 0:25:17].....	38
5.	Economic Data Collection Report on Fishery Status and Overview on Social Science Research [Recording 11-18-14pm3; 0:34:10] .....	39
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	39
	b. National Marine Fisheries Service Reports .....	39
	c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:11:21] .....	39
	d. Public Comment.....	39
	e. Council Discussion [Recording 11-18-14pm3; 1:19:14].....	39
6.	Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure [Recording 11-19- 14am1; 0:02:56].....	40
	a. Agenda Item Overview .....	40

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:09:06].....	40
c. Public Comment.....	40
d. Council Action: Consider Establishing a Process and Schedule for Groundfish Methodology Reviews as a Council Operating Procedure [0:18:43] .....	40
7. Reconsideration of Open Access Registration under Amendment 22 [Recording 11- 19-14am1; 0:27:40].....	40
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	40
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:31:00].....	40
c. Public Comment.....	40
d. Council Action: Consider Final Action to Rescind or Revise Council Action of Open Access Registration under Amendment 22 [Recording 11-19-14am1; 0:33:28].....	41
8. Consideration of Inseason Adjustments [Recording 11-19-14am1; 0:36:42] .....	41
a. Agenda Item Overview .....	41
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:42:38].....	41
c. Public Comment [1:11:32].....	41
d. Council Action: Adopt Recommendations for Adjustments for 2014 and 2015 Groundfish Fisheries [Recording 11-19-14am1; 1:17:15].....	41
INFORMATIONAL REPORTS.....	42
ADJOURN.....	42

## INTRODUCTION

This document contains or identifies the various elements, documents, and sources comprising the complete and official record of Council meeting discussions and actions. In addition to the Meeting Summary, which follows this introductory section (see #7 below), it includes information or references that serve as the functional detailed minutes for this Council meeting as required by §302(i)(2)(E) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The full record is maintained at the Council office, is available on the Council website (<http://www.pcouncil.org/>) or upon request from the Council office, and consists of the following:

1. **Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda** -- The meeting notice is available on the Council Website prior to each meeting and agendas of the present and past meetings are available at <http://www.pcouncil.org/resources/archives/briefing-books/>.
2. **Attendance Records** -- Available for the Council meeting and each advisory body meeting by request from the Council office.
3. **All Documents, Reports, and Presentations for Council Consideration** -- (1) all documents produced or received for the meeting briefing book, validated by a label assigned by the Council Secretariat and distributed to Council Members; (2) written public comments received at the Council meeting in accordance with agenda labeling requirements; and (3) electronic material or handout materials used in presentations to Council Members during the open session are available from links in the Meeting Summary of this document or at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/past-meetings/>.
4. **Council Decisions Summary Document** -- Distributed shortly after the meeting and contains very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions. They are available at <http://www.pcouncil.org/resources/archives/council-meeting-decisions/> and are also provided by agenda item in the Meeting Summary of this document.
5. **Draft or Final Decision Documents Finalized after the Council Meeting** – Documents such as Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are available on the Council website as they are completed.
6. **Gavel-to-Gavel Audio Recordings** – Containing the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting, they are labeled by date and time and have been annotated as to the time on the recording for the start of each agenda line item to help facilitate review. The recordings may be accessed from the links contained within the Meeting Summary of this document or at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/past-meetings/>.
7. **Meeting Summary** (immediately following this section) – Lists, in agenda item order, the briefing book documents, reports, presentations, and Council motions and actions, including a brief summary from the Council Decisions Summary Document for each agenda item. It constitutes the meeting record formally approved by the Council. Internet links in brackets (e.g., [[Recording 11-11-14pm10](#)]) refer to the audio recording for the agenda item. Other numbers in brackets (e.g., [0:02:28]) refer to the elapsed time on the audio recording at which the agenda item was initiated. Links to the audio recordings annotated by agenda item may also be accessed at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/past-meetings/>.

## MEETING SUMMARY

### A. Call to Order

#### 1. Opening Remarks [[Recording 11-11-14pm1](#)]

Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Council Chair, called the 227<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 2:02 p.m. on Friday, November 14, 2014. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

#### 2. Roll Call [0:02:28]

##### Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Mr. Mark Helvey, designee Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee Mr. Bob Turner, designee
Alaska State Official:	Ms. Stefanie Moreland (nonvoting) Ms. Karla Bush (nonvoting designee)
Washington State Official:	Mr. Phil Anderson Ms. Michele Culver, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Rich Lincoln
Oregon State Official:	Mr. Chris Kern, designee Ms. Gway Kirchner, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Chair
California State Official:	Mr. Chuck Bonham Mr. Bob Farrell, designee Ms. Joanna Grebel, designee Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee
California Obligatory:	Mr. David Crabbe
Idaho State Official:	Mr. David Ortmann
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Herb Pollard, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. David Sones
At-Large:	Mr. William L. "Buzz" Brizendine Mr. Jeff Feldner Mr. Dale Myer Mr. Dan Wolford
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission:	Dr. David Hanson, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee
U.S. Coast Guard:	LCDR Gregg Casad, nonvoting designee
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:	Dr. Steven Haeseker, nonvoting designee

##### Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee
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### 3. Executive Director's Report [0:03:55]

### 4. Agenda [0:12:23]

- [Agenda Item A.4](#): Proposed November 12-19, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

#### a. Council Action: Approve Agenda [0:12:25]

**Motion:** Adopt the agenda as shown in Agenda Item A.4, Proposed November 12-19, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda, with the changes noted by Dr. McIsaac.  
David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (motion carried unanimously)

## B. Open Comment Period

### 1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items [[Recording 11-14-14pm1](#); 0:12:59]

- [Agenda Item B.1](#): Comments on Non-Agenda Items

#### a. Agenda Item Overview

#### b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

None.

#### c. Public Comment [[Recording 11-11-14pm1](#); 0:13:47]

- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 1](#): Tony Vultaggio; Gear Conflict between IFQ [individual fishing quota] trap boats and Southern CA LE [limited entry] community
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#): John Colgate (Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara); Gear conflict between IFQ trap boat and Southern CA LE longline community
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#): Letter from Jason Robinson, SCGA, regarding the "VMS [vessel monitoring system] enhancement" proposal by the Office of Law Enforcement to increase the VMS "ping rate" from once hourly to four times an hour
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#): Letter from Forrest Braden, F/V Pisces, regarding an issue related to trap boats fishing shore-based sablefish IFQ in the Conception (South of 36 degrees) management area
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 5](#): Email from Greg Shaughnessy; unexpected passing of Mr. Dennis Rydman, President and CEO of Ocean Gold Seafoods, Inc.
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 6](#): Letter from Jason Robinson, F/V Miss Conception expressing concerns about the ITQ fishery in the Point Conception area, primarily the sablefish fishery
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 7](#): Letter from Midwater Trawlers Association expressing their gratitude for the efforts to address the recent crisis in the whiting mothership fishery sector
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 8](#): Email from Newport Fishermen's Wives asking the Council to write a letter to the US Coast Guard in opposition to the closure of the US Coast Guard air station in Newport, OR

- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 9](#): Letter from Arctic Storm Management Group, LLC expressing appreciation for taking action in October 2014 to extend the MS whiting fishery with an inseason reallocation of darkblotched rockfish
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 10](#): Letter from Jason Robinson requesting an amendment to Table 2 in the Federal Registry for trip limits for Near Shore and Deeper Near Shore species
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 11](#): Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission; Whole Foods TV Seafood Campaign (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 12](#): IUU Executive Brief, Frequentz (*Electronic Only*)

Ms. Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative, Newport, Oregon, expressed appreciation to the work on the nearshore fishery with the extraordinary meeting.

Ms. Michelle Longo-Eder and Ms. Heather Mann, Newport Fishermen’s Wives, Newport, Oregon, commented on closure of the U. S. Coast Guard Newport Air Station.

Mr. Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission, Brookings, Oregon. Provided video and information regarding Whole foods advertising of sustainable fishing (Links provided in Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 11: Brad Pettinger Whole Foods TV Seafood Campaign.

Mr. John Colgate, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California; commented on Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2: John Colgate (Commercial Fisherman of Santa Barbara); Gear Conflict between IFQ trap boats and Southern CA LE Community.

Mr. Michael Lucas, Frequentz, Palo Alto, California commented on tracing technology (Agenda Item B.1.c, Supplemental Public comment 12: IUU Executive Brief, Frequentz (Electronic Only).

**d. Council Discussion of Comments as Appropriate [Begin [Recording 11-14-14pm2](#)]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The Council directed staff to send two letters detailing concerns about the proposed closure of the United States Coast Guard air facility in Newport, Oregon, which would eliminate the rescue helicopter capabilities operating out of that station, and making the recommendation that closure of the air facility be rescinded. One letter is to be addressed to the Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Paul Zunkunft with particular emphasis on safety at sea as a justification for maintaining status quo helicopter deployment capabilities. A separate letter is to be addressed to Senator Jeff Merkley in response to his request for a Pacific Council perspective on this issue, with particular emphasis on possible fiscal or legislative solutions.*

**C. Administrative Matters**

**1. Marine Planning Update [[Recording 11-14-14pm2](#); 0:16:04]**

- [Agenda Item C.1](#): Marine Planning Update
  - a. Agenda Item Overview**
  - [Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1](#): Marine Planning Fact Sheet

**b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:19:01]**

- [Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint](#): West Coast Regional Marine Planning Update (*Electronic Only*)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**d. Public Comment**

None.

**e. Council Discussion and Guidance [0:37:25]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**2. Recreational Fisheries Policy Update [[Recording 11-15-14pm2](#); 0:58:46]**

- [Agenda Item C.2](#): Recreational Fishing Policy Update

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item C.2.a, Attachment 1](#): 2014 Recreational Saltwater Fishing Summit Summary Report (*Electronic Only*)

**b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [1:02:16]**

- [Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): PUBLIC COMMENT DRAFT – National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy of the National Marine Fisheries Service

[Council suspended this item and resumed November 19.]

[**Begin** [Recording 11-19-14am2](#)]

- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental EC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.2.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [0:19:48]**

Mr. Ken Franke, Sportfishing Association of California

- d. Provide Comments on Further Development of the Recreational Fishery Policy, as needed [[Recording 11-19-14am2](#); 0:24:05]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The Council directed staff to submit a letter to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with recommendations for changes and additions to the Public Comment Draft of the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy. The letter will present the Council's general agreement with most of what the Council heard from seven advisory body statements and public testimony, with a focus on when allocation reviews should be mandated for the purposes of enhancing recreational fishing. The Council also recommended adding policy emphasis for support and protection of United States recreational fishing opportunities and benefits in bilateral and international relations with neighboring countries, citing the current U.S. highly migratory species (HMS) fishery that fishes in conjunction with Mexican fishery allowances as one example.*

**3. Legislative Matters [[Recording 11-16-14pm1](#); 0:40:13]**

- [Agenda Item C.3](#): Legislative Matters

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item C.3.a, Attachment 1](#): Staff Summary of Federal legislation
- [Agenda Item C.3.a, Attachment 2](#): Letter from Council to Senator Murkowski
- [Agenda Item C.3.a, Attachment 3](#): Letter from Council to President Obama
- [Agenda Item C.3.a, Attachment 4](#): Letter from ODFW to Senators Begich and Rubio

**b. Report of the Legislative Committee [0:42:16]**

- [Agenda Item C.3.b, Supplemental LC Report](#)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**d. Public Comments**

None.

**e. Council Action: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee [[Recording 11-16-14pm1](#); 0:43:25]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**4. Electronic Technology Plan [[Recording 11-16-14pm1](#); 0:46:13]**

- [Agenda Item C.4](#): Electronic Technology Plan

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item C.4.a, Attachment 1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Policy Directive 30-133, May 3, 2013: Policy On Electronic Technologies And Fishery-Dependent Data Collection

**b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:50:23]**

- [Agenda Item C.4.a, Attachment 2](#): Draft Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan for Marine Fisheries in the West Coast Region, October 2014

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:05:07]**

- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental EC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.4.c, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**d. Public Comments**

None.

**e. Council Action: Consider Adoption of Electronic Technology Plan, and Provide Guidance of Further Development and Implementation [[Recording 11-16-14pm1](#); 1:40:21]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**5. National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan [[Recording 11-19-14am2](#); 0:51:53]**

- [Agenda Item C.5](#): NMFS West Coast Region Strategic Plan

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [0:53:01]**

- [Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental REVISED NMFS Report 1](#): Development of a Strategic Plan for NOAA Fisheries' West Coast Region
- [Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Draft Strategic Plan for NOAA Fisheries' West Coast Region
- [Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region; DRAFT Strategic Plan (*Electronic Only*)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:01:48]**

- [Agenda Item C.5.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.5.c, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.5.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

**d. Public Comment**

None.

- e. **Council Action: Consider National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan and Provide Guidance as Necessary** [[Recording 11-19-14am2](#); 1:25:02]

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The Council directed staff to submit a letter to NMFS with recommendations for changes and additions to the Working Draft of the NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region Strategic Plan: 2016-2020, including incorporating comments submitted by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel, HMS Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS), HMS Management Team (HMSMT), Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), and GMT. The Council has scheduled another review of the Strategic Plan for the March or April 2015 Council Meeting.*

**6. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes** [Begin [Recording 11-19-14pm1](#)]

- [Agenda Item C.6](#): Approval of Council Meeting Minutes
  - a. **Council Member Review and Comments**
  - [Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 1](#): Draft Minutes: 223rd Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (April 2014)
  - b. **Council Action: Approve Council Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)**

**Motion:** Approve Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 1: Draft Minutes: 223<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (April 2014).

David Ortmann/Herb Pollard (carried unanimously)

**7. Fiscal Matters** [[Recording 11-19-14pm1](#); 0:01:19]

- [Agenda Item C.7](#): Fiscal Matters
  - a. **Agenda Item Overview**
  - b. **Budget Committee Report** [0:01:25]
  - [Agenda Item C.7.b, Supplemental Budget Committee Report](#)
  - c. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**[0:

None.

**d. Public Comment** [0:14:57]

Dr. Geoff Shester, Oceana

- e. **Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Recommendations** [[Recording 11-19-14pm1](#); 0:17:15]

**Motion:** Adopt the report of the Budget Committee, including the Budget Committee Recommendations ([Agenda Item C.7.b, Supplemental Budget Committee Report](#)) together with the following guidance: That no significant resources be devoted to a special project beyond the currently budgeted Council meetings unless and until funding is secured for that purpose. If funding is not secured for all priority special

projects by the March 2015 Council meeting, the Budget Committee will reconvene at that time for a discussion of options.

Frank Lockhart/Herb Pollard

**Amendment:** Add “To the fullest extent possible, Council staff should seek to make progress on all special projects as opposed to completing one at the expense of the others (within the same timeframe as above).”

Corey Niles/Rich Lincoln (Amendment failed: Mr. Myer, Mr. Lincoln, and Mr. Niles voted “yes.”)

The main motion carried unanimously.

**Summary:** *The Council adopted a provisional operating budget of \$4,741,136 for calendar year 2015 and directed staff to pursue special project funding for electronic monitoring (EM) and technology, groundfish essential fish habitat Amendment 26, and Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiatives, in priority order. Absent special project funding, Council efforts on these matters would be suspended after their currently funded 2015 activities, which are through the June, April, and March Council meetings, respectively. The Council also tasked the Council staff with pursuing additional funding for HMS activities.*

## **8. Advisory Body Position Appointments and Council Operating Procedures**

**[\[Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:42:07\]](#)**

- [Agenda Item C.8:](#) Advisory Body Position Appointments and Council Operating Procedure

### **a. Agenda Item Overview**

None.

### **b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:0:44:43]**

- [Agenda Item C.8.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

### **c. Public Comment**

None.

### **d. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Advisory Bodies Including Changes and Nominees for the 2013-2015 Term; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures [\[Recording 11-19-14pm1; 0:48:25\]](#)**

**Motion:** Appoint Dr. Kevin Piner to the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center seat on the SSC.

Frank Lockhart/Herb Pollard (carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Appoint Dr. John Field to the vacant at-large seat on the SSC.

Corey Niles/Dan Wolford (carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Appoint Mr. Brett Kormos to the California Fish and Wildlife seat on the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and appoint Ms. Elizabeth Hellmers to the California Fish and Wildlife seat on the HMSMT.

Marci Yaremko/Dan Wolford (carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Appoint Mr. Pete Hassemer to the Idaho Fish and Game seat on the Habitat Committee. Dave Ortmann/Herb Pollard (carried unanimously)

Ms. Lowman, Council Chair, confirmed the appointment of Ms. Diane Pleschner-Steele and Mr. Mike Okoniewski as co-chairs of the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel.

**Summary:** *The Council made the following appointments to advisory bodies:*

- *Dr. Kevin Piner to fill the vacant Southwest Fisheries Science Center seat on the SSC.*
- *Dr. John Field to the vacant at-large seat on the SSC.*
- *Mr. Brett Kormos to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the STT.*
- *Ms. Elizabeth Hellmers to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the HMSMT.*
- *Mr. Peter Hassemer to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game seat on the Habitat Committee.*

**9. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [[Recording 11-19-14pm1](#); 0:55:11]**

- [Agenda Item C.9](#): Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Attachment 1](#): Preliminary Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, March 6 to 11, 2015 in Vancouver, Washington; USA
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Attachment 2](#): Preliminary Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, April 10 to 15, 2015 in Rohnert Park, California
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Attachment 3](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Proposed Pacific Council Meeting Agenda, March 6-12, 2015 In Vancouver, Washington, USA
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Proposed Pacific Council Meeting Agenda, April 11-16, 2015 In Rohnert Park, CA
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Staff Review of Materials on the Issue of Retention of Halibut and Salmon When Catching Albacore
- [Agenda Item C.9.a, Supplemental Attachment 8](#): (*From September 2014*) Initial workload response for Council consideration

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:16:03]**

- [Agenda Item C.9.b Supplemental NWFSR Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.9.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.9.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.9.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.9.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item C.9.b, Supplemental SWFSR Report](#)

**c. Public Comment**

- [Agenda Item C.9.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Mr. Seth Atkinson, Natural Resources Defense Council

Dr. Geoff Shester, Oceana

Ms. Corey Ridings, Ocean Conservancy

**d. Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [[Recording 11-19-14pm1](#); 2:00:07]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The next meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council is scheduled for March 2015 in Vancouver, Washington.*

**D. Habitat**

**1. Current Habitat Issues [[Recording 11-14-14pm2](#); 0:38:33]**

- [Agenda Item D.1](#): Current Habitat Issues

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Report of the Habitat Committee [0:39:42]**

- [Agenda Item D.1.b, Supplemental HC Report](#)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**d. Public Comment**

None.

**e. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations [0:49:12]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**E. Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

**1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [[Recording 11-15-14am1](#); 0:02:28]**

- [Agenda Item E.1](#): NMFS Report (CPS)

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Regulatory Activities [0:03:12]**

None.

**c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:03:19]**

- [Agenda Item E.1.c, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): Update on Southwest Fisheries Science Center Activities; Dale Sweetnam (*Electronic Only*)

**d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**e. Public Comment [0:29:04]**

- [Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

**f. Council Discussion [0:34:13]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**2. Sardine Harvest Fraction [0:37:54]**

- [Agenda Item E.2](#): Sardine Harvest Fraction Final Preferred Alternative

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item E.2.a, Attachment 1](#): Draft Environmental Assessment for incorporating best available science into harvest management control rules for Pacific sardine
- [Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): (PowerPoint) Incorporating the Use of a New Temperature Index into the Calculation of the Pacific Sardine Harvest Guideline Formula (*Electronic Only*)

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:47:36]**

- [Agenda Item E.2.b, CPSMT Report](#)

[Begin [Recording 11-15-14am2](#)]

- [Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental Tribal Report](#) (Quinault)
- [Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [[Recording 11-15-14am2](#); 0:50:02]**

- [Agenda Item E.2.c, Public Comment](#) (*full document with signatories electronic only*)
- [Agenda Item E.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)
- [Agenda Item E.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Mr. Steve Marx, PEW Charitable Trusts

Ms. Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Dr. Geoff Shester, Oceana

Ms. Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

**d. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternative for the Pacific Sardine Harvest Fraction Parameter [Begin [Recording 11-15-14am3](#)]**

**Motion:** Adopt the Final Preferred Alternative for the Pacific Sardine Harvest Guideline Control Rule that utilizes the California Cooperative Ocean Fisheries Investigations Index for computing the temperature-productivity relationship and a harvest fraction range of 5 to 20 percent.

Phil Anderson/Rich Lincoln (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council adopted a Final Preferred Alternative for the Pacific sardine harvest fraction parameter that utilizes the California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations (CalCOFI) temperature index and associated temperature-productivity relationship. The adopted harvest fraction parameter ranges from 5-20 percent, utilized within the bounds of the full control rule. It is intended that this Harvest Control Rule will be applied to the 2015-2016 sardine harvest specifications and management measures, scheduled to be set by the Council at its April 2015 meeting.*

**3. Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process [0:17:00]**

- [Agenda Item E.3](#): Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**c. Public Comment [0:19:13]**

Mr. Jerry Thon, Astoria Holdings

**d. Council Action: Consider Methodology Topics for Review and Provide Additional Guidance as Necessary [0:27:36]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**4. 2015 Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Notice of Intent**

This agenda item was cancelled under Agenda Item A.4.

**F. Salmon Management**

**1. National Marine Fisheries Report [Begin [Recording 11-15-14pm1](#)]**

- [Agenda Item F.1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report (Salmon)

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Regulatory Activities [0:01:12]**

**c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:10:31]**

- [Agenda Item F.1.c, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): Report on the September 2014 NMFS/CDFW California coastal Chinook salmon fishery management workshop (*Electronic Only*)

**d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**e. Public Comment**

None.

**f. Council Discussion and Guidance [[Recording 11-15-14pm1](#); 0:20:46]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**2. Salmon Methodology Review [[Recording 11-15-14pm1](#); 0:23:14]**

- [Agenda Item F.2](#): Salmon Methodology Review

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 1](#): Status Determination Criteria for Willapa Bay Natural Coho
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 2](#): Development of escapement goals for Grays Harbor fall Chinook using spawner-recruit models
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 3](#): Standardized Method to Calculate Chinook Age 2 FRAM [Fishery Regulation Assessment Model] Stock Recruit Scalars, Based Upon the Age 3 Forecast
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 4](#): A Method for Utilizing Recent Coded Wire Tag Recovery Data to Adjust FRAM Base Period Exploitation Rates
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 5](#): An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Cape Flattery Control Zone closure at reducing non-treaty troll fishery impacts on Puget Sound Chinook
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 6](#): Conservation Objective for Southern Oregon Coastal Chinook
- [Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 7](#): Comparing Income Impact Estimates from IOPAC and FEAM (Salmon Review) Model

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:31:00]**

- [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental MEW Report](#)
- [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental STT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

**c. Public Comment**

None.

**d. Council Action: Adopt Final Methodology Changes and Conservation Objectives [Begin [Recording 11-15-14pm2](#)]**

**Motion:** Adopt the following modeling methodologies and escapement goals for use in West Coast salmon fisheries beginning in 2015:

- 1) Adopt a status determination criteria for Willapa Bay natural coho of  $F_{MSY}=0.74$  and  $S_{MSY} = 17,200$ ;
- 2) Adopt an escapement goal for Grays Harbor fall Chinook of  $S_{MSY} = 13,326$  comprised of an  $S_{MSY} = 9,753$  for the Chehalis River and an  $S_{MSY} = 3,573$  for the Humptulips River;
- 3) Utilize the new method of developing age-2 abundance inputs to the Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) in cases where formal age-2 forecasts are not made. However, for stocks that are co-managed by the state(s) and tribe(s), utilize the new methodology for stocks in cases where the Council has received written notification of support from the affected tribe(s) and state(s);
- 4) Adopt the methodology for calculating the impacts on Chinook stocks that result from the closure of the Cape Flattery Control Zone as analyzed by the Model Evaluation Workgroup and the SSC.

Phil Anderson/Rich Lincoln (motion carried unanimously).

**Motion:** Adopt for the conservation objective for southern Oregon coastal chinook, at least 41,000 naturally produced adults passing Huntley Park in the Rogue River. A  $S_{MSY}$  of 34,992 and a MFMT of 54 percent. The Oregon-Proposed MSST of 18,440 (20,500 at Huntley Park) is 53 percent of the  $S_{MSY}$ .

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Adopt the SSC recommendation contained in [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#) related to the use of the IO-PAC Model for estimating the economic impact for commercial salmon fisheries.

Rich Lincoln/Dale Myer (motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Send a letter to WDFW and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission that notifies them of the Council deliberations related to the attempt to standardize the method to calculate Chinook age-2 FRAM recruit scalars and request the appropriate co-managers to provide the Council with the method they intend to use for the 2015 management cycle no later than January 31, 2015.

Phil Anderson/Bob Turner (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council adopted the following methods for use in salmon management:*

- *Status determination criteria for Willapa Bay natural coho of  $F_{MSY}=0.74$  and  $S_{MSY}=17,200$ .*
- *An escapement goal for Grays Harbor fall Chinook of  $S_{MSY} = 13,326$  comprised of an  $S_{MSY}=9,753$  for the Chehalis River and an  $S_{MSY}=3,573$  for the Humptulips River.*

- *A conservation objective for southern Oregon coastal Chinook of at least 41,000 naturally produced adults passing Huntley Park in the Rogue River, an SMSY of 34,992, a maximum fishing mortality threshold of 54 percent, and a minimum stock size threshold of 18,440 (or 20,500 at Huntley Park) which is 53 percent of the SMSY.*
- *A method of developing Age-2 abundance scalars as inputs to the Chinook FRAM in cases where formal age-2 forecasts are not made. The Council directed Council staff to send a letter that requests the appropriate co-managers provide the Council with the method they intend to use for the 2015 management cycle no later than January 31, 2015.*
- *A method for calculating impacts in FRAM for three Chinook stocks (George Adams, Nisqually, and mid-Puget Sound) that result from the closure of the Cape Flattery Control Zone. Preliminary Council guidance is to apply a 25 percent reduction in estimated impacts as a result of the closure.*
- *The use of Input-Output Model for Pacific Coast Fisheries (IO-PAC) for commercial salmon fisheries.*

**3. Preseason Salmon Management Schedule for 2015 [[Recording 11-15-14pm2](#); 0:48:00]**

- [Agenda Item F.3](#): Preseason Salmon Management Schedule for 2015

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Fishery Management Council Schedule and Process for Developing 2015 Ocean Salmon Fishery Management Measures

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**c. Public Comment**

None.

**d. Council Action: Adopt a 2015 Preseason Management Schedule [0:52:27]**

**Motion:** Adopt staff's overall proposed schedule and process for developing 2015 ocean salmon management measures ([Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1](#)) with the California modification for the public hearing change to Fort Bragg.

Phil Anderson/Marci Yaremko (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council approved the preliminary schedule for the 2015 preseason salmon management process as proposed with one adjustment. The March 31, 2015 California public hearing site was changed and will be held in Fort Bragg, California. Public hearings will also be held in Westport, Washington and Coos Bay, Oregon on March 30, 2015.*

**4. Lower Columbia Coho Harvest Matrix [[Recording 11-16-14am1](#); 0:00:57]**

- [Agenda Item F.4](#): Lower Columbia Coho Harvest Matrix

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Workgroup Report [0:08:21]**

- [Agenda Item F.4.b, LRC Workgroup Report 1](#): Allowable Fishery Impacts to Lower Columbia River Natural Coho: A Review of the 2006 Harvest Control Rule for Possible Policy Reconsideration
- [Agenda Item F.4.b, LRC Workgroup Report 2](#): Coho Matrix

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:39:10]**

- [Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental STT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental HC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental HC Report 2](#)
- [Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

**d. Public Comment [0:56:43]**

Ms. Irene Martin

**e. Council Action: Adopt Final Recommendations for any Changes to the Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Harvest Matrix [Start [Recording 11-16-14am2](#)]**

**Motion:** Adopt Model 5g from [Agenda Item F.4.b, LRC Workgroup Report 2](#) for use in future fishery management decision-making, and move that this recommendation be forwarded to NMFS for their use in Endangered Species Act (ESA) Compliance determinations. Further, the Council shall schedule a review of this new control rule after three years of use.

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner

**Amendment 1:** Include the information in the box on page 3 of [Agenda Item F.4.b, LRC Workgroup Report 2](#).

Robert Turner/Michele Culver (amendment carried unanimously)

**Amendment 2:** Include on the “Very Low” line of the matrix that all of the five numbers should be preceded with a less-than-or-equal-to sign.

Jeff Feldner/Chris Kern (amendment carried unanimously)

Motion carried unanimously as amended.

**Summary:** *The Council adopted Alternative 5g from the Lower Columbia River Natural Coho (LRC) Workgroup Report 2 for use in future fishery management decision-making and to be forwarded to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with the recommendation it be used in their use in ESA compliance determinations. The Council included the matrix (summarized below) and text box regarding seeding level options on page 3 of LRC Workgroup Report 2.*

Parental Escapement (Percent of full seeding)	Marine Survival Index				
	Very Low ≤0.06%	Low ≤0.08%	Medium ≤0.17%	High ≤0.40%	Very High >0.40%
Normal	10%	15%	18%	23%	30%
Very Low	≤10%	≤15%	≤18%	≤23%	≤30%

## G. Pacific Halibut Management

### 1. 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations [[Recording 11-16-14am2; 0:18:35](#)]

- [Agenda Item G.1](#): 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations

#### a. Agenda Item Overview

- [Agenda Item G.1.a, Attachment 1](#): 2014 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A
- [Agenda Item G.1.a, Attachment 2](#): Visual Representation of the 2014 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A
- [Agenda Item G.1.a, Attachment 3](#): Council Blog Summarizing Proposed Changes to the 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Fishery Regulations

#### b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:26:54]

- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan Changes for 2015
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, NMFS Report 2](#): Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Impact Review of Continuing Implementation of the Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut in Area 2A, 2014-2016 (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, NMFS Report 3](#): NMFS recommended changes for Catch Sharing Plan and Regulation changes for 2015
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, NMFS Report 4](#): Report on the 2014 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, WDFW Report](#): Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Proposed Changes to the Catch Sharing Plan and 2015 Annual Regulations
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, WDFW Report 2](#): Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan Changes
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental WDFW Report 3](#): WDFW Report on Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan Changes (Additional Report to introduce two options for the Columbia River alternatives)
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, ODFW Report](#): Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2015 Fishery
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental IPHC Report](#): Letter to WDFW/ODFW/CDFW from IPHC
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#)

- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental EC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [1:55:37]**

- [Agenda Item G.1.c, Public Comment](#)
- [Agenda Item G.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)
- [Agenda Item G.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Mr. Jerry Reinholdt, Processor

Mr. Joel Kawahara, Salmon Troller

Mr. Scott McBain, Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers

**d. Council Action: Adopt Final Changes to the 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Fishery Regulations [[Recording 11-16-14am2](#); 1:54:25]**

**Motion:** Adopt the recommendations put forth by the GAP as stated in [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#), November 2014, pages 1 and 2, which will bring the California Subarea allocation for 2015 to 4 percent of the non-Indian allocation.

Dan Wolford/David Crabbe (carried unanimously)

[Begin [Recording 11-16-14pm1](#)]

**Motion:** Adopt the following changes to the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the Columbia River subarea:

1. Reduce the nearshore set aside from 1,500 pounds to 500 pounds;
2. Retain the current opening date and manage the fishery to one season, rather than split the subarea quota between the early (80 percent) and late (20 percent) seasons;
3. Increase the number of days that the nearshore area is open from Monday through Wednesday to Monday through Friday for the month of June; and
4. Revise Oregon's contribution to the Columbia River subarea and express it as 2.3 percent of Oregon's sport quota.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

**Amendment:** Remove item #3.

Gway Kirchner/Jeff Feldner (Amendment carried – 5 yes (Mr. Feldner, Ms. Kirchner, Mr. Brizendine, Mr. Lockhart, and Ms. Lowman); 4 no (Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Pollard, Ms. Culver, and Mr. Myer); and 5 abstentions (Ms. Yaremko, Mr. Crabbe, Mr. Wolford, Mr. Sones and Mr. Ortman)).

Main motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Approve the changes as listed in [Agenda Item G.1.b, NMFS Report 3](#).

Frank Lockhart/Gway Kirchner (carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Adopt the following:

- Central Oregon and Southern Oregon allocations as shown in Alternative 1 on page 2 of [Agenda Item G.1.b, ODFW Report](#), November 2014.

- Allow the retention of flatfish, in addition to sablefish and Pacific cod as shown in Alternative 2 on page 3 of [Agenda Item G.1.b, ODFW Report](#), November 2014.  
Gway Kirchner/Jeff Feldner (motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Approve the inseason monitoring and management strategy in [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#).

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe

**Amendment:** Add the draft Catch Sharing Plan language on page 9 of [Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#).

Frank Lockhart/Michele Culver (amendment carried unanimously)

Main motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**Summary:** *The Council recommended modifications to the non-tribal allocations in the 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A (CSP) in response to new information indicating a higher abundance of Pacific halibut and greater fishery participation in northern California than when the CSP was originally adopted. The California recreational fishery allocation will be increased from 1 to 4 percent of the non-tribal allocation by implementing a 1 percent reduction for the Washington recreational (35.6 percent), Oregon recreational (29.7 percent), and commercial (30.7 percent) sectors. Other changes include modifications to the Oregon contribution to the Columbia River Subarea, managing that subarea to one season, and increasing to the Southern Oregon subarea allocation.*

*Further, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife made note of their strong commitment to inseason management of the California recreational fishery during 2015 to stay within the CSP allocation, using the methodology described in writing at this Council meeting (<http://tinyurl.com/m5hwlyo>). A detailed description of all changes to the 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and annual fishery regulations will be provided in a Council blog in early December.*

## H. Ecosystem-Based Management

### 1. Report on the Atlantis Model Review [Begin [Recording 11-16-14pm2](#)]

- [Agenda Item H.1](#): Report on the Atlantis Model Review

#### a. Agenda Item Overview

- [Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1](#): Atlantis Model for the California Current; Report of the Methodology Review Panel Meeting

#### b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:47:29]

- [Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint](#): Atlantis Model for the California Current Report of Methodology Review Panel; Isaac Kaplan (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental EAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item H.1.b Supplemental HC Report](#)

- [Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [0:50:17]**

- [Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Ms. Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

**d. Council Action: Consider use of the Atlantis Model for Fishery Impact Evaluation and Provide Additional Guidance as necessary [[Recording 11-16-14pm2](#); 1:10:04]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The Council endorsed the recommendations of the Review Panel and recommended that further consideration of the use of the California Current Atlantis Model be considered in conjunction with revisiting the fishery ecosystem plan initiatives.*

**I. Highly Migratory Species Management**

**1. National Marine Fisheries Report [Begin [Recording 11-17-14am1](#)]**

- [Agenda Item I.1](#): NMFS Report (HMS)

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. Regulatory Activities [0:02:45]**

- [Agenda Item I.1.b, NMFS Report](#)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities**

None.

**d. Public Comment**

None.

**e. Council Discussion**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**2. International Activities [[Recording 11-17-14am1](#); 0:10:32]**

- [Agenda Item I.2](#): International Activities

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 1](#): Draft Conservation and Management Measure to Establish a Multi-Annual Rebuilding Plan for Pacific Bluefin Tuna

- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 2](#): Precautionary Management Framework for North Pacific Albacore
- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 3](#): Work Programme for the Northern Committee
- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 4](#): Proposal IATTC-87 J-1 Submitted by the United States, Evaluation of Candidate Target and Limit Reference Points and Decision Framework for North Pacific Albacore
- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 5](#): Provisional Annotated Agenda, Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
- [Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Proposal IATTC-87 I-3A; Submitted by Mexico, Japan, and the United States: Measures for the Conservation and Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean

**b. Report on the WCPFC PAC Meeting [0:19:03]**

**c. Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service [0:25:38]**

- [Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

**d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:28:52]**

- [Agenda Item I.2.d, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.2.d, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.2.d, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

**e. Public Comment [0:58:49]**

Mr. Peter Flournoy, International Law Offices of San Diego

**f. Council Action: Consider Reports on International Activities and Adopt Recommendations for U.S. Delegations to the 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission as Appropriate [Begin [Recording 11-17-14am2](#)]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** *The Council made the following recommendation to NMFS on implementing the Pacific bluefin tuna commercial catch limit of 600 metric tons (mt) for 2015-2016, as contained in Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Resolution C-14-06:*

- *A trip limit of 20 mt until 250 mt is caught.*
- *After 250 mt is caught, the trip limit is reduced to 2 mt for the remainder of the year.*
- *In the event of any landing exceeding the trip limit, the overage amount would be forfeited to the State of California.*
- *NMFS should seek non-punitive ways to discourage discarding fish at sea.*

*The Council also recommends NMFS develop the proper contingency regulations implementing the intent of Resolution C-14-06 regarding catch limits in 2016 depending on catch in 2015. The catch in any one year cannot exceed 425 mt, and, if catch exceeds 300 mt in 2015, then the catch limit for 2016 will be 200 mt or less. In general, catch in 2015 is deducted from the 600 mt two-year limit to determine the catch limit in 2016. These conditions will likely require additional*

*measures to account for catches approaching 425 mt in either year and for the possibility that the catch limit in 2016 could be less than 250 mt, depending on catch in 2015.*

*The Council also requested that NMFS prepare two White Papers providing factual information about international fishery matters currently being discussed in an anecdotal context. One is to describe recreational fisheries for Pacific bluefin tuna in other countries; information about recreational catches of Pacific bluefin tuna in other countries have been primarily anecdotal, but suggests that there are recreational fisheries targeting Pacific bluefin tuna in other countries or there are bluefin tuna incidental catches while targeting other HMS. The second White Paper is to deal with verifiable information about increases in fishing capacity and shortcomings in formal catch reporting from China; anecdotal information has been discussed about (1) significant increases in new Chinese fishing vessels being constructed over the past five years and many additional vessels under construction in shipyards either in or out of China, but to be fished with catch accountable to China, and (2) the lack of complete and timely reporting of catches that are rightfully attributed to China. The intent is that these White Papers would be completed in time for the advance Briefing Book for the March 2015 Council meeting, for discussion under the International Issues agenda item.*

*With respect to the upcoming Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the Council advises the U.S. delegation to assure that any conservation measure adopted for South Pacific albacore that includes flag-based catch limits for fisheries in the high seas not include the U.S. troll fishery that operates in the South Pacific.*

*Finally, the Council recommended there should be adequate representation of the Council at the planned International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) workshop on a management strategy evaluation for North Pacific albacore, and that Council representative provide input into workshop design and logistics. This workshop, tentatively scheduled for April 2015, is intended to have participation from scientists, fishery managers, and stakeholders. As a management entity, the Council should be represented in U.S. participation at the workshop. The timing of the workshop should be coordinated to minimize critical conflict with the Council's March-April Council meeting process, and the workshop design should reflect perspectives expressed in the SSC and HMSMT statements and Council discussion at the November 2014 Council meeting.*

**3. Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries [Begin [Recording 11-17-14am3](#)]**

- [Agenda Item I.3](#): Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item I.3.a, Attachment 1](#): Daily-bag-limits, Possession Limits, and At-Sea Processing of Pacific Bluefin Tuna in California Recreational Fisheries, Draft Environmental Assessment

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:07:25]**

- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental HMSMT PowerPoint](#): Potential Economic Impacts of Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries

- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental NMFS/CDFW Report](#): NMFS/CDFW Preliminary Proposal for Consideration on Recreational Bluefin Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental REVISED EC Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [Begin [Recording 11-17-14pm1](#)]**

- [Agenda Item I.3.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#) (*Full Version Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item I.3.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Mr. Bob Osborne, HMSAS Member  
 Ms. Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans  
 Dr. Geoff Shester, Oceana  
 Mr. Jamie Gibbon, PEW Charitable Trust  
 Mr. Barrett Tetlow, San Diego City Council  
 Mr. John Bolduc, Port of San Diego  
 Mr. Joe Exline, Oceanside Anglers  
 Mr. Paul Hoofe, IGFA  
 Mr. Ken Franke, Sportfishing Association of California  
 Mr. Mike Thompson, Sportfishing Association of California  
 Mr. Bill Hall  
 Mr. Markus Medak  
 Ms. Alayna Siddall, Sportfishing Association of California  
 Ms. Sharon Cloward, San Diego Port Tenants Association  
 Ms. Sophie Sylvestri, San Diego Port Tenants Association  
 Mr. John Klein, Point Lomas Sport Fishing  
 Mr. Mike Harrison, representing Congressman Duncan Hunter  
 Mr. Steve Crooke, Angler

**d. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives for Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries [Begin [Recording 11-17-14pm2](#)]**

**Motion:** Adopt the preliminary preferred alternative as the final preferred alternative for bluefin tuna management measures for 2015-2016 fisheries regarding bag and possession limits (daily bag of 2 fish per day; maximum possession limit of 6). Regarding at-sea filleting, adopt the recommendations of [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#) and [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental REVISED EC Report](#).

Marci Yaremko/Buzz Brizendine (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council chose as its final preferred alternative a two-fish Pacific bluefin tuna daily bag limit caught in recreational fisheries while fishing in U.S. waters off California and up to a six-fish possession limit for anglers operating out of California ports. As part of its preferred alternative, filleting of tunas at sea would be permitted based on procedures described in Agenda*

*Item [I.3.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#), and [Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental REVISED EC Report](#). The purpose of these procedures is to allow Pacific bluefin to be differentiated from other tuna species that may be filleted at sea for enforcement purposes.*

**4. Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries**  
**[[Recording 11-17-14pm2](#); 0:19:29]**

- [Agenda Item I.4](#): Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item I.4.a, Attachment 1](#): Range of Alternatives for Protected Species Hard Caps, Finfish Bycatch Reduction, and Enhanced Monitoring in the California Large Mesh Drift Gillnet Fishery Adopted at the September 2014 Council Meeting

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:29:36]**

- [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental WDFW Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental HMSMT PowerPoint](#): Bootstrap Analysis of Drift Gillnet Fishery Operation under Hard Caps (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [Begin Recording 11-17-14pm3]**

- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Public Comment](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (*Full Version Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 5](#) (*Electronic Only, Includes Letter and PowerPoint*)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 6](#) (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 7](#) (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item I.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment 8](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Mr. Ben Enticknap, Oceana

Ms. Dana Murray, Heal the Bay

Ms. Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Ms. Kathy Fosmark

Mr. Donald Krebs, Fisherman

Ms. Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Mr. Robert Kurz, IGFA

Mr. Gary Burke, CFSB

Mr. Rick Alfred with Jeremiah Ryan

**d. Council Action: Consider Associated Workload and Scheduling Issues for Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priority Issues as Necessary [Begin [Recording 11-18-14am1](#)]**

**Motion:** That the Council:

1. Send a letter to NMFS clarifying the Council's goal, objective, and intent in selecting its preliminary preferred alternatives as described in [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental WDFW Report](#).
2. Direct the HMSMT and Council staff to prepare a draft Purpose and Need for the Drift Gillnet (DGN) Transition Plan, including its goal and objectives, for the Council's consideration in March 2015.
3. Revise the range of alternatives in Attachment 1 as follows:
  - a. Protected Species Hard Cap Alternative 2 – Remove this alternative as it falls within the range of Alternatives 1 and 3
  - b. Protected Species Hard Cap Alternative 5 (PPA) – Revise the description to: Hard caps for high priority ESA-listed species and species with an annual M/SI of greater than or equal to 10 percent potential biological removal
  - c. Observer Coverage Alternatives 1, 2, 3, 5 – Remove these alternatives as they fall within the remaining range of No Action and Alternative 6
4. Under Calculation of Take Caps, clarify that the annual hard cap numbers for the PPA are based on the Council's objectives to reduce bycatch and address social and environmental concerns. Given that Incidental Take Statement values reflect fishery take estimates over a five-year time period, by using these numbers, the Council indicated its preference to not allow the fishery to exceed these estimates.
5. For the Observer Coverage Alternatives, add the following: Across all alternatives, the Council recognizes that NMFS funding for observer coverage and/or EM is limited. The Council requests that, prior to each fishing year, NMFS inform the Council of the level of observer coverage/EM that NMFS would be able to fund. The balance of the costs associated with observer coverage/EM requirements would be industry-funded.
6. While all of the issues addressed by these alternatives are important, for the purposes of focusing attention on the regulatory changes for the 2015-2016 fishing year, the implementation of hard caps for high priority protected species and increasing observer coverage/EM are of higher priority than performance objectives/bycatch reduction targets for non-ESA listed marine mammals and finfish.
7. Direct the HMSMT to develop a monitoring transition plan for the DNG fishery for the Council's consideration in June 2015. Specifically, the HMSMT to identify the steps and timeline to transition the DGN to 100 percent monitoring, which could be a combination of human observer coverage and EM. In developing the plan, consider the need to evaluate EM efficacy, and requirements on the number and placement of cameras, level of video review, and costs.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

**Amendment 1:** Strike “as described in [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental WDFW Report](#)” from the first bullet.

David Crabbe/Marci Yaremko (withdrawn)

**Amendment 1a:** Include the following language: “Include the policy objectives from the June 2014 meeting and the items described in the summary section of supplemental

WDFW report, and additional information from the Council’s website, that describes how we arrived at those objectives.”

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (withdrawn)

**Amendment 1b:** Include the following language: “Include the policy objectives from the June 2014 meeting, and additional information from the Council’s website that describes how we arrived at those objectives.” Also include the second paragraph of the summary section (page 4 of [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental WDFW Report](#)) of what the Council intent is to balance social and environmental concerns.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (withdrawn)

**Amendment 2:** Rewrite the first item as follows:

1. Send a letter to NMFS clarifying the Council’s intent in selecting its preliminary preferred alternatives is consistent with the following: The proposed management measures, such as hard caps for marine mammals and sea turtles; take into account the best available science and population status of marine mammals and sea turtles; and are intended to avoid potential conflicts with the Marine Mammal Protection Act and ESA, but are not intended as an attempt to manage the populations of these animals through MSA.”

Rich Lincoln/Gway Kirchner (Amendment 2 carried unanimously)

**Amendment 3:** Make the following strike-out and addition (underlined) edits to the original motion (for selected portions):

2. Direct the HMSMT and Council staff to prepare a draft Purpose and Need for the DGN ~~Transition~~ Management and Monitoring Plan, including its goal and objectives, for the Council’s consideration in March 2015.
4. Under Calculation of Take Caps, clarify that the annual hard cap numbers for the PPA are based on the Council’s objectives to reduce bycatch ~~and address social and environmental concerns~~. Given that Incidental Take Statement values reflect fishery take estimates over a five-year time period, by using these numbers, the Council indicated its preference to not allow the fishery to exceed these estimates.
5. For the Observer Coverage Alternatives, add the following: Across all alternatives, the Council recognizes that NMFS funding for observer coverage and/or EM is limited. The Council requests that, prior to each fishing year, NMFS inform the Council of the level of observer coverage/EM that NMFS would be able to fund. The balance of the costs associated with observer coverage/EM requirements would be ~~industry non-~~ government-funded.
7. Direct the HMSMT to develop a monitoring ~~transition~~ plan for the DGN fishery for the Council’s consideration in June 2015. Specifically, the HMSMT to identify the steps and timeline to transition the DGN to 100 percent monitoring, which could be a combination of human observer coverage and EM. In developing the plan, consider the need to evaluate

EM efficacy, and requirements on the number and placement of cameras, level of video review, and costs.

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Amendment 3 carried unanimously)

Main motion carried unanimously as amended.

**Summary:** *The Council discussed their general policy intent for the DGN fishery and made several decisions about (1) the pursuit of hard caps as a primary management measure in the DGN fishery, and (2) other previously adopted HMS fishery priorities. The Council discussed a policy goal to end the DGN fishery and transition it to a swordfish target fishery that excludes DGN gear time at some point in the future, but did not adopt this as a policy goal. The discussion instead expressed a policy intent to pursue strong management measures designed to improve the target performance of the DGN fishery, while at the same time encouraging alternative gears that can provide for a viable commercial fishery with significantly better bycatch performance than the past DGN fishery. The Council also took the following actions:*

- 1. Directed staff to write a letter to NMFS in response to the letter contained in [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#), explaining that the Council's preliminary preferred alternatives for management of the California large mesh DGN fishery via hard caps take into account the best available science and population status of marine mammals and sea turtles and are intended to avoid potential conflicts with the Marine Mammal Protection Act and ESA, but are not intended to manage the populations of these animals through the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA).*
- 2. Directed the HMSMT and staff to prepare a draft purpose and need statement for a Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan, including its goal and objectives, for the Council's consideration in March 2015. As part of this effort the Council staff should strive to complete a Fishery Monitoring Plan by June 2015, working with the HMSMT and other appropriate Council advisory bodies. The objective is to increase monitoring in the DGN fishery, either through human observers or electronic technologies, to 100 percent.*
- 3. Narrowed the range of alternatives described in [Agenda Item I.4.a, Attachment 1](#). Further detail on the range of alternatives to be analyzed will be forthcoming on the Council's website over the winter.*
- 4. Clarified that the annual hard cap numbers for the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (see [Agenda Item I.4.a, Attachment 1](#)) are based on the Council's objectives to reduce bycatch.*
- 5. Requested that, at a timely point prior to each fishing year, NMFS inform the Council of the level of observer coverage/ EM that NMFS would be able to fund. This would facilitate planning for non-government funding for the balance of the costs associated with observer coverage or EM.*
- 6. Prioritized HMS workload on hard caps and increased fishery monitoring for implementation in the 2015-2016 fishing season, over competing workload.*
- 7. Scheduled further consideration of a Hawaii-type longline fishery outside the Exclusive Economic Zone to begin at the June 2015 Council meeting.*
- 8. Scheduled a range of options for transition of State DGN permits to a Federal permit system under the MSA for the November 2015 Council meeting.*

## **J. Groundfish Management**

### **1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report [Begin [Recording 11-18-14am2](#)]**

- [Agenda Item J.1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report (Groundfish)
  - a. Agenda Item Overview**
  - b. Regulatory Activities [0:01:13]**
    - [Agenda Item J.1.b, FR Notices](#): *Federal Register* Notices Published Since the Last Council Meeting
    - [Agenda Item J.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#): Rulemaking Plan for 2014; *Groundfish and Halibut*
    - [Agenda Item J.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Omnibus Update
  - c. Fisheries Science Center Activities [0:24:00]**
    - [Agenda Item J.1.c, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint](#): Groundfish Science Report, Northwest Fisheries Science Center (*Electronic Only*)
  - d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:33:59]**
    - [Agenda Item J.1.d, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
  - e. Public Comment [0:36:58]**

Mr. Jeff Lackey, F/V Seeker

Ms. Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Ms. Corey Ridings, Ocean Conservancy

### **f. Council Discussion [[Recording 11-18-14am2](#); 0:48:26]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

### **2. Widow Rockfish Reallocation and Divestiture Issues [1:07:48]**

- [Agenda Item J.2](#): Widow Rockfish Reallocation and Divestiture Issues
  - a. Agenda Item Overview**
    - [Agenda Item J.2.a, Supplemental Agenda Overview PowerPoint](#): Widow Rockfish Reallocation and Divestiture Issues; Jim Seger (*Electronic Only*)
    - [Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 1](#): Calendars for Action and Implementation
    - [Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 2](#): Widow QS Reallocation Consideration: Initial Public Scoping Document (Draft)
    - [Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 3](#): Guidance for Making Allocation Decisions Related to Catch Shares
  - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:40:22]**
    - [Agenda Item J.2.b, NMFS Report](#): Considerations for IFQ Widow Rockfish Divestiture

- [Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Widow Rockfish Divestiture Considerations; “NMFS Handout to Supplement Presentation by Colby Brady”
- [Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Divestiture Considerations Widow reallocation, Individual, and Aggregate species limits (*Electronic Only, Colby Brady Presentation*)
- [Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [[Recording 11-18-14pm1](#); 0:24:41]**

- [Agenda Item J.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)
- [Agenda Item J.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Ms. Michele Longo-Eder, F/V Timmy Boy

Ms. Andrea Lueker and Mr. Rick Algert, Morro Bay Community Quota Fund

Mr. Rod Moore, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

Ms. Kate Kauer, The Nature Conservancy

Mr. Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood

Mr. Pete Leipzig, Fisherman’s Marketing Association

Mr. Paul Kujala, F/V Cape Windy

Mr. Omar Allmson, F/V Miss Leona

Mr. Steve Bodnar, Coos Bay Trawler’s Association

**d. Council Action: Adopt Range of Alternatives for Widow Rockfish Reallocation and, as Necessary, Divestiture Issues [Begin [Recording 11-18-14pm2](#)]**

**Motion:** That the Council:

- Adopt the range of alternatives for widow rockfish re-allocation as shown in Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report (November 2014).
- Adopt the alternative for the widow rockfish divestiture deadline as shown in Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report (November 2014).
- Adopt the range of alternatives for the aggregate limit divestiture deadline as shown in Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report (November 2014) which are:
  1. No Action (current divestiture deadline of November 15, 2015).
  2. Exclude widow rockfish from the non-whiting aggregate control limit until 12 months following the implementation of the widow reallocation.
  3. Extend the aggregate control limit deadline to coincide with the widow control limit.
  4. Delay the non-whiting aggregate control limit deadline until the implementation of any regulatory changes developed pursuant to the first program review for the trawl rationalization program (the November 15, 2015 deadline would still apply to individual species except widow).
- Recommend the approaches for revoking forfeited quota shares as described in Agenda Item J.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report (November 2014) and in Agenda Item J.2.b, NMFS Report (November 2014).

Gway Kirchner/Jeff Feldner

**Amendment 1:** Include for the widow rockfish quota share reallocation (Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 2, page 7) add at the end of the first paragraph:

“Provide two sub-options:

- Suboption a: the 2016 trawl allocations based on the 2016 acceptable biological catch (ABC)
- Suboption b: the 2016 trawl allocations based on the 2016 annual catch limit (ACL).”

David Crabbe/Joanna Grebel (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

**Amendment 2:** Maintain existing Alternative 3, but add to the range of alternatives for widow rockfish:

- Suboption a – 50 percent revenue across years 2003-2010 would include “drop years;” as done in the original analysis
- Suboption b - same as suboption a, but replace 2003-2010 with 2003-2014.

Corey Niles/Rich Lincoln

**Amendment 2a:** Remove sub-option b.

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe (Amendment 2a carried unanimously)

Amendment 2, as amended, carried unanimously. The main motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**Summary:** *The Council adopted for analysis the widow rockfish reallocation range of alternatives recommended by the GAP plus: (1) a variation on Alternative 2 which would determine the split of the QS allocation between whiting and non-whiting trips by applying the Amendment 21 rules for determining the split in allocation between whiting/non-whiting trips to the ABC, rather than the ACL; (2) a variation on Alternative 3 that would drop the three worst years out of the calculation for the QS allocation to be based on 2003-2010 revenues. Regarding divestiture deadlines, the Council adopted the GAP recommendations, reorganized for clarity. With respect to revoking forfeited QS, the Council adopted for analysis the GAP recommendation to provide QS owners with an opportunity to abandon QS to NMFS prior to the divestiture deadline, for redistribution among QS holders, rather than going through the forfeiture process after the divestiture deadline.*

**3. Initial Consideration of Blackgill Rockfish Reallocation [[Recording 11-18-14pm2; 0:44:56](#)]**

- [Agenda Item J.3](#): Initial Blackgill Rockfish Reallocation Consideration

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 1](#): Reallocation of Blackgill Rockfish South of 40<sup>0</sup>10' N Latitude

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:54:14]**

- [Agenda Item J.3.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item J.3.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [1:07:55]**

Mr. Gerry Richter

**d. Council Action: Identify, Prioritize, and Schedule Issues for Changes in the Blackgill Rockfish Allocation from Restructuring the South of 40°10' Slope Rockfish Complex [[Recording 11-18-14pm2](#); 1:08:31]**

**Motion:** Schedule a process to restructure the southern slope rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. latitude to address the blackgill rockfish allocation matters raised in [Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 1](#) as well as in the supplemental GAP and GMT reports. The goal is that final Council action on this matter would be taken prior to conducting the analysis to inform harvest specifications and management measures for 2017-2018; exact schedule to be adopted under Agenda Item C.9.

Joanna Grebel/Buzz Brizendine (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council decided to move forward with consideration to restructure the Slope Rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. latitude by removing blackgill rockfish from the southern Slope Rockfish complex and reallocating both blackgill rockfish and the remaining species in the southern Slope Rockfish complex to trawl and non-trawl sectors. Analysis of alternatives will proceed over the winter with a goal of determining a final preferred alternative in advance of the November 2015 Council meeting, where management measures will be proposed. The schedule for this initiative includes the Council adopting a preliminary preferred alternative at the April 2015 Council meeting and making a final decision at the June 2015 Council meeting.*

**4. Groundfish Management Ongoing Rulemaking [Begin [Recording 11-18-14pm3](#)]**

- [Agenda Item J.4](#): Ongoing Groundfish Rulemakings

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item J.4.a, Attachment 1](#): Midwater Trawl Restrictions and Prohibited Species Retention for the Shorebased Trawl Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program, March 2014
- [Agenda Item J.4.a, Attachment 2](#): Reconsideration of Select 2015 and 2016 Groundfish Harvest Specifications

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:07:47]**

- [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#): Season Date Change for midwater trawl fishery (whiting and non-whiting) – *NMFS interpretation*
- [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
- [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [0:24:38]**

Ms. Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

**d. Council Action: Consider Action and Additional Guidance for Issues Related to Rulemaking, as Necessary [[Recording 11-18-14pm3](#); 0:25:17]**

**Motion:** Adopt the 2015-2016 harvest specifications, overfishing limits, ABCs, and resulting ACLs for English sole, yellowtail rockfish north of 40° 10' N. latitude; sharpchin rockfish, and rex sole as recommended in [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#) and shown in Table 1 of [Agenda Item J.4.a, Attachment 2](#).

Gway Kirchner/Jeff Feldner (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council concurred with the general description of provisions proposed for the whiting clean-up rule, including defining trips with more than 50 percent whiting as Pacific whiting trips. The Council revised the overfishing limits, ABCs, and ACLs for English sole, yellowtail rockfish north of 40° 10' N. latitude, sharpchin rockfish, and rex sole, as well as the harvest specifications for the Slope Rockfish complexes and the Other Flatfish complex, as described in Agenda Item, [J.4.a, Attachment 2](#). The Council concurred with the NMFS interpretation of the whiting season start date as provided in Agenda Item [J.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#).*

**5. Economic Data Collection Report on Fishery Status and Overview on Social Science Research [[Recording 11-18-14pm3](#); 0:34:10]**

- [Agenda Item J.5](#): Economic Data Collection Program Report on Fishery Status and Overview of Social Science Research

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

**b. National Marine Fisheries Service Reports**

- [Agenda Item J.5.b, NWFSC Report 1](#): Economic Data Collection Program First Receiver and Shorebased Processor Report (*Full report electronic only*)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, NWFSC Report 2](#): Economic Data Collection Program Catcher Vessel Report (*Full report electronic only*)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, NWFSC Report 3](#): Economic Data Collection Program Catcher-Processor Report (*Full report electronic only*)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, NWFSC Report 4](#): Economic Data Collection Program Mothership Report (*Full report electronic only*)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, NWFSC Report 5](#): The Pacific Groundfish Fishery Social Study: An Initial Theme-Based Report
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, Supplemental NWFSC Report 6](#): The Pacific Groundfish Fishery Social Study: An Overview of Initial Theme-Based Results – Slides Presented in [Video](#)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint 1](#): Economic Data Collection Program Report; 2009-2012 (*Electronic Only*)
- [Agenda Item J.5.b, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint 2](#): Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Social Study: An Overview of Initial Theme Based Results (*Electronic Only*)

**c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [1:11:21]**

- [Agenda Item J.5.c, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
- [Agenda Item J.5.c, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**d. Public Comment**

None.

**e. Council Discussion [[Recording 11-18-14pm3](#); 1:19:14]**

**Motion:** None.

**Summary:** None.

**6. Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure [[Recording 11-19-14am1](#); 0:02:56]**

- [Agenda Item J.6](#): Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure
  - a. Agenda Item Overview**
  - [Agenda Item J.6.a, Attachment 1](#): Proposed Draft of Council Operating Procedure 25
  - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:09:06]**
    - [Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
    - [Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
    - [Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
  - c. Public Comment**

None.

**d. Council Action: Consider Establishing a Process and Schedule for Groundfish Methodology Reviews as a Council Operating Procedure [0:18:43]**

**Motion:** Adopt a process and schedule for groundfish methodology reviews as contained in proposed draft COP 25 ([Agenda Item J.6.a, Attachment 1](#)) with the final adoption of COP 25 to be made April 2015. The motion includes the recommendations of the GMT ([Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)), SSC ([Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)), and GAP ([Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)).

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council sanctioned moving forward with a process and schedule for groundfish methodology reviews as Council Operating Procedure (COP) 25. They recommended the draft COP 25 as shown in Agenda Item J.6.a, Attachment 1 be revised by incorporating the recommendations of the SSC, GMT, and GAP provided in supplemental reports under this agenda item. The Council has scheduled its final adoption of COP 25 for the April 2015 meeting.*

**7. Reconsideration of Open Access Registration under Amendment 22 [[Recording 11-19-14am1](#); 0:27:40]**

- [Agenda Item J.7](#): Reconsideration of Open Access Registration Under Amendment 22
  - a. Agenda Item Overview**
  - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:31:00]**
    - [Agenda Item J.7.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
  - c. Public Comment**

None.

**d. Council Action: Consider Final Action to Rescind or Revise Council Action of Open Access Registration under Amendment 22 [[Recording 11-19-14am1](#); 0:33:28]**

**Motion:** Rescind the decision to create an open access registry under Amendment 22.  
Dan Wolford/Dorothy Lowman (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council voted to rescind their recommendation to create a registry of open access groundfish fishermen originally adopted under Amendment 22. The Council believes the costs of creating a registry outweigh the benefits, and the rescission would free up resources to advance other higher priority initiatives.*

**8. Consideration of Inseason Adjustments [[Recording 11-19-14am1](#); 0:36:42]**

- [Agenda Item J.8](#): Consideration of Inseason Adjustments

**a. Agenda Item Overview**

- [Agenda Item J.8.a, Attachment 1](#): 2014 Pacific Coast Groundfish Trip Limits and RCA Boundaries

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [0:42:38]**

- [Agenda Item J.8.b, NMFS Report](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Inseason Adjustments for 2015
- [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): California Scorpionfish Fishery to Close Nov. 15
- [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#)
- [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)
- [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#)
- [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**c. Public Comment [1:11:32]**

Mr. Seth Atkinson, Natural Resources Defense Council  
Mr. Mike Thompson  
Mr. Gerry Richter, PCGA

**d. Council Action: Adopt Recommendations for Adjustments for 2014 and 2015 Groundfish Fisheries [[Recording 11-19-14am1](#); 1:17:15]**

**Motion:** For the 2015-2016 recreational fishery in California, adopt a 5-fish sub-bag limit for black rockfish and a closure from September-December for California Scorpionfish as recommended in [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#) and [Agenda Item J.8.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#).

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (motion carried unanimously)

**Summary:** *The Council considered the higher than expected catches of black rockfish and California scorpionfish in the California recreational fishery in 2014 and recommended inseason adjustments for 2015. Specifically, a five fish black rockfish sub-bag limit within the ten fish rockfish, Cabezon, and greenling bag limit would be implemented in 2015. Additionally, retention*

*of California scorpionfish in the California recreational fisheries would be prohibited from September through December 2015.*

*In response to the situation surrounding the emergency Council meeting of October 17, 2014, the Council staff was tasked with drafting regulations for the Council to consider at the April 2015 Council meeting to provide the NMFS Regional Administrator the authority and discretion to take the kind of automatic actions that would have eliminated the need for this emergency Council meeting.*

## **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

- [Informational Report 1](#): Vessel Movement Monitoring Informational Report
- [Informational Report 2](#): PEW Reception; Sunday, November 16, 2014, 6-8 p.m.
- [Informational Report 3](#): PFMC Request for Comments on Draft FMP Amendments Protecting Unfished and Unmanaged Forage Fish Species
- [REVISED Informational Report 4](#): Estimated Discard and Catch of Groundfish Species in the 2013 US West Coast Fisheries (WCGOP Report); **Full Version Electronic Only**
- [Supplemental Informational Report 5](#): Secretary of Commerce Appoints Four New Committee Members to NOAA's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (*October 20, 2014 NOAA News Release*)
- [Supplemental Informational Report 6](#): NMFS Ad-hoc Mid-Water Gear Bottom Contact Meeting (*Monday evening November 17th at 7:00 PM, Laguna Beach 1-2 Room*)
- [Supplemental Informational Report 7](#): Letter from NMFS regarding the tribal seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council
- [Supplemental Informational Report 8](#): NMFS Report: Response to Council's Questions Concerning the Effectiveness, Accuracy, and Completeness of Pacific Coast Groundfish EFH
- [Supplemental Informational Report 9](#): Status Report of the 2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries Off Washington, Oregon and California. Preliminary Data Through October 31, 2014

## **ADJOURN**

The Council adjourned November 19, 2014 at 3:29 PM.

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Dorothy Lowman  
Council Chair

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Date