



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Dorothy M. Lowman, Chair | Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 26, 2015
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore
SUBJECT: June 2015 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet June 10-16, 2015 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Spokane City Center, 322 North Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Groundfish Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, June 10 starting at 8 a.m. in the Salon II Room. The entire SSC will meet Thursday, June 11 and Friday, June 12 starting at 8 a.m. each day in the Salon II Room. The SSC's Groundfish and Economic Subcommittees will meet Saturday, June 13 starting at 8 a.m. in the Salon II Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed, and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

Council Administrative Matters

The SSC will review their potential workload in the next year and may recommend to the Council which tasks are prioritized.

The SSC will review analyses in support of fishery-specific habitat objectives and will recommend improvements to the analysts in preparation for future Council considerations.

Groundfish Management

The SSC will consider a literature review of research evaluating skate discard mortality rates conducted by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT). The GMT requests feedback and a recommendation on an assumed discard mortality rate for big skate. SSC and GMT recommendations on these issues will be presented to the Council under Agenda Item D.7, Inseason Adjustments.

The SSC will review new benchmark assessments for canary and darkblotched rockfish; a new data-moderate assessment for arrowtooth flounder; new update assessments for chilipepper rockfish, petrale sole, and sablefish, as well as new catch reports for Pacific ocean perch, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish; and will consider endorsing these assessments and catch reports to inform

groundfish decision-making as best available science. The review of the data-moderate and update assessments, as well as the catch reports, is the subject of the June 10 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee meeting.

The Council will choose a range of alternative rebuilding revision rules for detailed analysis. The SSC will consider endorsing a Management Strategy Evaluation that was reviewed by the SSC at their April meeting for informing that decision.

Highly Migratory Species Management

The Council will consider recommending a proposed exempted fishing permit (EFP) to inform management of Highly Migratory Species to the National Marine Fisheries Service. The SSC will review the scientific design of EFP activities and report to the Council whether the proposed EFP activity is based in sound science.

The Council is scheduled to consider a draft Swordfish Management Plan and refine alternatives for hard caps for protected species and finfish. Specifically, the SSC will further review a model (initially reviewed in March) that simulates the performance of the fishery and predicts socioeconomic impacts under alternative species' hard caps and consider endorsing the model to inform Council decision-making.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council is scheduled to take final action on Pacific mackerel harvest specifications and management measures for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 fisheries. The SSC will deliberate recommending the new benchmark assessment, which was reviewed on April 27-29 by a Stock Assessment Review panel. The SSC will also recommend overfishing limits for Pacific mackerel for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 fisheries.

The Council is scheduled to adopt a Terms of Reference and other details for a planned workshop to evaluate the Pacific sardine distribution parameter. The SSC will provide their recommendations on the workshop Terms of Reference, as well as those SSC members that can attend the workshop under Agenda Item G.4 – Litigation Settlement Discussion.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:kma

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item F.1 – Legislative Matters
3. Agenda Item F.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Groundfish Management

4. Agenda Item D.7 – Inseason Adjustments

5. Agenda Item D.8 – Final Stock Assessments and Catch Reports
6. Agenda Item D.10 – Rebuilding Revision Rules

Highly Migratory Species Management

7. Agenda Item E.2 – Final Approval of Resubmitted Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Application
8. Agenda Item E.3 – Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan Hardcaps

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

9. Agenda Item G.2 – Pacific Mackerel Assessment and Management Measures
10. Agenda Item G.4 – Litigation Settlement Discussion

SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Closed Session, etc.

11. June 2015 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
12. June 2015 SSC Agenda
13. June 2015 SSC Groundfish and Economics Subcommittees Agenda
14. Draft April 2015 SSC Minutes
15. Informational Reports
16. Fishery-Specific Habitat Objectives – West Coast Pilot Draft Report
17. Bayesian inference and assessment of rare-event bycatch in marine fisheries: a drift gillnet fishery case study
18. Variability in rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.) fecundity: species contrasts, maternal size effects, and spatial differences
19. Coastwide Pre-Recruit Indices for select *Sebastes* species from SWFSC and NWFSC/PWCC Midwater Trawl Surveys (2001-2014)
20. Catch projection model for the West Coast groundfish IFQ sector, for use in 2017-18 harvest specifications
21. Groundfish Management Team Report to the Scientific and Statistical Committee on a Probability Analysis used to Evaluate Risk of Exceeding Catch Limits
22. Hotel-Related Information
23. Roster