

**DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING RECORD**  
**233<sup>rd</sup> Session of the**  
**Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**March 8-14, 2016**

Doubletree by Hilton Sacramento  
2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815

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## 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** – These documents are available on the Council Website prior to and following each meeting at <http://www.pcouncil.org/>.
2. **Attendance Records** – These documents are 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** – These items include (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. They 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** – This document is distributed shortly after each Council meeting. It provides very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions and is available at <http://www.pcouncil.org/resources/archives/council-meeting-decisions/> and 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** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting and are labeled by date and time (e.g., 04-11-15am1) 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 follows this section) – The Meeting Summary 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. The agenda heading for each agenda item, and most listed documents, serve as internet links to the actual briefing book documents. Internet links in brackets (e.g., [[mp3: 11-11-14pm1 @01:21:15](#)]) refer to the audio recording and elapsed time on the recording at which the agenda item was initiated. Links to the audio recordings are annotated by agenda item and may also be accessed at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/past-meetings/>.

## MEETING SUMMARY

### A. Call to Order

#### 1. Opening Remarks - Dorothy Lowman, Chair [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:00:30](#)]

Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Council Chair, called the 233<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 9:55 a.m. on March 9, 2016. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

#### 2. Roll Call - Don McIsaac [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:04:41](#)]

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

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Mr. Bob Turner, designee Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee Ms. Heidi Taylor, designee
Alaska State Official:	Mr. Charles Swanton (nonvoting)
Washington State Official:	Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee Ms. Michele Culver, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Rich Lincoln
Oregon State Official:	Mr. Chris Kern, designee Dr. Caren Braby, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Chair
California State Official:	Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee Ms. Joanna Grebel, designee
California Obligatory:	Mr. David Crabbe
Idaho State Official:	Mr. Pete Hassemmer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Herb Pollard, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. Joe Oatman
At-Large:	Mr. William L. "Buzz" Brizendine Mr. Jeff Feldner Mr. Phil Anderson 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
U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee

#### 3. [Executive Director's Report](#) – Don McIsaac [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:04:46](#)]

[Agenda Item A.3, Attachment 1](#): Council Coordination Committee Meeting, February 24-26, 2016 Meeting Agenda

[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Bycatch reporting methodology proposed rule open for comment

[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): U.S. National Bycatch Report, First Edition Update



[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Proposal for Protocol for Submitting Electronic Presentations at Council Meetings in Public Testimony, Agency Reports, and Advisory Body Statements

4. [Agenda](#) – Dorothy Lowman [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:29:38](#)]

a. **Council Action: Approve Agenda**

**Motion:** Adopt [Agenda Item A.4, March 8-14, 2016 Council Meeting Agenda](#)  
David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

**B. Open Comment Period**

1. [Comments on Non-Agenda Items](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:30:35](#)]

a. **Advisory Body and Management Entity Comments**

None

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:30:43](#)]

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Open Public Comment 1](#): Letter from Heather Mann Individual Vessel Caps

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Public Comment 2](#): Robert Behne, re: Fukushima

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Public Comment 3](#): End the driftnet fishery now!

Jeff Lackey, F/V Seeker

Steve Bodnar, Coos Bay Trawlers Association

c. **Council Discussion as Appropriate**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

**C. Habitat**

1. [Current Habitat Issues](#) – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 0:43:37](#)]

a. [Report of the Habitat Committee](#) – Joel Kawahara

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 1:02:05](#)]

[Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. **Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council directed the Habitat Committee to draft a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation containing 2016 freshwater habitat management recommendations for Sacramento winter-run Chinook salmon, and include it in the April briefing book, as recommended by the

Habitat Committee. The Council intends to take action on the draft letter at the April Council Meeting in Vancouver, Washington.

#### **D. Ecosystem Management**

1. **[California Current Ecosystem Report including Integrated Ecosystem Assessment](#)**  
– Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 1:20:51](#)]

a. **[Report of the IEA Team](#)** – Chris Harvey & Toby Garfield [[mp3: 3-9-16am1 1:24:31](#)] & [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:09:15](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team, California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) State of the California Current Report, 2015

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): CCIEA Supplementary Materials

[Agenda Item D.1.a, Supplemental IEA PowerPoint](#) (Harvey/Garfield)

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:01:13](#)] & [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:13:12](#)]

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

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

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

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

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. **Council Action: Consider the California Current Ecosystem Report** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:27:02](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council thanked the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team for an excellent 2016 Annual Report, observing that the report contained valuable information, particularly related to current anomalous ocean conditions that the Council will take into account in 2016 fishery management decision-making. The Council also endorsed recommendations from advisory body reports about improving next year's report, including more indicators informing the status of recreational fisheries and a section on research recommendations.

2. **[Update on Coordinated Ecosystem Indicator Review Initiative](#)** – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:36:16](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:42:21](#)]

[Agenda Item D.2.a, Ecosystem Workgroup Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.2.a, Supplemental Ecosystem Workgroup Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item D.2.a, Supplemental Ecosystem Workgroup PowerPoint](#) (deReynier)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1 0:55:58](#)]

[Agenda Item D.2.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Corey Ridings, Ocean Conservancy

- c. **Council Action: Consider Issues Relevant to the Coordinated Ecosystem Indicator Review Initiative and Provide Guidance on Future Process and Schedule** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm1](#) 1:02:45]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council reviewed progress to date and provided guidance on the schedule and timeline for the Initiative to refine and improve the ecosystem indicators presented in the Annual State of the California Current Ecosystem Report. The Council plans to finalize ecosystem indicators at its September 2016 meeting. Council advisory bodies were tasked with evaluating specific ecosystem indicators relevant to the four Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). Advisory bodies, particularly the Ecosystem Work Group, were also tasked with providing analyses about how ecosystem effects across the FMPs could be addressed in Council actions.

Over the long term, integrating ecosystem information into Council decisions could be facilitated by identifying focal topics that would be taken up in future years. The Council suggested that indicators relevant to setting annual management measures for the ocean salmon fishery would be a useful focal area. A second focal area would be to incorporate ecosystem considerations into the harvest management framework for sablefish. This recommendation comes in light of the fact that sablefish stock biomass has declined despite precautionary management measures.

## **E. Salmon Management**

1. **[National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#)** – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-9-16pm2](#) 0:00:06]

- a. **Regulatory Activities** – Bob Turner [[mp3: 3-9-16pm2](#) 0:01:09]

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Recovery Action Mapping Tool (Shanna Dunn)

- b. **Fisheries Science Center Activities** – Pete Lawson [[mp3: 3-9-16pm2](#) 0:22:37]

[Agenda Item E.1.b, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Report on Science Center Activities (Pete Lawson)

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

None

- d. **Public Comment**

None

- e. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 3-9-16pm2](#) 0:56:24]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

2. **[Review of 2015 Fisheries and Summary of 2016 Stock Abundance Forecasts](#)** – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-10-16am1 0:02:06](#)]

[Review of 2015 Ocean Salmon Fisheries](#) Published February 2016 (*Electronic Only*)

[Preseason Report I](#): Published February 2016, *Corrections were made on March 1, 2016 to Table V-4 and Table V-6 (Electronic Only)*

[Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1](#): Excerpts from Chapter 3 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan

Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1 for 2016 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations (*Supplemental Briefing Material*)

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-10-16am1 0:05:48](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): EXCERPTS From: Preseason Report I

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental ODFW Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action – Review and Discuss Relevant Fishery Information, Act on Relevant Conservation Objectives or Status Determinations, and Adopt 2016 Abundance Forecasts and Annual Catch Limits as Necessary** [[mp3: 3-10-16am1 0:58:46](#)]

**Motion:** Council to adopt the stock abundance forecasts, ABCs, and ACLs in Preseason Report I as the best available science for use in 2016 salmon management as recommended by SSC. Jeff Feldner/Chris Kern (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** None

3. **[Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model \(FRAM\) Co-manager Update](#)** – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-10-16am2 0:00:31](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3, Attachment 1](#): January 19, 2016 letter from the Co-managers to Dr. McIsaac and Mr. Turner regarding the Chinook FRAM base period

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-10-16am2 0:05:43](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action – Consider Revisions to Chinook FRAM Methodology for Analyzing 2016 Salmon Fisheries** [[mp3: 3-10-16am2 0:09:16](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Co-managers informed the Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that, while substantial progress has been made, work remains to be done prior to

completion and implementation of the new model base period. It is not expected that the remaining work on the new base period will be completed in time for use in 2016, and work is anticipated to continue for potential application of the new base period for use in 2017 fishery management.

**4. Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2016 Salmon Management Alternatives Including Test Fishery Alternatives – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-10-16am2 0:10:12](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 1](#): Guidance for Alternative Development and Assessment

[Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 2](#): Emergency Changes to the Salmon FMP

[Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 3](#): FR 97-22094: Policy Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules

[Agenda Item E.4, Attachment 4](#): California Klamath Management Zone Commercial Salmon Troll Test Fishery Proposal

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Letter from PFMC to NMFS regarding Pacific Council's salmon season-setting for 2016

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Letter from NMFS to NWIFC and WDFW regarding North of Falcon process

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Letter from NMFS to PFMC regarding PSC Chinook Model calibration agreement

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 8](#): Letter from NMFS to the co-Managers regarding uncertainty about how to model the predicted abundance of Chinook salmon in Southeast Alaska (SEAK)

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 9](#): Letter to Bob Turner from PSC regarding PSC recommendations

[Agenda Item E.4, Supplemental Attachment 10](#): Response letter from Bob Turner to Charlie Swanton

**a. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission – Bob Turner [[mp3: 3-10-16am2 0:28:45](#)] & [[mp3: 3-10-16am3 0:03:04](#)]**

**b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-10-16pm1 0:00:08](#)] & [[mp3: 3-10-16pm2 0:00:09](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental ADFG Report](#): Response to Bob Turner

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): Genetic Stock Identification Study Proposal

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Letter Summarizing NOAA Fisheries' Consultation Standards and Guidance Regarding the Potential Effects of the 2016 Season on ESA-Listed Salmonid Species

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): Comments from the Quinault Indian Nation

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal Report 2](#): Testimony of the Columbia River Treaty Tribes

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal Report 3](#): Testimony of Russell Svec, Fishery Director for the Makah Tribe; March 10, 2016

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal Report 4](#): Treaty Tribes Testimony: Washington Coho 2016

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal Report 5](#): Quinault, Quileute and Hoh Tribe Joint Testimony on the Initial Range of Ocean Options for the 2016 Treaty Troll Fishery

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal PowerPoint \(CRITFC\)](#): Tribal Perspective on the use of Hatcheries for Recovery Purposes

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#): Proposed Initial Salmon Management Alternatives for 2016 Non-Indian Ocean Fisheries (March 10, 2016)

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.4.b, Supplemental Tribal/WDFW Report](#): Tribal and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 2016 Management Objectives for Puget Sound Chinook and Coho Salmon

**c. Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-10-16pm2 1:05:01](#)]

David Helliwell, F/V Corregidor [Agenda Item E.4.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

**d. Council Action: Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Management Measure and Test Fishing Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description** [[mp3: 3-10-16pm3 0:00:19](#)]

**Motion:** Council adopt for STT compilation and analysis the proposed initial salmon management alternatives for the 2016 non-Indian ocean fisheries as developed by the SAS (Agenda Item E.4.b) including the modifications as made in the presentation by the SAS.

Kyle Adicks/Marci Yaremko (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council adopt the following range of preliminary options for the ocean Treaty troll fishery for compilation and analysis by the Salmon Technical Team with the understanding that this is only the first step towards the finalizing options this week that will be adopted by the Council to be sent out for public review.

Treaty Troll Options:

Option I: 60,000 Chinook; 40,000 Coho

Option II: 42,500 Chinook; 13,750 Coho

Option III: 30,000 Chinook; 0 Coho

For Chinook: Option 1 to be modeled with 30,000 taken in the May/June Chinook-directed fishery and 30,000 would be taken in the July/August/September all-species fishery. Option II to be modeled with 21,250 taken in the May/June Chinook-directed fishery and 21,250 would be taken in the July/August/September all-species fishery. Option III to be modeled with 20,000 taken in the May/June Chinook-directed fishery and 10,000 would be taken in the July/August/September all-species fishery. Fishing during the July/August/September all-species fishery will be with plugs only.

Bob Turner/Joe Oatman (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** None

**5. [Council Recommendations for 2016 Management Alternative Analysis](#) – Mike Burner** [[mp3: 3-11-16pm2 0:00:07](#)]

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

[Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Collation of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2016 Ocean Fisheries (March 11, 2016)

**b. Public Comment**

None

- c. **Council Action: Direction to the Salmon Technical Team and Salmon Advisory Subpanel on Alternative Development and Analysis** [[mp3: 3-11-16pm2 0:14:48](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

6. **Further Council Direction for 2016 Management Alternative** – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:42:54](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:46:32](#)]

[Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Initial Analysis of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2016 Ocean Fisheries (March 12, 2016)

- b. **Public Comment**

None

- c. **Council Action: Further Guidance and Direction as Necessary** [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:54:29](#)] & [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:01:18](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

7. **Adoption of 2016 Management Alternatives for Public Review** – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:00:07](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:00:37](#)]

[Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Analysis of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2016 Ocean Fisheries (March 13, 2016)

[Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): Testimony of the Columbia River Treaty Tribes, March 13, 2016

- b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:17:08](#)]

Joel Kawahara

- c. **Council Action: Adopt Management Alternatives for Public Review** [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:18:37](#)]

**Motion:** Council move to adopt for public review the alternatives for non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries in the area North of Cape Falcon, the alternatives for commercial troll and recreational fisheries as presented in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental STT Report (March 13, 2016) with the following modifications:

Alternative I

- Modify the non-Indian TAC to 45,000 coho marked with a healed adipose fin clip.
- Add non-treaty commercial troll TAC of 7,200 coho with a healed adipose fin clip.

- For the troll fishery from the U.S./Canada border to Cape Falcon, May 1 through June 15, change to seven days per week, and modify the landing and possession limits to 60 Chinook per vessel per trip for the area from the U.S./Canada border to the Queets River, and to 75 Chinook per vessel per trip for the area between Leadbetter Point and Cape Falcon.
- For non-treaty troll from the Queets River to Cape Falcon, July 1 through September 20, coho retention allowed with a landing and possession limit of 15 coho per vessel per open period.
- Non-treaty recreational TAC of 37,800 coho with a healed adipose fin clip. Subarea quotas calculated via FMP. Coho retention allowed in all areas.
- For Recreational management alternatives, add to supplemental management information “Various daily limit and species combinations of 1 and 2 salmon will be considered, including “1 fish, 2 fish, 2 fish only one of which may be a Chinook, 2 fish only one of which may be a coho.”

#### Alternative II

- For the troll fishery from the U.S./Canada border to Cape Falcon, May 1 through June 30, change to 5 days per week (Friday through Tuesday), and modify the landing and possession limits to 40 Chinook per vessel per trip for the area from the U.S./Canada border to the Queets River, and to 50 Chinook per vessel per trip for the area between the Queets River and Cape Falcon.
- For the troll fishery from the U.S./Canada border to Cape Falcon, change open period end dates to August 31.
- Change the language for the July fishery to read “July 1-12 with a landing and possession limit of 50 Chinook per vessel for the open period, then open five days per week, Friday through Tuesday July 15-August 31 with a landing and possession limit of 50 Chinook per vessel per open period.”
- For the recreational fishery from the Queets River to Leadbetter Point, modify to five days per week.

C.2.d – North of Cape Falcon, beginning July 1, only 6 inch or larger plugs – change Alternative I to Alternative II

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council move to adopt for public review the alternatives for non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries in the area North of Cape Falcon, the alternatives for commercial troll and recreational fisheries as presented in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental STT Report (March 13, 2016) with the following modifications:

Page 4: Alternative I

All vessels fishing in this area must land and deliver all fish within this area or Port Orford, within 24 hours of any closure of this fishery, and prior to fishing outside of this area. State regulations require fishers landing from any quota managed season in this area to notify ODFW within one hour of delivery or prior transporting their catch to other locations after first landing in one of these ports notify ODFW prior to transport away from the port of landing by calling [541-867-0300](tel:541-867-0300) Ext. 252 or sending notification via e-mail to [KMZOR.trollreport@state.or.us](mailto:KMZOR.trollreport@state.or.us), with vessel name and number, number of salmon by species, location of delivery, and estimated time of delivery.

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)



**Motion:** Council move to adopt for public review the alternatives for non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries in the area North of Cape Falcon, the alternatives for commercial troll and recreational fisheries as presented in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental STT Report (March 13, 2016) with the following modifications:

In the commercial troll Alternative 2 on page 7 in the Monterey South cell replace June 1-10 with June 16-30.

Marci Yaremko/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council move to adopt for the 2016 Treaty Ocean Troll salmon season, three alternatives for public review as they are presented in Table 3 of the Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental STT Report (March 13, 2016) on pages 20-21.

Option I quota levels of 50,000 Chinook, and 40,000 coho

Option II quota levels of 42,500 Chinook, and 13,750 coho

Option III quota levels of 30,000 Chinook, and 0 coho

The salmon season will consist of a May/June Chinook-directed fishery and a July/August/September all-species fishery. The Chinook harvest will be split between the two periods with the following sub-quotas:

Option I: 25,000; Option II: 21,250; Option III: 20,000 for the May/June Chinook-directed fishery and the remainder of Chinook in each alternative for the July/August/September all-species fishery, with Option III season to reflect July 1 through earlier of August 31, or 10,000 Chinook quota. Option III will be restricted to plugs 6 inches or larger only.

I would also like to state for the record, that the Tribes and State will continue the North of Falcon planning process and discussions in which the co-managers will evaluate the total impacts of all proposed fisheries on Puget Sound and Columbia River stocks.

Joe Oatman/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted three Alternative sets of management measures for the 2016 ocean commercial, recreational, and tribal salmon fisheries. The detailed alternatives can be found on the Council web page at: <http://www.pcouncil.org/2016/03/40949/2016-sal-mgmt-alt-public-review/>.

Public hearings on the Alternatives have been scheduled in Westport, WA and Coos Bay, OR for March 28, and Fort Bragg, California for March 29. The Council is scheduled to adopt final 2016 ocean salmon regulations at its April 8-14, 2016 meeting in Vancouver, WA.

**8. Salmon Hearings Officers – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:41:47](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.8, Attachment 1](#): Schedule of Salmon Fishery Management Alternative Hearings

**a. Council Action: Appoint Hearings Officers**

**Staff Summary:** None

**9. [Sacramento River Winter Chinook Control Rule Update](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:44:41](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.9, Attachment 1](#): Draft Sacramento River Winter Chinook Harvest Policy Review schedule

**a. Report of the Sacramento River Winter Chinook Workgroup – Mike O’Farrell [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:49:07](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.9.a, Supplemental SRWCW Report](#)

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

None

**c. Public Comment**

None

**d. Council Action: Direction to the Sacramento River Winter Chinook Workgroup on Development and Analysis of Control Rule Options [[mp3: 3-13-16pm1 0:55:59](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The newly-formed Sacramento River Winter Chinook Workgroup reported its plans to develop indicators to better predict age-3 ocean abundance in the upcoming fishing year and methods for evaluating the relative risks and benefits of alternative control rules. The Workgroup is tentatively scheduled to meet June 15-16, 2016 at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in Santa Cruz, CA to review progress and to prepare a report for the Council’s June meeting in Tacoma, WA.

**F. Highly Migratory Species Management**

**1. [National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-11-16am1 0:02:28](#)]**

**a. Regulatory Activities – Heidi Taylor**

[Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Regulatory Activities

**b. Science Center Activities – Cisco Werner and Gerard DiNardo [[mp3: 3-11-16am1 0:12:14](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): HMS Activities (Dinardo/Werner)

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

None

**d. Public Comment**

None

**e. Council Discussion [[mp3: 3-11-16am1 0:23:55](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

2. **[Report on Ongoing Exempted Fishing Permits \(EFP\) – Kit Dahl \[mp3: 3-11-16am1 0:24:08\]](#)**

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1](#): 50 CFR 600.745, Scientific research activity, exempted fishing, and exempted educational activity

[Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): March 1, 2016 *Federal Register* notice; NMFS WCR has determined that an application for an EFP (large-mesh DGN and/or new approaches or methods for targeting swordfish and other HMS off the U.S. West Coast) warrants further consideration and requests public comment on the application

a. **PIER EFP Report – Chugey Sepulveda [mp3: 3-11-16am1 0:30:18]**

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): PIER EFP Update

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental DSBG PowerPoint](#): PIER-EFP update (Chugey Sepulveda)

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [mp3: 3-11-16am2 0:00:31]**

[Agenda Item F.2.b: NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

c. **Public Comment [mp3: 3-11-16am2 0:11:55]**

[Agenda Item F.2.c, Public Comment](#): EcoCast: Real Time Data Tools for Dynamic Fisheries Management Progress Report

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

[Agenda Item F.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#)

Geoff Shester, Oceana

Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Jonathan Gonzales, [Agenda Item F.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 1](#): (Gonzalez)

d. **Council Action: Consider Current Status of Exempted Fishing Permits in West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fisheries, Make Recommendations on Issuance or Extensions, Comment on Letter of Acknowledgement for Gear Research [mp3: 3-11-16am2 0:19:55]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council recommended reissuance of the Perguson and Pflugler Institute of Environmental Research (PIER) EFPs for 2017-2018. The Council also requested NMFS keep the Council informed on future Letters of Acknowledgement (LOA) issued for marine research activities that have direct implications to West Coast fishery management.

3. **[Deep-Set Buoy Gear Amendment Scoping – Kit Dahl \[mp3: 3-11-16am2 0:40:25\]](#)**

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [mp3: 3-11-16am2 0:45:03] & [mp3: 3-11-16am3 0:00:23]**

[Agenda Item F.3.a, NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental CA Lt. Governor Report](#): Letter to PFMC and NMFS from California Lieutenant Governor Newsom expressing support for the authorization of deep-set buoy gear under the HMS FMP

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental CA Legislature Report](#): Letter to PFMC and NMFS from the California Legislature expressing support for the authorization of deep-set buoy gear under the HMS FMP

[Agenda Item F.3.a, HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

**b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-11-16am3 0:18:49](#)] & [[mp3: 3-11-16pm1 0:0:13](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Public Comment](#): The Sportsfishing Conservancy

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (*Full Version Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#)

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Geoff Shester, Oceana; [Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 2](#): (Shester)

Jonathan Gonzalez; [Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 1](#): (Gonzalez)

Doug Karpa, Turtle Island Restoration Network; [Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 3](#): (Karpa)

Donald Krebs

Wayne Kotow, CCA-CAL

Gary Burke, CFSB

Robert Osborn

**c. Council Action: Consider Issues to be addressed in a Fishery Management Plan Amendment to Authorize Deep-Set Buoy Gear in West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fishery [[mp3: 3-11-16pm1 0:46:58](#)]**

**Motion:** Council to move forward with developing a range of alternatives to authorize a deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) fishery concurrent with continuing to collect information through exempted fishing permits (EFPs), with the following preliminary guidance to the HMS Management Team (HMSMT):

- a. In general, use the provisions included in the DSBG EFPs (i.e., two DSBG EFPs) and descriptions in the letter of acknowledgment (LOA) for the PIER research to guide development of alternatives and potential regulatory language.
- b. Purpose and Need – Use the description in the draft Swordfish Fishery Management and Monitoring Plan (September 2015) relative to the purpose and goals of this proposed action.
- c. Definition of Gear – Develop at least two alternatives: 1) DSBG as “traditionally” defined and referenced in two DSBG EFPs, and 2) both “traditional” DSBG and modified DSBG as described in PIER research proposal for LOA.

- d. “Actively Tended” Gear – Discuss and present alternatives for: 1) requiring gear be actively tended, 2) providing incentives to actively tend gear, and 3) limiting gear (e.g., 10 buoys) to promote active tending.
- e. Geographic Area – Intent is to initially limit the authorization of the gear to the area where it has been tested under one or more of the EFPs.
- f. Species Allowed – Define target species as defined in the EFPs, and prohibited species and incidental catch allowances as defined in the FMP for other HMS fisheries.

Address other topics not covered above that were raised by the National Marine Fisheries Service (Agenda Item F.3.a NMFS Report), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Agenda Item F.3.a Supplemental CDFW Report), HMSMT Reports, and Enforcement Consultants (Agenda Item F.3.a Supplemental EC Report).

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

**Amendment:** Under Geographic Area (e), add that the intent is to initially limit the gear to federal waters off California.

Marci Yaremko/Buzz Brizendine (amendment carried unanimously)  
(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council directed the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) to begin developing ranges of alternatives for various aspects related to authorizing a deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) fishery. Development of program elements would occur concurrently with ongoing DSBG EFPs, which are likely to provide additional information relevant to authorizing the fishery. Ranges of alternatives would cover definitions for the gear and the requirement for gear to be actively tended, the geographic area where the fishery would be allowed to operate, identify target species and species that could not be retained or landed (prohibited species) other than those already in the HMS Fishery Management Plan, a licensing regime, and other elements identified in advisory body reports. The Council plans to review and potentially adopt a range of alternatives at its September 2016 meeting.

**4. [Recommendations for International Management Activities Including U.S. – Canada Albacore Treaty Area Fishery Update](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-12-16am1 0:03:18](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1](#): Letter from Michael Tosatto to Council Chairs on Outcomes of the Twelfth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 2](#): Cover Email and Proposed Northern Committee Member Management Objectives for North Pacific Albacore

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 3](#): PacFIN APEX HMS Port Report: Commercial Albacore Landings by Port for All Gear Types and All Areas: Metric-Tons (mt), Revenue (\$), and Price-per-pound (\$/lbs)

[Agenda Item F.4 Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Letter to IATTC from David Hogan, US Department of State, regarding ratification of the Convention for the Strengthening of the IATTC

[Agenda Item F.4 Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Preliminary Options for Discussion Revised IATTC Resolution C-13-01 Prepared by Hawaii Longline Association (Draft)

- a. **Report on the WCPFC Meeting – Dorothy Lowman** [[mp3: 3-12-16am1 0:12:16](#)]
- b. **Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service – Heidi Taylor** [[mp3: 3-12-16am1 0:17:49](#)]

[Agenda Item F.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#): Landings and Ex-vessel Revenue in the U.S. West Coast albacore surface hook-and-line fishery

[Agenda Item F.4.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Schedule of 2016 international meetings; update of international activities

- c. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-12-16am1 0:26:39](#)]

Patrick Higgins, Government of Canada; [Agenda Item F.4.b, Supplemental Canadian Consulate Report](#): Statement to the PFMCC, March 12, 2016 (*Patrick Higgins*)

[Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.4.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

- d. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-12-16am1 0:51:39](#)]

[Agenda Item F.4.d, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Nicole Ricci, American Albacore Fishing Association

Doug Fricke

Peter Flournoy, American Fisherman's Research Foundation

John Hall, CPFA

Svein Fougner, Consultant to Hawaii Longline Association

- e. **Council Action: Consider Reports on International Activities Including the 2015 U.S. – Canada Albacore Fishery and Recommendations for the 90<sup>th</sup> Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Meeting** [[mp3: 3-12-16am2 0:00:10](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council discussed three topic areas of international HMS management.

North Pacific Albacore Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): The Council endorsed the HMSMT and HMS Advisory Subpanel proposal to schedule a webinar in advance of the May 24-25 MSE workshop to provide guidance to Council representatives to the workshop.

U.S./Canada Albacore Treaty: The current fishing regime under the Treaty expires at the end of the 2016 fishing season. The Council thanked the State Department for its intent to convene a U.S. delegation meeting in the near future to review all current relevant data produced by both the Joint Data Working Group and independent NMFS analysis, and urged the State Department to convene a similar meeting in the Fall to review information collected on the 2016 fishing season, diplomatic notes exchanged during the current fishing regime, and any relevant information from international efforts. The Council scheduled consideration of possible recommendations on a future fishing regime (or lack thereof) at its November 2016 meeting.

90th Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission: The Council did not make any specific recommendations for U.S. positions at the meeting, which overlaps the June Council meeting.

## G. Groundfish Management

### 1. [National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:00:24](#)]

#### a. Regulatory Activities – Frank Lockhart [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:01:51](#)]

[Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Rulemaking Plan for 2016, Groundfish and Halibut

[Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Groundfish and Halibut *Federal Register* Notices

#### b. Fisheries Science Center Activities – Michelle McClure and John Stein [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:11:43](#)]

[Agenda Item G.1.b, Supplemental NOAA Science Center PowerPoint](#): Groundfish Science Report (McClure)

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

None

#### d. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:30:45](#)]

Paul Clampitt, FVOA

Michelle Longo Eder, did not testify

#### e. Council Discussion [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:33:15](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

### 2. [Exempted Fishing Permit \(EFP\) for California Mid-Water Commercial Jig Gear for 2017-2018](#) – Jim Seger [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:33:36](#)]

[Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1](#): Application for Exempted Fishing Permit for Yellowtail Rockfish Jig Fishing for the 2017-2018 Fishing Season

#### a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-12-16am3 0:36:09](#)]

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

#### b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-12-16pm1 0:00:09](#)]

David Kirk & Butch Powers, Port San Luis Fisherman's Association

Barbara Emley, Dan Platt, and Ray Nottngel, SFCFA

#### c. Council Action: Adopt Preliminary EFP for Public Review [[mp3: 3-12-16pm1 0:30:17](#)]

**Motion:** Council forward the commercial jig EFP for public review with the following modifications:

30% observer coverage

Extend the southern boundary to pt. Conception

Add up to 3 vessels;

And adopt set asides as specified in 2015-16 and reduce ODFW research set aside to accommodate yelloweye.

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe

**Amendment:** add the following language in front of 30% “monitoring options include.” and after “100% observer coverage and 30% observer coverage augmented by EM.”

Frank Lockhart/Rich Lincoln (Amendment carried unanimously)

Motion (as amended) carried unanimously

**Staff Summary:** The Council forwarded the 2017-2018 commercial jig fishing EFP application for public review and possible final adoption at its June 2016 meeting with the following modifications: (1) include monitoring options of (a) 30 percent observer coverage, (b) 100 percent observer coverage; and (c) 30 percent observer coverage augmented by Electronic Monitoring (specific monitoring option to be specified at the time of final Council action); (2) extend the southern boundary for the EFP to Point Conception; (3) add up to three additional vessels to the EFP. The Council adopted set-asides as specified in 2015-16 and reduced the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife research set aside for yelloweye by the amount needed for this EFP (0.03 mt).

**3. [Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for 2017-2018 Groundfish Fisheries](#) – John DeVore & Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-12-16pm2 0:04:45](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.3, Supplemental Agenda Item Overview PowerPoint](#): 2017-2018 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures (Ames, et al)

**a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:04:45](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): Results of NEPA scoping and schedule for regulation deeming and FMP transmittal

[Agenda Item G.3.a, REVISED Supplemental ODFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:17:02](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.3.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Bob Alverson, FVOA- Seattle

Louie Zimm, San Diego Yacht Club Anglers

Wayne Kotow, CCA – California

Daniel Platt, STMA

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission

**c. [Council Discussion](#) [[mp3: 3-12-16pm3 0:37:16](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None



4. [Consideration of Inseason Adjustments, Including Carryover](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:09:12](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:12:34](#)]

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#): GMT report on routine adjustments

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#): GMT report on surplus carryover

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Adopt Recommendations for Adjustments Including Carryover to 2016 Groundfish Fisheries, as Necessary** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:35:52](#)]

**Motion:** Council adopt the recommendations in Supplemental GAP Report, and GMT Reports 1 and 2 on the Limited Entry North of 36 DTL fishery trip limit and on the decision to issue surplus carryover.

Corey Niles/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted landing limits for the limited entry sablefish daily trip limit fishery north of 36° N. latitude of 1,125 pounds per week and 3,375 pounds per bimonthly period. This change would be more efficient for vessels, as three full weekly limits would equate to one bimonthly trip limit (i.e. 1,125 lbs x 3 weeks = 3,375 lbs), and would help ensure that the fishery, which saw increased effort last year, remains within its landing target.

The Council recommended that NMFS issue surplus carryover for all non-whiting individual fishing quota species where the annual catch limit (ACL) is less than the acceptable biological catch (ABC), including sablefish north of 36° N. latitude and canary rockfish. Surplus carryover for petrale sole is not eligible under the current NMFS policy given that the ACL is equal to the ABC. The Council recommended NMFS issue eligible carryover pounds up to the point where the ACL plus surplus carryover equals the ABC.

5. [Oregon Mid-Water Sport Fishery Regulations Final Action](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:58:38](#)]

[Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 1](#): Authorization of an Oregon Recreational Groundfish Fishery for Mid-water Species, Draft Environmental Assessment

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 1:01:19](#)]

[Agenda Item G.5.a, Supplemental ODFW PowerPoint](#): Authorization of an Oregon Recreational Fishery for Midwater Groundfish Species (*Mirick*)

[Agenda Item G.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.5.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 2:12:28](#)]

[Agenda Item G.5.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

John Holloway, RFA – Oregon

**c. Council Action: Adopt Final Regulations for Mid-Water Sport Fishery in Oregon [mp3: 3-13-16am2 2:15:07]**

**Motion:** Council adopt a final Purpose and Need Statement and select Alternative 1 for the final preferred alternative, as specified in the Draft Environmental Assessment (Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 1).

Caren Braby/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council requested that gear type as it goes in regulation, that it be known as the “Holloway Gear.”

Dan Wolford/Caren Braby (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted Alternative 1, where midwater long-leader recreational groundfish fishing would be authorized seaward of a line approximating the 40 fm depth curve exclusively off the coast of Oregon from April-September to target abundant and healthy midwater species while avoiding or minimizing interactions with overfished rockfish species. The adopted gear configuration includes no more than one line with three hooks, a minimum of 30 feet between the sinker and the lowest hook, and a non-compressible float required above the hooks. Small plastic worms and flies are allowed along with weighted hooks; bait and large lures would be prohibited. Further, lingcod retention is prohibited. All other existing state and Federal groundfish regulations, such as bag limits, rockfish conservation areas, etc., would remain in effect. This alternative would be monitored with the existing Oregon Recreational Boat Survey program. At the April Council meeting, NMFS will provide an update on the timeline for implementation.

**6. [Salmon Endangered Species Act \(ESA\) Consultation Update](#) – Kit Dahl [mp3: 3-13-16pm2 0:00:19]**

[Agenda Item G.6, Attachment 1:](#) Excerpt from September 2015 Council Meeting Record for Agenda Item

**a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [mp3: 3-13-16pm2 0:03:11]**

[Agenda Item G.6.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint:](#) Susan Bishop

[Agenda Item G.6.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

**b. Public Comment**

None

**c. Council Action: Provide Guidance on Options for the Proposed Action for the ESA Salmon Bycatch Consultation on the Groundfish Fishery [mp3: 3-13-16pm2 0:16:41]**

**Motion:** Council moved to strike the bullet from Scenario 1 “analyze an alternative assuming that the whiting fishery’s at-sea processing geographic footprint is expanded S of 42° and that 10% of the at-sea catch, using the most recent 5-year average, is harvested S. of 42°.

Joanna Grebel/ (motion failed due to lack of second).

**Staff Summary:** The Council clarified and reaffirmed the specifications of its September 2016 motion describing the range of alternatives to be evaluated, tasked the staff with assuring comprehensive recommendations from the Salmon Advisory Subpanel and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel for Council consideration at the September 2016 Council meeting, and reaffirmed the schedule calling for adoption of a preliminary preferred alternative at the September 2016 Council meeting and a final preferred alternative at the November 2016 Council meeting.

7. [Electronic Monitoring Exempted Fishing Permits Update and Revisions](#) – Brett Wiedoff [[mp3: 3-14-16am1 0:03:42](#)]

a. **NMFS Report** – Melissa Hooper [[mp3: 3-14-16am1 0:05:48](#)]

[Agenda Item G.7.a, NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.7.a, Supplemental PowerPoint](#): Electronic Monitoring EFP Update (Hooper)

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-14-16am1 0:39:32](#)]

[Agenda Item G.7.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.7.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-14-16am1 0:45:28](#)]

Michele Longo Eder

d. **Council Action: Recommend Extensions for Exempted Fishing Permits Related to Electronic Monitoring in Groundfish Catch Share Fisheries** [[mp3: 3-14-16am1 0:50:59](#)]

**Motion:** Council extend the Electronic Monitoring Exempted Fishing Permits for groundfish catch share fisheries through 2018.

David Crabbe/Marci Yaremko (motion carried unanimously).

**Staff Summary:** The Council recommended that NMFS extend the expiration date of all electronic monitoring EFPs for the bottom trawl, non-whiting mid-water trawl, whiting mid-water trawl, and fixed gear catch share fisheries through 2018. However, the Council clarified their intent that the EFPs cease when fleetwide regulations are implemented; fleet-wide regulations for whiting midwater trawl fisheries and fixed gear fisheries are expected January 1, 2017, but fleet-wide regulations for bottom trawl and non-whiting mid-water trawl fisheries are not expected to be implemented January 1, 2017 under current scheduling. Based on the lack of fishery information for the bottom trawl and non-whiting mid-water trawl fisheries, the Council expects that EFP for these fisheries will be needed through December 31, 2018.

The Council is scheduled to verify their final preferred alternative for the fixed gear fishery, and deem the electronic monitoring regulations for fixed gear and the whiting mid-water trawl fisheries at its April 2016 meeting in Vancouver, WA.

**8. [Changes to Trawl Catch Share Program Gear Regulations – Final Action](#) – Jim Seger [[mp3: 3-14-16am2 0:00:07](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.8, Attachment 1](#): Gear Changes for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery’s Trawl Catch Share Program, Preliminary Draft EIS (*Full Version Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item G.8, Attachment 2](#): Regulations Related To Trawl Gear Configuration, Gears Allowed On Board, and Area of Use

[Agenda Item G.8, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): *Federal Register* notice dated March 3, 2016, notice of intent to prepare an EIS to analyze the impacts on the human environment of gear changes in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery’s Trawl Catch Share Program; request for comments

[Agenda Item G.8, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): FPA Decision Template for Changes to the Trawl Catch Share Program Gear Regulations

**a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16am2 0:03:38](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.8.a, NMFS Report](#): Groundfish Gear Changes—Issues for Consideration, Trawl Gear Configuration and Use

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint 1](#): Preliminary Draft EIS (Goen)

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint 2](#): Issues for Consideration (Goen)

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

**b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16pm1 0:00:14](#)]**

Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

Jeff Lackey

Paul Kujala & Brad Pettinger

Peter Leipzig

Steve Bodnar, Coos Bay Trawlers Association

**c. [Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives for Gear Change Regulations Applying to Vessels in the Trawl Catch Share Program, as Appropriate, and Provide Additional Guidance as Necessary](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16pm1 0:49:27](#)]**

**Motion:** Council approve the GAP recommendations (Agenda Item F.8.a. Supplemental GAP Report) as our final preferred alternative.

Herb Pollard/Pete Hassemer

**Amendment 1:** Remove issue G from the final preferred alternative and schedule consideration at a future Council meeting.

Frank Lockhart/Phil Anderson (amendment carried unanimously).

**Amendment 2:** Under Alternative F.3 we select sorting suboption A, in place of what is currently in the motion as suboption B.

Phil Anderson/Frank Lockhart (amendment carried unanimously).

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously).

**Staff Summary:** The Council selected the final preferred alternatives recommended in the GAP report ([Agenda Item G.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)) except with respect to the use of multiple gears on a trip (Issue F) and fishing in multiple individual fishing quota management areas (Issue G). For Issue F, the Council adopted the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel recommendation to allow vessels to carry and use multiple types of trawl gear on the same trip but recommended that the vessels be required to separate catch by gear type and that landings be recorded on separate electronic fish tickets by gear type (Sorting Suboption A). For Issue G, the Council did not select a final preferred alternative, but scheduled the issue for final consideration at the June 2016 meeting.

## **H. Pacific Halibut Management**

1. [Report on the International Pacific Halibut Commission \(IPHC\) Meeting](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:02:47](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1](#): 2016 Area 2A Pacific Halibut Allocations

- a. **IPHC Report – Bruce Leaman** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:04:50](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.a, IPHC Report](#): IPHC News Release

[Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental IPHC PowerPoint](#): Summary of the 2016 IPHC Annual Meeting (Leaman)

- b. **Council IPHC Representative Report – Phil Anderson** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:29:14](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.b, IPHC Representative Report](#): Report on the 2016 International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting

- c. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:35:44](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): Report on the 2014 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A (2/24/2016)

[Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

- d. **Public Comment**

None

- e. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:39:00](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

2. [Incidental Catch Recommendation Options for the Salmon Troll and Final Recommendations for the Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 0:59:19](#)]

[Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 1](#): Summary of Pacific Halibut Incidental Catch Management

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 1:05:47](#)]

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

- b. **Public Comment**

None

- c. **Council Action: Make Recommendations for Inseason Changes to April 2016 Retention Limits in the Salmon Troll Fishery, as Necessary; Adopt Public Review Options for 2016 and April 2017 Salmon Troll Fishery; Adopt Final Retention Limits for 2016 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery** [[mp3: 3-13-16am1 1:10:30](#)]

**Motion:** Council adopt for public review, the range of Pacific halibut restrictions for the salmon troll fishery from May 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 and April 1-30, 2017 as shown in Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report (March 2016).

Phil Anderson/Corey Niles (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council set for the fixed gear tier fishery north of Point Chehalis, the halibut catch limit for the 2016 fishery at two fish plus 110 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of sablefish onboard.

Phil Anderson/Corey Niles (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council recommended that the current incidental Pacific halibut catch regulations for the non-Indian salmon troll fishery remain unchanged for the period April 1-30, 2016. The current limit is no more than one halibut per four Chinook, except one halibut may be possessed or landed without meeting the ratio requirement and no more than 12 halibut may be landed per trip. The Council also adopted the following options for public review.

Alternative 1 (Status Quo): May 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and April 1-30, 2017, license-holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each four Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 12 halibut landed per trip.

Alternative 2: May 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and April 1-30, 2017, license-holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each three Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 15 halibut landed per trip.

Alternative 3: May 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and April 1-30, 2017, license-holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each three Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 20 halibut landed per trip.

Final Council action is scheduled on the aforementioned limits at the April Council meeting.

The Council also recommended the fixed gear tier fishery north of Point Chehalis be set at two fish plus 110 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds dressed weight of sablefish.

3. [Halibut Incidental Groundfish Regulations Final Action](#)– Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:00:03](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:02:31](#)]

[Agenda Item H.3.a, NMFS Report 1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report on Halibut Incidental Groundfish Regulations

[Agenda Item H.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item H.3.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Adopt Final Regulations for Sablefish Fishery Incidental Landing Regulations** [[mp3: 3-13-16am2 0:4:36](#)]

**Motion:** Council adopt Alternative 2 as specified in Agenda Item H.3.a, NMFS Report 1, March 2016 as the Final Preferred Alternative that would modify groundfish regulations to allow for automatic action in the limited entry fixed gear sablefish fishery to close halibut retention upon attainment of the incidental halibut allocation.

Phil Anderson/Corey Niles (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council recommended that NMFS have the automatic action authority to close retention of Pacific halibut in the limited entry fixed gear sablefish primary fishery upon posting of notice by the International Pacific Halibut Commission on its website that the Pacific halibut quota for this fishery has been reached and further retention is prohibited. Closures will also be announced on the NMFS halibut hotline.

## I. Administrative Matters

1. [Approval of Council Meeting Record](#) – Dorothy Lowman [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:00:06](#)]

a. **Council Member Review and Comments**

None

b. **Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Record** [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:00:48](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 1](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 232nd Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (November 14-19, 2015)

**Motion:** Council to approve the draft November 2015 Council Meeting Record as shown in Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 1.

Herb Pollard/Pete Hassemmer (Motion carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** None

**2. [Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedure](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:01:19](#)]**

[Agenda Item I.2, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): Pacific Fishery Management Council Executive Director Vacancy; Schedule and Process for Recruitment and Hiring Decision-Making

[Agenda Item I.2, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Executive Director Recruitment Announcement

[Agenda Item I.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Executive Director Position Description, CY 2016

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

None

**b. Public Comment**

[Agenda Item I.2.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

**c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:05:30](#)]**

**Motion:** Council appoint Mr. Patrick Mirick to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Management Team.

Caren Braby/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council appoint Ms. Karen Palmigiano to the West Coast Region seat on the Groundfish Management Team.

Bob Turner/Herb Pollard (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council appoint Dr. Kym Jacobson to the Northwest Fisheries Science Center seat on the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team.

Bob Turner/Herb Pollard (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council appoint Ms. Randi Thurston to the Washington Fish and Wildlife seat on the Habitat Committee.

Corey Niles/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council appoint Mr. Lance Hebdon to the Idaho Fish and Game seat on the Habitat Committee.

Pete Hassemer/Herb Pollard (Motion carried unanimously)

**Motion:** Council appoint Dr. Don Maruska to the vacant California Seat on the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel.

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

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

Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel

California seat - Dr. Don Maruska

Groundfish Management Team



West Coast Region seat - Ms. Karen Palmigiano  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife seat - Mr. Patrick Mirick  
Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team  
Northwest Fisheries Science Center seat - Dr. Kym Jacobson  
Habitat Committee  
Idaho Fish and Game seat - Mr. Lance Hebdon  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife seat - Ms. Randi Thurston

**3. [Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) – Don McIsaac [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:15:53](#)]**

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 2](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, April 8-14, 2016 in Vancouver, Washington

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 3](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities

[Agenda Item I.3, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary (*dated March 14, 2016*)

[Agenda Item I.3, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, April 8-14, 2016 in Vancouver, Washington (*dated March 14, 2016*)

**a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:23:34](#)]**

[Agenda Item I.3.a, NMFS Report 1](#): NMFS' West Coast Region Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan for 2016-2018

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#): Future Council Meetings and Workload

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#); Response to the Midwater Trawlers Cooperative Open Comment Letter Regarding the Disaster Tow of the F/V Seeker

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

**b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:53:15](#)]**

[Agenda Item I.3.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Steve Marx, PEW Charitable Trusts

**c. [Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) [[mp3: 3-14-16pm2 0:58:02](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The next meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council is scheduled for April 8-14, 2016 in Vancouver, Washington. See the detailed proposed [April 2016 agenda and meeting notice](#) for further details.

## INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

[Informational Report 1](#): News Release from NOAA Fisheries “U.S. Fisheries Management Clears High Bar for Sustainability Based on New Assessment”

[Informational Report 2](#): Guidance on Fishing Vessel Risk Assessments and Accounting for Safety at Sea in Fishery Management Design (*Full Version Electronic Only*)

[Informational Report 3](#): DRAFT West Coast Region Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan 2016-2018

[Supplemental Informational Report 4](#): National EFH Summit invite and agenda

[Supplemental Informational Report 5](#): Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and NOAA to co-host a workshop this June on artificial reef science and management

[Supplemental Informational Report 6](#): NOAA Fisheries West Coast Transitions

[Supplemental Informational Report 7](#): NMFS Instruction 02-204-01, February 22, 2016; Guidelines for Preparing Stock Assessment Reports Pursuant to the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA

## ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 4:15 p.m.

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Dorothy Lowman  
Council Chair

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Date