

DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING RECORD
234th Session of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 8-14, 2016
Hilton Vancouver Hotel
301 West Sixth Street, Vancouver, Washington 98660

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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 [[mp3: 4-9-16am1](#) 0:00:41]

1. Opening Remarks - Dorothy Lowman, Chair

Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Council Chair, called the 234th meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 8:00 a.m. on April 9, 2016. She announced a closed session would be held at 3pm that day to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

2. Roll Call – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 4-9-16am1](#) 0:02:00]

Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee Mr. Bob Turner, designee
Alaska State Official:	Mr. Bob Clark (nonvoting designee)
Washington State Official:	Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee Ms. Michele Culver, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Rich Lincoln
Oregon State Official:	Ms. Maggie Sommer, designee Mr. Troy Buell, designee Mr. Chris Kern, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Chair
California State Official:	Ms. Joanna Grebel, designee Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee Ms. Briana Brady, designee
California Obligatory:	Mr. David Crabbe
Idaho State Official:	Mr. Pete Hassemer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Herb Pollard, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. Joe Oatman Mr. David Sones, designee
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 Ms. Christina Wang, nonvoting designee

Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee
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3. [Executive Director's Report](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 4-9-16am1 0:03:17](#)]

4. **Agenda – Dorothy Lowman**

a. **Council Action: Approve Agenda**

Motion: Adopt [Agenda Item A.4](#), April 8-14, 2016 Council Meeting Agenda.
David Crabbe/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

[Note: NOAA visit from Kathryn Sullivan - [[mp3: 4-9-16am1 0:05:03](#)]

[NOTE: Sam Rauch made comments to the Council on April 12, 2016- [mp3: 4-12-16am1 0:05:08](#)]

B. Open Comment Period

1. [Comments on Non-Agenda Items](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:00:32](#)]

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

None

b. **Public Comment**

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#): Thank you for protecting the Pacific's forage fish

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#): Letter dated March 29, 2016 from California Coastal Commission to NMFS re: NOAA-NMFS-2015-0063, March 1, 2016, *Federal Register* (FR) Notice of Application for Exempted Fishing Permit to Test Modified Drift Gillnet Gear to Fish for Swordfish in the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area (PLCA)

c. **Council Discussion as Appropriate** [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:01:42](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

C. Administrative Matters

1. [Marine Planning Update](#) – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:01:53](#)]

[Agenda Item C.1, Attachment 1](#): West Coast Regional Planning Body Final Charter

[Agenda Item C.1, Attachment 2](#): West Coast Regional Planning Body Charter Approval Form

a. **Report on Marine Planning Activities – John Stein and John Hansen** [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:03:22](#)]

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): West Coast Regional Planning Body Status Update & Charter Finalization (Stein/Hansen)

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

None

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. Council Action: Discuss and Approve the Regional Planning Body Charter, and Provide Additional Guidance as Appropriate [mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:16:56]

Motion: Council approve the regional body planning charter as represented in Agenda Item C.1, Attachment 1

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council voted to sign the NMFS charter forming a regional planning body focused on marine planning for the West Coast. Ms. Michele Culver will serve as the Council's representative on the regional planning body.

2. Comments on Bycatch Strategy and Bycatch Reduction Plans – Kit Dahl [mp3: 4-12-16am1 0:15:51]

Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1: NMFS Draft National Bycatch Reduction Strategy

Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 2: Proposed Rule, Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (81 FR 9413)

Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 3: FMP description of SBRMs

Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental Attachment 4: Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan as Amended Through Amendment 15 [Excerpt] February 2016

a. National Marine Fisheries Service Report – Sam Rauch [mp3: 4-12-16am1 0:21:27]

Agenda Item C.2.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint: National Bycatch Update 2016; Sam Rauch (*Electronic Only*)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [mp3: 4-12-16am1 1:07:19]

Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report

Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental STT Report

c. Public Comment [mp3: 4-12-16am1 1:15:59]

Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Dave Bitts, PCFFA

d. Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on Submitting Comments on the Draft National Bycatch Reduction Strategy and the Proposed Rule to Establish Guidelines for Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodologies [mp3: 4-12-16am1 1:20:59]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council received a briefing from Mr. Samuel Rauch, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, on NMFS' Draft National Bycatch Strategy and the Proposed Rule with guidance on Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodologies (SBRMs).

With regard to the Draft Bycatch Strategy, the Council noted past actions it took that integrated mandates under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Endangered Species Act, and Marine Mammal

Protection Act to address bycatch and take. The Council seeks to better understand the statutory and procedural dimensions involved in addressing these mandates holistically. The Council noted that practicability, whether in relation to enforcing bycatch reduction measures or their costs to industry, must be considered. The Council cautioned that increasing utilization of economic discards may be difficult and could have unintended conservation impacts.

The Council chose not to formally comment on the SBRM Proposed Rule. It noted that the guidance appeared to be well-crafted and took into account how the Council has addressed bycatch reporting in its Fishery Management Plans.

3. [Catch Share Program Review: Comments on National Guidance and Preliminary Plan for West Coast Trawl Catch Share Program Review](#) – Jim Seger [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 0:00:05](#)]

[Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1](#): January 12, 2016 Letter from Dorothy M. Lowman to Alan Risenhoover on the Draft Guidance for Conducting Reviews of Catch Share Programs

a. National Marine Fisheries Service Report – Abigail Harley [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 0:14:01](#)]

[Agenda Item C.3.a, NMFS PowerPoint](#): NOAA Fisheries Draft Guidance for Conducting 5/7 Year Reviews of Catch Share Programs Overview of Key Components and a Summary of Council Feedback, February 25, 2016

[Agenda Item C.3.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint 2](#): NOAA Fisheries Draft Guidance for Conducting 5/7 Year Reviews of Catch Share Programs (Harley)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 0:37:38](#)]

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

c. Public Comment [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 0:39:06](#)]

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

Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood

Kate Kauer, The Nature Conservancy

d. Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on (1) Submitting Comments on the Draft National Guidance on Catch Share Program Review, and (2) Preliminary Plan for the West Coast Trawl Catch Share Program Review [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 1:06:47](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council discussed the new national catch share program review guidance and the preliminary plan for the five-year review of the west coast trawl catch share program. Both of these issues will be addressed in more detail at the June Council meeting. The Council will also consider composition of a Community Advisory Board to advise the Council on impacts the program has on communities in June. Nominations for the Board will be solicited after the June meeting.

4. [Legislative Matters](#) – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 4-14-16am2 0:54:30](#)]

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1](#): Staff Summary of Federal Legislation

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2](#): Notice of Ratification of the Antigua Convention

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3](#): Letter from Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations on S. 2533, the California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act (Feinstein)

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 4](#): New York Times article on IUU fisheries, Port State Measures agreement, and NOAA actions in relation to tracking imported seafood

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 5](#): Testimony of Kitty Simonds (WPFMC) and Dan Hull (NPFMC) on the North Pacific and South Pacific Fisheries Convention Acts

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 6](#): Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans Hearing Memo on HR 4576

[Agenda Item C.4, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Congressional Letter dated March 16, 2016, to PFMC requesting PFMC consider and evaluate S. 2533, the California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act (Senator Feinstein)

[Agenda Item C.4, Supplemental Attachment 8](#): Senate Bill 1114

[Agenda Item C.4, Supplemental Attachment 9](#): Summary of Senate Bill 1114 for Deep Set Buoy Gear

a. Report of the Legislative Committee – Dave Hanson [[mp3: 4-14-16am2 0:57:17](#)]

[Agenda Item C.4.a Supplemental LC Report](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

None

c. Public Comment [[mp3: 4-14-16am2 1:02:29](#)]

Ben Enticknap, Oceana

d. Council Action: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee [[mp3: 4-14-16am2 1:04:36](#)] & [[mp3: 4-14-16pm1 0:00:31](#)]

Motion: Council to direct staff to send the letter as expeditiously as possible.

David Hanson/David Crabbe

Amendment 1: Modify the first paragraph such that materially impair only applies to the development of new management measures being considered for WC HMS fisheries.

Phil Anderson/David Hanson

Amendment 1a: After HMS insert “including drift gillnet”.

Dan Wolford/Phil Anderson (Amendment 1a carried Mr. Lockhart and Ms. Yaremko abstained).

(Amendment 1 carried, Mr. Lockhart and Ms. Yaremko abstained)

(Motion, as amended, carried; Mr. Lincoln voted no, Ms. Yaremko and Mr. Lockhart abstained).

Staff Summary: The Council directed staff to send a letter, as requested by Reps. Huffman, Thompson, and Senator Cantwell, on S. 2533, the California Long-Term Provisions for Water

Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act. The letter will reflect comments prepared by the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations. In addition, the Council directed staff to prepare a letter (as requested by Rep. Radewagen, R-AS) for the June briefing book supporting Western Pacific Fishery Management Council and North Pacific Fishery Management Council comments on HR 4576, the Ensuring Access to Pacific Fisheries Act. Finally, the Council directed staff to send the letter included in [Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report](#), with the first paragraph edited to read “...impair our ability to develop new measures that are under consideration for West Coast highly migratory species (including drift gillnet) fisheries.”

5. [Electronic Technology Plan Update](#) – Brett Wiedoff [[mp3: 4-14-16pm1 0:24:14](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1](#): NMFS Policy on Electronic Technologies and Fishery-Dependent Data Collection

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2](#): Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan for West Coast Marine Fisheries

a. NMFS Report – Steve Freese [[mp3: 4-14-16pm1 0:26:23](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5.a, NMFS Report](#): WCR-Pacific Fishery Management Council Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan April 2016 Update

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-14-16pm1 0:24:14](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental REVISED EC Report](#)

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Discussion and Guidance [[mp3: 4-14-16pm1 0:42:34](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council requested that NMFS provide the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission access to the vessel monitoring system database contained within NMFS Office of Law Enforcement. This information is needed for analysis purposes. NMFS will provide a progress report to the Council at a future meeting.

The Council also recommended that the Pacific Fisheries Information Network Committee review the current list of logbooks that are collected to explore the potential for creating electronic logbooks and their usefulness in fisheries management.

In addition, the Council added one item to the West Coast Region Electronic Technology Plan: Explore electronic technology solutions, such as fish recognition software, to monitor landings in the shorebased individual fishing quota program in lieu of shoreside monitors.

6. [Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedure](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 0:00:26](#)]

[Agenda Item C.6, Attachment 1](#): Draft Excerpt from Council Operating Procedure 9 – Management and Activity Cycles

[Agenda Item C.6, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Draft Revised Excerpt from COP 9

a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 0:02:57](#)]

[Agenda Item C.6.a, Supplemental Budget Committee Report](#): COPs

[Agenda Item C.6.a, Supplemental MEW Report](#): MEW Membership

b. [Public Comment](#)

None

c. [Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures](#) [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 0:12:57](#)]

Motion: Council appoint Mr. Lyle Enriquez to the West Coast Region Highly Migratory Species Management Team seat formerly held by Mr. Craig Heberer. Frank Lockhart/Marci Yaremko (motion carried unanimously).

Staff Summary: The Council appointed Mr. Lyle Enriquez to the Highly Migratory Species Management Team NMFS West Coast Region seat replacing Mr. Craig Heberer.

The Council will continue to solicit nominations for the vacant Washington Private Sport seat on the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel with the intent to fill the seat at the June Council meeting. Interested parties can find nomination information on the [Council website](#).

The Council adopted for public review proposed modifications to Council Operating Procedure ([COP](#)) [1](#) and [COP](#) [9](#).

7. [Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 0:26:57](#)]

[Agenda Item C.7, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary (dated March 23, 2016)

[Agenda Item C.7, Attachment 2](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, June 23-28, 2016 in Tacoma, Washington

[Agenda Item C.7, Attachment 3](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities

[Agenda Item C.7, Attachment 4](#): Supplemental HMSMT Report from March 2016: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel Report on Future Council Meeting and Workload Planning

[Agenda Item C.7, Attachment 5](#): Supplemental HMSAS Report from March 2016: Highly Migratory Species Management Team Report on Future Council Meeting and Workload Planning

[Agenda Item C.7, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary (dated April 14, 2016)

[Agenda Item C.7, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, June 21-28, 2016 in Tacoma, Washington (updated 04/14/2016)

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 0:50:08](#)]

[Agenda Item C.7.a, NMFS Report](#): Western Regional Action Plan (WRAP) for implementing the NMFS National Climate Science Strategy (NCSS)

[Agenda Item C.7.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning for HMS Issues

[Agenda Item C.7.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 1:14:26](#)]

Tara Brock & Gilly Lyons, PEW Charitable Trusts
Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

[Agenda Item C.7.b, Public Comment](#)

c. **Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning** [[mp3: 4-14-16pm3 0:00:03](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The next meeting of the Council and its advisory bodies is scheduled for June 21-28, 2016 in Tacoma, Washington. A single-page draft proposed agenda summary will be available on the Council website in the near future, and a draft detailed proposed agenda will be available by June 9. The advance public comment deadline for the June meeting is May 26.

D. Enforcement Issues

1. **[Annual U. S. Coast Guard Fishery Enforcement Report](#)** – Jim Seger [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:27:40](#)]

a. **U.S. Coast Guard Annual West Coast Fishery Enforcement Report – CPT Pearce** [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:27:40](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1.a, Supplemental USCG Report](#): U.S. Coast Guard's 2015 Annual Report to the Council

[Agenda Item D.1.a, Supplemental USCG PowerPoint](#)

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

None

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 4-9-16am2 0:58:10](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

**2. [Final Action on Regulations for Vessel Movement Monitoring](#) – Brett Wiedoff
[\[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:20:59\]](#)**

[Agenda Item D.2, Supplemental Agenda Item Overview PowerPoint](#): (Wiedoff)

[Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1: Vessel Movement Monitoring Public Scoping Document](#)

a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [\[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:48:17\]](#)

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

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

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

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

b. [Public Comment](#) [\[mp3: 4-14-16am2 0:01:08\]](#)

Tara Brock and Tom Rudolph, PEW Charitable Trusts

Ben Enticknap, Oceana

John Corbin, Buck & Ann Fisheries

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

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

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

c. [Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives for Vessel Movement Monitoring Regulations in Council Area Commercial Fisheries](#) [\[mp3: 4-14-16am2 0:19:01\]](#)

Motion: Council move forward the Preliminary Preferred Alternatives as Final Preferred Alternatives for vessel movement monitoring as described in Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1 with the following modifications:

Management measure 1:

- Section 1.4.1: Referencing Table 1-4, for all non-groundfish trawl except California halibut, select no action, status quo. For California halibut trawl, select FPA as Alternatives 1a, 1b, and 2.
- Section 1.4.2: Referencing Table 1-5, drift gillnet fishery, select no action, status quo.
- Section 1.7.3.1: Move forward the revised definition of continuous transit.

Management measure 2:

- Section 2.1.3: Select Alternative 3 as FPA with clarifications contained on page 5 of the Supplement EC Report, Agenda Item D.2.a.

Gregg Casad/Frank Lockhart

Amendment: Make the following changes:

- Section 1.4.1: Strike “except California halibut, select no action, status quo. For California halibut trawl”
- Section 1.4.2: add to the end of the sentence: “add EC recommendations from D.2.a, Supplemental EC Report under management measure 1, item 6.
- Section 1.7.3.1: add “for groundfish” at the end of the sentence.

Marci Yaremko /David Crabbe (amendment carried unanimously)

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: Management Measure 1 - Monitoring Restricted Areas with Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)

The Council selected the following preferred alternatives for VMS use and requirements:

- Alternative 1a - Increase ping rate to four times per hour with NMFS type-approved units;
- Alternative 1b - Maintain ping rate of one per hour with Electronic Monitoring (EM) System with NMFS type-approved units;
- Alternative 2 – Allow use of enhanced VMS units (not NMFS type-approved).

If all alternatives are implemented, vessels would be able to choose from the suite of the VMS options listed above. These new requirements apply to vessels that are currently required to have VMS under regulation including salmon troll, California halibut, ridgeback prawn, and sea cucumber trawl, but excluding whiting mid-water trawl (during the primary season), pink shrimp trawl, and the swordfish drift gillnet fishery (DGN).

The Council also selected the No Action (status quo) alternative for the swordfish DGN fishery since previous Council action called for 100 percent monitoring (through EM or observers) of the DGN fishery by 2018. NMFS will consider the potential applicability of the VMS ping rate when using EM and the possible use of new enhanced VMS units (not NMFS type-approved) during development of those DGN monitoring regulations to enhance enforcement capabilities under the 100 percent monitoring requirement.

The Council also recommended that NMFS implement the revised definition for in the groundfish regulations for continuous transit as seen in Section 1.7.3.1.1 of [Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1 VMM Scoping Document](#).

Management Measure 2: Fishery Declaration Enhancements (Gear Testing and Whiting Fishery Declaration Changes)

The Council selected Alternative 3 for an observer exemption process for groundfish trawl vessels that want to test trawl gear. They would not be allowed to harvest fish or test gear in essential fish habitat conservation areas, and trawl nets must be open or absent a codend.

The Council selected Alternative 1 to allow mid-water trawl vessels to change their whiting fishery declaration while at sea. Other declaration restrictions would remain in place.

Management Measure 3: Movement of IFQ Fishpot Gear across Management Lines

The Council selected Alternative 2 and 3 to allow shorebased IFQ fixed gear vessels to move pot gear from one management area to another management area during a single trip then deploy the gear baited or non-baited. Under these regulations, vessels would not be allowed to harvest fish from any additional management areas with fish aboard the vessel from a previous management area (i.e., fish from multiple management areas could not be mixed during a single trip).

E. Salmon Management

1. [Tentative Adoption of 2016 Ocean Salmon Management Measures for Analysis](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:00:19](#)]

[Preseason Report II: Proposed Alternatives and Environmental Assessment Part 2 for 2016 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations; Regulation Identifier Number 0648-BF56 \(Electronic Only\)](#)

[Agenda Item E.1, Attachment 1](#): Emergency Changes to the Salmon FMP

[Agenda Item E.1, Attachment 2](#): FR 97-22094: Policy Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules

a. **Update of Estimated Impacts of March 2016 Alternatives** – Robert Kope [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:07:29](#)]

b. **Summary of Public Hearings** [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:08:26](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.b, Supplemental Public Hearing Report 1](#): Westport, Washington

[Agenda Item E.1.b, Supplemental Public Hearing Report 2](#): Coos Bay, Oregon

[Agenda Item E.1.b, Supplemental Public Hearing Report 3](#): Fort Bragg, California

c. **Recommendations of the U. S. Section of the Pacific Salmon Commission** – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:17:03](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.c, Supplemental PSC Report 1](#): Letter from Anderson to Farlinger re: status of the PSC Chinook model calibration for 2016

[Agenda Item E.1.c, Supplemental PSC Report 2](#): Letter from Farlinger to Anderson; response on status of the PSC Chinook model calibration for 2016

d. **Recommendations of North of Falcon Forum** [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:27:51](#)]

e. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-9-16am3 0:43:52](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental NWIFC Report](#): Letter from NWIFC to Bob Turner dated March 24, 2016 regarding 2016 PFMC Salmon Season Setting Process

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Testimony and Statement

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental Tribal Report 2](#): Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Skagit River Coho Escapement Needs – 2016

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental Tribal Report 3](#): CRITFC

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): Recommendations on Additional Winter-Run Protections in 2016 Ocean Fisheries

[Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental SAS Report](#): Proposed 2016 Ocean Salmon Management Measures for Tentative Adoption

f. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-9-16pm1 0:00:06](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 5](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 6](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 7](#)

Marc Gorelnik, Coastside Fishing Club [Agenda Item E.1.f, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#)
(Gorelnik PowerPoint)

John Koeppen, CA Commercial Salmon Trollers

g. Council Action: Adopt Tentative 2016 Ocean Salmon Management Measures for Analysis [[mp3: 4-9-16pm1 0:54:04](#)] & [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:01:00](#)]

Motion: Council tentatively adopt for STT collation and analysis the salmon management measures for the 2016 commercial and recreational fisheries in the area from Cape Falcon, Oregon north to the U.S./Canada border as presented in Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental SAS Report, April 9, 2016, with the following changes:

Page 1:

Modify #1 under supplemental management information to read “Overall non-Indian TAC: 85,000 Chinook and 18,900 coho marked with a healed adipose fin clip (marked).”

For North of Falcon troll fishery during the period July 8 through August 23, modify sentence to read “When it is projected that approximately 75% of the overall Chinook guideline has been landed...”

Page 7:

Modify #1 under supplemental management information to read “Overall non-Indian TAC: 85,000 Chinook and 18,900 coho marked with a healed adipose fin clip (marked).”

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council tentatively adopt for STT collation and analysis the salmon management measures for the 2016 commercial and recreational ocean fisheries in the area from Cape Falcon to the Oregon/California border as presented in Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental SAS Report, dated April 9, 2016, including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, and exceptions.

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council tentatively adopt for STT collation and analysis the salmon management measures for the 2016 commercial and recreational ocean fisheries in the area from the Oregon/California border to the U.S./Mexico border as presented in Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental SAS Report, dated April 9, 2016, including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions -

with the following changes consistent with the recommendations identified in Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental CDFW report:

- Recreational Fishery – Page 9
 - Monterey North (Pigeon Point to Point Sur)
April 2 through July 15
 - Monterey South (Point Sur to U.S./Mexico Border)
April 2 through May 31

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe

Amendment: add the following italicized language to the motion: *As reported and with the following changes (so there are two analyses for SRWC)*, consistent with the recommendations identified in Agenda Item E.1.e, Supplemental CDFW report:

Dan Wolford/Buzz Brizendine (amendment carried unanimously)
(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council tentatively adopt for STT collation and analysis the salmon management measures for the following two Treaty troll management options:

- Option 1
 - A Chinook quota of: 46,250
 - A coho quota of: 0
- Option 2
 - A Chinook quota of: 30,000
 - A coho quota of: 0

Both options would consist of a May/June Chinook only fishery and a July/August Chinook only fishery. The Chinook will be split 23,125 in May/June and 23,125 in July/August for the first option. The Chinook will be split 20,000 in May/June and 10,000 in July/August for the second option.

Joe Oatman/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

2. [Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 4-10-16pm2 0:23:40](#)] & [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:00:07](#)]
 - a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:03:06](#)]

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

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

- b. **Public Comment**

None

- c. **Council Guidance on Potential Methodologies to Review in 2016** [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:06:43](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council tasked the Model Evaluation Workgroup with the following preliminary topics for the 2016 Methodology Review.

- Continue development and documentation of the new Chinook FRAM (Fishery Regulation Assessment Model) Base Period; including data compilation and model run comparisons.
- Update the User's Manual for the Visual Studio version of the FRAM model.

The Council is scheduled to adopt the final list of topics at the September Council meeting and final methodology changes at the November Council meeting.

3. [Clarify Council Direction on 2016 Management Measures](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:09:53](#)]
 - a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:10:44](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental STT Report:](#) Preliminary Analysis of Tentative 2016 Ocean Salmon Fishery Management Measures, Dated April 10, 2016

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:21:05](#)]

Marc Gorelnik, Coastside Fishing Club

c. **Council Guidance and Direction** [[mp3: 4-10-16pm3 0:26:24](#)]

Council suspended this agenda item and reconvened on April 13, 2016.

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-13-16pm3 0:04:34](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#): Dated April 11, 2016

c. **Council Guidance and Direction** [[mp3: 4-13-16pm3 0:50:27](#)] & [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 1:26:19](#)]

Motion: Council adopt the following natural escapement targets for Washington coastal coho stocks for 2016:

Grays Harbor	31,000
Queets	2,900
Hoh	1,800
Quillayute Fall	4,000

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson

Amendment: include the word “tentative” between Council and adopt.
Phil Anderson/David Sones (Amendment carried unanimously).
Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

Motion: Council tentatively adopt for STT collation and analysis the salmon management measures for the 2016 commercial and recreational ocean fisheries in the area from the Oregon/California border to the U.S./Mexico border as presented in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental STT Report, including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions. With the following changes:

- Commercial Fishery – Pages 2 and 3
 - Horse Mountain to Point Arena (Fort Bragg)
Replace August 1-29 with August 3-27
 - Point Arena to Pigeon Point (San Francisco)
Replace May 7-31 with May 6-31
Replace August 1-29 with August 3-28

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe

Amendment: Amend the motion to create a single alternative for analysis that builds on the direction put forth regarding the commercial season, by adding that the recreational season in the area from Pigeon Point to Point Sur (Monterey North) be changed *from* April 2 through July 15, *to* April 2 through July 24. (Per Supplemental SAS Report E.3.a dated April 2016)
Dan Wolford/David Crabbe (Amendment failed under roll call vote: Ms. Yaremko, Mr. Turner, Mr. Hassemer, Mr. Adicks, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Pollard voted no; Mr. Sones abstained).
Motion as amended carried unanimously.

Staff Summary: None

4. [Final Action on 2016 Salmon Management Measures](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 1:26:36](#)]

a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 1:36:15](#)]

[Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): STT Analysis of Tentative 2016 Ocean Salmon Fishery Management Measures

[Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): (CRITFC)

[Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental Tribal Report 2](#): (Tulalip)

b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 1:59:26](#)]

Greg Mueller, Washington Trollers Association

Joel Kawahara

c. [Council Action: Adopt Final Management Measures for 2016 Ocean Salmon Fisheries](#) [[mp3: 4-14-16pm2 2:06:06](#)]

Motion: Council adopt the non-Indian commercial and recreational salmon management measures for the area north of Cape Falcon as presented in Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental STT Report, April 14, 2016.

For analysis, the STT will model fisheries such that the combined ocean and Puget Sound fisheries do not exceed:

1. 10% Southern U.S. exploitation rate for each of the following Puget Sound coho management units: Skagit wild, Stillaguamish wild, Snohomish wild and Strait of Juan de Fuca wild coho.
2. 45% total exploitation rate for the Hood Canal wild coho management unit.
3. The exploitation rates and escapement goals for each of the Puget Sound Chinook management units included in Table 2 of NMFS' guidance letter, after applying the appropriate regime to the status of each management unit anticipated in 2016.

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson

Amendment: make the following amendment:

On Page 1, Table 1. Commercial troll management measures: U.S./Canada Border to Cape Falcon in both the May-June and July-August seasons strike where it is written, "...or, when the area between Cape Falcon and Humbug Mt. is closed to all salmon fishing, vessels may transit south of Cape Falcon and land into Newport, Oregon (fish must be landed and delivered prior to any reopening of salmon fishing in the area from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt.)."

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Amendment carried unanimously)

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt the season structures, size limits, quotas, and other management measures for the commercial and recreational non-Indian fisheries from Cape Falcon south to the U.S./Mexico Border for submission to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce as shown in Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental STT Report, dated April 14, 2016, including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions contained in that document with the following change:

Page 2, Table 1. Commercial troll management measures: Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border:
Change the June quota from 690 Chinook to 720 Chinook.
Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt the management measures and quotas for the Treaty Troll Fishery south of the U.S./Canadian border to Cape Falcon, Oregon including requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions as shown in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental STT Report, dated April 10, 2016, table 3, except as follows.

The Treaty Indian ocean troll fishery would have a quota of:
40,000 Chinook and
0 coho

The overall chinook quota would be divided into a 20,000-Chinook sub-quota for the May 1 through June 30 Chinook only fishery and a 20,000-Chinook sub-quota for the fishery in the time period of July 1 through August 31.

David Sones/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted management measures for 2016 ocean salmon fisheries. Detailed management measures and a press release are posted on the Council's [web page](#).

5. **[Annual Management Schedule Changes Amendment Scoping](#)** – Mike Burner [**[mp3: 4-13-16am1 0:04:34](#)**]

[Agenda Item E.5, Attachment 1](#): March 4, 2016 letter from Mr. Phil Anderson, Pacific Salmon Commission (Commission) Chair, to Mr. Bob Turner, NMFS Assistant Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, regarding the U.S. Section of the Commission's recommended consideration of annual season-setting schedule adjustments

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [**[mp3: 4-13-16am1 0:08:55](#)**]

[Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental STT Report](#)
[Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)
[Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Consider Initiating an Amendment to Modify the Annual Management Schedule and Identify Issues to be addressed, as Appropriate** [**[mp3: 4-13-16am1 0:17:59](#)**]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council considered the benefits and drawbacks of adjusting the salmon preseason management schedule and opted to not initiate an amendment process at this time.

F. Groundfish Management

1. [National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:09:14](#)]

a. [Regulatory Activities](#) – Frank Lockhart [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:11:34](#)]

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

[Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Rulemaking Plan for 2016, Groundfish and Halibut

[Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 3](#): Update on the Widow Reallocation Rulemaking

[Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 4](#): TRAT Compliance Summary, 2015

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 5](#): Trawl Rationalization Program Cost Recovery Annual Report Fee Calculation for 2016 and Fishing Year 2015 Payments

b. [Fisheries Science Center Activities](#) – John Stein [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:24:03](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental NWFS Powerpoint](#): Groundfish Science Center Report (Stein)

c. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:35:57](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1.c, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

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

d. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:49:28](#)]

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Jeff Lackey

Paul Clampitt *Did not Testify*

e. [Council Discussion](#) [[mp3: 4-10-16am1 0:54:16](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council received reports of NMFS regulatory and science activities planned for this year. The Council was briefed on development of the proposed rule for reallocating quota shares of widow rockfish to limited entry trawl sectors and the NMFS recommendation to remove the daily vessel limit of widow rockfish since the stock is rebuilt. The Council recommended NMFS pursue an expeditious rulemaking strategy to remove the daily vessel limit for any overfished species once a species/stock is declared rebuilt. NMFS will report back to the Council on a recommended strategy to achieve this objective.

2. [Final Action to Implement the 2016 Pacific Whiting Fishery under the U.S. – Canada Pacific Whiting Agreement](#)– John DeVore [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:00:09](#)]

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1](#): Status of the Pacific Hake (Whiting) Stock in U.S. and Canadian Waters in 2016. (*Full Version Available Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2](#): Table 1. Estimates of Pacific whiting mortality from 2007-2014 for Research and the Pink Shrimp Fishery

a. [Joint Management Committee Report](#) – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:04:40](#)]

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

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:15:37](#)]

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

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Discussion [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:20:33](#)]

Motion: Council establish a 2016 set aside of 1,500 mt of Pacific whiting to accommodate research and incidental catches.

Phil Anderson/Corey Niles (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council received a briefing on this year's process to set a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of Pacific whiting under the U.S.-Canada Whiting Treaty agreement. The recommended 2016 U.S. TAC of Pacific whiting is 367,553 mt, which compares to a 2015 TAC of 325,072 mt. The Council recommended 1,500 mt of Pacific whiting be set aside from the directed fishery allocations to accommodate the anticipated catch in research activities as well as the incidental bycatch in non-whiting fisheries.

3. [Final Action to Adopt Biennial Specifications for 2017-2018 Fisheries](#) – John DeVore and Kelly Ames [[mp3: 4-11-16am1 0:03:16](#)]

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#): 2017-2018 Groundfish Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Including Changes to Groundfish Stock Designations (Amendment 27 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan): Description and Analysis for Council Decision-making

[Agenda Item F.3, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 2](#): 2017 and 2018 Groundfish Harvest Specifications

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3](#): Draft of the 2016 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Document (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.3, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Revised Fishery Harvest Guidelines and Allocations

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-11-16am1 0:10:26](#)]

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

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

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

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

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

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 4-11-16am2 0:11:47](#)]

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

Ralph Brown

Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

Tom Marking

Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission
Kevin Dunn, F/V Iron Lady

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Harvest Specifications for 2017-2018 Fisheries [mp3: 4-11-16am3 0:00:08]

Motion: Council approve the following harvest specifications for 2017 and 2018:

1. For canary rockfish, approve the revised OFL for 2018 of 1,596 mt as described in Agenda Item F.3 Supplemental REVISED Attachment 2
2. For canary rockfish, set a tentative ACL equal to the ABC (i.e., 1,714 mt in 2017 and 1,526 mt in 2018) with the intent to:
 - a. Consider setting a sector-specific ACT for trawl of 1,226 mt, from which the at-sea set asides would be subtracted from, with the balance of the trawl ACT issued to the shorebased IFQ fishery, and
 - b. Consider setting a sector-specific ACT for non-trawl or simply having non-trawl catches count against the ACL under Agenda Item F.6.
3. For widow rockfish, set the ACL equal to the ABC (i.e., 13,508 mt in 2017 and 13,873 mt in 2018).
4. For darkblotched rockfish, set ACLs consistent with the approach described in Agenda Item F.3.b Supplemental WDFW Report (i.e., 490 mt in 2017 and 490 mt in 2018). And retain T_{target} at 2025.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

Amendment: Under part 3- change the 2018 mt value from 13,873 to 12,655.

Phil Anderson/Michele Culver (Amendment carried unanimously)

Motion, as amended, carried (Mr. Anderson voted no).

Motion: Council adopt as FPA the no action for black rockfish in California and Alternative 1 (150 mt) for California scorpionfish as shown in Agenda Item F.3, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 2.

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted final preferred 2017 and 2018 harvest specifications for groundfish stocks and stock complexes under default harvest control rules for most stocks as shown in [Agenda Item F.3, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 2](#). The Council adopted new harvest control rules for canary rockfish, darkblotched rockfish, California scorpionfish, and widow rockfish as follows:

- Canary rockfish: 1,526 mt annual catch limit (ACL) in 2017-18 with $ACL = ABC$ (acceptable biological catch) ($P^* = 0.45$) thereafter;
- Darkblotched rockfish: 490 mt in 2017-18;
- California scorpionfish: 150 mt constant catch ACL; and
- Widow rockfish: $ACL = ABC$ ($P^* = 0.45$); 13,508 mt and 12,655 mt in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

4. **[Final Action to Adopt Fixed Gear Electronic Monitoring Alternatives and Deem Whiting and Fixed Gear Electronic Monitoring Regulations](#)** – Brett Wiedoff [**[mp3: 4-11-16pm1 0:00:04](#)**]

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1](#): Fixed Gear Fishery Final Preferred Alternatives and Options, September 2014

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 2](#): An Electronic Monitoring Program for the Limited Entry Groundfish Trawl Fishery (*Electronic Only*)

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [**[mp3: 4-11-16pm1 0:17:51](#)**] & [**[mp3: 4-11-16pm2 0:00:36](#)**]

[Agenda Item F.4.a, NMFS Report, Including Recommended CFR-style Regulations](#): Deeming of Electronic Monitoring Regulations for Whiting and Fixed Gear Fisheries, Prepared by NMFS West Coast Regional Office

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Electronic Monitoring Regulation Deeming (Hooper)

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

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

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

b. **Public Comment** [**[mp3: 4-11-16pm2 1:07:50](#)**]

Steve Bodnar *Did Not Testify*

Jeff Lackey, F/V Seeker & F/V Miss Sue

Kate Kauer, The Nature Conservancy & Sarah McTee, Environmental Defense Fund

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Michele Longo Eder

c. **Council Action: Confirm or Revise Adopted Council Final Preferred Alternative for Fixed Gear Fishery Electronic Monitoring and Deem Regulations for implementing Council Final Action for Whiting and Fixed Gear Fisheries Electronic Monitoring** [**[mp3: 4-11-16pm3 0:00:06](#)**]

Motion: Council:

1. Approve the revisions to the Final Preferred Alternative for the Fixed Gear shown in Supplement GEMPAC Report , Agenda Item F.4.a, i.e.,
 - a. Under EM Vessel Operation Plan – IVMP Expiration change to Option A (No Expiration)
 - b. Under Declaration of EM Use, change FPA to Option D: no limit on frequency – declaration stands until changed
 - c. Under Data Transfer Process, retain only Option D – vessel operator and crew
 - d. Video and data processing – clarify that the desire is for PSMFC be eligible to be a third party reviewer
2. Deem the regulations as meeting the intent of the FPA for whiting and, with the expectation that changes are incorporated to reflect the changes to the fixed gear FPA shown above, as meeting the Council’s intent with respect to fixed gear.
3. In addition, incorporate the other recommendations contained in the GEMPAC report for the changes to the regulations with the exception of the GEMPAC recommendation on video

retention. In this case, maintain the proposed 3 year retention requirement but specify that this will be reviewed prior to transitioning to third party video reviewers with the intention of reducing the duration of retention requirements to the maximum extent possible.

Dorothy Lowman/Maggie Sommer

Amendment: Change #3 delete strike out and add the underline of the following: In addition, incorporate the other recommendations contained in the GEMPAC report for the changes to the regulations with the exception of the GEMPAC recommendation on video retention. In this case, maintain the proposed 3 year retention requirement but specify that this will be reviewed prior to transitioning to 3rd party video reviewers with the intention of reducing the duration of retention requirements to the maximum extent possible. Specify that the video shall be retained for one year and at that time be transmitted to NMFS.

Marci Yaremko/Buzz Brizendine (Amendment failed, Ms. Yaremko and Mr. Brizendine voted in favor)

Main Motion carried (Ms. Yaremko voted no)

Staff Summary: The Council made the following changes to the final preferred alternative (FPA) for electronic monitoring (EM) for the fixed gear fishery as described in Table 1 of [Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1](#):

- a. Individual Vessel Monitoring Plans expiration was changed from one year to no expiration;
- b. Declaration of EM use was changed from annual declaration to no limit on frequency – declaration stands until changed;
- c. Data Transfer Process removed shoreside monitor and retained only vessel operator and crew;
- d. Video and data processing was clarified that the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission should be eligible to be a third-party video reviewer.

In addition, the Council recommended the following changes based on recommendations in [Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report](#):

- a. Remove references to particular modes of communication (i.e., email).
- b. In the preamble of the proposed rule, discuss NMFS standards for EM providers to provide free litigation support to NMFS.
- c. Include a one-page EM application process for existing EM participants to reduce the paperwork burden for the industry.
- d. Include a general statement in the regulations that would require EM providers to comply with state and Federal warranty statutes.

Regarding record retention requirements in the draft regulations, the Council recommended maintaining the proposed 3-year record retention requirement, but specified that this requirement be reviewed prior to transitioning to third-party video reviewers to reduce the duration period for EM providers to retain records.

Finally, the Council deemed the draft regulations as meeting the intent of the whiting final preferred alternative (see the [November 2015](#) Decision Summary Document for Whiting

Electronic Monitoring) and for the fixed gear fishery with the expectation that changes to the FPA and additional recommendations be incorporated.

5. **Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) Amendment** – Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 4-12-16pm1 0:00:05](#)]

a. **Project Team Report – John Stadler and Kerry Griffin** [[mp3: 4-12-16pm1 0:09:17](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5.a, EFH and RCA Project Team Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental EFH/RCA Project Team Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental EFH and RCA Project Team PowerPoint](#): Consideration of Modifying Essential Fish Habitat and Rockfish Conservation Areas

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-12-16pm1 1:01:31](#)] & [[mp3: 4-12-16pm2 0:00:21](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): Preliminary Summary of Public Comments on the NOI to Prepare an EIS on Amendment 28 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP

[Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental HC Report](#)

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-12-16pm2 0:17:48](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5.c, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (Print Version)

[Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (*Full Version Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#) (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment 4](#)

Ben Enticknap & Geoff Shester, Oceana - [Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 2](#) (Oceana)

Seth Atkinson, Tom Libby, Kate Kauer, Brad Pettinger & Shems Jud

Andrea Treece, Earthjustice

Andrew Thurber, Oregon State University

Tom Rudolph, PEW Charitable Trusts - [Agenda Item F.5.c, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 1](#) (PEW, Rudolph)

d. **Council Action: Consider and Revise Range of Alternatives, as Appropriate; Identify Preferred Alternatives in Possible; Revise Additional Guidance as Necessary** [[mp3: 4-12-16pm3 0:00:03](#)]

Motion: Council revise the range of alternatives for groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) adjustment presented in the Project Team Report, agenda item F.5.a, Table 1, as follows:

1. For Subject Area 1, Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Areas (EFHCAs) contained in public proposals, remove alternatives 1.b, 1.b.i, and all public proposals except Collaborative (1.c) and Oceana, et al. (1.f) (as amended by the proponents) for analysis as stand-alone alternatives, with the understanding that metrics will be produced for individual polygons from all existing public proposals making them available to the Council for inclusion when selecting a preferred alternative.

For those proposals removed as stand-alone alternatives, also remove the corresponding alternatives which are exclusive of the tribal usual and accustomed fishing areas, 1.d.i and 1.e.i.

2. For Subject Area 2, new EFHCAs within current RCAs, remove alternatives 2.b and 2.b.i, with the understanding the Project Team will develop and present metrics indicating certainty or confidence in the habitat classifications of those areas prior to the Council selecting a preferred alternative.

Furthermore, I move that the Council adopt alternatives 4.b, 5.b, 6.b, 7.b, 8.b, 9.b, and 10.b as Preliminary Preferred Alternatives.

Troy Buell/Jeff Feldner

Amendment: In item #1, for analytical purposes, add the components in southern ca (south of pt. conception) as described in the collaborative proposal dated 9/2015.

Joanna Grebel/Buzz Brizendine (Amendment carried unanimously)

Amendment: Remove the alternatives 1c and 1f which would make changes within the tribal U&A.

Frank Lockhart/David Sones (Amendment was withdrawn with consent of the second)

Amendment: Remove any alternatives that include changes within the tribal U&A.

Frank Lockhart/David Sones (Amendment carried on roll call vote, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Buell and Mr. Hassemer voted no; Mr. Wolford abstained.)

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council move that the alternatives under subject area 3 move forward for further analysis if it is determined that additional analysis is needed to consider block area closures through inseason action in the future.

Michele Culver/Troy Buell

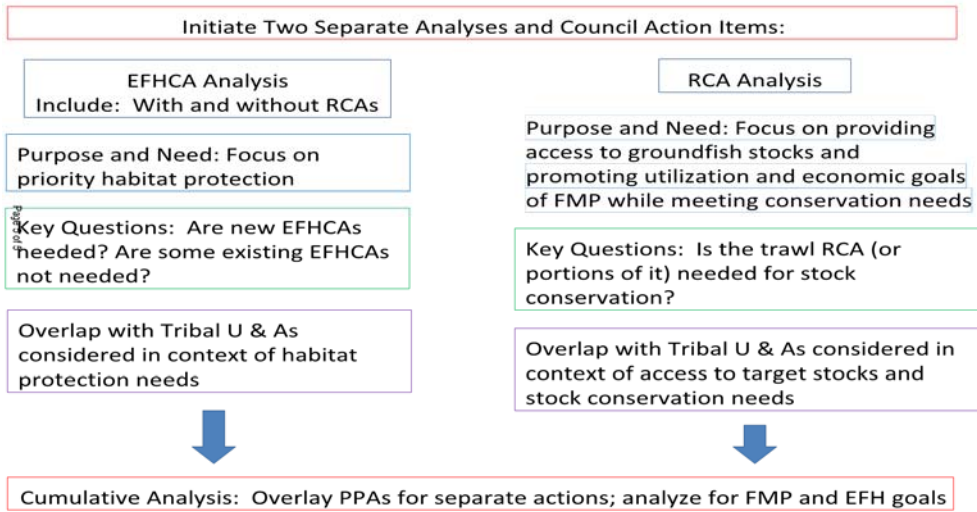
Amendment: Remove from further analysis any changes to the RCAs within the tribal U&A.

Frank Lockhart/David Sones (Amendment carried, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Hassemer voted no; Mr. Wolford abstained.)

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council approve the following proposed analytical approach as displayed.

Proposed Analytical Approach:



Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted a revised range of alternatives that includes the public proposals submitted by the Collaborative group and the Oceana/Natural Resources Defense Council/Ocean Conservancy group, as amended by the proponents. The Council asked that the individual areas specified in the other public proposals be analyzed in terms of the metrics proposed by the EFH/RCA Project Team, but not to stand as individual alternatives. The Council also eliminated from consideration any EFH or RCA changes within the Tribal Usual and Accustomed Areas off the coast of Washington, and provided guidance on the analytical approach for EFH and RCA changes.

The Council recommended that the trawl RCA alternatives, as described in [Agenda Item F.5.a, EFH and RCA Project Team Report](#) (Table 1, described in Section 4), move forward for more detailed analysis, as necessary. Alternatives include complete removal of the trawl RCA as well as discrete area closures for overfished species and block area closures only as necessary to address conservation concerns.

Finally, the Council selected as preliminary preferred alternatives (PPA), using Magnuson-Stevens Act discretionary authorities to prohibit bottom contact fishing activities deeper than 3,500 m, and the updates to the administrative alternatives pertaining to groundfish life histories, prey species, fishing and non-fishing impacts, review and revision process, and correcting minor errors and making clarifications in the groundfish Fishery Management Plan.

In addition to the no-action alternative for each issue, the revised list of alternatives is:

EFH Alternatives in Public Proposals

- 1b. Collaborative Group
- 1c. Oceana

EFH Alternatives in Trawl RCA

- 2b. Add new EFH Conservation Areas within the trawl RCA based on presence of priority habitats

Adjustments to Trawl RCA

- 3b. Remove trawl RCA
- 3c. Remove trawl RCA but establish discrete area closures for overfished groundfish species
- 3d. Remove trawl RCA but utilize block area closures for overfished or non-overfished groundfish species

Magnuson Act Discretionary Authorities

- 4b. Use MSA discretionary authorities to close waters deeper than 3,500 m to bottom contact gear **(PPA)**

Administrative Alternatives

- 5b. Update Appendix B, to include new information on life history descriptions, text descriptions of EFH, and major prey items **(PPA)**
- 6b. Revise Appendix C Part 2, to include new information on fishing gear effects **(PPA)**
- 7b. Update Appendix D to include new information on non-fishing effects and conservation measures **(PPA)**
- 8b. Revise groundfish EFH Information and Research Needs section of the FMP and move to an appendix **(PPA)**
- 9b. Update groundfish EFH review and revision process and describe elsewhere (e.g., COP). Include criteria prior to each review **(PPA)**
- 10b. Provide clarifications and correct minor errors **(PPA)**

6. Preliminary Preferred Management Measure Alternatives for 2017-2018 Fisheries – Kelly Ames and John DeVore [[mp3: 4-13-16am1 0:41:49](#)]

[Agenda Item F.6, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1](#): Action Item Checklist

[Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2](#): Draft Two-Year Allocation Options for Canary Rockfish

[Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 3](#): Draft Appendix B – Additional Management Measure Analysis and New Management Measures Analysis

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-13-16am1 0:48:29](#)]; [[mp3: 4-13-16am2 0:00:17](#)]; and [[mp3: 4-13-16pm1 0:00:48](#)]

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental ODFW Report](#): Modification to the ODFW canary rockfish allocation proposal and revised ODFW recreational mortality projections to account for targeting of canary rockfish in traditional groundfish fishery and adoption of the new longleader opportunity

[Agenda Item F.6.a REVISED Supplemental ODFW Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental WDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental REVISED GMT Report 1](#): Rockfish Conservation Area Updates, Allocations, and Harvest Guidelines

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#): 2017-2018 Season Structures

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 3](#): 2017-2018 New and Emerging Management Measures

[Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): Preliminary 2017-2018 Tribal Management Measures

[Agenda Item F.6.a, REVISED Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 4-13-16pm1 0:10:18](#)]

[Agenda Item F.6.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

Peter Leipzig, Fisherman's Marketing Association

Douglas Kaber, Lost Coast Kayak Anglers

Dan Waldeck, Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative

Jeff Lackey

Mike Storey, F/V Pegasus

Robert Smith, F/V Raven

Brent Paine, United Catcher Boats

Donna Parker, Artic Storm

Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission

Rod Moore

Mike Hyde, American Seafoods

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Ralph Brown

James Mize, Premier Pacific Seafoods

Bill James, Port San Luis Commercial Fisherman's Association

c. Council Action: Adopt Any Remaining Harvest Specifications and Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for Management in 2017-2018 Fisheries [[mp3: 4-13-16pm2 0:00:08](#)]

Motion: Council approve the table in Appendix 1 of Agenda Item F.6 a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, Fishery Harvest Guidelines for 2017 and 2018 with EFP and Council Decisions on F.3, with the following revision:

Change the research set-aside for yelloweye rockfish from 3.3 metric tons to 2.7 metric tons for 2017 only.

Maggie Sommer/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt a Canary Annual Catch Limit of 1,526 for both 2017 and 2018.

In addition, I move that the Council adopt a preliminary preferred alternative for the 2017 - 2018 harvest specifications and management measures for canary rockfish as specified in the table below:

ACL	1526
Off the Top Deductions	59.4
Tribal	50
EFP	1
Research	7.2
IOA	1.2
Trawl ACT	1095.1
At-Sea Hard Caps	46

<i>CP</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>MS</i>	<i>30</i>
Shorebased IFQ	1049.1
Non-Trawl ACT	371.5
Non-Nearshore	46.5
Nearshore	100
WA Rec HG	50
OR Rec HG	75
CA Rec HG	100

Phil Anderson/Michele Culver

Amendment: Increase the CA recreational Harvest guideline by 35 mt, and reduce the Shorebased IFQ by 35 mt.

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Amendment carried; Mr. Lockhart abstained.)
(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council approve the following measures as preliminary preferred alternatives for further analysis for the June meeting:

1. Washington recreational management measures as described in Agenda Item F.6.b, Supplemental WDFW Report;
2. For widow rockfish, the amounts consistent with Amendment 21 to be specified as allocations for each of the at-sea sectors for 2017 and 2018;
3. For darkblotched rockfish and Pacific Ocean Perch (POP), the following amounts (as a main priority) to be specified as annual set asides (which is preferred, if possible) or allocations for each of the at-sea sectors for 2017 and 2018:

	Darkblotched	POP
Catcher Processor	25	20
Mothership	20	15

and, strongly urge the National Marine Fisheries Service to explore any and every possible mechanism to make the adjustments proposed above happen to the maximum extent possible; and

4. The removal of the trawl rockfish conservation area (RCA) north of Cape Alava, Washington (48°10' N. latitude) and extend the shoreward and seaward RCA boundaries north of 40°10' N. latitude to the U.S./Canada border.

Michele Culver/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Amendment: amend the motion seaward RCA boundary from 45° 46 to the US/Canada border be established at 150 fm.

Phil Anderson/Rich Lincoln (Amendment carried unanimously.)
(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt the following as preliminary preferred for public review; using GMT Report 1 (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1) and GAP Report (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP report):

#1 - GAP recommendation

#3 - GAP recommendation

#4 - GMT recommendation; include blackgill HG of 123 mt for 2018 if Amendment 26 is delayed.

#5 - GAP recommendation

#8 - GAP recommendation except for yelloweye rockfish - move 0.1 mt to non-nearshore and 0.1 mt to California nearshore

Deacon rockfish - adopt GMT recommendation

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt the following as preliminary preferred for public review; using GMT Report 2 (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2) and GAP Report (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP report):

#9 - GAP recommendations including big skate trip limits (Table 4-13), include removal of daily vessel limits in IFQ fishery for overfished species that are rebuilt.

#11 - GAP recommendation; include recommendation to modify non-trawl seaward boundary from 150 fm to 125 fm between 40°10' and 34°27' N lat.

#12 - GAP recommendation except for OA canary; OA canary = 100 lb/2 months; include recommendation to modify non-trawl shoreward boundary from 60 fm to 75 fm south of 34°27' N lat.

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford

Amendment: Amend the motion under #12 replace 100 lbs/2 months to 150 lbs/2 months

Maggie Sommer/Jeff Feldner (Amendment carried, Ms. Grebel voted no)

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt the following as preliminary preferred for public review; using GMT Report 3 (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 3) and GAP Report (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP report):

#18 - GAP recommendation

#20 - GMT recommendation

#21 - GMT recommendation which includes starry flounder

#22 - GAP recommendation

#23 - GAP recommendation

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt California recreational season structure and bag limits as described in Supplemental CDFW Report 1 as preliminary preferred for public review.

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council approve as the preliminary preferred alternative for the Oregon recreational fishery the season structure, bag limits, and regulations that were in place in 2016 and are

described in the No Action Alternative in Section 4.1.1.9 of [Agenda Item F.3., Attachment 1](#), with two exceptions:

- Removal of the kelp greenling minimum size limit
- Addition of two options for expanding the Stonewall Bank YRCA, with the coordinates shown in Table 4-59 in Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1.

Maggie Sommer/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt as preliminary preferred alternative for 2017-2018 as described in Supplemental Tribal Report F.6.a.

David Sones/Phil Anderson (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Council adopt preliminary set asides for the pacific whiting at-sea sectors as represented in table 4-20.

Phil Anderson/Michele Culver (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council selected preliminary preferred annual catch targets (ACT) for canary rockfish of 1,061 mt for trawl sectors (shorebased individual fishing quota program, mothership, catcher-processor) and 407 mt for non-trawl sectors (limited entry and open access fixed gears and recreational). The Council adopted preliminary preferred management measures, including allocations for all fisheries, for public review. Detailed descriptions of those measures will be posted on a Council blog the week of May 2 (see <http://tinyurl.com/j5ufndk> NOTE: this link will not be live until the week of May 2). Final action on management measures for 2017-2018 groundfish fisheries is scheduled for the June 2016 Council meeting.

7. [Initial Stock Assessment Plans and Terms of Reference \(TOR\) for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 4-13-16pm4 0:00:14](#)]

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 1](#): Prioritization of Species for Stock Assessments in 2017 and Beyond

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 2](#): Excel Workbook of Data Informing Stock Assessment Prioritization (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 3](#): Stock Assessment Prioritization for West Coast Groundfish

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 4](#): Prioritizing Fish Stock Assessments. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-F/SPO-152, August 2015

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 5](#): Draft Terms of Reference for the Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment and Review Process for 2017-2018

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 6](#): Draft Terms of Reference for the Groundfish Rebuilding Analysis for 2017-2018

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 7](#): Draft Terms of Reference for the Methodology Review Process for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species for 2017-2018

[Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 8](#): Draft Minutes of the Groundfish Stock Assessment Process Review Workshop

a. [Overview of Stock Assessment Prioritization](#) – Jim Hastie and Michelle McClure [[mp3: 4-13-16pm4 0:00:44](#)]

[Agenda Item F.7.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Prioritizing Fish Stock Assessments Draft Ranks for Pacific Coast Groundfish (Hastie)

[Agenda Item F.7.a, Supplemental NMFS Excel Workbook \(Hastie\)](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-13-16pm4 0:47:07](#)]

[Agenda Item F.7.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

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

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

[Agenda Item F.7.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.7.b, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Adopt for Public Review a Preliminary List and Schedule of Stocks for Assessment in 2017, the Stock Assessment and Methodology Review TOR for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species, and the Rebuilding TOR for Groundfish [[mp3: 4-13-16pm4 1:32:03](#)]

Motion: Council adopt for public review changes to Terms of Reference for:

- The Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment and Review Process for 2017-2018, as shown in Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 5, as modified by the recommendations of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (Agenda Item F.7.b, Supplemental SSC Report) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (Agenda Item F.7.b, Supplements CPSMT Report);
- The Groundfish Rebuilding Analysis for 2017-2018, as shown in Agenda Item F.7 Attachment 6; and
- The Methodology Review Process for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species for 2017-2018 as shown in agenda item F.7, attachment 7.

I also move that the Council adopt for public review the following as a preliminary priority list for 2017 groundfish stock assessments:

Update assessments

- Bocaccio
- Darkblotched rockfish

Full assessments

- Blue rockfish
- Deacon rockfish
- Lingcod
- Yelloweye rockfish
- Yellowtail rockfish

Species for further consideration pending public comment and information brought forth by the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers at the June Council meeting

- Blackgill rockfish (update)
- Arrowtooth flounder (update)
- Bank rockfish (full)
- Pacific Ocean perch (full)
- Cabezon (full)

- California scorpionfish (full or data moderate)
- Gopher rockfish (full or data moderate)

Troy Buell/Jeff Feldner

Amendment: Amend to remove California assessments Blue, Deacon, Cabezon. And Remove Gopher Rockfish entirely.

Joanna Grebel /David Crabbe

Amendment: Amend the amendment to remove “Blue” and “Deacon” from the amendment.

Troy Buell/Dorothy Lowman (Amendment to the Amendment carried, Ms. Grebel and Mr. Crabbe voted no).

Amendment as amended, carried; Mr. Anderson abstained).

(Motion, as amended, carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted a preliminary list of groundfish stock assessments to be conducted in 2017 to inform management decisions in 2019 and beyond as follows.

Full Assessments

- Blue rockfish
- Deacon rockfish
- Lingcod
- Yelloweye rockfish
- Yellowtail rockfish

Update Assessments

- Bocaccio
- Darkblotched rockfish

The Council is soliciting comment from the NMFS Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science centers and the public on this preliminary list and suggested there may be consideration for other assessments, pending the ability of the Science Centers’ capacity to do more assessments as follows: arrowtooth flounder (update), blackgill rockfish (update), bank rockfish (full), Pacific ocean perch (full), cabezon off Oregon and Washington (full), and California scorpionfish (full or data-moderate). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife expressed concern they do not have the resources to contribute to assessment of any California nearshore stocks.

The Council also adopted proposed changes to three terms of reference for public review: the Groundfish Rebuilding Analysis for 2017-2018, as shown in Agenda Item F.7, [Attachment 6](#); the Methodology Review Process for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species for 2017-2018 as shown in Agenda Item F.7, [Attachment 7](#), and the Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Review Process Terms of Reference, with changes as recommended by the [Scientific and Statistical Committee](#) and the [Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team](#).

Final action on groundfish stock assessment priorities and the three terms of reference is scheduled for June 2016.

8. [Inseason Adjustments](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:03:32](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:04:14](#)]

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

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

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:15:10](#)]

Daniel Platt

c. **Council Action: Consider Inseason Adjustments, as Necessary, to keep Catch within the Annual Catch Limits** [[mp3: 4-14-16am1 0:18:18](#)]

Motion: Council adopt inseason adjustment, as recommended by the GAP (Agenda Item F.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report), a decrease in the open access fixed gear sablefish trip limits north of 36 N. latitude down to 300 lbs. daily/850 lbs. weekly/1,700 lbs. bimonthly to go into effect at the start of period 4 (July 1).

Corey Niles/Joanna Grebel (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council considered the progress of the fisheries and recommended a decrease in the open access fixed gear sablefish trip limits north of 36° latitude to 300 lbs. daily, 850 lbs. weekly, and 1,700 lbs. bimonthly to go into effect at the start of period 4 (July 1). This trip limit reduction would help ensure that the fishery, which saw increased effort last year, remains within its landing target.

G. Current Habitat Issues

1. [Current Habitat Issues](#) – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:24:03](#)]

a. [Report of the Habitat Committee](#) – Joel Kawahara [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:24:44](#)]

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:38:59](#)]

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

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:41:39](#)]

[Agenda Item G.1.c, Public Comment](#)

Mike Conroy, West Coast Fisheries Consultant

d. **Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations** [[mp3: 4-10-16am2 0:44:12](#)]

Motion: Council send the letter to SWRCB and BOR as shown in Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 1, with the minor edits recommended by the HC as described in Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental HC Report.

Marci Yaremko/Dan Wolford (Motion carried, Mr. Lockhart abstained)

Staff Summary: The Council directed the Habitat Committee to send a letter on Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon to the California State Water Resources Control Board and the

Bureau of Reclamation regarding the Central Valley Project and State Water Project water management plan for 2016, based on the draft contained in [Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 1](#).

H. Coastal Pelagic Species Management

1. [Final Action on Sardine Assessment, Specifications, and Management Measures](#) – Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 4-10-16am3 0:00:11](#)]

a. Stock Assessment Report – Gerard DiNardo [[mp3: 4-10-16am3 0:04:36](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.a, Stock Assessment Report](#): Assessment of the Pacific Sardine Resource in 2016 for U.S.A Management in 2016-17 (*FULL DOCUMENT ELECTRONIC ONLY*)

[Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): Assessment of the Pacific Sardine Resource in 2016 for USA Management in 2016-17 (*DiNardo*)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-10-16am3 0:27:34](#)] & [[mp3: 4-10-16pm1 0:00:07](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.b, Tribal Report](#): Letter from Ed Johnstone, Quinault Fisheries Policy Spokesperson, regarding the Quinault Indian Nation’s intent to establish a tribal allocation and to enter the 2016-17 Pacific sardine fishery

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

[Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)

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

c. Public Comment [[mp3: 4-10-16pm1 0:27:27](#)]

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

[Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Geoff Shester, Oceana; [Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#) (Shester PowerPoint)

Daniel Crone

Corbin Hanson

Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

Neil Guglielmo

Vince Torre, Tri-Marine

Andrew Richards, West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group

Mike Conroy, West Coast Fisheries Consultant

Al Carter, Ocean Gold

Mike Okoniewski *Did Not Testify*

Gilly Lyons, PEW Charitable Trust

Pete Guglielmo, Southern California Seafood, Inc.

Ted Guglielmo Southern California Seafood, Inc.

Ryan, Kapp

d. Council Action – Adopt Pacific Sardine Assessment and Final Harvest Specifications and Management Measures or the 2016-2017 Sardine Fishery [[mp3: 4-10-16pm2 0:00:06](#)]

Motion: Council:

- 1) Adopt the Pacific sardine assessment for use in management for 2016-17 season as shown in stock assessment report under agenda item H1a
 - 2) Approve the values for biomass, OFL, p* buffer, ABC, ACL as shown in table 2 of the supplemental CPSMT report in item H1b, which has a harvest guideline of zero and continues the closure of the directed fishery
 - 3) Adopt the following automatic inseason actions:
 - An incidental per landing allowance of 40 percent Pacific sardine in non-treaty CPS fisheries until a total of 2,000 mt of Pacific sardine are landed.
 - When the 2,000 mt is achieved the incidental per landing allowance would be reduced to 20 percent until a total of 5,000 mt of Pacific sardine have been landed.
 - When 5,000 mt have been landed, the incidental per landing allowance would be reduced to 10 percent for the remainder of the 2016-2017 fishing year.
- In addition, adopt a 2 mt incidental per landing allowance in non-CPS fisheries.
- 4) Approve that the CPSMT explore options for a small artisanal fishery.

Briana Brady/Buzz Brizendine

Amendment: Make the following changes to the motion:

- Under section 2 add “and an ACL value as shown in CPSAS Report H.1.b.”
- Under section 3 strike the three bullets and include instead “as shown in Supplemental CPSAS Report Table 1”

David Crabbe/ (motion failed due to lack of second).
(Motion carried, Mr. Crabbe voted no)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the 2016 stock assessment, with a biomass estimate of 106,137 metric tons, and adopted the following specifications for the July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 fishing year.

Overfishing Limit	23,085 mt
P* buffer	0.4
Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC)	19,236 mt
Annual Catch Limit (ACL)	8,000 mt

Because the biomass estimate is below the cutoff value of 150,000 mt, there will be no directed non-Treaty fishery for the 2016-2017 sardine season. The only catch allowed will be Treaty-Indian, incidental, live bait, research, and other minor sources of mortality.

The Council adopted the following automatic inseason actions:

- An incidental per landing allowance of 40 percent Pacific sardine in non-Treaty CPS fisheries until a total of 2,000 mt of Pacific sardine are landed.
- When the 2,000 mt is achieved, the incidental per landing allowance would be reduced to 20 percent, until a total of 5,000 mt of Pacific sardine have been landed.

- When 5,000 mt have been landed, the incidental per landing allowance would be reduced to 10 percent for the remainder of the 2016-2017 fishing year.

In addition, the Council adopted a 2 mt incidental per landing allowance in non-CPS fisheries, and asked the CPS Management Team to explore management options to account for a small artisanal fishery.

I. Pacific Halibut Management

1. [Final Incidental Landing Restrictions for 2016-2017 Salmon Troll Fishery](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 1:34:11](#)]

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

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 1:37:16](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Incidental Catch Recommendation for 2016 and April 2017 Non-Indian Salmon Troll Fisheries [[mp3: 4-12-16am2 1:44:03](#)]

Motion: Council adopt the incidental halibut landing restriction in the salmon troll fishery as recommended by the Salmon Advisory Subpanel ([Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report, April 2016](#))

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

Phil Anderson/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted final incidental landing restrictions as follows from 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. Limits may be modified by inseason action.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

[Informational Report 1](#): NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy (NCSS) Western Regional Action Plan (WRAP); Draft version 20 March 2016

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 5:55 p.m.

Dorothy Lowman
Council Chair

Date