

REPORTS ON MANAGING OUR NATION'S FISHERIES 3 CONFERENCE AND THE COUNCIL COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) hosted both the Managing Our Nation's Fishery 3 (MONF3) conference and the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) in Washington D.C. in May, 2013. The MONF3 meeting was held May 7-9 and the CCC meeting was held May 6 and 9-10. The Council's news release provides a brief summary of the MONF3 conference (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1). Hosting both of the meetings in a sequential manner allowed the CCC meeting to address the issues considered and resulting from the MONF3 conference and was also more efficient from a travel and hotel contract perspective. The meeting was held in Washington D.C. to facilitate targeting legislative staff that would likely be involved with potential reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA), a primary sub-theme of the conference.

The purpose of the MONF3 conference was to elevate the discussion of sustainability of U.S. marine fishery management toward improving contemporary practices. The conference examined three theme areas, each with focused session on policy, science, and process issues, as follows:

1. Improving Fishery Management Essentials
 - a. Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Science and Implementation Issues, including Managing Data-Limited Stocks
 - b. Rebuilding Program Requirements and Timelines
 - c. International Fisheries Management: Leveling the Playing Field
2. Advancing Ecosystem-based Decision-making
 - a. Assessing Ecosystem Effects and Adapting to Climate Change
 - b. Forage Species Management
 - c. Integrating Habitat Considerations
3. Providing for Fishing Community Stability
 - a. Recreational and Subsistence Fishery Connections
 - b. Integrating Community Protection, Jobs Emphasis, and Seafood Quality Assurance
 - c. Assessment of Social and Economic Tradeoffs

A detailed conference agenda is included as Attachment 2, and all materials from the conference are available at: <http://www.cvent.com/events/managing-our-nation-s-fisheries-3/custom-17-94ddf325198f4501996ccc62aa396aa2.aspx>. The 128 findings that emerged from MONF3 national conference (Attachment 3) regarding advancing sustainable fishery management practices may be considered for changes to current policy or regulatory approaches developed at Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMC) or implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), or legislative changes via reauthorization of the MSA, as appropriate. Formal proceedings for the conference are being drafted and should be available by late summer.

The CCC consists of the chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors of each of the eight Regional Councils, and is authorized under the MSA in order to discuss issues of relevance to all Councils,

including issues related to the implementation of the MSA. As the CCC met the afternoon of the morning the 128 findings were presented, they deferred substantial discussion of conference findings until later this year, to provide time for staff categorization and initial analysis. This also provides time for individual Councils to consider the findings in a less immediate atmosphere, for possible input to the CCC in a special webinar meeting expected to be scheduled in late summer, 2013. The Council's Legislative Committee is scheduled to consider the legislative implications of the MONF3 conference and provide a report under agenda item C.3; advisory body reports, public testimony and Council discussion of detailed MSA reauthorization matters should primarily occur under than agenda item.

The CCC discussed a number of issues in addition to the findings of the MONF3 conference, as detailed in the CCC Decision Summary Document (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 4). The agenda and briefing materials for the CCC meeting are available electronically at: <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/ccc-may-2013/>

Council Action:

- 1. Discuss MONF3 findings and provide guidance on further consideration of findings.**
- 2. Provide guidance on further consideration of matters from the annual CCC meeting, beyond those associated with the MONF3 conference.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1: MONF3 Press Release.
2. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2: Detailed Agenda from the Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 Conference.
3. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 3: Summary of Findings from the Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 Conference.
4. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 4: Draft Decision Summary Document, 2013 Annual Council Coordination Committee Meeting, May 6, 9-10, 2013, Washington, District of Columbia.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on Issues Associated with Outcomes of the Conference and Meeting
- Chuck Tracy

PFMC
05/30/13