Agenda Item C.6
Situation Summary
June 2013

MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES

During this agenda item, the Council has the opportunity to consider Administrative appointment issues with regard to the Council Membership Roster, including Council Members, advisory body membership, and also any relevant changes in Council Operating Procedures (COP) or the Council’s Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures (SOPP).

Election of Council Chair and Vice Chairs

The Council is slated to elect officers at this meeting. COP 1 provides for election of Council officers as follows:

The Chair and up to two Vice Chairs of the Council shall be elected by majority vote of Council members present and voting. Generally, elections are held during the June Council meeting. Officers shall serve one-year terms, which commence August 11 and end August 10 of the following year. Appointments may be renewed for additional one-year terms by majority Council vote at the next June meeting. The Chair may not serve more than two consecutive one-year terms.

Mr. Wolford is in his second term as Council Chair and Ms. Lowman is in her third term as Council Vice Chair.

Council Members and Designees

The three-year terms for two Council members expire on August 10, 2013. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 1 (issued by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on April 8, 2013) provides a list of the members with expiring terms and the gubernatorial nominations. NMFS will announce a decision on the nominees no later than June 27, 2013.

Standing Council Member Committee Appointments

No new resignations, nominations, or other changes were identified by the Briefing Book deadline.

Council Advisory Body Appointments

Advisory Subpanels

Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel

As of the advertised deadline, the Council received two nominations for the vacant California seat, which should be appointed at this meeting:

Dr. Pete Adams (self-nominated) (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2).

Ms. Mary Marking (self-nominated) (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 3).
**Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT)**

Mr. Rod McInnis has nominated Ms. Heidi Taylor to fill the vacancy left by the transfer of Mr. Mike Hendrick in one of the NMFS Southwest Region (SWR) seats on the HMSMT (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 4).

Dr. Guillermo Compeán, Director of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), responded affirmatively to a letter from Dr. Don McIsaac, which proposed to eliminate the Regional Fishery Management Organization seat on the HMSMT, currently held by the IATTC (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 5).

**Enforcement Consultants (EC)**

Mr. Bruce Buckson has nominated Acting Special Agent in Charge Bill Giles to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Ms. Vicki Nomura in the NMFS Northwest Region (NWR) Office of Law Enforcement seat on the Enforcement Consultants (EC); Mr Dayna Matthews will continue to serve as the Designee (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 6).

**Habitat Committee (HC)**

Mr. Paul Hamdorf has nominated Mr. Eric Wilkins to replace Ms. Vicki Frey in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) seat on the Habitat Committee (HC) (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 7).

**Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)**

Dr. Selina Heppell has informed the Council that she will be resigning her at-large seat on the SSC after the June 2013 Council meeting (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 8).

The NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center seat formerly occupied by Dr. Ramon Conser remains vacant.

**Ad Hoc Committees**

Under Agenda Item F.6, Trawl Rationalization Trailing Actions, the Council was to determine composition and charge of an ad hoc industry advisory workgroup and potentially an ad hoc technical advisory group to advise on electronic monitoring issues.

**Appointments to Other Forums**

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) appointed Ms. Michele Culver to one of the U.S. fisheries managers seats on its Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB); Mr. Tom Marking was also appointed to the MSAB, filling the only sport industry seat (Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 1).

**Changes to Council Operating Procedures**

There are several issues that may require new or updated COPs, including:
Potential changes to the Ecosystem Plan Development Team under COP 3 (Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 1), which may take the form of a change in name, a change in representation, or dissolution of the Team and replacement with an ad hoc committee(s) to focus on specific topics.

Elimination of Regional Fishery Management Organization representation on the HMSMT under COP 3 (Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 2).

Establishing the proposed Pacific Coast Groundfish and Endangered Species Work Group (ESWG) under COP 3 (Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 2). NMFS is required to establish an advisory body to support Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery. The requirement stems from ESA Section 7(a)(2) Biological Opinions on the continuing operation of the groundfish fishery on threatened and endangered marine species. The first was published in November 2012 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and addresses short-tailed albatross. The second was published in December 2012 and considered green sturgeon, eulachon, humpback whales, Steller sea lions, and leatherback sea turtles. In September 2012, the Council received presentations from USFWS and NMFS staff on the draft Biological Opinions that included an invitation to create the advisory body as a formal Council committee. The agencies cited the transparency of the Council process and the opportunity to engage stakeholders early in the ESA process as advantageous to producing effective conservation and monitoring strategies. Absent Council action, NMFS will establish the advisory body as an internal federal process. The purpose, composition, objectives, and duties of the ESWG are outlined in the draft terms of reference (Agenda Item C.6.a, Attachment 3).

Updating COP 9 to reflect the groundfish management cycle changes discussed under Agenda Item F.7 (see Agenda Items F.7, Attachments 2 and 3).

**Council Action:**

Consider the following appointment and membership issues:
1. Election of a Council Chair and Vice Chair for the 2013-2014 term.
2. Filling the vacancy in the California seat on the EAS from the list of nominees.
3. The nomination of Ms. Heidi Taylor to one of the NMFS SWR seats on the HMSMT.
4. The nomination of Acting SAC Bill Giles to the NMFS NWR seat on the EC.
5. The nomination of Mr. Eric Wilkins to the CDFW seat on the HC.
6. Soliciting nominations for the vacant at-large seat on the SSC.
7. Establishment and seating of ad hoc electronic monitoring workgroup(s).

Consider the following COP issues:
8. COP 3 modifications for elimination of the RFMO seat on the HMSMT
9. COP 3 modifications for status of the EPDT, and possible related ad hoc committees.
10. COP 3 modifications for establishing an ESWG and approval of TOR for the ESWG.
11. COP 9 modifications to the groundfish management cycle.
Reference Materials:
2. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2: Nomination of Dr. Pete Adams to the California seat on the EAS.
3. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 3: Nomination of Ms. Mary Marking to the California seat on the EAS.
4. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 4: Nomination of Ms. Heidi Taylor to the NMFS SWR seat on the HMSMT.
5. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 5: Letters regarding eliminating the IATTC seat on the HMSMT.
6. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 6: Nomination of Acting SAC Bill Giles to the NMFS NWR seat on the EC.
7. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 7: Nomination of Mr. Eric Wilkins to the CDFW seat on the HC.
8. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 8: Resignation of Dr. Selina Heppell from an at-large seat on the SSC.

Agenda Order:

a. Agenda Item Overview

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

c. Public Comment

d. Council Action: Elect Council Chair and Vice Chair; Appoint Individuals to Advisory Bodies, and Consider Changes to Council Operating Procedures

PFMC
05/31/13