

## LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council's) Legislative Committee (Committee) is scheduled to meet Saturday, March 6th at 9:00 a.m. to review a variety of legislative matters of interest to the Council. Council staff has provided a summary of legislation introduced in the 111<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress of potential interest to the Council (Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 1).

Among the bills to be discussed is H.R. 1080, the *Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2009* and two corresponding bills in the U.S. Senate (S.2870- and S.2871) These bills would strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and would also amend existing legislation by implementing technical corrections regarding U.S. representation to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the process specified under the U.S./Canada agreement on Pacific Whiting. In an April 29, 2009 letter from Council Executive Director, Dr. Donald McIsaac to U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington (Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 2), the Council and the Committee supported the corrections in H.R. 1080.

The Committee may also discuss two other matters on the Council agenda. First, under Agenda Item D.1, the Council is scheduled to hear an update from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration regarding activities of the Ocean Policy Task Force and the Catch Shares Task Force. It is not clear if the Task Force reports stimulate legislation or Executive Orders. The Washington State Legislature has introduced legislation (SSB6350 and HB 3078, Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 3) regarding marine special planning, a matter addressed by the Ocean Policy Task Force. Secondly, under Agenda Item D.2 the Council will review revisions to National Marine Fisheries Service guidance on implementing National Standard 2 regarding scientific information in support of fishery management. These revisions are in response to provisions in the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the 2004 recommendations of the National Research Council.

### **Council Action:**

**Consider the recommendations of the Legislative Committee.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 1: Staff Summary of Federal Legislation in the 111th U.S. Congress of Particular Interest to the Pacific Fishery Management Council.
2. Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 2: April 29, 2009 letter from Council Executive Director, Dr. Donald McIsaac to U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington.
3. Agenda Item D.3.a, Attachment 3: Substitute Senate Bill 6350.
4. Agenda Item D.3.b, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Legislative Committee Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Consider Legislative Committee Recommendations

Mike Burner  
Dave Hanson

PFMC  
02/22/10