



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Dan Wolford, Chairman
Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2013

TO: Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, Groundfish Management Team, and Groundfish Interested Persons

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet April 5-11, 2013 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, Oregon. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 5, 2013.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest, including:

- Formalization of Council decisions at the March Council meeting;
- Open public comment;
- Expansion of Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Banks National Marine Sanctuaries;
- Ocean Observation Initiative report;
- Reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service on regulatory, science, and research activities;
- Status of the rationalized fishery;
- Stock complex assemblages;
- Implementation of the 2013 Pacific whiting fishery under the U.S.-Canada Pacific Whiting Agreement;
- Current habitat issues;
- Barotrauma device mortality rates for the recreational fisheries;
- Groundfish essential fish habitat synthesis report and requests for proposals;
- Final Pacific halibut incidental catch recommendations for the salmon troll and primary, fixed gear sablefish fisheries;
- Final adoption of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan;
- Trawl rationalization trailing actions: electronic monitoring regulatory process;
- Considerations for inseason adjustments to 2013 groundfish fisheries;
- Legislative matters;
- Regulations for vessel monitoring system declarations;
- Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and
- Future Council meeting agenda and workload planning.

This mailing includes the enclosures listed below. Please review these briefing materials in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council process and management of Pacific groundfish fisheries.

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Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Formalization of Council Decisions at the March Council Meeting
3. Agenda Item B.2 – Expansion of Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Banks National Marine Sanctuaries
4. Agenda Item B.3 – Ocean Observation Initiative Report
5. Agenda Item B.4 – Legislative Matters
6. Agenda Item B.6 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
7. Agenda Item B.7 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
8. Agenda Item C – Open Comment Period
9. Agenda Item D – Groundfish Management
10. Agenda Item F – Habitat
11. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
12. Agenda Item H – Ecosystem-Based Management
13. Agenda Item J – Enforcement Issues
14. GAP Agenda
15. GMT Agenda
16. SSC Agenda
17. SSC Minutes
18. SSC Economics Subcommittee Agenda
19. Hotel-related Information
20. Roster