



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Dorothy M. Lowman, Chair | Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2014

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 7-13, 2014 at the Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014 in Capital Salon D. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014 in the Sacramento Room.

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

- Matters raised during the open comment period;
- A report on the California Current Ecosystem, including the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment;
- Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
- Essential Fish Habitat evaluation criteria and Phase 2 Report;
- Current habitat issues;
- Bycatch mortality rates associated with barotrauma reduction devices;
- Discussion on Vessel Monitoring System ping rates;
- Inseason adjustments to 2014 groundfish fisheries, including carryover;
- A briefing on the analysis of harvest specifications for 2015-2016 and beyond, including adoption of overfishing limits for cowcod south of 40°10 N. latitude, the Washington substock of cabezon, and the Oregon and Washington substocks of kelp greenling.
- Trawl rationalization trailing actions including implementation guidance and adaptive management program pass-through;
- A report on the results of the International Pacific Halibut Commission annual meeting;
- Incidental halibut retention recommendations for the salmon troll and fixed gear sablefish fisheries;
- Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization priorities and other legislative matters;
- 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.

KLA:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Informational Reports
3. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
4. Agenda Item C – Ecosystem Management
5. Agenda Item D – Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Item E - Habitat
7. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
8. Agenda Item H – Enforcement Issues
9. Agenda Item J.1 – Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters
10. Agenda Item J.3 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
11. Agenda Item J.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
12. GAP Agenda
13. GMT Agenda
14. SSC Agenda and Draft November SSC Minutes
15. Hotel-related Information
16. Council Roster