



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 23, 2014

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 12-19, 2014 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, California. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meetings will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2014 in the Laguna Beach 1 & 2 Rooms and Laguna Beach 3 Room, respectively.

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 progress update on activities relative to marine planning, including the formation of a regional planning body on the west coast;
 - Current habitat issues;
 - A progress update on activities relative to the development of a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Recreational Fisheries Policy;
 - Final action on the 2015 Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific halibut and annual fishery regulations;
 - Legislative matters, including the Magnuson-Stevens Act Re-authorization;
 - Adoption of an Electronic Technology Implementation Plan to address regionally-specific fishery data collection issues and needs of fisheries or Fishery Management Plans;
 - A review of the Atlantis ecosystem model, which was used for the long-term groundfish fishery impact evaluation;
 - Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
 - Adopting a range of widow rockfish quota share reallocation alternatives, and, as necessary, divestiture issues;
 - Initial consideration of blackgill rockfish trawl and non-trawl allocations, including restructuring of the Slope Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. latitude;
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- Comments on ongoing rule-making, including the Pacific whiting correction rule and changes to groundfish harvest specifications for 2015-2016;
- Results of the Economic Data Collection Program and overview on social science research for the rationalized trawl fisheries;
- Consideration of a Council Operating Procedure for a methodology review process for groundfish projection models;
- Reconsideration of the open access registration program recommended under Amendment 22;
- Consideration of inseason adjustments for 2014 and 2015 fisheries;
- Comments on the NMFS West Coast Region Strategic Plan;
- Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and
- Future Council meeting agenda and workload planning

In addition, you are requested to develop comments on Informational Report 1, Vessel Movement Monitoring, for staff use in completing a draft analysis for Council consideration in April 2015.

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 – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Marine Planning Update
4. Agenda Item C.2 – Recreational Fisheries Policy Update
5. Agenda Item C.3 – Legislative Matters
6. Agenda Item C.4 – Electronic Technology Plan
7. Agenda Item C.5 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
8. Agenda Item C.8 – Advisory Body Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
9. Agenda Item C.9 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item D.1 – Current Habitat Issues
11. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
12. Agenda Item H – Ecosystem Management
13. Agenda Item J – Groundfish Management
14. EC Agenda
15. GAP Agenda
16. GMT Agenda
17. SSC Agenda and Draft Minutes
18. Informational Reports
19. Hotel-related Information
20. Council Roster