



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 29, 2013

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 12-17, 2013 at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, Idaho. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meetings will begin in the Tamarack and Aspen rooms, respectively, at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 2013.

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 tri-state report on enforcement activities;
- Pacific halibut bycatch estimates for use by the International Pacific Halibut Commission in 2014 fisheries;
- Adopt for public review proposed changes for the 2014 Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan and annual fishing regulations;
- Current habitat issues;
- Reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service on regulatory, science, and research activities;
- Developing a process and identifying content for the limited entry fixed gear sablefish stacking program review;
- Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 conference follow-ups and unrelated legislative matters;
- Stock assessments for use in the 2015-2016 management cycle;
- Science improvements for the next groundfish management cycle;
- Consideration of inseason adjustments to 2013 groundfish fisheries, including petrale sole carryover;
- Consideration of trawl rockfish conservation area boundary modifications for 2013-2014;
- Initial actions for setting 2015-2016 and beyond groundfish fisheries;
- Consider analysis of stock complex assemblages alternatives;
- Trawl rationalization scoping, process, and prioritization;

- Electronic monitoring scoping for the rationalized groundfish trawl fishery;
- Final action on the Federal list of authorized West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone fisheries and gears;
- Guidance on amending fishery management plans to protect forage fish;
- 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.

KLA:kam

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Enforcement Issues
4. Agenda Item D – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item F – Habitat
6. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
7. Agenda Item H.1 – Managing Our Nation’s Fisheries 3 (MONF3) Conference Follow-ups and Unrelated Legislative Matters
8. Agenda Item H.4 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
9. Agenda Item H.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item I – Ecosystem-Based Management
11. GAP Agenda
12. GMT Agenda
13. SSC Agenda
14. SSC Minutes
15. Hotel-related Information