

**PRELIMINARY STAFF COMPILATION OF
POSSIBLE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON ACT REAUTHORIZATION PRIORITIES
FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PACIFIC COUNCIL**

Topic for MSA Reauthorization	Relevant MSA Section	PFMC Priority
MONF3 Session 1 – Improving Fishery Management Essentials: Annual Catch Limit Science and Implementation Issues, Including Managing “Data-Limited” Stocks; Rebuilding Program Requirements and Timelines; International Fisheries Management: Leveling the Playing Field		
Revise rebuilding time requirements: Always set T_{MAX} equal to T_{MIN} plus one mean generation	MSA Section 304	
Stocks later determined never overfished should not be held to rebuilding provisions	MSA Section 304	
Include a transboundary stock rebuilding exception	MSA Section 304	
Include a viable mixed stock exception		
Clarify Congressional intent regarding needs of fishing communities	MSA Section 304(e)	
Extend annual species exemption to short-lived species	MSA Section 303(a)	
Include a carryover exception to allow ACLs to be exceeded in order to carry over surplus and deficit harvest from one year to the next, provided there is a finding from the SSC that such a carryover provision will have negligible biological impacts	MSA Section 303(a)	
Explicitly promote use of adaptive management approaches, particularly for data-poor species where the precautionary approach limits information on stock performance under higher catch rates	MSA Section 303	
Broaden trade sanctions domestically to address non-compliance with RFMO measures	MSA Section 205	
Consider a national sustainable seafood certification program for U.S. fisheries that meet the 10 MSA national standards	MSA Section 321 (new)	
Implement stricter imported seafood labeling requirements in the US market	MSA Section 322 (new)	

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MONF3 Session 2 – Advancing Ecosystem-Based Management, Overarching Findings Assessing Ecosystem Effects and Integrating to Climate Change; Forage Fish Management; Integrating Habitat Considerations: Opportunities and Impediments		
Address rebuilding requirements when environmental conditions may be a predominant factor in a stock’s decline	MSA Section 304(e)	
Link ecosystem-based management scales to fisheries management and governance (e.g., Revise National Standard 3 (Management Unit))	MSA Section 301	
Consider a national standard for habitat: “Minimize adverse impacts on essential fish habitat to the extent practicable”	MSA Section 301	
Establish a new national standard to ensure adequate forage base	MSA Section 301	
Require explicit consideration of the impact of forage fish to the ecosystem and fishing communities to inform OY and ACL decisions	MSA Section 303	
Prohibit new forage fisheries until scientific and management evaluations are conducted	MSA Section 305(a)	
Strengthen EFH consultation process and ensure compliance with, and effectiveness of, existing laws and recommendations	MSA Section 305(b)	

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MONF3 Session 3 - Providing Fishing Community Stability: Recreational and Subsistence Fishery Connections; Integrating Community Protection, Jobs Emphasis, and Domestic Seafood Quality Assurance; Assessment and Integration of Social and Economic Tradeoffs		
Modify Council process to improve participation of small-scale and community sectors, e.g., State Fisheries Improvement Projects, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation-funded projects	MSA Section 302 (h)	
Expand cooperative research between fishing community and scientists. This promotes buy-in, empowers fishermen, and can be more cost-effective	MSA Section 318	
<p>Notwithstanding confidentiality protections of Section 402(b)(1)-(3): in the public interest the following may be publicly reported even if it results in the release of information on a single harvesting or processing company</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● total volume (weight) catch/discards/landings of a species or stock caught in a particular fishery ● total volume (weight) catch/discards/landings of a species or stock caught by a particular sector ● total volume (weight) of a species or stock landed at a particular port ● economic impact estimates for a community based on landings of a species or stock at a particular port ● total volume (weight) catch/discards/landings of a species or stock caught within any area 100 square nautical miles or larger 	MSA Section 402(b)	
Define subsistence fishing in the MSA, and expand recognition of tribes and indigenous people engaged in subsistence fishing	MSA Section 3	

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Other		
Make a distinction between “overfishing” (a measure of fishing rate) and “overfished” (a measure of abundance)	MSA Section 3	
Replace the term “overfished” with “depleted” to account for non-fishing causes of stock size below MMST	MSA Section 3	
Amend MSA to change “vessels” to “vessel” in the IUU certification section	MSA Section 609(c)	
Replace the term “practicable” with “practical” and “possible” where appropriate	Throughout MSA	

PFMC
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