



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013

TO: Salmon Technical Team, Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Model Evaluation Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Mike Burner, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet September 11-17, 2013 in Boise, Idaho. None of the salmon advisory groups will be meeting in Boise, but will meet via teleconference at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> to finalize reports to the Council. An agenda and call-in instructions for the teleconference have been sent out via email.

Mr. Keith Lutz, long-standing tribal representative to the Salmon Technical Team (STT), has resigned his position with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and will be leaving the STT. I have a lot of respect for Keith and the work he did for the Council and wish him the best in his retirement.

Primary items for your consideration in preparation for the September meeting include final topic selection for the 2013 salmon methodology review and final Council action on Fishery Management Plan Amendment 18 regarding essential fish habitat. The Council will also be adopting final recommended updates to the Federal list of authorized fisheries and gears and will continue its work to increase protection of currently unmanaged forage species through Initiative 1 of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan.

Recall in April that we tentatively planned to review an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding juvenile salmonid predation by double-crested cormorants in the Columbia River in September. As of the briefing book deadline, the draft EIS has not been released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who now anticipate that the draft EIS will be available for review and comment in the winter of 2013-14.

Additionally, the Council will take up two items relative to Pacific halibut management items; bycatch estimates in the groundfish trawl fishery and the adoption of preliminary alternatives for amending the Catch Sharing Plan. These items are included in your mailing for your information. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel in particular may want to provide recommendations on the Catch Sharing Plan in time for final adoption at the November Council meeting.

Looking ahead, the STT and the Salmon Subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee will hold their annual salmon methodology review meeting on October 1-3, 2013 in Portland, Oregon. As noted on the draft November Council agenda (Agenda Item H.5.a, Attachment 2), the salmon advisory groups will not be meeting in person at the November Council meeting. Please tentatively plan on a teleconference in late-October to address final salmon methodology review considerations and any other business for the November meeting. Please take some time and review your briefing materials before our teleconference. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you.

MDB:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.3 and A.4 – Executive Director’s Report and Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Enforcement Issues
4. Agenda Item D.1 and D.2 – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item E.1, E.2, and E.3 – Salmon Management
6. Agenda Item H.1, H.4, and H.5– Administrative Matters
7. Agenda Item I.1 and I.2 – Ecosystem-Based Management
8. Roster