



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 17, 2013
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore
SUBJECT: November 2013 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet October 30-November 6, 2013 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol St., Costa Mesa, California. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, October 30 from 8 a.m. to noon in the Emerald Bay 2 Room and the SSC's Groundfish Subcommittee will meet on the same day in the same room from 1-5 p.m. The full SSC will meet Thursday, October 31 through Friday, November 1 in the Emerald Bay 2 Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

Salmon Management

The Council will adopt final salmon methodology changes at this meeting. The Salmon Subcommittee met in October to review new salmon methodologies but, due to the Federal government shutdown, that review was limited in scope. Therefore, extra time was added to the SSC agenda to complete the Salmon Methodology Review.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council will consider any exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications for coastal pelagic species (CPS). The SSC will review those EFPs that affect the science informing CPS management.

The Council is scheduled to establish a maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for northern anchovy at this meeting. The SSC will review the science informing an MSY estimate and make their recommendations to the Council.

The Council will decide priorities for the 2014 CPS methodology review process at this meeting. The SSC will recommend their priorities for this methodology review process.

The Council will decide interim harvest specifications and management measures for Pacific sardine for the first half of 2014. Dr. Kevin Hill is scheduled to present harvest specifications for this time period projected from the 2011 full assessment for Pacific sardine. The SSC will review these projections and make their recommendations to the Council.

Groundfish Management

The Council will consider the Phase 2 Report on Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) prepared by the Council's EFH Review Committee, which evaluates eight proposals received to change current groundfish EFH. The Council will consider establishing a process to change current EFH based on the Phase 2 report and the SSC's evaluation of that report.

The Council will consider adopting revised data-moderate assessments for brown, China, and copper rockfish, as well as a new rebuilding analysis for cowcod as recommended by the SSC. The SSC will review these assessments and the cowcod rebuilding analysis before recommending whether they represent the best available science for these stocks and are suitable for management decision-making.

The Council will identify issues and alternatives for consideration of changes in the limited entry sablefish permit stacking program. The SSC will review the proposed indicators for evaluating program performance and make their recommendations to the Council whether these or other indicators are the most informative for Council decision-making.

The Council is tasked at this meeting with adopting final preferred 2015 and 2016 overfishing limits (OFLs) for those remaining stocks and complexes in which OFLs were not decided at the September 2013 meeting (i.e., cowcod, brown rockfish, China rockfish, copper rockfish, and those species contemplated for management in the restructured Other Fish complex); final preferred acceptable biological catches (ABCs); and a range of annual catch limits (ACLs), including preliminary preferred ACLs for each groundfish stock and complex. The SSC will review the list of proposed OFLs and the range of ABCs and recommend those OFLs, stock categories, biomass variances (i.e., sigmas) for stocks and stock categories not already decided for 2015-2016 groundfish fisheries.

The Council will adopt a range of alternatives for electronic monitoring regulations. The SSC will review these alternatives and make their recommendations on the range of alternatives and further analysis of these alternatives.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:kam

Enclosures include:

Council, and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item I.5 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item I.6 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Salmon Management

4. Agenda Item C.2 – Salmon Methodology Review

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

5. Agenda Item E.2 – 2014 Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Notice of Intent
6. Agenda Item E.3 – Establish Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) Reference Point for Northern Anchovy
7. Agenda Item E.4 – Methodology Review Process and Preliminary Topic Selection
8. Agenda Item E.5 – 2014 Pacific Sardine Stock Assessment and Management, Including Tribal Set-Aside

Groundfish Management

9. Agenda Item H.3 – Sablefish Permit Stacking Program Review Scoping
10. Agenda Item H.5 – Stock Assessments and Rebuilding Analyses
11. Agenda Item H.6 – Biennial Harvest Specifications for 2015-2016 Groundfish Fisheries
12. Agenda Item H.7 – Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Review Phase 2 Report and Proposals to Modify EFH
13. Agenda Item H.8 – Electronic Monitoring Alternatives

SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Closed Session, etc.

14. November 2013 SSC Agenda
15. Draft September 2013 SSC Minutes
16. November 2013 SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee Agenda
17. November 2013 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
18. SSC Future Agenda Planning
19. Closed Session
20. Hotel Related Information