



## Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 24, 2014  
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee  
FROM: John DeVore  
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 Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, November 12 starting at 9 a.m. in the Emerald Bay 2 Room and the SSC will meet starting at 8 a.m. each day on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14 in the Emerald Bay 2 room. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

#### Council Administrative Matters

There are five appointments the SSC will review. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) has nominated two scientists for vacant SSC positions. Dr. Kevin Piner has been nominated to fill the SWFSC seat on the SSC, and Dr. John Field has been nominated for the vacant at-large seat on the SSC. Dr. Ray Conser, retired from the SWFSC, also nominated himself for the vacant at-large seat on the SSC. Mr. Brett Kormos has been nominated to replace Ms. Melodie Palmer-Zwahlen as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife representative on the Salmon Technical Team. Ms. Elizabeth Hellmers has been nominated to replace Ms. Leeanne Laughlin as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife representative on the Highly Migratory Species Management Team. The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

The SSC will review the latest draft of the West Coast Region Electronic Technology Plan and provide their recommendations for the plan, which is scheduled to be finalized by the end of the year.

The SSC will review their potential workload in the next year and recommend to the Council which tasks are prioritized. The priority and draft schedule of Groundfish Management Team (GMT) impact projection model reviews will be specifically discussed with the GMT, and a draft plan will be developed.

### SSC Administrative Matters

The SSC will continue to plan their activities for this year and next.

### Groundfish Management

The SSC will reconsider their recommendations for 2015 and 2016 overfishing limits (OFLs) for English sole, yellowtail rockfish north of 40°10' N lat., sharpchin rockfish, and rex sole. The OFLs for these stocks adopted by the Council are based on maximum likelihood estimates rather than medians of the posterior distribution of OFL, which was the SSC-recommended OFL methodology for these data-moderate Bayesian assessments.

The SSC will review a new proposed draft Council Operating Procedure (COP 25) that formalizes the process and schedule for groundfish methodology reviews. The SSC will make their recommendations for Council Operating Procedure 25, which is scheduled for final adoption next April.

The SSC will review the latest annual Economic Data Collection (EDC) Program reports and receive an overview of west coast social science research done by the Northwest Fisheries Science Center. These reports and programs provide valuable information on performance of the trawl rationalization program. The SSC will comment on the details of the report and provide guidance on collection of these data and preparation of future EDC reports.

### Salmon Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt final salmon methodology changes and conservation objectives. The SSC should review the recommendations of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee and make their recommendations to the Council.

### Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt a final preferred alternative for the Pacific sardine harvest fraction parameter. The SSC will review the draft environmental assessment informing this action and make their recommendations to the Council.

The Council is scheduled to consider coastal pelagic species' methodology topics for review and provide guidance on potential methodology reviews. The SSC will recommend their priority topics for a methodology review and provide further guidance as necessary.

### Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review the report of the SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee on the Atlantis model review and provide their recommendations and guidance to the Council on the use of the Atlantis model.

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

JDD:kma

Enclosures include:

**Council and SSC Administrative Matters**

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.4 – Electronic Technology Plan
3. Agenda Item C.5 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
4. Agenda Item C.8 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
5. Agenda Item C.9 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
6. Abstract of “Geostatistical delta-generalized linear mixed models improve precision for estimated abundance indices for West Coast groundfishes”
7. CJFAS journal article entitled, “Spatial, semi-parametric models improve estimates of species abundance and distribution”
8. Concerns regarding the formal treatment of prior information regarding recruitment compensation used in stock assessments of Pacific rockfishes

**Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

9. Agenda Item E.2 – Sardine Harvest Fraction
10. Agenda Item E.3 – Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process

**Salmon Management**

11. Agenda Item F.2 – Salmon Methodology Review
12. September 2014 Statement of the SSC Economics Subcommittee: Comparison of FEAM and IO-PAC-type Models for Analyzing Economic Impacts of Processing in Commercial Salmon Fisheries

**Ecosystem Management**

13. Agenda Item H.1 – Report on the Atlantis Model Review

**Highly Migratory Species Management**

14. Agenda Item I.2 – International Activities

**Groundfish Management**

15. Agenda Item J.4 – Groundfish Management Ongoing Rulemaking
16. Agenda Item J.5 – Economic Data Collection Program Report on Fishery Status and Overview on Social Science Research
17. Agenda Item J.6 – Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure

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

18. November 2014 SSC Agenda
19. November 2014 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
20. Draft September 2014 SSC Minutes
21. Informational Report 2 – PEW November 2014 Reception Invitation
22. Informational Report 3 – Dear Reviewer Letter Regarding Pacific Fishery Management Council Request for Comments on Draft Fishery Management Plan Amendments Protecting Unfished and Unmanaged Forage Fish Species
23. Informational Report 4 – Estimated Discard and Catch of Groundfish Species in the 2013 U.S. West Coast Fisheries
24. Closed Session
25. Hotel-Related Information
26. Roster