

UPDATE OF COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES DOCUMENT

Since the inception of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), formal written operating procedures have been developed and adopted by the Council to guide various processes associated with the requirements and obligations described in the Magnuson Act and its 1996 reauthorization and amendment, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. These Council Operating Procedures (COP) specify how the Council and its advisory entities conduct meetings, consider public comment, develop fishery management plans and amendments, adopt regulatory measures, and deal with special processes of importance to the Council. As some COP have not been reviewed for several years and some changes in procedures had not formally been described in writing, the Council assigned a comprehensive review and update of the full COP document.

Agenda Item B.2, Attachment 1, entails a review of the 19 existing COP and drafts for two new COP dealing with (1) the Groundfish Allocation Committee and (2) Ad-Hoc Committees. In these COP, text in ~~strikeout~~ is a suggested deletion, text in underline is a policy change previously adopted or indicated by the Council, or suggested policy-neutral clarification, **reverse shaded** text is a suggested addition or change with potential policy implications, and [straight brackets] designate explanatory rationale phrases for suggested revisions.

At the September Council meeting, the Council deferred any action on the COP document to the November Council meeting. At this meeting, the Council task is to consider adopting some or all of the revisions, providing guidance on further revisions, or postponing consideration of some or all of the revisions until the next Council meeting.

Council Task:

- 1. Consider Agenda Item B.2, Attachment 1, and provide guidance on adoption, further revision, or further process on the COP language contained in the agenda.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item B.2, Attachment 1: draft *Council Operating Procedures As Amended Through September, 2004*.
2. Agenda Item B.2.b, CPSAS Report.
3. Agenda Item B.2.b, CPSMT Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Review and Approve Proposed Updates to COP Document.

Don McIsaac

PFMC
10/15/04