

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT  
KRILL MANAGEMENT UPDATE

At the November 2004 meeting, the Council, initiated development of a formal prohibition on directed fisheries for krill and directed staff to begin formal coordination with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for development of management measures to regulate directed fisheries for krill within Council-managed waters (Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 1). These measures would be incorporated into an amendment to the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP). This proposed action is in recognition of the importance of krill as a fundamental food source for much of the marine life along the West Coast. Since state laws currently prohibit krill landings by state-licensed fishing vessels into California, Oregon, and Washington, respectively, Council action could provide for consistent federal and state management. There are currently no directed krill fisheries in Council-managed waters.

In response, NMFS has confirmed the intent of the Southwest Regional Office (SWR) and the Southwest Fisheries Science Center to take the lead responsibility for incorporating krill as a management unit in the CPS FMP (Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 2). Additionally, NMFS has prepared a proposed statement of work, a draft outline of the resulting alternatives analysis, and a summary table presenting three schedule options for completing the amendment (Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 3). The Council has expressed an interest in proceeding with this amendment as expeditiously as possible, but will need to consider an appropriate role for the CPSMT given currently scheduled workload items of long-term sardine allocation, publications of the CPS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation, and annual sardine and mackerel harvest guidelines and management measures.

NMFS SWR staff will brief the Council on a proposed course of action for the management of krill in the West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone and National Marine Sanctuaries.

**Council Task:**

- 1. Review the NMFS proposal and schedule options for krill management and provide guidance on a preferred schedule and process.**

**Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 1: December 16, 2004 letter from Dr. Donald McIsaac to Mr. Rod McInnis and Dr. William Fox regarding the process for developing restrictions on the directed harvest of krill.
2. Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 2: January 5, 2005 response letter from Mr. Rod McInnis to Dr. Donald McIsaac.
3. Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 3: February 8, 2005 letter from Mr. Rod McInnis to Dr. Donald McIsaac detailing a statement of work, draft alternative analysis outline, and schedule options.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. NMFS Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion and Guidance on Progress of Analysis

Mr. Mike Burner  
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PFMC  
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