

SALMON PLAN AMENDMENT COMMITTEE

Council Staff requests the Council create an ad hoc salmon plan amendment committee with the purpose of developing a Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment (16), which would address the annual catch limits (ACL)/accountability measures (AM) requirements of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and any associated issues. The committee should include representatives from NMFS Northwest and Southwest Regions and Science Centers, NOAA General Council, the Salmon Technical Team, the Scientific and Statistical Committee, and Council Staff. The States of Washington, Oregon, and California, and Northwest Indian tribes may request additional representation as needed; members could represent multiple entities. The following people have been involved in preliminary discussions and should be considered for membership in the committee, while providing the opportunity to include others as needed:

NMFS NWR	Peter Dygert Peggy Busby
NMFS SWR	Jennifer Isé Shelby Mendez Corinne Pinkerton
NMFS NWFSC	Robert Kope (STT) Pete Lawson (SSC)
NMFS SWFSC	Michael Mohr Mike O'Farrell (STT)
NOAA General Council	Mariam McCall Sheila Lynch Eileen Cooney
Northwest Indian Tribes	Keith Lutz (STT)
Council Staff	Chuck Tracy

The committee will be meeting in July or August for two days to identify issues and alternatives for the formal Council scoping session scheduled for the September 2009 meeting. Specific topics the committee will be addressing include:

- Control rule definition
 - Potential for updating conservation objectives within the amendment process or other (e.g., technical amendment via methodology review).
 - Consider application of metrics such as exploitation rates or spawning escapement to the requirements for annual catch limits.
- Stock classification and categorization
 - In/out of the fishery, ecosystem components, stock complexes, indicator stocks, exceptions (international agreements, ESA, exploitation rate, etc.).
 - Conduct and/or review vulnerability assessment to assist with classification process.
- Status determination criteria
 - Establish explicit criteria for when stocks are classified as experiencing overfishing, overfished, and approaching an overfished condition.

- Definition of reference points
 - Define points (overfishing limit, allowable biological catch, annual catch limit) and the stock classifications to which they apply.
 - Determine implementation strategies, such as quota management for stock complexes.
- Identify accountability measures
 - Current and future measures, stratified by inseason and post season measures (e.g., inseason monitoring, overfishing assessments, rebuilding plans, *de minimis* fisheries).

PFMC
06/14/09