



## Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384  
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)  
Dan Wolford, Chairman | Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013

TO: Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team, Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel, and Interested Persons

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 7-11, 2013, at the Hotel Murano, Tacoma, Washington. Although neither the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) nor the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will be meeting in March, there is one CPS-related agenda item, on CPS exempted fishing permits (EFP). The CPSMT and CPSAS discussed the EFP on their joint conference call of January 29, 2013, and are expected to develop supplemental reports to the Council for the March meeting. The Council is tentatively scheduled to take up the CPS EFP matter on Friday, March 8, 2013.

In addition, the revised draft Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) is available for review and comment at <http://www.pcouncil.org/ecosystem-based-management/fep-public-review-draft/>. As a reminder, the CPSAS and CPSMT both expressed interest in commenting on the FEP, which is scheduled for final adoption by the Council at the April meeting. Any reports on this matter should be completed in time for the April Briefing Book deadline of March 19, 2013.

Enclosed are March agenda materials that might be of interest to you. Thank you for your continued effort in support of the Council and West Coast fishery management.

KFG:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item D.1 – Adopt Final EFPs
3. Agenda Item F.3 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
4. Agenda Item F.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013  
TO: Enforcement Consultants  
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer  
SUBJECT: March 2013 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 7-11, 2012 at the Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, Washington. The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will meet in The Gallery Room, on **Thursday, March 7** starting at **4:30 p.m.** and continue through **Monday, March 11**, as needed. Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you.

JLS:kam

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Proposed November Council Meeting Agenda
2. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
3. Groundfish Advisory Panel Agenda
4. Salmon Advisory Subpanel Agenda
5. Agenda Item C.4 - Council Recommendations for 2013 Management Alternative Analysis
6. Agenda Item C.7 - Salmon Hearings Officers
7. Agenda Item D.1 - Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP) for 2013
8. Agenda Item F.4 - Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
9. Agenda Item G.3 - Incidental Catch Recommendations for the Salmon Troll and Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries
10. Agenda Item H.3 - Consideration of Inseason Adjustments, Including Carryover
11. Agenda Item I.2 - Swordfish Management Report on Potential Changes to the Turtle Conservation Area and Take Limits
12. Agenda Item J.1 - Current Enforcement Issues
13. Hotel-Related Information
14. Council Roster



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013

TO: Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, Groundfish Management Team, and Groundfish Interested Persons

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 7-11, 2013 at the Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, Washington. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2013. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2013.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest, including:

- Open public comment;
- Current habitat issues;
- Research planning;
- A report on the International Pacific Halibut Commission meeting;
- Pacific halibut management in the recreational fisheries south of Humpbug Mountain;
- Pacific halibut incidental catch recommendations for the salmon troll and fixed gear sablefish fisheries;
- Reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service on regulatory, science, and research activities;
- Status determination criteria for data-moderate stocks;
- Considerations for inseason adjustments to 2013 groundfish fisheries, including carryover of quota pounds in the shorebased individual fishing quota fishery;
- Improvements to the groundfish management process (Amendment 24);
- Enforcement matters;
- Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and
- Future Council meeting agenda and workload planning.

This mailing includes the enclosures listed below. Please review these briefing materials in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council process and management of Pacific groundfish fisheries.

KLA:kam

Enclosures include:

1. Groundfish Amendment 24 Informational Briefing
2. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
3. Agenda Item E.1 – Current Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Item F.1 – Research Planning
5. Agenda Item F.3 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
6. Agenda Item F.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
7. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
8. Agenda Item H – Groundfish Management
9. Agenda Item J – Current Enforcement Issues
10. GAP Agenda
11. GMT Agenda
12. SSC Agenda
13. SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
14. SSC Economics Subcommittee Agenda
15. SSC Minutes
16. Hotel-related Information
17. Roster



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013

TO: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel, Highly Migratory Species Management Team, and Interested Persons

FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer for Highly Migratory Species

SUBJECT: March 2013 Council Meeting

The March Council meeting takes place March 7-11 at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, Washington. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will meet Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10 beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. Three HMS topics are on the Council agenda, as described below.

Agenda Item I.1 is the National Marine Fisheries Report. The National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Regional Office will provide a legislative and regulatory update. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will describe recent research including an update on ongoing research on alternative gear technologies for targeting swordfish. The Science Center has been using deep-set longline gear during daylight hours to catch swordfish for tagging purposes. Dr. Chugey Sepulveda of the Pflieger Institute of Environmental Research (PIER) will describe ongoing cooperative research on buoy gear. The Council will hear these reports on Sunday, March 10.

Agenda Item I.2 is a follow-up on Council action at the March 2012 meeting with respect to regulatory actions for the west coast swordfish fishery. Based on guidance from the Council, the HMSMT is providing information to help the Council decide about pursuing a change in the southern boundary of the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area (PLCA) for all or part of the current closure period. The PLCA is closed to large mesh drift gillnet vessels from August 15-November 15 each year. The Council will take up Agenda Item I.2 on Sunday, March 10.

Agenda Item I.3 covers international HMS activities including the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty, the recent stock assessment for Pacific bluefin tuna, and the precautionary management framework for North Pacific albacore tuna under development by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission's Northern Committee. Those interested in more information on this proposal should consult the [Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Northern](#)

[Committee](#)<sup>1</sup>, particularly Attachment C, which is a summary description of the framework. The Council will take up Agenda Item I.3 on Monday, March 11.

The Council will be taking final action to adopt their Fishery Ecosystem Plan at the April 2013 meeting. A draft of the Plan is being distributed electronically to Council committees so they have time to review the document and provide comments for the April meeting. If the HMSMT or HMSAS chooses to provide comments they should submit them by March 19, the deadline for the April Briefing Book. The document and an accompanying Reader's Guide can be accessed on the Council website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/ecosystem-based-management/fep-public-review-draft/>.

Paper copies of referenced briefing materials are enclosed. In addition, you may also obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/briefing-books/>. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website, as they become available after distribution of the advanced briefing book.

Thanks for your willingness to come to Tacoma in early March when the average temperature is 44°. Little known fact: Bing Crosby was born in Tacoma, although his family moved to Spokane just three years later.

KRD:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item F.1: Research Planning
3. Agenda Item F.4: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
4. Agenda Item I.1: NMFS Report
5. Agenda Item I.2: Swordfish Management Report on Potential Changes to the Turtle Conservation Area and Take Limits
6. Agenda Item I.3: Recommendations for International Management Activities
7. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
8. Hotel-related Information
9. Council Roster
10. Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Northern Committee (2011) Attachment C

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/documents/meetings/northern-committee/7th-regular-session/summary-report/NC7-Summary-Report-%28edited%29-12-April-2012-clean.pdf>



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013

TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Mike Burner, Staff Officer for Salmon

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting

In conjunction with the March Council meeting, the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) and Salmon Technical Team (STT) will meet on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 beginning at 8 a.m. The meetings will be held in Pavilion E and F Rooms, respectively of the Hotel Murano Tacoma, Washington. The Council will begin the salmon agenda on Thursday (March 7), and continue through Monday afternoon (March 11). Habitat issues will be covered Friday morning, March 8, and Pacific halibut issues will be covered on Friday afternoon.

The Council will receive a briefing on National Marine Fisheries Service regulatory and research activities Friday (Agenda Item C.3).

The Council will be briefed Thursday by the STT on the Review of 2012 Ocean Salmon Fisheries and Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis for 2013 Ocean Salmon Fisheries (Agenda Item C.1). Please note that Preseason Report I is not included with your briefing materials this year. Due to scheduling conflicts, the STT meeting to compile Preseason Report I was held February 19-22, while briefing materials were mailed out. You should be able to access an electronic version from the Council web site by February 28, and there will be printed copies at the Council meeting. I apologize for any inconvenience.

The main salmon issue before the Council will be developing options for modeling 2013 ocean fisheries (Agenda Items C.2, C.4, C.5, and C.6). Thursday afternoon the SAS will present the Council with recommendations for three alternatives. SAS representatives should clearly identify their fishery priorities and engage in negotiations as necessary to resolve conflicts among fishery sectors and areas to arrive at cohesive and coordinated options. The STT will then collate and analyze the alternatives. Working throughout the week the SAS, STT, and Council will refine the alternatives, which are scheduled to be adopted for public review on Wednesday.

The STT and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will discuss salmon topics on Wednesday afternoon beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Venice I Room.

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Pacific halibut is also on the Council's agenda for Friday. The Council and the SAS will hear reports on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) meeting (Agenda Item G.1) and the South of Humbug Policy Committee (Agenda Item G.2). The Council will adopt options for halibut retention in the commercial salmon fisheries (Agenda Item G.3). The SAS should be prepared to offer alternatives for Council consideration.

The Council will be taking up two administrative items of particular interest. Under Agenda Item F.1 the Council will be reviewing a public review draft of the Research and Data Needs document and considering it for final adoption. STT comments from the fall of 2012 have been incorporated into the review draft. Additionally, the Council will consider future Council meeting agendas and workload (Agenda Item F.4) on Monday. The SAS and STT may want to request topics for that agenda item.

The Council will receive an update on current habitat issues on Friday (Agenda Item E.1). The Habitat Committee is meeting Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. in the Venice 2 Room. Jim Hie will attend and brief the SAS on relevant issues. Others are invited to attend relevant topics such as Columbia River matters and offshore energy development off the West Coast.

On Saturday, USCG Fishing Vessel Safety Coordinator, Dan Hardin will brief the SAS on pending commercial fishing vessel regulations and a new web-based application for required safety gear.

In April, the Council will be considering its Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) for final adoption. This will not be on the Council, STT, or SAS agendas for March. However, the review draft of the FEP has been published to our web page under "Ecosystem-Based Management" and I encourage you to begin your review of the FEP well in advance of the April Council meeting.

Also note that you are invited to the Chair's Reception at 6 p.m. Friday evening.

Please take some time and review your briefing materials thoroughly before the meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance in the Council's salmon management process.

MDB:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Items C.1 through C.7 – Salmon Management
3. Agenda Item E.1 – Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Item F.1 and F.4 – Administrative Matters
5. Agenda Items G.1 through G.3 –Pacific Halibut Management
6. Agenda Item J.1 – Enforcement Issues
7. Proposed EC Agenda
8. Proposed GAP Agenda
9. Proposed HC Agenda
10. Proposed SAS Agenda
11. Proposed STT Agenda
12. Proposed SSC Agenda
13. Hotel-related Information
14. Roster
15. Review of 2012 Ocean Salmon Fisheries





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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2013  
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee  
FROM: John DeVore  
SUBJECT: March 2013 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 7-11, 2013 at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet Wednesday, March 6 and Thursday, March 7. The SSC's Groundfish Subcommittee will meet Tuesday, March 5 and the SSC's Economics Subcommittee will meet Friday, March 8. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

#### Administrative Matters

The SSC will be deciding SSC Subcommittee assignments.

#### Salmon Management

The Council will review and discuss relevant fishery information and act on status determinations, 2013 abundance forecasts, and annual catch limits of Pacific salmon, as necessary.

#### Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt exempted fishing permits for 2013.

#### Groundfish Management Matters

At this meeting, the Council will consider status determination criteria for data-moderate stocks. The Council will also adopt a range of alternatives for Groundfish Fishery Management Plan Amendment 24 to determine improvements to the groundfish management process.

Additionally the SSC Groundfish and Economic Subcommittees will meet on March 5 and 8, respectively. The Groundfish Subcommittee will review proposed methods for constructing abundance indices contemplated for data-moderate stock assessments. The Economic Subcommittee will review the Groundfish Management Team's commercial nearshore and non-nearshore impact projection models.

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## Ecosystem-Based Management

The SSC will be briefed on development of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan in preparation for an April Council adoption. A revised version of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan can be found on the Council's web site at <http://www.pcouncil.org/ecosystem-based-management/fep/>.

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 F.1 – Research Planning
3. Agenda Item F.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

### **Salmon Management**

4. Agenda Item C.1 – Review of 2012 Fisheries and Summary of 2013 Stock Abundance Forecasts

### **Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

5. Agenda Item D.1 – Exempted Fishing Permits for 2013

### **Groundfish Management**

6. Agenda Item H.2 – Status Determination Criteria for Data-Moderate Stocks
7. Agenda Item H.4 – Amendment 24: Improvements to the Groundfish Management Process
8. Terms of Reference for the Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment and Review Process for 2013-2014
9. Scientific and Statistical Committee's Groundfish Subcommittee Statement from the Conference Call on Rebuilding Revision Rules
10. Materials relevant to the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee review of methods used to construct abundance indices for data-moderate stock assessments
11. Documentation of the GMT's nearshore and non-nearshore impact projection models

### **SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Informational Reports, etc.**

12. March 2013 SSC Agenda
13. March 2013 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
14. March 2013 SSC Economics Subcommittee Agenda
15. Draft November 2012 SSC Minutes
16. Informational Reports
17. Hotel Related Information
18. Roster

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