



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013

TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, ad hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Mike Burner, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting

In conjunction with the September 11-17, 2013 Council meeting in Boise, Idaho, the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS), will meet on Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15. The meeting will be held in the Liberty Room of the Riverside Hotel in Boise. The ad hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EW) met via teleconference on August 29 and is not meeting in Boise.

The primary focus of the EAS in September will be final recommendations on updating the Federal list of authorized West Coast fisheries and gear and on Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative 1, intended to recognize the importance and provide adequate protection of forage fish to the marine ecosystem off of the U.S. West Coast. We will also discuss future ecosystem matters on the Council's tentative 2014 schedule. A few other items in your mailing are largely informational, but I would be happy to discuss them in Boise.

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.

MDB:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.3 and A.4 – Executive Director's Report and Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item sB.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item E.3 – Salmon Management
4. Agenda Item H.1 and H.5– Administrative Matters
5. Agenda Item I.1 and I.2 – Ecosystem-Based Management
6. Proposed EAS Agenda
7. Roster
8. Hotel-related Information



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013
TO: Enforcement Consultants
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2013 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11-16, 2013 at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise, Idaho. The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will meet in the Delamar Room, on **Wednesday, September 11** starting at **5:00 p.m.** and continue through **Monday, September 16**, 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 April Council Meeting Agenda
2. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
3. Groundfish Advisory Subpanel Agenda
4. Informational Reports
5. Agenda Item B.1 Open Comment
6. Agenda Item D.2 2014 Pacific Halibut Regulations
7. Agenda Item G.2 Sablefish Permit Stacking Program Review
8. Agenda Item G.5 Consideration of Inseason Adjustments
9. Agenda Item G.6 Consideration of Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) Boundary Modifications
10. Agenda Item G.9 Trawl Rationalization Trailing Actions Scoping, Process, and Prioritization
11. Agenda Item G.10 Electronic Monitoring Scoping
12. Agenda Item H.1 Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 Conference Follow-ups and Unrelated Legislative Matters
13. Agenda Item H.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
14. Agenda Item H.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
15. Agenda Item I.1 Update List of Fisheries
16. Hotel-Related Information

08/19/13



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 29, 2013

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 12-17, 2013 at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, Idaho. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meetings will begin in the Tamarack and Aspen rooms, respectively, at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 2013.

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

- Matters raised during the open comment period;
- A tri-state report on enforcement activities;
- Pacific halibut bycatch estimates for use by the International Pacific Halibut Commission in 2014 fisheries;
- Adopt for public review proposed changes for the 2014 Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan and annual fishing regulations;
- Current habitat issues;
- Reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service on regulatory, science, and research activities;
- Developing a process and identifying content for the limited entry fixed gear sablefish stacking program review;
- Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 conference follow-ups and unrelated legislative matters;
- Stock assessments for use in the 2015-2016 management cycle;
- Science improvements for the next groundfish management cycle;
- Consideration of inseason adjustments to 2013 groundfish fisheries, including petrale sole carryover;
- Consideration of trawl rockfish conservation area boundary modifications for 2013-2014;
- Initial actions for setting 2015-2016 and beyond groundfish fisheries;
- Consider analysis of stock complex assemblages alternatives;
- Trawl rationalization scoping, process, and prioritization;

- Electronic monitoring scoping for the rationalized groundfish trawl fishery;
- Final action on the Federal list of authorized West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone fisheries and gears;
- Guidance on amending fishery management plans to protect forage fish;
- 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. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Enforcement Issues
4. Agenda Item D – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item F – Habitat
6. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
7. Agenda Item H.1 – Managing Our Nation’s Fisheries 3 (MONF3) Conference Follow-ups and Unrelated Legislative Matters
8. Agenda Item H.4 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
9. Agenda Item H.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item I – Ecosystem-Based Management
11. GAP Agenda
12. GMT Agenda
13. SSC Agenda
14. SSC Minutes
15. Hotel-related Information

PROPOSED AGENDA
Habitat Committee

The Riverside Hotel – Boise
Liberty Room
2900 Chinden Blvd
Boise, ID 83714
Phone: 208-343-1871
September 11-12, 2013

Process notes: Numbering reflects the Council agenda. Starred items appear on the Council agenda. Fran Recht will be Chair for this meeting, and Lisa Wooninck will act as timekeeper. Presenters, please write background for reports prior to the meeting. If your item is an informational update, please circulate it prior to the meeting. Note-takers should take notes primarily on committee discussion (not background).*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 – 8:30 AM

A. Call to Order and Habitat Administrative Matters

Fran Recht

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

F. Habitat Matters (8:45 AM)

1. Offshore Wind Energy Letter

Arlene Merems

Notes: Liz Hamilton

2. Briefing on Klamath Issues (9:00 AM)

Mike Orcutt

Notes: Doug DeHart

BREAK (10:00-10:15 AM)

F. Habitat Matters

3. Briefing on US/Canada Columbia River Treaty

Bill Tweit

Notes: Corrieh Greene

4. Sanctuary Designation Criteria (11:15 AM)

Lisa Wooninck

Notes: Eric Chavez

LUNCH (12:00-1:00 PM)

H. Council Administrative Matters*

1. Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 (MONF3) Conference Follow-ups and Unrelated Legislative Matters (2:00 PM)
[Consider and prioritize habitat-related Magnuson-Stevens Act recommendations from the MONF3 Conference]

Jennifer Gilden

Notes: Lisa Wooninck

F. Habitat Matters (2:00 PM)

- 6. Northwest Power and Conservation Council Process Update

Jennifer Quan
Notes: Eric Wilkins

- 7. Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (2:45 PM)

Eric Chavez
Notes: Fran Recht

B. Habitat Administrative Matters (3:30 PM)

- 2. Work on Reports

HC

ADJOURN

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 – 8:00 AM

E. Salmon Matters*

- 2. Salmon Essential Fish Habitat Amendment 18: Update of Essential Fish Habitat for Salmon

Eric Chavez
Notes: Arlene Merems

I. Ecosystem Matters (9:30 AM)*

- 2. Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative

Jennifer Gilden/Mike Burner
Notes: Correigh Greene

H. Council Administrative Matters (10:30 AM)

- 5. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning*

HC
Notes: Mike Orcutt

PUBLIC COMMENT (11 AM)

A. Habitat Administrative Matters (11:15 AM)

- 1. Other Urgent Issues for Council Attention
- 2. November HC Agenda
- 3. Comments/Questions on HC Structure/Function (if any)
- 4. Finalize Reports (H.1, E.2, I.2, Habitat Report)

HC
HC
HC
HC

ADJOURN

PFMC
08/15/13



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013

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

FROM: Mike Burner, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet September 11-17, 2013 in Boise, Idaho. None of the salmon advisory groups will be meeting in Boise, but will meet via teleconference at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3rd to finalize reports to the Council. An agenda and call-in instructions for the teleconference have been sent out via email.

Mr. Keith Lutz, long-standing tribal representative to the Salmon Technical Team (STT), has resigned his position with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and will be leaving the STT. I have a lot of respect for Keith and the work he did for the Council and wish him the best in his retirement.

Primary items for your consideration in preparation for the September meeting include final topic selection for the 2013 salmon methodology review and final Council action on Fishery Management Plan Amendment 18 regarding essential fish habitat. The Council will also be adopting final recommended updates to the Federal list of authorized fisheries and gears and will continue its work to increase protection of currently unmanaged forage species through Initiative 1 of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan.

Recall in April that we tentatively planned to review an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding juvenile salmonid predation by double-crested cormorants in the Columbia River in September. As of the briefing book deadline, the draft EIS has not been released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who now anticipate that the draft EIS will be available for review and comment in the winter of 2013-14.

Additionally, the Council will take up two items relative to Pacific halibut management items; bycatch estimates in the groundfish trawl fishery and the adoption of preliminary alternatives for amending the Catch Sharing Plan. These items are included in your mailing for your information. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel in particular may want to provide recommendations on the Catch Sharing Plan in time for final adoption at the November Council meeting.

Looking ahead, the STT and the Salmon Subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee will hold their annual salmon methodology review meeting on October 1-3, 2013 in Portland, Oregon. As noted on the draft November Council agenda (Agenda Item H.5.a, Attachment 2), the salmon advisory groups will not be meeting in person at the November Council meeting. Please tentatively plan on a teleconference in late-October to address final salmon methodology review considerations and any other business for the November meeting. Please take some time and review your briefing materials before our teleconference. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you.

MDB:kam

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.3 and A.4 – Executive Director’s Report and Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Enforcement Issues
4. Agenda Item D.1 and D.2 – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item E.1, E.2, and E.3 – Salmon Management
6. Agenda Item H.1, H.4, and H.5– Administrative Matters
7. Agenda Item I.1 and I.2 – Ecosystem-Based Management
8. Roster



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2013
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore
SUBJECT: September 2013 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11-17, 2013 at The Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise, Idaho. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet Wednesday, September 11 through Friday, September 13 in the North Star Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

Council Administrative Matters

There are nominations for some of the twelve seats for the Groundfish Endangered Species Work Group the SSC will review. Additionally, there are three nominations for the vacant at-large SSC seat vacated by Dr. Selina Heppell for the SSC to review. The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

The Council will identify priorities for amending the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA). The Managing Our Nation's Fishery 3 conference held in May identified a number of findings, some of which represent potential amendments to the MSA. The SSC will review those findings that affect the science informing Council decisions and recommend their priorities for amending the MSA.

Pacific Halibut Management

The Council will review and provide guidance on the Pacific halibut bycatch estimate for use by the International Pacific Halibut Commission in 2014 fisheries.

Salmon Management

The Council will adopt final review priorities and consider recommendations for Sacramento winter Chinook harvest control rules.

The Council will consider final adoption of salmon essential fish habitat updates.

Groundfish Management

The Council will consider adopting new full assessments for aurora rockfish, rougheye rockfish, shortspine thornyhead, longspine thornyhead, cowcod, and Pacific sanddab as recommended by the SSC. The SSC will review these assessments and stock assessment review (STAR) reports before recommending whether they represent the best available science for these stocks and are suitable for management decision-making.

The Council will recommend workshops and other activities to improve the science informing groundfish management. The SSC will discuss candidate science activities and recommend their priorities to the Council.

The Council will initiate decision-making for the 2015-2016 groundfish fishery by adopting final overfishing limits (OFLs) and a range of acceptable biological catches (ABCs) for groundfish stocks and stock complexes. The SSC will review the list of proposed OFLs and a range of ABCs and recommend OFLs, stock categories, biomass variances (i.e., sigmas) for stocks and stock categories, and a proxy F_{MSY} harvest rate for elasmobranch species. The SSC will also discuss rebuilding revision rule alternatives and management strategy evaluation scenarios with the GMT in preparation for analyses supporting the harvest specifications decision-making process.

The Council will adopt a range of alternatives, including preliminary preferred alternatives, for restructuring groundfish stock complexes. The SSC will review the methods and analyses proposed by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to inform the suitability of these alternatives.

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. Closed Session Agenda Item A.1
2. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
3. Agenda Item B.1 – Comments on Non-Agenda Items
4. Agenda Item H.1 – Managing Our Nation’s Fisheries 3 (MONF3) Conference Follow-ups and Unrelated Legislative Matters
5. Agenda Item H.4 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
6. Agenda Item H.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Pacific Halibut Management

7. Agenda Item D.1 – Pacific Halibut Bycatch Estimate

Salmon Management

8. Agenda Item E.1 – 2013 Salmon Methodology Review
9. Agenda Item E.2 – Fishery Management Plan Amendment 18 – Update of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for Salmon

Groundfish Management

10. Agenda Item G.3 – Approve Stock Assessments
11. Agenda Item G.4 – Science Improvements for the Next Groundfish Management Cycle
12. Agenda Item G.7 – Initial Actions for Setting 2015-2016 Groundfish Fisheries
13. Agenda Item G.8 – Consider Stock Complex Aggregations
14. Agenda Item G.10 – Electronic Monitoring Scoping
15. Research paper authored by Dr. Tom Carruthers: Evaluating Methods for Setting Catch Limits in Data-limited Fisheries

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

16. September 2013 SSC Agenda
17. Draft June 2013 SSC Minutes
18. Informational Reports
19. Hotel Related Information