Status of National Standard 2 Working Group

Dr. John Stein
Dr. Cisco Werner
The National Standard 2 (NS2) rule was developed:

- To comply with provisions in the MSRA of 2007
- Improve scientific integrity of information used for the conservation and management of living marine resources.
National Standard 2 provides guidance on:

- What constitutes Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA);

- Scientific peer review process standards (STAR Panel);

- Role of SSC in the review of scientific information;

- Purpose, content, and availability of Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) reports.
NMFS Working Group assembled to work with Councils and Regional Offices to:

• Ensure that the regional peer review processes are agreed and documented (STAR Panel);

• Publish a Notice in the Federal Register announcing existing peer review processes (all regions);

• Review the status of each of the regional SAFE reports and work toward NS2 compliance.
Task 1: **Work with the Councils** to ensure regional peer review processes are agreed and documented.

- Concurrence that STAR process is our established peer review process (April, 2014);

- Review STAR process TORs, revise to comply with NS2 and enhance process (June – November, 2014);

- Ensure STAR process is documented and publicly available (e.g. TORs) (Complete/Revise as needed).
Task 2. **Publish a FRN** announcing existing peer review processes under MSA section 302(g)(1)(E). Includes **brief** descriptions of the regional peer review processes.

- Working Group is drafting a FRN; includes a brief description of the STAR process. Draft available for comment (March, 2014);
- Revise and finalize FRN (April - May, 2014);
- Submit final FRN (June, 2014).

*Proposed time frame may be adjusted depending on needs of other regions.*
Initial inventory revealed

- Frequency of publication and content of SAFE reports vary by FMP
- Most of the required content is currently available
- Identify most efficient approach to organize materials (e.g. web-based)
SAFE Reports – Actions

Task 3. **Review the status of each of the regional SAFE reports** and work with Councils and Regional Offices toward compliance with NS2 standards.

- NW and SW Fisheries Science Centers (SCs) initiate **inventory of SAFE reports by FMP** & collaborate with Council and WCR (March, 2014);

- SCs, Council and WCR **draft action plan** for SAFE compliance (April, 2014);

- **Finalize action plan** for SAFE compliance (June, 2014).
National Standard 2 Benefits

- We have a strong scientific review and transparent process in place.
- The final rule reinforces the reliability and credibility of scientific information used.
- Our collaborative approach will make implementation of the revised NS2 guidelines seamless.
222nd Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council  
March 7-13, 2014  
Doubletree Hotel Sacramento  
2001 Point West Way  
Sacramento, California 95815  
Telephone: 916-929-8855

**Proposed Council Meeting Agenda**  
March 2014

**222nd Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
March 7-13, 2014

**Doubletree Hotel Sacramento**  
2001 Point West Way  
Sacramento, California 95815  
Telephone: 916-929-8855

**Friday March 7**  
- Closed Session
  - Call to Order
  - Open Comment
  - Ecosystem
  - Groundfish
  - Habitat

**Saturday March 8**  
- A listing of times and locations for Advisory Body meetings begins on page 9.

**Sunday March 9**  
- Salmon

**Monday March 10**  
- Salmon
  - Coastal Pelagic Species
  - Administrative

**Tuesday March 11**  
- Salmon
  - Highly Migratory Species

**Wednesday March 12**  
- Salmon
  - Administrative

**Thursday March 13**  
- Salmon

**Schedule of Ancillary Meetings begins on page 9.**

Refer to the Schedule of Ancillary Meetings beginning on page 9 for a complete list of technical and administrative committees, advisory bodies, work groups, state delegations, and special sessions scheduled throughout the week of March 7 through March 13, 2014.

**Proposed Detailed Agenda begins on the next page.**

The following items are on the Pacific Council agenda. However, please note that the timing--including the day--of the agenda items may change on the basis of the time required for prior agenda items, and the order may change as required to effectively address the issues.

**Council Action** descriptions to adopt imply consideration to adopt; adoption is not mandatory.
Saturday, March 8, 2014
8:00 AM    Grand Ballroom

Closed Executive Session
This session is closed to all except Council members, their designees, and others designated by the Council Chair to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

A. Call to Order
A.1 Opening Remarks             Dorothy Lowman, Chair
A.2 Roll Call                   Don McIsaac
A.3 Executive Director's Report Don McIsaac
A.4 Agenda                      Dorothy Lowman
   a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

B. Open Comment Period
B.1 Comments on Non-Agenda Items
   a. Advisory Body and Management Entity Comments
   b. Public Comment
   c. Council Discussion and Comments as Appropriate

C. Ecosystem Management
C.1 California Current Ecosystem Report Including Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
   a. Agenda Item Overview          Mike Burner
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. Council Action: Council Discussion

D. Groundfish Management
D.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
   a. Agenda Item Overview          Kelly Ames
   b. Regulatory Activities         Frank Lockhart
   c. Fisheries Science Center Activities Michelle McClure, John Stein
   d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   e. Public Comment
   f. Council Discussion

2
Saturday, March 8, 2014 (continued)

D. Groundfish Management (continued)

D.2 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Evaluation Criteria and Phase 2 Report
   a. Agenda Item Overview Kerry Griffin
   b. Essential Fish Habitat Review Committee (EFHRC) Report Brad Pettinger
   c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   d. Public Comment
   e. Council Action: Provide Guidance on Criteria for Evaluating the Effectiveness of Existing EFH Provisions and Consider Finalizing the EFHRC Phase 2 Report

E. Habitat

E.1 Current Habitat Issues
   a. Agenda Item Overview Jennifer Gilden
   b. Report of the Habitat Committee Joel Kawahara
   c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   d. Public Comment
   e. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations

Sunday, March 9, 2014

8:00 AM Grand Ballroom

A. Call to Order (reconvene) Dorothy Lowman
   A.5 Commencing Remarks Don McIsaac

F. Salmon Management

F.1 Review of 2013 Fisheries and Summary of 2014 Stock Abundance Forecasts
   a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. Council Action: Review and Discuss Relevant Fishery Information, Act on Relevant Status Determinations, and adopt 2014 Abundance Forecasts and Annual Catch Limits as Necessary

F.2 Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2014 Salmon Management Alternatives
   a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
   b. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission Gordy Williams
   c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   d. Public Comment
   e. Council Action: Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description
Sunday, March 9, 2014 (continued)

F. Salmon Management (continued)
   F.3 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
      a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
      b. Regulatory Activities Bob Turner
      c. Fisheries Science Center Activities Pete Lawson
      d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      e. Public Comment
      f. Council Discussion

D. Groundfish Management (continued)
   D.3 Barotrauma Device Mortality Rates
      a. Agenda Item Overview John DeVore
      b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      c. Public Comment
      d. Council Action: Approve Bycatch Mortality Rates Associated with Barotrauma Reduction Devices in Groundfish Fisheries

D.4 Inseason Adjustments, Including Carryover
   a. Agenda Item Overview Kelly Ames
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. Council Action: Adopt Recommendations for Adjustments to 2014 Groundfish Fisheries, Including Carryover

Monday, March 10, 2014
8:00 AM Grand Ballroom

A. Call to Order (reconvene) Dorothy Lowman
   A.6 Commencing Remarks Don McIsaac

F. Salmon Management (continued)
   F.4 Council Recommendations for 2014 Management Alternative Analysis
      a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
      b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      c. Public Comment
      d. Council Direction to the Salmon Technical Team and Salmon Advisory Subpanel on Alternative Development and Analysis

D. Groundfish Management (continued)
   D.5 Biennial Harvest Specifications for 2015-2016 and Beyond Groundfish Fisheries
      a. Agenda Item Overview John DeVore, Kelly Ames
      b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      c. Public Comment
      d. Council Action: Adopt Final Remaining Overfishing Limits and Receive Update on the Status of the NEPA Document
Monday, March 10, 2014 (continued)

D. Groundfish Management (continued)
   D.6 Trawl Rationalization Trailing Actions
      a. Agenda Item Overview Jim Seger
      b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      c. Public Comment

G. Pacific Halibut Management
   G.1 Report on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Meeting
      a. Agenda Item Overview Kelly Ames
      b. IPHC Report Bruce Leaman and Claude Dykstra
      c. Council Representative Report Gway Kirchner
      d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      e. Public Comment
      f. Council Discussion

G.2 Incidental Catch Recommendations for the Salmon Troll and Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries
      a. Agenda Item Overview Kelly Ames
      b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      c. Public Comment
      d. Council Action: Adopt Public Review Options for 2014 and April 2015 Salmon Troll Fishery; Make Recommendations for Inseason Changes to April 2014 Retention Limits in the Salmon Troll Fishery, as Necessary; Adopt Final Retention Limits for 2014 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

8:00 AM Grand Ballroom

A. Call to Order (reconvene) Dorothy Lowman
   A.7 Commencing Remarks Don McIsaac

H. Enforcement Issues
   H.1 Vessel Monitoring System Ping Rate
      a. Agenda Item Overview Jim Seger
      b. Office of Law Enforcement Report Dayna Matthews
      c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      d. Public Comment
      e. Council Discussion
Tuesday, March 11, 2014 (continued)

I. Coastal Pelagic Species Management
   I.1 Pacific Sardine Temperature Parameter Review
      a. Agenda Item Overview Kerry Griffin
      b. Report on Pacific Sardine Temperature Parameters Felipe Hurtado
      c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      d. Public Comment
      e. Council Action: Consider Technical Changes in Temperature and Stock Productivity Parameter Changes and Other Fishery Management Changes for Pacific Sardine

J. Administrative Matters
   J.1 Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters
      a. Agenda Item Overview Jennifer Gilden
      b. Report of the Legislative Committee Dave Hanson
      c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      d. Public Comment
      e. Council Action: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee

K. Highly Migratory Species Management
   K.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
      a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
      b. Regulatory Activities Mark Helvey
      c. Fisheries Science Center Activities Russ Vetter
      d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      e. Public Comment
      f. Council Discussion
   K.2 Vessel Monitoring Systems for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries
      a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
      b. National Marine Fisheries Service Report Mark Helvey
      c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
      d. Public Comment
      e. Council Action: Consider the NMFS Report and Provide Guidance for Implementation of VMS in Highly Migratory Species Fisheries

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

8:00 AM Grand Ballroom

A. Call to Order (reconvene) Dorothy Lowman
   A.8 Commencing Remarks Don McIsaac
Wednesday, March 12, 2014 (continued)

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.5 Further Council Direction for 2014 Management Alternatives

a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
c. Public Comment
d. Council Guidance and Direction

K. Highly Migratory Species Management (continued)

K.3 Recommendations for International Management Activities

a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
c. Public Comment

K.4 U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty Update

a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
c. Public Comment
d. Council Action: Adopt, as Necessary, Recommendations for the Fishery Regime Pursuant to the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty

K.5 Drift Gillnet Monitoring, Management, and Alternative Gear Report

a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
c. Public Comment

Thursday, March 13, 2014

8:00 AM Grand Ballroom

A. Call to Order (reconvene) Dorothy Lowman
   A.9 Commencing Remarks Don McIsaac

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.6 Adoption of 2014 Management Alternatives for Public Review

a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
c. Public Comment
d. Council Action: Adopt Management Alternatives for Public Review

F.7 Salmon Hearings Officers

a. Agenda Item Overview Mike Burner
b. Council Action: Appoint Hearings Officers Dorothy Lowman
Thursday, March 13, 2014 (continued)

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.8 Sacramento Winter Chinook Harvest Control Rule
   a. Agenda Item Overview
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. **Council Action**: Provide Guidance for Submitting Comments on the Sacramento
      Winter Chinook Harvest Control Rule

F.9 California Coastal Chinook Update
   a. Agenda Item Overview
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. **Council Action**: Consider California Coastal Chinook Management Issues

J. Administrative Matters (continued)

J.2 Approval of Council Meeting Minutes
   a. Council Member Review and Comments
   b. **Council Action**: Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes

J.3 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
   a. Agenda Item Overview
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. **Council Action**: Consider Changes to Council Operating Procedures and
      Appointments to Advisory Bodies

J.4 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
   a. Agenda Item Overview
   b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
   c. Public Comment
   d. **Council Action**: Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload
      Planning

ADJOURN
## SCHEDULE OF ANCILLARY MEETINGS

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<tr>
<th>Day 1—Friday, March 7, 2014</th>
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<td>Council Secretariat</td>
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<td>Scientific and Statistical Committee</td>
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<td>Groundfish Advisory Subpanel</td>
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<td>Enforcement Consultants</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
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<td>Chairman’s Reception</td>
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Salmon Technical Team.............................8:00 AM..........................California Salon 2
Enforcement Consultants..........................As Necessary.......................Yuba Room
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Tribal and Washington Technical Group...........As Necessary.........................California Salon 4

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