



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

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2014

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

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 7-13, 2014, at the Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California. The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will be meeting in Capitol Salon C, starting at 8:00 am on Monday March 10. Major topics for discussion at this meeting include:

#### **Pacific Sardine Temperature Parameter Review**

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) prepared a report (Agenda Item I.1.c, CPSMT report) on this topic for Council and Advisory Body consideration. Although the CPSMT will not be convening at this Council meeting, a joint conference call is scheduled for February 25, 2014, and Lorna Wargo (co-Chair, CPSMT) will be present at the CPSAS meeting on March 10 to answer questions about the CPSMT report. Also included in your briefing book materials is the revised  $F_{msy}$  Analyses paper by Hurtado and Punt (Agenda Item I.1.b, Report on Pacific Sardine Temperature Parameters).

The CPSMT report will discuss the new  $F_{msy}$ -temperature relationship that is based on CalCOFI sea surface temperatures, rather than Scripps Institution of Oceanography temperatures that have been used up to this point. The report will also discuss the scenarios for a different harvest guideline approach, for Council consideration. The CPSAS should develop a supplemental report to the Council.

#### **Electronic Fish Tickets**

There are potential advantages to an electronic fish ticket system that could replace the use of paper fish tickets. This is a discussion item only, although the CPSAS could submit a supplemental report under Future Agenda Planning.

#### **U.S. Coast Guard Review on Jones Act/Net Tonnage Issues**

The HMSAS will join the CPSAS in Capitol Salon C for this topic. Commander Vivian Louie from the District 11 (California) office will give an overview of the tonnage issue, as well as a summary of recent actions taken by the Coast Guard. Lieutenant Cody Dunagan and Brian

Corrigan will also be present. The overview will be followed by a question/answer session. There is no supplemental report anticipated for this agenda item.

### **Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Priorities**

The CPSAS should consider recent Senate testimony by Dr. McIsaac regarding MSA priorities, and may submit a supplemental report. However, it is anticipated that the Council will consider legislative issues related to MSA reauthorization more in depth at the June 2014 Council meeting.

### **KZO Sea Farms/Aquaculture Update**

The Council's Habitat Committee drafted a letter to the California Coastal Commission and to the Los Angeles District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, expressing concerns about a proposed mariculture project 8.5 miles offshore from Long Beach, California. The agenda item will be over before the CPSAS convenes, but the CPSAS will have an opportunity to discuss the issue on the February 25, 2014 conference call, and may submit a report to the Council.

### **Future Agenda Planning**

The CPSAS should spend some time discussing items for the April and June Council meetings, including Pacific sardine and Pacific mackerel harvest and management measures, exempted fishing permit consideration, and the upcoming methodology review.

Enclosed are March agenda materials for your review. Thank you for your continued participation in the Council process, and for your commitment to sustainable fisheries, fish populations, and our coastal communities.

KFG:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Comments on Non-Agenda Items
3. Agenda Item C.1 – California Current Ecosystem Report Including Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
4. Agenda Item E.1 – Current Habitat Issues
5. Agenda Item I.1 – Pacific Sardine Temperature Parameters Review
6. Agenda Item J.1 – Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters
7. Agenda Item J.3 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
8. Agenda Item J.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
9. Agenda Item K.4 – U.S.-Canada Albacore Update
10. CPSAS Agenda
11. SSC Agenda
12. Hotel Information
13. Roster



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2014  
TO: Enforcement Consultants  
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer  
SUBJECT: March 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 7 – March 13, 2014 at the Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California. You are invited to attend the meeting and receive *travel reimbursement for that entire period (March 7 through March 13)*. The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will first meet in the Yuba Room, on **Saturday, March 8** starting at **4:30 p.m.** The meeting will continue through **Wednesday, March 12**, as needed and moving between rooms as logistically required (please see your agenda for a listing of the meeting room for each day). Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you.

JLS:rd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Proposed March Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. CPSAS Agenda
4. GAP Agenda
5. GMT Agenda
6. HMSAS Agenda
7. SAS Agenda
8. Agenda Item D.1 – National Marine Fisheries Service Report
9. Agenda Item D.4 – Inseason Adjustments, Including Carryover
10. Agenda Item F.2 – Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2014 Salmon Management Alternatives
11. Agenda Item F.6 – Adoption of 2014 Management Alternatives for Public Review
12. Agenda Item G.2 – Incidental Catch Recommendations for the Salmon Troll and Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries
13. Agenda Item H.1 – Vessel Monitoring System Ping Rate
14. Agenda Item K.2 – Vessel Monitoring Systems for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries
15. Agenda Item K.5 – Drift Gillnet Monitoring, Management, and Alternative Gear Report
16. Agenda Item J.1 – Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters

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- 17. Agenda Item J.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
- 18. Hotel Related Information
- 19. Roster

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2014

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 7-13, 2014 at the Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014 in Capital Salon D. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014 in the Sacramento Room.

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 report on the California Current Ecosystem, including the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment;
- Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
- Essential Fish Habitat evaluation criteria and Phase 2 Report;
- Current habitat issues;
- Bycatch mortality rates associated with barotrauma reduction devices;
- Discussion on Vessel Monitoring System ping rates;
- Inseason adjustments to 2014 groundfish fisheries, including carryover;
- A briefing on the analysis of harvest specifications for 2015-2016 and beyond, including adoption of overfishing limits for cowcod south of 40°10 N. latitude, the Washington substock of cabezon, and the Oregon and Washington substocks of kelp greenling.
- Trawl rationalization trailing actions including implementation guidance and adaptive management program pass-through;
- A report on the results of the International Pacific Halibut Commission annual meeting;
- Incidental halibut retention recommendations for the salmon troll and fixed gear sablefish fisheries;
- Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization priorities and other legislative matters;
- 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:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Informational Reports
3. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
4. Agenda Item C – Ecosystem Management
5. Agenda Item D – Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Item E - Habitat
7. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
8. Agenda Item H – Enforcement Issues
9. Agenda Item J.1 – Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters
10. Agenda Item J.3 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
11. Agenda Item J.4 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
12. GAP Agenda
13. GMT Agenda
14. SSC Agenda and Draft November SSC Minutes
15. Hotel-related Information
16. Council Roster



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2014

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 2014 Council Meeting

The March Council meeting takes place March 7-13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, California. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will meet Monday and Tuesday, March 10 and 11—and optionally on Wednesday, March 12—beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. Five HMS topics are on the Council agenda. There are also a couple of topics not directly related to HMS on your agendas. Summaries of all these topics follow.

#### Agenda Item D.1, National Marine Fisheries Report, Tuesday, March 11

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Regional (WCR) Office will provide a legislative and regulatory update. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will discuss current science related issues.

#### Agenda Item K.2, Vessel Monitoring Systems for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries, Tuesday, March 11

NMFS published a proposed rule on February 6, 2014, announcing regulations to comply with Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Resolution C-04-06, requiring vessels greater than 24 meters in length, which fish for HMS in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, to install and operate vessel monitoring system (VMS) transceivers on the vessels. NMFS is undertaking this rulemaking under the Tuna Conventions Act. NMFS WCR will update the Council on this rulemaking. The Council will consider the NMFS report on this rulemaking and provide guidance for implementation of VMS in HMS fisheries.

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Agenda Item K.3, Recommendations for International Management Activities, Wednesday, March 12

The Council will be briefed on the outcomes of the Tenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, which occurred December 2-6, 2013, in Cairns, Australia. In addition, the Council will provide guidance for the development of the precautionary framework for the North Pacific albacore tuna management, including biological reference points and decision rules.

Agenda Item K.4, U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty Update, Wednesday, March 12

This treaty governs reciprocal access to the west coast exclusive economic zones of the U.S. and Canada for vessels fishing for albacore. A one-year agreement was reached for reciprocal access in 2013 after the failure to reach agreement on access in 2012. The U.S. and Canadian governments consulted in Vancouver, British Columbia, on January 21, 2014, about an agreement for the 2014 fishing season and subsequent years. Council member Buzz Brizendine and Mark Helvey, NMFS WCR, attended the meeting as part of the U.S. delegation and will brief the Council on outcomes of this meeting and prospects for future negotiations. The Council will Adopt, as necessary, recommendations for the fishery regime pursuant to the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty

Agenda Item K.5, Drift Gillnet Monitoring, Management, and Alternative Gear Report, Wednesday, March 12

In March 2013, the Council passed a motion directed the HMSMT and HMSAS to work on a proposal to open a triangle shaped area south of Point Arena, California to the drift gillnet (DGN) fishery. This area is part of the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area, which annually closed to DGN fishing from August 15 to November 15. The HMSMT met January 23-25, 2014, at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, California, to work on a report on this proposal. Their report is included in the Briefing Book for HMSAS review and comment. NMFS has been periodically reporting to the Council on research in alternative gear types for targeting swordfish and will provide another update under this agenda item. The Council will provide guidance on potential changes in the drift gillnet fishery and alternative gear fishery development.

Note that in the morning on Monday, March 10, the HMSAS and HMSMT will meet jointly for briefings on Agenda Items K.3, K.4, and K.5 in the Terrace Room (HMSAS meeting room).

Protecting Unfished and Unmanaged Forage Fish Species (Agenda Item J.1, April Council Meeting)

The HMSAS and HMSMT have the opportunity to comment on a report produced by the Ecosystem Workgroup on Council actions to protected unfished and unmanaged forage fish species. This topic is on the Council's April meeting agenda, when the HMS committees are not meeting. The report will be provided to committee members electronically before the March meeting.



Agenda Item J.1, Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters, Tuesday, March 11

This topic is on the HMSAS agenda only. This is an opportunity to hear an update on the status of MSA reauthorization in Congress and comment to the Council, if desired.

U.S. Coast Guard Review on Jones Act/Net Tonnage Issues

The HMSAS will join the CPSAS in Capitol Salon C for this topic. Commander Vivian Louie from the District 11 (California) office will give an overview of the tonnage issue, as well as a summary of recent actions taken by the Coast Guard. Lieutenant Cody Dunagan and Brian Corrigan will also be in there with her. The overview will be followed by a question/answer session. There is no supplemental report anticipated for this agenda item.

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.

Fun fact: the actor Tom Hanks went to Sacramento High School and worked as a mall Santa there.

KRD:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1: Comments on Non-Agenda Items
3. Agenda Item J.1: Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization Priorities and Other Legislative Matters
4. Agenda Item J.4: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
5. Agenda Item K.1: NMFS Report
6. Agenda Item K.2: Vessel Monitoring Systems for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries
7. Agenda Item K.3: Recommendations for International Management Activities
8. Agenda Item K.4: U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty Update
9. Agenda Item K.5: Drift Gillnet Monitoring, Management, and Alternative Gear Report
10. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
11. Hotel-related Information
12. Council Roster

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### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 20, 2014

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

**FROM:** Mike Burner, Staff Officer

**SUBJECT:** March Council Meeting

In conjunction with the March Council meeting, the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet on Saturday, March 8, 2014 beginning at 8 a.m. The meetings will be held in California Salon 2 and 3, respectively of the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, California. The Council will begin the salmon agenda on Sunday (March 9), and continue through Thursday afternoon (March 13). Habitat issues will be covered Friday, March 7, and Pacific halibut issues will be covered on Monday afternoon. The Council will receive a briefing on National Marine Fisheries Service regulatory and research activities Sunday (Agenda Item F.3). Also note that you are invited to the Chair's Reception at 6 p.m. Saturday evening.

The Council will be briefed Sunday by the STT on the Review of 2013 Ocean Salmon Fisheries and Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis for 2014 Ocean Salmon Fisheries (Agenda Item F.1). Please note that Preseason Report I is not included with your briefing materials this year. The STT meeting to compile Preseason Report I was held February 18-21, 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. The STT and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will discuss salmon topics on Saturday afternoon beginning at 1:30 p.m. in Capitol Salon 3.

The main salmon issue before the Council will be developing options for modeling 2014 ocean fisheries (Agenda Items F.2, F.4, F.5, and F.6). Sunday 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 Thursday.

Other salmon matters on the Council's agenda pertain to the management of Sacramento River winter Chinook (SRWC) and California Coastal Chinook (Agenda Items F.8 and F.9). These stocks were a focus of a workshop at the April 2013 Council meeting in Portland. The Council will receive an update under both items and the National Marine Fisheries Service has published a request for comments on the SRWC harvest control rule. The Council is also scheduled to appoint members of the Lower Columbia Natural Coho Workgroup and I will brief the SAS on that process on Monday.

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Pacific halibut is also on the Council's agenda for Monday. The Council and the SAS will hear reports on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) meeting (Agenda Item G.1) the Council will adopt options for halibut retention in the commercial salmon fisheries (Agenda Item G.2). The SAS should be prepared to offer recommendations regarding inseason adjustment of the halibut retention regulations for any April 2014 commercial salmon fisheries as well as alternatives for post-May 1, 2014 and pre-May 1, 2015 fisheries.

The Council will consider future Council meeting agendas and workload (Agenda Item J.4) on Thursday. The SAS and STT may want to request topics for that agenda item.

There are two important meetings related to the current drought conditions in California. The Council will receive an update on current habitat issues on Saturday (Agenda Item E.1). The Habitat Committee is meeting Friday at 8:30 a.m. in Capitol Salon B. Jim Hie will attend and brief the SAS on relevant issues. Additionally, the Legislative Committee may discuss *H.R. 3964: Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act*, a bill that uses the current drought as a basis to overturn California and Federal water laws in order to provide water for agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley. Although Saturday is a travel day for many, you are all invited to attend these sessions. These topics are also on the SAS agenda.

Each year at the March meeting, the Council receives the Annual State of the California Current Report to bring ecosystem information into the Council process in a succinct, straightforward format to assist decision-making through the consideration of ecosystem variability (Agenda Item C.1). These materials are included in your materials, but the item is not on your agendas because the matter comes before the Council the morning your meetings are convened. I would be happy to review the report with the SAS or STT, as necessary. At its April 2014 meeting, the Council is scheduled to review Ecosystem Initiative 1 regarding the protection of unmanaged forage species. Materials for this item will be posted on the Council web site in late-February for your early review.

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:rd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.1 – Ecosystem Based Management
3. Agenda Item E.1 – Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Items F.1 through F.9 – Salmon Management
5. Agenda Items G.1 through G.2 – Pacific Halibut Management
6. Agenda Item H.1 – Enforcement Issues
7. Agenda Item J.1, J.3, and J.4 – Council Administrative Matters including Legislative Matters
8. Proposed EC Agenda
9. Proposed GAP Agenda
10. Proposed HC Agenda
11. Proposed SAS Agenda
12. Proposed STT Agenda
13. Proposed SSC Agenda
14. Informational Reports
15. Hotel-related Information
16. Roster
17. Review of 2013 Ocean Salmon Fisheries