



## Pacific Fishery Management Council

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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: August 20, 2014

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

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 10-17, 2014, at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center, 322 North Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, WA 99201. The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will meet on September 11 and 12. They will meet jointly for the first half day of the meeting in the Evergreen Room. After the joint session ends, the CPSAS will move to the Parkside I/II Room.

At this Council meeting, both the CPSMT and CPSAS may develop supplemental reports on the following topics:

- Sardine Harvest Fraction Preliminary Preferred Alternative (Agenda Item C.1)
- Proposed CPS FMP Amendment Language on Forage Fish (Agenda Item H.1: *Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative PPA*)
- Terms of Reference for STAR and Methodology Reviews (Agenda Item J.2: *Final Stock Assessment Plan*)
- Legislative Matters (Agenda Item I.1)
- Market Squid Fleet Capacity (Agenda Item B.1: *Open Comment*)

In addition, the CPSAS and CPSMT are being asked to review the draft National Marine Fisheries Service's West Coast Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan Informational Report (Informational Report 1), and develop comments for Council Staff. A revised plan will be on the Council's agenda for its November, 2014 meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

Finally, the CPSMT will hold elections for a Vice Chair or Co-Chair, to replace the office vacated by Dr. Robert Emmett.

Enclosed are September agenda materials for your review. Thank you for your continued effort in support of the Council and West Coast fisheries management.

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KFG:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Pacific Sardine Harvest Fraction
4. Agenda Item H.1 – Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative PPA
5. Agenda Item I.1 – Legislative Matters
6. Agenda Item J.2 – Final Stock Assessment Plan – ONLY J.2 Situation Summary, J.2.a, Attachment 1, and J.2.a, Attachment 3.
7. CPSAS Agenda
8. CPSMT Agenda
9. Informational Report 1
10. Hotel Information
11. Council Roster



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2014

TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Mike Burner, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 10-17, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center in Spokane, Washington. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) will meet Friday, September 12 in Suite B. The Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup will not be meeting at the September Council meeting.

The Comprehensive Ecosystem Based Amendment relative to Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative 1 to protect unmanaged forage fish species will be the focus of our deliberations in Spokane. At this meeting, the Council is tasked with confirming a preliminary preferred alternative and with adopting draft amendment language for each of the Council's four Fishery Management Plans for public review. Final action is scheduled for March in Vancouver, Washington.

There are a few administrative matters on the September Council agenda of interest. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is requesting comments on a draft Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan (Informational Report 1) for West Coast marine fisheries that has been developed in response to a NMFS Policy Directive on the matter. The draft plan is not on the Council's September agenda. I will be collecting comments in September to be forwarded to NMFS for use in revising the draft for the November Council meeting.

Lastly, under Agenda Item I.2, the Council will review three executive actions issued by President Obama in June that relate to fisheries management: 1) a proposed Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, 2) combating black market fishing, deterring illegal fishing, addressing seafood fraud, and preventing illegally-caught fish from entering the marketplace, and 3) a series of actions aimed at protecting coastal communities from the impacts of climate change and improving domestic aquaculture.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your participation.

MDB:rd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A – Executive Director's Report and Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item H.1 – Ecosystem-Based Management
3. Agenda Items I.1, I.2, and I.6 – Council Administrative Matters
4. Informational Reports
5. Hotel related information



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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 14, 2014  
TO: Enforcement Consultants  
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer  
SUBJECT: September 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 10 –17, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center, 322 North Spokane Falls Court Spokane, WA 99201.

You are invited to attend the meeting and receive *travel reimbursement for September 12-17*. The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will first meet in Suite A, on **Friday, September 12** starting at **3:00 p.m.** The meeting will continue through Tuesday, September 16, as needed. Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you.

JLS:kma

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Proposed September Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. HMSMT Agenda
4. HMSAS Agenda
5. GAP Agenda
6. GEMPAC Agenda
7. GMT Agenda
8. SSC Agenda
9. Agenda Item G.3 Preliminary Approval of Exempted Fishing Permits for 2015 Fisheries
10. Agenda Item G.4 New or Routine Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries
11. Agenda Item I.1 Legislative Matters
12. Agenda Item I.6 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
13. Agenda Item J.1 Omnibus Regulation Change Priorities
14. Agenda Item J.3 Electronic Monitoring Regulatory Process Final Preferred Alternatives and Next Steps
15. Agenda Item J.4 Consideration of Inseason Adjustments
16. Agenda Item K.1 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations
17. Informational Report 1
18. Hotel-related Information
19. Roster

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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 15, 2014

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 10-17, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center, 322 North Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, Washington. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, September 13, 2014 in the Suite C/D rooms and Suite B, respectively.

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 fishery enforcement report;
- Current habitat issues;
- Selection of a preliminary preferred alternative for unmanaged forage fish protection;
- Legislative matters, including the Magnuson-Stevens Act Re-authorization;
- Comments on Executive Actions;
- Planning for future groundfish management measures actions, known as Omnibus Regulation Change Priorities;
- Final stock assessment planning for 2016-2017 fisheries and terms of reference;
- Electronic Monitoring regulatory process development, final preferred alternatives;
- Consideration of inseason adjustments for 2014 fisheries;
- Development of the 2015 Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan and annual fishing regulations;
- Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and
- Future Council meeting agenda and workload planning

In addition, you are requested to develop comments on Informational Report 1, Electronic Technology Plan, for staff use in completing a draft Plan for Council consideration in November.

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:kma

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item E.1 – Tri-State Fishery Enforcement Report
4. Agenda Item F.1 – Current Habitat Issues
5. Agenda Item H.1 – Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative
6. Agenda Item I.1 – Legislative Matters
7. Agenda Item I.2 – Comments on Executive Actions
8. Agenda Item I.5 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
9. Agenda Item I.6 – Future Council Meeting Planning and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item J – Groundfish Management
11. Agenda Item K – Pacific Halibut Management
12. EC Agenda
13. GAP Agenda
14. GMT Agenda
15. SSC Agenda and Draft Minutes
16. Informational Reports
17. Hotel-related Information
18. Council Roster



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 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: September 2014 Council Meeting

The September Council meeting takes place September 10-17 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Spokane, Washington. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will meet Friday and Saturday, September 12-13 in Salon II, beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Thursday through Saturday in Salon III, likewise beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. Four HMS topics are on the Council agenda. There are also four topics not directly related to HMS that the HMSAS and HMSMT may wish to comment on. Summaries of all these topics follow.

### G.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Regional (WCR) Office will provide an update on domestic regulatory activities under this item. Bear in mind that this is only an informational briefing and no Council action is scheduled.

### G.2 Update on International Activities

NMFS WCR will report on the outcomes of the 87th Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Meeting, July 14-18, 2014, and the Tenth Meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Northern Committee (NC), September 1-4, 2014. The IATTC has scheduled an extraordinary meeting in October to reach consensus on pressing issues not finalized at the June meeting. Of particular interest to the Council, the IATTC will try to adopt a resolution with conservation measures for Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF) for 2015. It is expected that the NC will also develop a proposed conservation and management measure (CMM) for PBF, which would be up for adoption at the Eleventh Commission Meeting, December 1-5, 2014. The Council will have the opportunity to provide comments to U.S. delegations to these upcoming meetings. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will report on international science activities conducted by staff.

### G.3 Preliminary Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Approval

On July 2nd a [notice](#) soliciting EFP proposals for consideration at the September Council meeting was posted on the Council's website. One proposal, from the Alliance for Sustainable Fishing Communities, was submitted by the briefing book deadline. According to Council Operating Procedure 20, at the September meeting the HMSAS and HMMST will review the proposal and provide recommendations on whether it should be considered further by the Council. If the Council decides to do so, they would make a recommendation to NMFS for EFP issuance at the November meeting. The solicitation notice emphasizes that the Council is looking for EFP proposals to test alternative gears and methods for the California large mesh drift gillnet (DGN) fishery.

### G.4 New or Routine Management Measures Range of Alternatives

At the June meeting, the Council adopted seven potential management changes to consider during the current biennial cycle. This is a three Council meeting process. In September the Council will adopt ranges of alternatives for public review. At the November meeting, the Council will take final action. NMFS would then implement the Council-adopted measures in regulations by April 1, 2015. In June the HMSMT reported to the Council that it would be difficult for it to develop alternatives and a preliminary analysis for all of the management measures. In response, the Council directed the HMSMT to focus on reducing recreational catch of PBF and developing protected species take caps (hard caps) for the DGN fishery. The HMSMT submitted three reports covering the management measures. Report 1 provides an overview of the measures the Council did not prioritize. Report 2 addresses PBF recreational management. Report 3 addresses DGN hard caps. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has also submitted three reports with information on the recreational and commercial fisheries for PBF. As discussed in the Situation Summary, the Council has the option to recommend inseason or emergency action to reduce recreational catch this year.

### H.1 Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative Preliminary Preferred Alternative

At its April 2014 meeting, the Council chose a preliminary preferred alternative to amend all four of the Council's FMPs to bring unfished and unmanaged forage fish species into the FMPs as ecosystem component species. The *ad hoc* Ecosystem Workgroup has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment that updates the list of forage fish species, revises the alternatives to address incidental take, provides draft FMP amendment language for each of the Council's four FMPs (including the HMS FMP), and proposes a new Council Operating Procedure regarding exempted fishing permits for forage fish species. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to affirm a preliminary preferred alternative, adopt public review draft amendment language, and consider a new Council Operating Procedure. The Council is scheduled to take final action and adopt a final preferred alternative for this initiative at its March 2015 meeting.

### I.1 and I.2 Legislative Matters and Comments on Executive Actions

The Council's Legislative Committee will review the current status of Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) reauthorization and report to the Council. Under Agenda Item I.2, the Council will provide comments on recent Executive Orders. The possible expansion of the protections of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument in the south-central Pacific Ocean may be of



particular interest. The White House is seeking input from fishermen, scientists, conservation experts, elected officials, and other stakeholders before deciding the geographic scope and details of the marine protections.

Informational Report 1: Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan for Marine Fisheries in the West Coast Region

Council staff is seeking input on this draft plan. The Council will take this up formally at the November meeting. Advisory bodies are encouraged to provide comments to staff.

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: Our Council meeting location was originally incorporated as the city of Spokane Falls but dropped “Falls” from the name in 1891. Spokane Falls, in the center of the city, is one of the largest urban waterfalls in the United States. Make sure to take the time to see the Falls, they are spectacular!

KRD:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item G.1: NMFS Report
3. Agenda Item G.2: Update on International Activities
4. Agenda Item G.3: Preliminary EFP Approval
5. Agenda Item G.4: New or Routine Management Measures Range of Alternatives
6. Agenda Item H.1: Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative Preliminary Preferred Alternative
7. Agenda Item I.1: Legislative Matters
8. Agenda Item I.2: Comments on Executive Actions
9. Agenda Item I.6 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Informational Report 1: Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan for Marine Fisheries in the West Coast Region
11. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
12. Hotel-related Information
13. Council Roster



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### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 28, 2014

**TO:** Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, ad hoc Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Workgroup, and Interested Persons

**FROM:** Mike Burner, Staff Officer

**SUBJECT:** September Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 10-17, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center in Spokane, Washington. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS), Salmon Technical Team (STT), the ad hoc Lower Columbia River Natural Coho Workgroup (LRC Workgroup) and the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will not be meeting at the September Council meeting. The SAS and the LRC Workgroup will meet September 3, 2014 in Portland, Oregon and the STT and MEW will hold a webinar on September 9, 2014 that will focus on two salmon agenda items on the Council's September agenda: Lower Columbia River natural (LCN) coho harvest policy and final topic selection for this year's methodology review.

At its June 2014 meeting, the Council received an update from the LRC Workgroup on the status of LCN coho, the development of alternative harvest policies, and risk assessment methods and criteria. The LRC Workgroup met at the Council office in Portland, Oregon on July 16 and August 14 and has analyzed a preliminary range of alternative harvest matrices. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt a preliminary preferred alternative. Final Council action is scheduled for the November Council meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

The Council is scheduled to adopt a final list of topics for this year's methodology review. A list of preliminary topics adopted in April is included in your briefing materials. The methodology review meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 21-23, 2014 in Portland, Oregon.

Under Agenda Item K.1 – Pacific Halibut Management, the Council is scheduled to adopt proposed changes the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and changes to annual fishery regulation for 2015. The SAS will review the proposals at their September 3 meeting in Portland. Under Agenda Item H.1 – Ecosystem-Based Management, the Council is scheduled to adopt a preliminary preferred alternative on protection of unmanaged forage fish and to adopt preliminary amendment language for the four Council Fishery Management Plans (including salmon) for public review.

There are a few administrative matters on the September Council agenda of interest. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is requesting comments on a draft Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan (Informational Report 1) for West Coast marine fisheries that has been developed in response to a NMFS Policy Directive on the matter. The draft plan is not on the Council's September agenda. I will be collecting comments from the salmon advisory

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bodies in September to be forwarded to NMFS for use in revising the draft for the November Council meeting.

Lastly, under Agenda Item I.2, the Council will review three executive actions issued by President Obama in June that relate to fisheries management: 1) a proposed Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, 2) combating black market fishing, deterring illegal fishing, addressing seafood fraud, and preventing illegally-caught fish from entering the marketplace, and 3) a series of actions aimed at protecting coastal communities from the impacts of climate change and improving domestic aquaculture. We will not have a lot of time available to discuss administrative matters during the September 3 meeting or the September 9 webinar, so if you would like to comment on these items, please review the materials in advance and be prepared with proposed recommendations.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your participation.

MDB:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A – Executive Director’s Report and Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item D.1 and D.2 – Salmon Issues
3. Agenda Item F.1 – Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Item H.1 – Ecosystem-Based Management
5. Agenda Items I.1, I.2, and I.6– Council Administrative Matters
6. Agenda Item K.1 – Pacific Halibut Management
7. Informational Reports
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### MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2014  
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee  
FROM: John DeVore  
SUBJECT: September 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 10-17, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center, 322 North Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) Economics Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, September 10 starting at 1 p.m. in the Shades Room and the SSC will meet starting at 8 a.m. each day on Thursday, September 11 and Friday, September 12 in Suite C and D. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

#### Council Administrative Matters

There is one appointment the SSC will review. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has nominated Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus to replace Mr. Corey Niles as a WDFW representative on the Groundfish Management Team (GMT). The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

#### SSC Administrative Matters

The SSC will continue to plan their activities for this year. The SSC may also revisit subcommittee assignments at this meeting.

#### Informational Reports

Two informational reports are provided to SSC members. Informational Report 1 is entitled, "Draft of the West Coast Region Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan." The SSC is asked to provide comments to staff on this draft plan. Advisory body comments will be incorporated into the next draft electronic technologies plan, which will be included in the November briefing book for formal consideration by the Council.

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Informational Report 3 is the Pacific halibut bycatch report developed by staff in the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program and is provided for your information.

#### Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt a preliminary preferred alternative for the Pacific sardine harvest fraction parameter. The SSC will review the draft environmental assessment informing this action and make their recommendations to the Council.

#### Salmon Management

The Council is scheduled to set priorities for salmon methodology review topics. The SSC should review and prioritize those topics that are recommended to be reviewed at the SSC's Salmon Subcommittee and Salmon Technical Team meeting in October.

The Council is scheduled to adopt a preliminary preferred alternative and provide guidance on further development of alternative harvest matrices for Lower Columbia natural coho stocks. The SSC will review the Lower Columbia River Natural Coho (LRC) workgroup report on alternative harvest matrices and the associated risk analysis and make their recommendations on the best available science informing the Council's decision.

#### Groundfish Management

The SSC will discuss groundfish stock assessment planning for 2015 and make their final recommendations to the Council.

The SSC will provide comments on the 2014 groundfish Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document and provide general comments for future editions of this document.

The SSC will receive an overview from Mr. Jon McVeigh on the data collected by the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program and how those data are used in stock assessments.

The SSC and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will discuss the next review of impact projection models informing future groundfish harvest specifications and management measures' decisions and answer GMT questions on recommended improvements to these models.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:kma

Enclosures include:

**Council and SSC Administrative Matters**

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item I.5 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item I.6 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
4. Abstract of “Geostatistical delta-generalized linear mixed models improve precision for estimated abundance indices for West Coast groundfishes”
5. CJFAS journal article entitled, “Spatial, semi-parametric models improve estimates of species abundance and distribution”
6. Concerns regarding the formal treatment of prior information regarding recruitment compensation used in stock assessments of Pacific rockfishes
7. Comparison of Weight-based and Cost-based Methods for Estimating Processing Costs and Economic Impacts

**Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

8. Agenda Item C.1 – Pacific Sardine Harvest Fraction

**Salmon Management**

9. Agenda Item D.1 – Salmon Methodology Review
10. Agenda Item D.2 – Lower Columbia River Coho Harvest Matrix

**Groundfish Management**

11. Agenda Item J.2 – Stock Assessment Planning

**SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Closed Session, etc.**

12. September 2014 SSC Agenda
13. September 2014 SSC Economics Subcommittee Agenda
14. Draft June 2014 SSC Minutes
15. Informational Report 1 – Draft of the West Coast Region Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan
16. Informational Report 3 – Pacific halibut bycatch in U.S. West Coast groundfish fisheries (2002-2013)
17. Closed Session
18. Hotel Related Information
19. Roster