



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 24, 2014

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

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 14-19, 2014, at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, California 92626. The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will meet on November 14 in the Balboa I Room, starting at 8 a.m.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) met October 8-9, 2014, and developed a report on the Pacific Sardine Harvest Fraction (November Agenda Item E.2). The report is included in the advance November Briefing Book materials. The CPSMT is also scheduled to meet via webinar on Friday, November 7, 2 p.m., at which time the CPSMT may develop a supplemental report for the Council meeting.

At the November Council meeting, the CPSAS may develop supplemental reports on the following topics:

- Sardine Harvest Fraction Final Preferred Alternative (Agenda Item E.2)
- Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection (Agenda Item E.3)
- 2015 Exempted Fishing Permit Notice of Intent (Agenda Item E.4)
- NMFS Regional Electronic Technology Plan (Agenda Item C.4)
- NMFS Strategic Plan (C.5)
- Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning (C.9)

Note that for agenda items E.3 and E.4 there are no Exempted Fishing Permit requests and no methodology review topic requests as of the Briefing Book deadline.

In addition, the CPSAS will be discussing the forage fish initiative and proposed FMP language (included in the Briefing Book as Informational Report 3), but this is for discussion only.

Finally, the CPSAS will hold elections for Co-Chairs, for the 2015 calendar year.

Enclosed are November agenda materials for your review. Thank you for your commitment to West Coast fisheries management.

KFG:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item C.5 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
4. Agenda Item C.9 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
5. Agenda Item E.1 – CPS NMFS Report
6. Agenda Item E.2 – Sardine Harvest Fraction
7. Agenda Item E.3 – Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process
8. Agenda Item E.4 – 2015 Exempted Fishing Permit Notice of Intent
9. Agenda Item C.4 – Electronic Technology Plan
10. CPSAS Agenda
11. Informational Report 1 – Vessel Movement Monitoring Informational Report
12. Informational Report 2 – PEW Reception Announcement
13. Informational Report 3 - Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Initiative
14. Hotel Information
15. Council Roster



## 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: October 30, 2014  
TO: Enforcement Consultants  
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer  
SUBJECT: November 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 12 -19, 2014 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, California 92626.

You are invited to attend the meeting and receive *travel reimbursement for November 14 through 19*. The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will first meet in the Newport Beach 3 Room, on *Saturday, November 15* starting at *3:00 p.m.* The meeting will continue through Tuesday, November 18, as needed. 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 June Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. HMSAS Agenda
4. HMSMT Agenda
5. GAP Agenda
6. GMT Agenda
7. Agenda Item C.4 Electronic Technology Plan Final Action
8. Agenda Item C.5 National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
9. Agenda Item C.9 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item G.1 2015 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations
11. Agenda Item I.2 International Activities
12. Agenda Item I.3 Bluefin Tuna Management Measures Final Action for 2015-2016 Fisheries
13. Agenda Item I.4 Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries
14. Agenda Item J.4 Comments on Ongoing Rulemaking
15. Agenda Item J.7 Reconsideration of Open Access Registration Under Amendment 22
16. Agenda Item J.8 Consideration of Inseason Adjustments
17. Informational Report 1

Page 2

18. Hotel Related Information

19. Roster

PFMC

10/23/14



## 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: October 23, 2014

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 12-19, 2014 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, California. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meetings will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2014 in the Laguna Beach 1 & 2 Rooms and Laguna Beach 3 Room, 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 progress update on activities relative to marine planning, including the formation of a regional planning body on the west coast;
  - Current habitat issues;
  - A progress update on activities relative to the development of a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Recreational Fisheries Policy;
  - Final action on the 2015 Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific halibut and annual fishery regulations;
  - Legislative matters, including the Magnuson-Stevens Act Re-authorization;
  - Adoption of an Electronic Technology Implementation Plan to address regionally-specific fishery data collection issues and needs of fisheries or Fishery Management Plans;
  - A review of the Atlantis ecosystem model, which was used for the long-term groundfish fishery impact evaluation;
  - Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
  - Adopting a range of widow rockfish quota share reallocation alternatives, and, as necessary, divestiture issues;
  - Initial consideration of blackgill rockfish trawl and non-trawl allocations, including restructuring of the Slope Rockfish complex south of 40°10' N. latitude;
-

- Comments on ongoing rule-making, including the Pacific whiting correction rule and changes to groundfish harvest specifications for 2015-2016;
- Results of the Economic Data Collection Program and overview on social science research for the rationalized trawl fisheries;
- Consideration of a Council Operating Procedure for a methodology review process for groundfish projection models;
- Reconsideration of the open access registration program recommended under Amendment 22;
- Consideration of inseason adjustments for 2014 and 2015 fisheries;
- Comments on the NMFS West Coast Region Strategic Plan;
- 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, Vessel Movement Monitoring, for staff use in completing a draft analysis for Council consideration in April 2015.

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 – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Marine Planning Update
4. Agenda Item C.2 – Recreational Fisheries Policy Update
5. Agenda Item C.3 – Legislative Matters
6. Agenda Item C.4 – Electronic Technology Plan
7. Agenda Item C.5 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
8. Agenda Item C.8 – Advisory Body Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
9. Agenda Item C.9 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. Agenda Item D.1 – Current Habitat Issues
11. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
12. Agenda Item H – Ecosystem Management
13. Agenda Item J – Groundfish Management
14. EC Agenda
15. GAP Agenda
16. GMT Agenda
17. SSC Agenda and Draft Minutes
18. Informational Reports
19. Hotel-related Information
20. Council Roster



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 23, 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: November 2014 Council Meeting

The Council meeting takes place November 14-19 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel in Costa Mesa, California. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will meet Saturday and Sunday, November 15-16 in the Balboa Bay 1 Room, beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Saturday and Sunday in the Balboa Bay 2 Room, likewise beginning at 8:00 a.m. each day. Four HMS topics are on the Council agenda. There are also several other topics not directly related to HMS that the HMSAS and HMSMT may wish to comment on. Summaries of all these topics follow.

### I.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.

### I.2 Update on International Activities

NMFS WCR will report on the outcomes of the 87th Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Meeting (Resumed), October 27-29, 2014. The IATTC will try to adopt a resolution with conservation measures for Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF) for 2015, which they were unable to do at their regular meeting in July 2014. The Council may also provide recommendations to the U.S. delegation to the upcoming Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC11), scheduled for December 1-5, 2014. The WCPFC Northern Committee, which met at the beginning of September, adopted a proposed conservation and management measure for PBF, which would be up for adoption at WCPFC11. The Northern Committee also provided guidance on a management strategy evaluation to be developed by the Albacore Working Group of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean. The Council may wish to provide recommendations on this effort as well.

### I.3 Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries

At its September meeting, the Council adopted ranges of alternatives and selected preliminary preferred alternatives for recreational daily bag limit/possession limit reductions for PBF and requirements for processing tunas at sea aboard recreational vessels. The Council will take final action at the November meeting. The Council could confirm its preliminary preferred alternatives or change their selection. The Council's final preferred alternatives will be implemented in Federal regulations for the 2015 fishing season.

### I.4 Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries

In September, the Council adopted ranges of alternatives for management of the California large mesh drift gillnet (DGN) fishery, including hard caps for protected species. The Council also identified preliminary preferred alternatives for these measures. Agenda Item I.4.a, Attachment 1 describes the alternatives based on the written motion passed by the Council in September. At the November meeting, the Council will review this description to confirm if it accurately reflects the intent of the motion. The Council may also provide additional clarification of elements of the alternatives, as outlined in the Situation Summary. Final action on DGN management measures is scheduled for the March 2015 Council meeting. The Council also stated its intent to move forward with three other management initiatives outside of the current biennial management process. These issues are discussed in the Situation Summary.

### C.2 Recreational Fisheries Policy Update

NMFS is developing a national policy that distinguishes recreational fishing from commercial fishing. At this meeting the Council has the opportunity to comment on further development of a draft recreational fisheries policy.

### C.4 Electronic Technology Plan

NMFS WCR had prepared an electronic technology plan to guide implementation and use of a variety of technologies for fisheries monitoring on the west coast. At the September Council meeting Steve Freese met with many of the advisory bodies to seek input on development of the plan. At this meeting the Council will take this up formally and provide further guidance on plan development. Steve Freese is scheduled to meet with the HMSAS and HMSMT to discuss plan development.

### C.5 National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan

The NMFS WCR is developing a draft strategic plan, and will brief the HMSAS and HMSMT on its status.

### Retention of Salmon and Albacore on a Single Trip

It has come to the attention of enforcement personnel that Federal regulations appear to prohibit the retention of salmon caught on trips targeting albacore, because salmon is designated a prohibited species under the HMS FMP. The HMS FMP states that salmon may be retained "when caught with authorized gears during authorized seasons," but this qualification was not included in the regulations. Enforcement is recommending a regulatory amendment to clarify



the regulations in this regard. Dayna Matthews, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, will meet with the HMSAS and HMSMT to discuss this issue.

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.

KRD:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.2: Recreational Fisheries Policy Update
3. Agenda Item C.4: Electronic Technology Plan
4. Agenda Item C.5: National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
5. Agenda Item I.1: National Marine Fisheries Service Report
6. Agenda Item I.2: International Activities
7. Agenda Item I.3: Bluefin Tuna Management Measures for 2015-2016 Fisheries
8. Agenda Item I.4: Drift Gillnet Hard Caps and Other Adopted Priorities for 2015-2016 Fisheries
9. Agenda Item C.9 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
10. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
11. Informational Reports
12. Hotel-related Information
13. Council Roster



## 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: October 27, 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: November Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet November 14-19, 2014 at the Hilton Orange County in Costa Mesa, California. The 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 November Council meeting. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet November 14-15, 2014 in Costa Mesa in the Emerald Bay 1 room, with a focus on Lower Columbia River natural (LCN) coho harvest policy, salmon methodology review and Pacific Halibut management.

The Council is scheduled to take final action on several important matters at their November meeting. The Council will develop final recommendations on potential revisions to LCN harvest policy, approve final salmon methodology changes, and adopt a revised Catch Sharing Plan and 2015 regulations for Pacific halibut.

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 (Agenda Item C.4) for West Coast marine fisheries that has been developed in response to a NMFS Policy Directive on the matter. Under Agenda Item C.2, the Council will hear an update from NMFS on the development of an agency-wide saltwater recreational fisheries policy. NMFS is also seeking comments on a West Coast Region Strategic Plan under Agenda Item C.5.

The Council's Annual Award Banquet will be a 6 p.m. on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. This year's honorees include Phil Anderson, Rod McInnis, Pat Pattillo, Kent Martin, Gordy Williams, and Bob Conrad. Please email [Renee.Dorval@noaa.gov](mailto:Renee.Dorval@noaa.gov) or call the Council Office at 503-820-2280 no later than Monday, November 10, 2014, if you can join us.

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

MDB:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.1, C.2, C.3, C.4, C.5 and C.9 – Council Administrative Matters

3. Agenda Item D.1 – Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Item F.1, F.2, F.3, and F.4 – Salmon Management
5. Agenda Item G.1 – Pacific Halibut Management
6. Agenda Item H.1 – Ecosystem Management
7. SAS Agenda
8. Informational Reports
9. Hotel Information
10. Council Roster



## MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 24, 2014

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore

SUBJECT: November 2014 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 12-19, 2014 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa Hotel, 3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, California. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, November 12 starting at 9 a.m. in the Emerald Bay 2 Room and the SSC will meet starting at 8 a.m. each day on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14 in the Emerald Bay 2 room. Your meeting materials are enclosed and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

### Council Administrative Matters

There are five appointments the SSC will review. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) has nominated two scientists for vacant SSC positions. Dr. Kevin Piner has been nominated to fill the SWFSC seat on the SSC, and Dr. John Field has been nominated for the vacant at-large seat on the SSC. Dr. Ray Conser, retired from the SWFSC, also nominated himself for the vacant at-large seat on the SSC. Mr. Brett Kormos has been nominated to replace Ms. Melodie Palmer-Zwahlen as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife representative on the Salmon Technical Team. Ms. Elizabeth Hellmers has been nominated to replace Ms. Leeanne Laughlin as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife representative on the Highly Migratory Species Management Team. The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

The SSC will review the latest draft of the West Coast Region Electronic Technology Plan and provide their recommendations for the plan, which is scheduled to be finalized by the end of the year.

The SSC will review their potential workload in the next year and recommend to the Council which tasks are prioritized. The priority and draft schedule of Groundfish Management Team (GMT) impact projection model reviews will be specifically discussed with the GMT, and a draft plan will be developed.

### SSC Administrative Matters

The SSC will continue to plan their activities for this year and next.

### Groundfish Management

The SSC will reconsider their recommendations for 2015 and 2016 overfishing limits (OFLs) for English sole, yellowtail rockfish north of 40°10' N lat., sharpchin rockfish, and rex sole. The OFLs for these stocks adopted by the Council are based on maximum likelihood estimates rather than medians of the posterior distribution of OFL, which was the SSC-recommended OFL methodology for these data-moderate Bayesian assessments.

The SSC will review a new proposed draft Council Operating Procedure (COP 25) that formalizes the process and schedule for groundfish methodology reviews. The SSC will make their recommendations for Council Operating Procedure 25, which is scheduled for final adoption next April.

The SSC will review the latest annual Economic Data Collection (EDC) Program reports and receive an overview of west coast social science research done by the Northwest Fisheries Science Center. These reports and programs provide valuable information on performance of the trawl rationalization program. The SSC will comment on the details of the report and provide guidance on collection of these data and preparation of future EDC reports.

### Salmon Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt final salmon methodology changes and conservation objectives. The SSC should review the recommendations of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee and make their recommendations to the Council.

### Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The Council is scheduled to adopt a final 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.

The Council is scheduled to consider coastal pelagic species' methodology topics for review and provide guidance on potential methodology reviews. The SSC will recommend their priority topics for a methodology review and provide further guidance as necessary.

### Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review the report of the SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee on the Atlantis model review and provide their recommendations and guidance to the Council on the use of the Atlantis model.

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 C.4 – Electronic Technology Plan
3. Agenda Item C.5 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan
4. Agenda Item C.8 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
5. Agenda Item C.9 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
6. Abstract of “Geostatistical delta-generalized linear mixed models improve precision for estimated abundance indices for West Coast groundfishes”
7. CJFAS journal article entitled, “Spatial, semi-parametric models improve estimates of species abundance and distribution”
8. Concerns regarding the formal treatment of prior information regarding recruitment compensation used in stock assessments of Pacific rockfishes

**Coastal Pelagic Species Management**

9. Agenda Item E.2 – Sardine Harvest Fraction
10. Agenda Item E.3 – Methodology Preliminary Topic Selection and Review Process

**Salmon Management**

11. Agenda Item F.2 – Salmon Methodology Review
12. September 2014 Statement of the SSC Economics Subcommittee: Comparison of FEAM and IO-PAC-type Models for Analyzing Economic Impacts of Processing in Commercial Salmon Fisheries

**Ecosystem Management**

13. Agenda Item H.1 – Report on the Atlantis Model Review

**Highly Migratory Species Management**

14. Agenda Item I.2 – International Activities

**Groundfish Management**

15. Agenda Item J.4 – Groundfish Management Ongoing Rulemaking
16. Agenda Item J.5 – Economic Data Collection Program Report on Fishery Status and Overview on Social Science Research
17. Agenda Item J.6 – Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure

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

18. November 2014 SSC Agenda
19. November 2014 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
20. Draft September 2014 SSC Minutes
21. Informational Report 2 – PEW November 2014 Reception Invitation
22. Informational Report 3 – Dear Reviewer Letter Regarding Pacific Fishery Management Council Request for Comments on Draft Fishery Management Plan Amendments Protecting Unfished and Unmanaged Forage Fish Species
23. Informational Report 4 – Estimated Discard and Catch of Groundfish Species in the 2013 U.S. West Coast Fisheries
24. Closed Session
25. Hotel-Related Information
26. Roster