



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 24, 2015
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore
SUBJECT: March 2015 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 6-12, 2015 at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel, 3001 West Sixth Street, Vancouver, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee will meet Friday, March 6 starting at 10 a.m. in the Heritage E Room and the SSC will meet starting at 8 a.m. each day on Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8 in the Heritage E room. Your meeting materials are enclosed, and include informational items that are not on the SSC agenda.

Council Administrative Matters

There are nine nominations the SSC will review. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) has nominated Dr. Cameron Speir to replace Ms. Cindy Thomson on the SSC. The SWFSC has also nominated Dr. Melissa Monk to replace Ms. Rosemary Kosaka on the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Dr. Tomo Eguchi to replace Ms. Rhema Bjorkland on the Endangered Species Working Group (ESWG). The NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) has nominated Dr. Andi Stephens to replace Dr. Ian Taylor on the GMT and to add Mr. Jerry Leonard to the GMT. The NMFS West Coast Region Sustainable Fisheries Division has nominated Ms. Celia Barroso to replace Ms. Heidi Taylor on the Highly Migratory Species Management Team, Ms. Gretchen Hanshew to replace Dr. Sean Matson on the GMT, and Ms. Sarah Williams to replace Ms. Alison Agness on the ESWG. The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

The SSC will review any proposed legislation, such as Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization, which may affect science policy or how the SSC conducts their business.

The SSC will review their potential workload in the next year and may recommend to the Council which tasks are prioritized.

Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review the report of the SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee recommendations regarding the California Current Ecosystem report including the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment and provide their recommendations to the Council on the use and future content of these reports.

The SSC will review Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiatives and provide their recommendations to the Council.

Salmon Management

The SSC will review the 2014 Fisheries and Summary of 2015 Stock Abundance Forecasts and recommend to the Council whether this report is the best available science and can be used in modeling 2015 ocean salmon fisheries, specifying acceptable biological catches, and setting annual catch limits.

Highly Migratory Species Management

The SSC will review recommendations for international management activities including U.S.-Canada Albacore treaty area fishery update. Specifically, the SSC may offer recommendations to the U.S. delegation deliberating a management strategy evaluation of North Pacific albacore in the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean process.

The SSC will review exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications to evaluate any scientific activities associated with these proposed EFPs. The Council is scheduled to take final action on proposed HMS EFPs at this meeting.

The Council is scheduled to take final action on a Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan, including hard caps for protected species and finfish. Specifically, the SSC will review a model that simulates the performance of the fishery and predicts socioeconomic impacts under alternative species' hard caps.

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.4 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item I.2 – National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan Update
4. Agenda Item I.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
5. Proposed methodology guidelines: “Estimating a Bayesian prior for steepness in Pacific rockfishes (*Sebastes* spp.) off the U.S. West Coast for the 2015 assessment cycle”

6. Proposed methodology guidelines: “Summary of the geostatistical delta-GLMM tool”
7. Proposed methodology guidelines: “A Modest Proposal for Steepness in the 2015 West Coast Rockfish Assessments”
8. Proposed methodology guidelines: “Bootstrap Analysis to Compare the Operation of the Drift Gillnet Fishery under Alternative Bycatch Management Protocols”

Ecosystem Management

9. Agenda Item E.1 – California Current Ecosystem Report Including Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
10. Agenda Item E.2 – Review of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives

Salmon Management

11. Agenda Item F.2 – Review of 2014 Fisheries and Summary of 2015 Stock Abundance Forecasts

Highly Migratory Species Management

12. Agenda Item H.2 – Recommendations for International Management Activities Including U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty Update
13. Agenda Item H.3 – Final Exempted Fishing Permit Approval
14. Agenda Item H.4 – Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan Including Final Action on Hard Caps

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

15. March 2015 SSC Agenda
16. March 2015 SSC CPS Subcommittee Agenda
17. Draft November 2014 SSC Minutes
18. Informational Reports 1 and 2
19. Closed Session
20. Hotel-Related Information
21. Roster