



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 1, 2015

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

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April 2015 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet April 10-16, 2015, at the Doubletree by Hilton Sonoma, in Rohnert Park, California; the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) will meet April 11-12. The CPSAS will be meeting in the Cotati Room, and the CPSMT will be meeting in the Vintage Room. The CPSAS and CPSMT will meeting jointly, starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, in the Cotati Room, before meeting separately starting at approximately 10 a.m. Major topics for discussion at this meeting include:

Pacific Sardine Harvest Specifications and Management Measures

The NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center completed an update stock assessment of the Pacific sardine biomass off the U.S., for use in setting harvest specifications and management measures for the fishing year running July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The assessment presents two biomass estimates, both of which are below the CUTOFF value of 150,000 metric tons. The CPSMT and CPSAS are therefore primarily tasked with making recommendations on incidental harvest, while also considering live bait and Tribal harvest. The CPSMT is expected to develop a supplemental report containing recommendations on harvest specifications and management measures, to assist the Council in making decisions about that 2015-16 fishing year. The CPSAS should also submit a supplemental report.

The Quinault Indian Nation sent a letter proposing access to 1,000 mt of sardines. The letter is in your briefing book materials.

Methodology Review Process Council Operating Procedure (COP) 26

The Briefing Book contains a proposed COP 26 outlining a process for the Council to consider methodology reviews relevant to CPS. The COP is based on the Terms of Reference that we have used in recent years to consider and conduct methodology reviews. Both the CPSAS and CPSMT should discuss and develop supplemental reports on the topic.

Enclosed are April 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.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item G.1 – Final Action on Sardine Assessment, Specifications, and Management Measures
4. Agenda Item G.2 – Finalize Methodology Review Council Operating Procedure
5. Agenda Item F.2 – Prepare Comments on Proposed Changes to National Standard Guidelines 1, 3, and 7
6. Agenda Item F.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
7. CPSAS Agenda
8. CPSMT Agenda
9. SSC Agenda
10. Informational Report 8
11. Hotel Information
12. Roster