

COUNCIL MEETING RECORD
230th Session of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
June 10-16, 2015

Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center
322 N. Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, Washington 99201

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INTRODUCTION

This document contains or identifies the various elements, documents, and sources comprising the complete and official record of Council meeting discussions and actions. In addition to the Meeting Summary, which follows this introductory section (see #7 below), it includes information or references that serve as the functional detailed minutes for this Council meeting as required by §302(i)(2)(E) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The full record is maintained at the Council office, is available on the Council website (<http://www.pcouncil.org/>) or upon request from the Council office, and consists of the following:

1. **Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda** – These documents are available on the Council Website prior to and following each meeting at <http://www.pcouncil.org/>.
2. **Attendance Records** – These documents are available for the Council meeting and each advisory body meeting by request from the Council office.
3. **All Documents, Reports, and Presentations for Council Consideration** – These items include (1) all documents produced or received for the meeting briefing book, validated by a label assigned by the Council Secretariat and distributed to Council Members; (2) written public comments received at the Council meeting in accordance with agenda labeling requirements; and (3) electronic material or handout materials used in presentations to Council Members during the open session. They are available from links in the Meeting Summary of this document or at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.
4. **Council Decisions Summary Document** – This document is distributed shortly after each Council meeting. It provides very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions and is available at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/> and also provided by agenda item in the Meeting Summary of this document.
5. **Draft or Final Decision Documents Finalized after the Council Meeting** – Documents such as Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are available on the Council website as they are completed.
6. **Gavel-to-Gavel Audio Recordings** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting and are labeled by date and time and have been annotated as to the time on the recording for the start of each agenda line item to help facilitate review (e.g., mp3:04-11-15am1@0:18:04). The recordings may be accessed from the links contained within the Meeting Summary of this document or at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.
7. **Meeting Summary** (immediately follows this section) – The Meeting Summary lists, in agenda item order, the briefing book documents, reports, presentations, and Council motions and actions, including a brief summary from the Council Decisions Summary Document for each agenda item. It constitutes the meeting record formally approved by the Council. The agenda heading for each agenda item, and most listed documents, serve as internet links to the actual briefing book documents. Internet links in brackets (e.g., [[mp3: 11-11-14pm1 @01:21:15](#)]) refer to the audio recording and elapsed time on the recording at which the agenda item was initiated. Links to the audio recordings are annotated by agenda item and may also be accessed at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.

MEETING SUMMARY

A. Call to Order [[mp3: 6-12-15am1 @ 0:00:36](#)]

1. Opening Remarks - Dorothy Lowman, Chair

Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Council Chair, called the 230th meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 9:00 a.m. on June 12, 2015. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

2. Roll Call - Don McIsaac

Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee Mr. Bob Turner, designee
Alaska State Official:	Mr. Bob Clark, nonvoting designee
Washington State Official:	Ms. Michele Culver, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Rich Lincoln
Oregon State Official:	Mr. Troy Buell, designee Mr. Chris Kern, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Chair
California State Official:	Ms. Joanna Grebel, designee Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee
California Obligatory:	Mr. David Crabbe
Idaho State Official:	Mr. David Ortmann, designee Mr. Pete Hassemer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Herb Pollard, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. David Sones
At-Large:	Mr. William L. "Buzz" Brizendine Mr. Jeff Feldner Mr. Dale Myer Mr. Dan Wolford
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission:	Dr. David Hanson, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee
U.S. Coast Guard:	LCDR Gregg Casad, nonvoting designee Mr. Brian Corrigan, nonvoting designee
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:	Dr. Steven Haeseker, nonvoting designee

Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. State Department: Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee

3. Executive Director's Report – Don McIsaac [[mp3: 6-12-15am1 @ 0:04:22](#)]

The Executive Director presented his report and introduced the [informational reports](#).

4. Agenda – Dorothy Lowman

[Agenda Item A.4](#): June 2015 Council Meeting Agenda

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

Motion: Adopt Agenda Item A.4, June 10-16, 2015 Council Meeting Agenda.
David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

B. Open Comment Period [[mp3: 6-12-15am1](#) @ 0:13:28]

1. [Comments on Non-Agenda Items](#) - Chuck Tracy

a. Advisory Body and Management Entity Comments

b. Public Comment

[Agenda Item B.1.c, Public Comment 1](#): Email from Robert T. Wenglicki

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Comment 2](#): Letter from Oceana regarding Pacific sardine

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Comment 3](#): Letter from Hanan & Associates, Inc., regarding the exploration of alternative swordfish fishery gears and techniques within the West-Coast EEZ

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Comment 4](#): Letter from Wild Oceans requesting the Council initiate action at the June meeting to make deep set buoy gear an allowable gear in the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Public Comment 5](#): Letter from Nature Conservancy re: Agenda Item F5a – HMSMT Report on Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Open Public Comment 6](#): New collaboration between North Pacific Council's Amendment 80 Trawlers and Local Bering Sea Organizations on halibut research in the Bering Sea area

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

c. Council Discussion as Appropriate

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

C. Habitat [[mp3: 6-12-15am1](#) @ 0:24:52]

1. [Current Habitat Issues](#) - Jennifer Gilden

[Agenda Item C.1, Attachment 1](#): Draft Letter on Aquaculture Impacts

[Agenda Item C.1, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Letter Regarding Conservation of Sacramento River Winter Chinook

[Agenda Item C.1, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Letter to U.S. DOI re: Action Requested to Prevent Klamath River Fish Kill

a. Report of the Habitat Committee - Fran Recht

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental HC Report](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

No Additional Reports

c. Public Comment

[Agenda Item C.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item C.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Maribel Combs, Oceana

Rod Moore and Robert Smith presented [Agenda Item C.1.c, Supplemental PowerPoint Presentation](#) (*Electronic Only*)

d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council directed the Habitat Committee to develop a draft letter on the Oregon State University wave energy test site (PMEC-SETS) for the September Council Meeting advance briefing book, and directed staff to send a somewhat modified version of the proposed letter on Humboldt Bay aquaculture ([Agenda Item C.1, Attachment 1](#)), reflecting several points made during the Council floor discussion.*

D. Groundfish Management

1. [National Marine Fisheries Service \(NMFS\) Report](#) - Kelly Ames [[mp3: 6-12-15am2 @ 0:00:06](#)]

a. Regulatory Activities - Frank Lockhart

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Groundfish and Halibut *Federal Register* Notices

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Rulemaking Plan for 2015, Groundfish and Halibut

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 3](#): NMFS Report on Authority for Rulemaking and Recommended Packaging Related to Items Addressed by the Council under the EFH Agenda Item in April, 2015

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 4](#): Letter to Council, Electronic Monitoring EFP update

[Agenda Item D.1.a, NMFS Report 5](#): Midwater Recreational Sport Fishery

b. Fisheries Science Center Activities - John Stein, Cisco Werner

[Agenda Item D.1.b, Supplemental NWFSC PowerPoint](#) John Stein (*Electronic Only*)

c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

No additional reports

d. Public Comment

None

e. Council Discussion

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

2. [Permit Stacking Cost Recovery Report](#) - Jim Seger [[mp3 :6-12-15am2 @ 0:36:01](#)]

a. NMFS Cost Recovery Report - Frank Lockhart

[Agenda Item D.2.a, NMFS Report](#): Recovery of Incremental Costs Associated with the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Sablefish Permit Stacking Program

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Consider any Necessary Action Based on the Cost Recovery Report

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council received and accepted a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) report ([Agenda Item D.2.a, NMFS Report](#)) indicating that, at present, the governmental costs for the limited entry (LE) fixed gear permit stacking sector are not sufficient to warrant the implementation of a cost recovery program for that sector.*

3. [Salmon Endangered Species Act \(ESA\) Reconsultation Update](#) - Kit Dahl [[mp3:6-12-15pm1](#)] @ 0:00:04]

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.3.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Salmon Bycatch in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries

[Agenda Item D.3.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation, Supplemental Biological Opinion, March 11, 2006

[Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Salmon Bycatch in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on Consultation Standards for Groundfish Fisheries

Motion: Move that NMFS convene a workshop between now and the September Council meeting, it would brief stakeholders about their current progress and garner input from groundfish fishermen, salmon fishermen, and other stakeholders. Ideas and concepts generated through the workshop could then be incorporated by NMFS into the information they present to the Council in September or future Council meetings.

Dale Myer/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council endorsed NMFS' proposal to convene a workshop in mid-August in order to brief stakeholders on the development of the biological opinion for Endangered Species Act- (ESA) listed Chinook salmon stocks caught in the Pacific coast groundfish fishery, and to obtain input from stakeholders on realistic estimates by catch in existing and future groundfish fisheries and potential measures to reduce Chinook salmon bycatch. NMFS will report on workshop outcomes at the September Council meeting. This information will help the Council to develop proposed incidental catch levels for various groundfish fisheries to be evaluated through the reinitiated NMFS ESA section 7 consultation with regard to their jeopardizing listed salmon stocks' existence.*

4. [Non-Salmon ESA Report - Kit Dahl \[mp3 : 6-12-15pm2 @ 0:00:04\]](#)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): Fishing Effort in the 2002-2013 U.S. Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): 2014 Reporting requirements as set out in the NMFS Biological Opinion- Leatherback sea turtles for the continuing authorization of the Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Observed and Estimated Bycatch of Eulachon in 2002–2013 US West Coast Groundfish Fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Observed and Estimated Bycatch of Green Sturgeon in 2002–2013 US West Coast Groundfish Fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Observed and Estimated Bycatch of Short-tailed Albatross in U.S. West Coast Groundfish Fisheries 2010-2013 (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Humpback whale bycatch in the 2010 – 2013 U.S. West Coast Groundfish Fisheries (*Electronic Only*)

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.4.a, NMFS Report 1](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Pacific Coast Groundfish Endangered Species Act Workgroup Process

Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2 (ESA Species Bycatch Reports, Electronic Only – note: See Supplemental Attachments 1 through 6 for the documents as actually received at the Council meeting)

[Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental Groundfish ESA Workgroup Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental GF ESA Workgroup PowerPoint](#) (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.4.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Review Pacific Coast Groundfish and Endangered Species Workgroup Recommendations and Identify Measures to be Evaluated for the 2017-2018 Biennial Management Period or Other Appropriate Actions

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council took the following action in response to recommendations of the Groundfish ESA Workgroup:*

- *Requested that United States Fish and Wildlife Service reinitiate ESA section 7 consultation for eulachon or modify the current Incidental Take Statement to develop a take estimate that accounts for the increase in eulachon abundance and includes the shorebased hake fishery, as well as bottom trawl and at-sea sectors.*
- *Requested that NMFS reinitiate ESA section 7 consultation for short-tailed albatross to incorporate new information on population status and fishery takes.*
- *Tasked the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) with review of methods to estimate rare event bycatch in the absence of 100 percent observer coverage.*
- *Began the process to implement a logbook requirement for all commercial groundfish fisheries, especially for those fisheries with low observer coverage rates.*

The Council recognized that implementing the logbook requirement will be complicated, although electronic logbooks could provide some efficiencies. The Council will consider scheduling action on this topic at a future meeting.

5. [Specifications Process for 2017-2018 Fisheries](#) - Kelly Ames and Kit Dahl [[mp3: 6-13-15am1 @ 0:01:13](#)]

[Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 1](#): Proposed Schedule for Developing the 2017-2018 Groundfish Harvest Specifications and Management Measures

[Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 2](#): Council Operating Procedure 9

[Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 3](#): Council Operating Procedure 25

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Adopt a Process for Specifications and Management Measures for 2017-2018 Fisheries [[mp3: 6-13-15am1 @ 0:25:32](#)]

Motion: Adopt the process and schedule for 2017-2018 harvest specifications and management measures as described in Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 1.

Troy Buell/Dan Wolford (Motion carried, Ms. Culver voted no)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted the process and schedule as described in [Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 1](#). The Council also scheduled a further discussion at the September Council Meeting regarding a contingency plan, should the January 1 fishing year start date become threatened as in prior years, and adding additional elements to the process and schedule regarding a Fishery Management Plan amendment to better address within-biennium implementation of rebuilt stock implications (a “green light” mechanism).*

6. [Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat and Rockfish Conservation Area Update](#) - Kelly Ames, Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 6-13-15am2 @ 0:00:06](#)]

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.6.a, National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental Tribal Letter](#) (Quinault Indian Nation)

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental Tribal Letter 2](#) (Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission)

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental NMFS Letter](#): Response Letter to Ed Johnstone, Fisheries Policy Spokesperson, Quinault Indian Nation

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental NMFS Letter 2](#): Response Letter to Lorraine Loomis, Chairperson, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental HC Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 6-13-15am2 @ 0:47:51](#)]

[Agenda Item D.6.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item D.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

[Agenda Item D.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

Ben Enticknap, Oceana - [Agenda Item D.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Seth Atkinson, Brad Pettinger, Shems Jud and Mariel Coombs, EFH Collaborators

Ralph Brown

c. Council Guidance [[mp3: 6-13-15am2 @ 1:26:14](#)]

Motion: Council directs that it be made clear for all action alternatives being developed that any proposed or adopted alternative is subject to change based on government-to-government consultations between National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and an affected tribe or tribes.

David Sones/Frank Lockhart (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council provided guidance on the development of alternatives to change groundfish essential fish habitat (EFH), including an update from the collaborative group of industry and nongovernmental organization participants. The collaborative group will continue outreach meetings and intends to submit a proposed alternative to modify EFH closed areas and rockfish conservation areas for the advance September briefing book.*

The Council also passed a motion recognizing that any EFH changes affecting Tribal usual and accustomed areas would be subject to government consultation between NMFS and the affected tribe or tribes.

7. [Inseason Adjustments](#) - Kelly Ames [[mp3: 6-13-15pm2 @ 0:00:03](#)]

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.7.a, GMT Report:](#) Groundfish Management Team Report to the Scientific and Statistical Committee on a Literature Review of Skate Discard Mortality

[Agenda Item D.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2:](#) GMT Report on Inseason Adjustments

[Agenda Item D.7.a, Supplemental CDFW Report:](#) Status of 2015 Groundfish Mortality in California

[Agenda Item D.7.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 3:](#) GMT Report on Inseason Adjustments (Big Skate) [[mp3: 6-14-15am1 @ 0:19:13](#)]

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Consider Inseason Adjustments and Adopt Discard Mortality Rates for Skates [[mp3: 6-13-15pm2 @ 1:10:41](#)] and [[mp3: 6-14-15am1 @ 0:02:08](#)]

Motion: Adopt the following:

- Sablefish north of 36° N. latitude: increase the daily trip limit (DTL) LE north trip limit to 1,125 lbs/wk and 3,375 lbs/2 months and the DTL open access (OA) north trip limit to 350 lbs/day, 1,600 lbs/wk, and 3,200 lbs/2 months for periods 4 through 6, beginning as quickly as possible in period 4.

- Minor shelf rockfish complex, shortbelly, widow, and chilipepper between 40° 10' N. latitude and 34° 27' N. latitude: Increase the OA trip limit to 500 lbs/2 months for periods 4 through 6.
- Blackgill rockfish south of 40° 10' N. latitude: increase the LE sub-limit to 1,600 lbs/2 months and increase the OA sub-limit to 550 lbs/2 months for periods 4 through 6, beginning as quickly as possible in period 4.
- California scorpionfish: increase the trip limit to 1,500 lbs/2 months for both the LE and OA sectors for periods 4 through 6, beginning as quickly as possible in period 4.
- Black rockfish between 40° 10' and 42° N. latitude: decrease the trip limit from 8,500 lbs/2 months to 6,000 lbs/2 months beginning at the start of the next bi-monthly period (either July 1 or September 1).
- Adopt a 50 percent discard mortality rate for big skate caught as bycatch with trawl gear (SSC recommendation).

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe (Motion carried, Mr. Lockhart abstained)

Motion: Adopt big skate trip limits of 35,000 pounds per 2 months for periods 4 through 6.

Troy Buell/David Sones (Motion carried, Mr. Lockhart abstained)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted a revised skate discard mortality rate recommended by the SSC. Additionally, the Council considered the latest information on groundfish landings and adopted increases to the big skate trip limits for the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota Program. Trip limit increases were also adopted for the fixed gear fleets including the LE and OA sablefish DTL fisheries north of 36° N. latitude; OA fishery for minor shelf Rockfish complex, shortbelly, widow, and chilipepper between 40° 10' and 34° 27' N. latitude; LE and OA blackgill rockfish south of 40° 10' N. latitude; and LE and OA fisheries for California scorpionfish. Reductions to the LE and OA fixed gear black rockfish trip limits were adopted between 40° 10' and 42° N. latitude. The specific recommendations, including the recommended implementation dates, can be found here <http://tinyurl.com/pq3mz4s>.*

8. [Final Stock Assessments and Catch Reports](#) - John DeVore [[mp3: 6-15-15am1 @ 0:01:10](#)]

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 1](#): Executive Summary of “The Status of canary rockfish (*Sebastes pinniger*) in the California Current in 2015”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 1](#): “The Status of canary rockfish (*Sebastes pinniger*) in the California Current in 2015” (***Entire Document Electronic Only***)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 2](#): Canary Rockfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Meeting Report

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 3](#): Executive Summary of “Status of the darkblotched rockfish resource off the continental U.S. Pacific Coast in 2015”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 3](#): “Status of the darkblotched rockfish resource off the continental U.S. Pacific Coast in 2015” (***Entire Document Electronic Only***)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 4](#): Darkblotched Rockfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Meeting Report

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 5](#): Executive Summary of “The 2015 stock assessment of arrowtooth flounder (*Atheresthes stomias*) in California, Oregon, and Washington waters”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 5](#): “The 2015 stock assessment of arrowtooth flounder (*Atherestes stomias*) in California, Oregon, and Washington waters” (*Entire Document Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 6](#): Executive Summary of “Status of the Chilipepper rockfish, *Sebastes goodei*, in the California Current for 2015”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 6](#): “Status of the Chilipepper rockfish, *Sebastes goodei*, in the California Current for 2015” (*Entire Document Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 7](#): Executive Summary of “Stock Assessment Update: Status of the U.S. petrale sole resource in 2014”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 7](#): “Stock Assessment Update: Status of the U.S. petrale sole resource in 2014” (*Entire Document Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 8](#): Executive Summary of “Status of the U.S. sablefish resource in 2015”

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 8](#): “Status of the U.S. sablefish resource in 2015” (*Entire Document Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 9](#): Catch Report for the Unassessed Overfished Species in the 2015-16 Biennium

[Agenda Item D.8, Attachment 10](#): Report on the Nearshore Stock Assessments Workshop

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.8.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Approve Final Stock Assessments and Catch Reports for 2017-2018 Management [[mp3: 6-15-15am2 @ 0:00:22](#)]

Motion: Approve the final stock assessments and catch reports for 2017-2018 management as recommended by the SSC (Agenda Item D.8.a, Supplemental SSC Report).

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted new full assessments for canary rockfish and darkblotched rockfish; new update assessments for chilipepper rockfish, petrale sole, and sablefish; and new catch reports for cowcod, Pacific ocean perch, and yelloweye rockfish as recommended by the SSC in [Agenda Item D.8.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#). The new assessments for canary rockfish and petrale sole indicate both stocks are now rebuilt in advance of the target year specified in their respective rebuilding plans. These new assessments and catch reports will be integrated into the biennial specifications for 2017-2018 and beyond.*

9. [Blackgill and Slope Rockfish Quota Share Allocation](#) - John DeVore [[mp3: 6-15-15am2 @ 0:22:03](#)]

[Agenda Item D.9, Supplemental Council Staff PowerPoint](#) (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item D.9, Attachment 1](#): Challenges in the Reallocation of Slope Rockfish Quota Shares

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item D.9.a, NMFS Report](#): National Marine Fisheries Service Report on Blackgill and Slope Rockfish Quota Share Allocation

[Agenda Item D.9.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.9.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 6-15-15am2 @ 0:45:12](#)]

Peter Leipzig, Fisherman's Marketing Association

c. Council Action: Refine Alternatives for Blackgill and Slope Rockfish Quota Share Allocation [[mp3: 6-15-15am2 @ 0:52:37](#)]

Motion: Remove the LE trawl quota share allocation alternatives to the No Action Alternative for blackgill rockfish and the remaining species in the slope rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. latitude from detailed analysis. Also remove from detailed analysis the alternative sub-options to status quo regarding the equal sharing portion of the quota share allocated with the LE trawl permits retired in the buyback program. This action would maintain the default Amendment 20 quota share allocation mechanism where the amount of permit quota share for the current slope rockfish south complex is used to allocate both blackgill rockfish and the remaining species in the complex.

Joanna Grebel/David Crabbe (Motion carried, Mr. Wolford Abstained)

Staff Summary: *The Council decided to drop alternatives for the reallocation of LE trawl quota shares in association with removing blackgill rockfish from the Slope Rockfish complex south of 40° 10' N. latitude. If the Council decides to go forward with this proposed action, quota share allocations of blackgill rockfish and the remaining species in the southern Slope Rockfish complex will be established using the default Amendment 20 rules that apply to such a situation. Additionally, as part of the action in September, the Council will consider whether adjustments to the vessel usage caps would be appropriate if the stock complex is restructured. The carryover of quota pounds from the year before the restructuring to the year after will also be addressed.*

10. [Rebuilding Revision Rules](#) - John DeVore [[mp3: 6-16-15am1 @ 0:01:13](#)]

[Agenda Item D.10, Attachment 1](#): Evaluating alternative rebuilding strategies to meet management goals for rebuilding overfished U.S. West Coast groundfish stocks

[Agenda Item D.10, Attachment 2](#): Rebuilding Revision Rules Range of Alternatives

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 6-16-15am1 @ 0:59:50](#)] and [[mp3: 6-16-15am2 @ 0:00:06](#)]

[Agenda Item D.10.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#) (Electronic Only)

[Agenda Item D.10.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.10.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item D.10.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

[Agenda Item D.10.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Seth Atkinson, Natural Resources Defense Council

Tom Marking

c. Council Action: Adopt a Range of Alternatives for Stock Rebuilding Revision Rules [[mp3: 6-16-15am2 @ 0:15:32](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council received a briefing from Ms. Chantel Wetzel on a new management strategy evaluation (MSE) which analyzes the long-term trade-offs associated with different strategies for revising existing rebuilding plans. The Council provided guidance to add alternatives and new performance metrics to the MSE as recommended by the SSC ([Agenda Item D.10.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel ([Agenda Item D.10. a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)). The Council concluded the MSE potentially provides useful information to inform future decisions on revising rebuilding plans and expressed interest in further development of this analytical tool. The Council removed next consideration on this matter from the September Council meeting agenda, when they will review a next step tentatively scheduled for November 2015.*

E. Highly Migratory Species Management

1. [International Issues including Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission \(IATTC\) Meeting and North Pacific Albacore Management Strategy Evaluation](#) - Kit Dahl [\[mp3: 6-13-15am2 @ 1:37:07\]](#)

[Agenda Item E.1, Attachment 1](#): Summary of Priority Issues at the 89th Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Meeting

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [\[mp3: 6-13-15am2 @ 1:37:07\]](#) and [mp3: 6-13-15pm1 @0:00:06\]](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental SWFSC Report](#): Report of the Pacific Bluefin Tuna Research March 30, 2015 Coordination Meeting

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report 2](#)

b. Public Comment [\[mp3: 6-13-15pm1 @0:28:37\]](#)

August Felando

Pete Flournoy

Mike Conroy - [Agenda Item E.1.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Robert Osborn

Doug Fricke

c. Council Action: Develop Recommendations to the U.S. Delegations to the 89th IATTC Meeting and the 11th Northern Committee Meeting [\[mp3: 6-13-15pm1 @ 1:04:37\]](#)

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *With respect to Pacific bluefin tuna, the Council recommended NMFS gather more data on the occurrence of adult fish in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) to help determine whether a separate spawning population occurs in this region.*

With respect to bigeye tuna, the Council intends to work with the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC) to develop an equitable allocation of the current EPO 500 mt catch limit between Hawaii and west coast longline vessels larger than 24 meters.

With respect to the MSE for North Pacific albacore tuna to be conducted by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean, the Council will provide recommendations to the U.S. delegation to the next Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Northern Committee meeting.

2. Final Approval of Resubmitted Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Application - Kit Dahl [mp3: [6-14-15am1 @ 0:45:39](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1](#): Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries Revised Exempted Fishing Permit Application

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental HSMAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 6-14-15am2 @ 0:00:11](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2 \(Full Version Electronic Only\)](#)

Steve Fosmark

Kathy Fosmark, ACSF

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Tara Brock, The PEW Charitable Trusts

Ben Enticknap, Oceana - [Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Bob Kurz, International Game Fish Association

Doug Karpa, Turtle Island Restoration Network - [Agenda Item E.2.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 2 \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Shems Jud, Environmental Defense Fund

Peter Flournoy, AFRF

Jonathan Gonzalez

c. Council Action: Consider Recommendations to NMFS Regarding Approval of Resubmitted EFP [[mp3: 6-14-15am2 @ 1:28:53](#)] and [[mp3: 6-14-15pm1 @ 0:00:10](#)]

Motion: Recommend issuance of an exempted fishing permit (EFP) to the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries as shown in Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1 with the following changes.

- 1) One leatherback turtle mortality, or seriously injured as determined by the onboard observer, would terminate the EFP.
- 2) The EFP will include two drift gillnet (DGN) boats only.

- 3) Catch, bycatch, and bycatch mortality data will be collected from each participating vessel. Catch, bycatch, and bycatch rates will be computed on a catch per day and catch per set-minute basis as the two catch per unit of effort (CPUE) statistics used in statistical analysis. These rates will be compared to the average catch and bycatch rates for the 2015 concurrent DGN fishery outside the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area (PLCA) and for the DGN fishery operating in prior years when fishing activity was allowed in the PLCA. In all cases, observer data will be the source of the CPUE data. NOAA Fisheries staff will be relied upon for the compilation of CPUE data or the appropriate entity.
- 4) The EFP applicants will consult with scientists about present-day ocean climate conditions that are thought to be favorable for identification of optimal time/area locations to conduct test fishery operations. This would involve the use of near-real-time oceanographic data to predict general times and areas where target catch rates are expected to be high relative to bycatch rates, especially of protected species. Once a test location has been identified, the boat captains will provide notice to NOAA fisheries of intent to conduct the test fishery.
- 5) At sea, vessel operators or onboard observers will collect the following oceanographic information at the time of DGN deployment, and again at the time of net retrieval: sea surface temperature (SST), water clarity, thermocline, and other information available from sonar, echo sounder, terrafin or other onboard technology.
- 6) Operators will keep a complete log of active tending methods utilized during all fishing operations, specific to the set, soak time, and net retrieval. Operators will also provide a written description of the reasons why the determined set location is expected to be optimal to maximize take of target species with minimal bycatch of protected species (i.e., no visible sign of whales/dolphins in the area at time of deployment; temperature/current breaks, etc.)
- 7) The EFP shall be conducted with 100 percent human observer coverage.
- 8) Gear modifications listed in Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report, June 2015 will be included in the EFP.
- 9) A per year by-catch limit for marlins is to be developed by NMFS; if obtained, the EFP would close for the remainder of the year.
- 10) Pacific leatherback turtle critical habitat along the U.S. West Coast is a recognized sensitive area during leatherback migration and fishing in the area will be prohibited.

David Crabbe/Marci Yaremko

Amendment 1: Under part 1 strike the word “seriously” and change “injured” to “injury”
Dan Wolford/Buzz Brizendine (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Amendment 2: Add the following:

- 11) Recommend NMFS review available data and information to assist in narrowing the area for the EFP within the PLCA to reduce encounters with ESA-listed species.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

Amendment 3: (As a substitution to the Culver/Lincoln Amendment 2): Add the following:

- 11) Recommend NMFS review available data and information to determine any areas of consistently high presence of ESA-listed or other protected species in order to aid the applicants in selecting fishing areas.

Chris Kerns/David Sones (Amendment 3 carried unanimously)

Amendment 4: Make the following change under item 3: Strike “2015” and replace with “concurrent”

Dan Wolford/Rich Lincoln (Amendment 4 carried unanimously).

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

Staff Summary: *The Council recommended that NMFS issue an EFP to the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries based on their application (see [Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1, June 2015](#)). The Council recommended 11 points of changes and adjustments to the proposed activities and additional conditions, consolidated into the 6 points below.*

1. *No more than two large mesh DGN vessels could fish under the EFP.*
 2. *100 percent observer coverage.*
 3. *One leatherback sea turtle mortality or injury as determined by the onboard observer would terminate the EFP. Similar caps would be applied to other protected species and striped marlin.*
 4. *Fishing is prohibited in leatherback sea turtle critical habitat and other restrictions on the area of operation.*
 5. *The EFP applicants will consult with scientists about current ocean climate conditions that are thought to be favorable for identification of optimal time/area locations to conduct test fishery operations. This would involve the use of near-real-time oceanographic data to predict general times and areas where target catch rates are expected to be high relative to bycatch rates, especially of protected species.*
 6. *The EFP applicants will collect data on catch and bycatch, gear deployment, and ocean conditions.*
3. **[Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan Hardcaps - Kit Dahl \[mp3: 6-14-15pm2 @ 0:00:07\]](#)**

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item E.3.a, NMFS Report](#): Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team Memo to Eileen Sobeck, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries on Pacific Fishery Management Council Proposed Hard Caps on Marine Mammal Bycatch in the Drift Gillnet Fishery

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.a, HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT PowerPoint](#) (Electronic Only)

[Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment [\[mp3:6-14-15pm3 @0:00:14\]](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Public Comment](#) (Full Version Electronic Only; the list of signatories to the Oceana comment letter)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2 \(Full Version Electronic Only\)](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

Jonathan Gonzalez [Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint; Includes Letter \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Tara Brock, The PEW Charitable Trusts

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Ben Entickap, Oceana

Bob Kurz, International Game Fish Association

Doug Karpa, Turtle Island Restoration Network [Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint 2 \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Kathy Fosmark

Pete Flournoy (did not testify)

Bob Osborn

c. Council Action: Consider Swordfish Management Plan and Refine Alternatives for Monitoring Plan Hardcaps [[mp3: 6-14-15pm3 @ 1:00:45](#)]

Motion: Include within the range of alternatives, the HMSMT alternative (both aligned with the biennial specifications and the rolling window) which would apply a 2-year average bycatch cap for Alternative 4 and Alternative 5.

Joanna Grebel/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Request the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) move forward with developing the swordfish management and monitoring plan as described in Agenda Item E.3.a, HMSMT Report (June 2015) and Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2 (June 2015) and consider the comments in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report (June 2015) in light of the Council's previous action at the March 2015 meeting with regard to appropriate observer coverage levels, and consider the methodology in the "Ecological Applications" manuscript by Martin et al., 2015.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted additional alternatives and directed the HMSMT to analyze them for Council final action in September 2015. These alternatives would be variations on the current hard cap alternatives 4 and 5, where a two-year average of takes of high priority protected species would be counted against the hard caps in those alternatives. The two-year period for counting takes against the caps would be aligned with the two-year biennial management period, or would be a rolling period where takes in the current fishing season and the previous fishing season would be counted against the caps.*

The Council also directed the HMSMT to further develop the Swordfish Fishery Management and Monitoring Plan and to continue investigating optimal levels of observer coverage to detect rare event bycatch while considering the costs of observer coverage. The Council also expressed interest in obtaining more detail on alternatives that include performance standards for finfish bycatch.

F. Administrative Matters

1. **Legislative Matters - Jennifer Gilden** [[mp3: 6-15-15am3 @ 0:00:01](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): Staff Summary of Federal Legislation

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 2](#): HR 1335 as Reported by Committee (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.1, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 3](#): MSA with Proposed HR 1335 Changes (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.1, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 4](#): Summary of MSA Changes Proposed by HR 1335 and Other Bills

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 5](#): HR 564, Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 6](#): Council letter on HR 774 (IUU fishing)

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 7](#): Council letter on HR 1335 (MSA reauthorization)

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 8](#): Council letter on REFI Act

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 9](#): Obama Policy Statement on HR 1335

[Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 10](#): S 1403, Florida Fisheries Improvement Act

[Agenda Item F.1, Supplemental Attachment 11](#): Draft Letter, PFMC Comments on H.R. 564, the Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act

a. Report of the Legislative Committee - Dave Hanson

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3:6-15-15am3 @0:11:20](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council directed staff to send a letter regarding the West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act ([Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report](#)) and another on the Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Prevention Act ([Agenda Item F.1, Supplemental Attachment 11](#)) in response to Congressional requests for review and comment on this legislation. The letter on the Crab Management Act will include emphasis on the existing Tri-State Crab Committee's successful and cooperative management. In addition, the Council authorized staff to send a letter on the Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act (S 1334) if a request is received from the Senate, containing similar information as in the Council's March 24 letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Natural Resources on HR 774.*

2. **Fiscal Matters - Chuck Tracy** [[mp3: 6-15-15pm1 @ 0:00:08](#)]

[Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): Budget Committee "Workshop" Annotated Agenda (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): PowerPoint presentations from Council Staff and NMFS WCR Staff (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Revised 2015-2019 grant application (*Electronic Only*)

a. Report of the Budget Committee - Dave Ortmann

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental Budget Committee Report](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

No Additional Reports

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Recommendations

Motion: Adopt the recommendations of the Budget Committee (Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental Budget Committee Report) which includes the CY 2015 budget; and request Council staff to submit the 2015-2019 revised grant application as presented in Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 3.

Herb Pollard/David Hanson (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted a CY 2015 operating budget of \$4,914,237 as presented in [Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#). The Council recommended staff submit a 2015-2019 revised grant application as presented in [Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#).*

3. [Approval of Council Meeting Record](#) - Dorothy Lowman [[mp3 :6-15-15pm1](#)] @ 0:15:13]

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 227th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (November 12-19, 2014)

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 228th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (March 6-12, 2015)

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 229th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (April 10-16, 2015)

a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Records

Motion: Adopt the draft November 2014 (Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1), March 2015 (Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2), and April 2015 (Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3) Council meeting records with the correction on page 26 of Attachment 3 that the motion on big skate should include “Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)” following the motion.

Dan Wolford/David Crabbe (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted the meeting records for the November 2014, March 2015, and April 2015 meetings (as corrected).*

4. [Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures](#) - Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 6-15-15pm1](#)] @ 0:20:21]

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1](#): Draft COP 3

[Agenda Item F.4, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Draft proposed changes to the PFMC SOPP; an excerpt of pages 3 and 5 of the SOPP intended to address establishment and conduct of Council sponsored workshops

[Agenda Item F.4, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): DRAFT COP 8

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

No Additional Reports

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures

Motion: Modify the Council Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures (SOPPs) and Council Operating Procedure (COP) 8 as reflected in Agenda Item F.4, Supplemental Attachments 2 and 3, respectively.

Dorothy Lowman/Dave Ortmann (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Suspend the provision of COP 1 that states the Council Chair may not serve more than two consecutive one-year terms, and appoint Dorothy Lowman to serve as Council Chair and Herb Pollard to serve as Council Vice-Chair for the 2015-2016 term.

Rich Lincoln/Corey Niles (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Appoint David Crabbe to represent the Council on the Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team.

Marci Yaremko/Dan Wolford (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion: Modify Council Operating Procedure 3 and the Terms of Reference for the Groundfish Endangered Species Work Group, and remove one of the NMFS West Coast Region seats on that work group, as reflected in Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1.

Frank Lockhart/Dorothy Lowman (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *The Council elected Ms. Dorothy Lowman Chair and Mr. Herb Pollard Vice Chair of the Pacific Fishery Management Council for the 2015-2016 term, appointed Mr. David Crabbe to represent the Council on the Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team, modified COP 3 by removing one of the NMFS West Coast Region seats on the Groundfish Endangered Species Work Group, and modified the Council SOPPs and COP 8 to accommodate formation and conduct of Council sponsored workshops.*

5. [Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) - Don McIsaac [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 1:10:30](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary

[Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 2](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, September 9-16, 2015 in Sacramento, California

[Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 3](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities

[Agenda Item F.5, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary

[Agenda Item F.5, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Proposed Pacific Council Meeting Agenda, September 9-16, 2015 in Sacramento, California

[Agenda Item F.5, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities (6/16/2015)

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 1:34:05](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5.a, EWG Report](#): Ecosystem Workgroup Report On Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

[Agenda Item F.5.a, HMSMT Report](#): Highly Migratory Species Management Team Report On Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#): *Scheduling Excerpts from Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report*

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3:6-16-15pm2 @2:01:10](#)]

[Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Steve Marx, PEW Charitable Trusts - [Agenda Item F.5.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (*Electronic Only*)

c. Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 2:04:08](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for September 2015 in Sacramento, California. A single-page draft proposed agenda summary will be available on the Council website in the near future, and a draft detailed proposed agenda will be available on or around August 27.*

G. Coastal Pelagic Species

1. [National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#) - Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 6-16-15am3 @ 0:00:19](#)]

a. Regulatory Activities - Frank Lockhart

[Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#): CPS Regulatory Activities

b. Fisheries Science Center Activities

No Report

c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item G.1.c, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

d. Public Comment

None

e. Council Discussion

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

2. Pacific Mackerel Assessment and Management Measures - Kerry Griffin [[mp 3:6-16-15am3](#)] @ 0:10:50]

[Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1](#): STAR Panel Report

a. Stock Assessment Report - Kevin Hill

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Stock Assessment Report Executive Summary](#)

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Full Stock Assessment Report](#) (*Full Report Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental Stock Assessment PowerPoint](#): Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) stock assessment for USA management in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 fishing years (*Electronic Only*)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item G.2.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.2.b, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.2.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

c. Public Comment [[mp3: 6-16-15pm1](#)] @ 0:00:13]

[Agenda Item G.2.c, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item G.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

Geoff Shester, Oceana - [Agenda Item G.2.c, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

d. Council Action: Adopt Stock Assessment and Final Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Fisheries [[mp3: 6-16-15pm1](#)] @ 0:18:04]

Motion: Approve the Pacific mackerel stock assessment identified in Agenda Item G.2.a, Attachment 1 for use in management for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 fishing seasons. Additionally, adopt the harvest specifications identified in Table 3 from the Supplemental CPSMT Report for 2015-2016, and the specifications in Table 4 for 2016-2017. Also adopt the incidental fishery provisions outlined in item 3 on the bottom of page 1 of the Supplemental CPSMT Report.

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe (Motion carried unanimously)

Amendment: Add to the motion the underlined language in the following sentence: “Additionally, adopt the harvest specifications identified in Table 3 from the Supplemental CPSMT report for 2015-16, and the specifications in Table 4 for 2016-2017 except adjust the P* down to 0.40.”

Corey Niles/Rich Lincoln (Amendment failed, Mr. Niles, Mr. Myers and Mr. Lincoln voted in the affirmative)

Motion carried unanimously

Staff Summary: *The Council adopted the stock assessment, overfishing limit (OFL), and annual specifications for both the 2015-16 and the 2016-17 fishing years. The Council also adopted the following management measures: for each separate fishing year, should the directed fishery realize the annual catch target (ACT), the Council should recommend that NMFS close the directed fishery and shift to an incidental-catch-only fishery for the remainder of the fishing season, with a 45 percent incidental landing allowance when Pacific mackerel are landed with other coastal pelagic species (CPS), with the exception that up to 3 mt of Pacific mackerel per landing could be landed in non-CPS fisheries.*

Table title, e.g. Results of stock assessment and harvest specifications for Pacific mackerel.

	2015-16 (mt)	2016-17 (mt)
Biomass	120,435	118,968
OFL	25,291	24,983
ABC_{0.45}	23,104	22,822
ACL	23,104	22,822
HG	21,469	21,161
Incidental	1,000	1,000
ACT	20,469	20,161

3. [Anchovy Update](#) - Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 6-16-15pm1](#)] @ 1:09:08]

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item G.3.a, CPSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.a, USFWS Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental CDFW PowerPoint: Aerial Survey Observations of Northern Anchovy in the Southern California Bight](#) (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3:6-16-15pm1](#)] @1:51:09]

[Agenda Item G.3.b, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

[Agenda Item G.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

Geoff Shester, Oceana - [Agenda Item G.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint](#) (*Electronic Only*)

Andrea Treese, Earthjustice

Steve Marx & Gilly Lyons, PEW Charitable Trusts

Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

c. Council Discussion

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

4. Litigation Settlement Discussion - Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 0:00:15](#)]

[Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 1](#): Settlement Agreement

[Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 2](#): Draft Terms of Reference for Distribution Workshop

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment

[Agenda Item G.4.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Geoff Shester (Oceana), Andrea Treese (Earthjustice); and Muriel Coombs (Oceana).

Diane Pleschner-Steele, California Wetfish Producers Association

c. Council Action: Consider Council Actions and Scheduling Needed in Response to the *Oceana v. Pritzker* Court Settlement Agreement [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 0:23:24](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: *The Council provided positive guidance on the draft Terms of Reference for the Pacific sardine distribution workshop, including proposed dates (August 17-19, with a 1 p.m. start on day 1, and noon finish on day 3), the location to be at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, California, and the purpose and goals of the workshop. The Council delegated to Council staff the completion of the list of formally invited participants to this workshop, which will be open to attendance by any interested person.*

H. Ecosystem Management

1. Lenfest Taskforce and Ocean Modeling Forum Update - Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 6-16-15pm2 @ 0:39:30](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1](#): Lenfest Ecosystem Task Force Fact Sheet

a. Report of Lenfest Taskforce and Ocean Modeling Forum - Phil Levin

[Agenda Item H.1, Supplemental Lenfest Powerpoint](#); Phil Levin (*Electronic Only, Large File 15.2 mb*)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

No Additional Reports

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Discussion

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

[Informational Report 1](#): Groundfish Gear Changes

[Informational Report 2](#): Measuring the Effects of Catch Shares

[Informational Report 3](#): Bob Emmett, In Memoriam

[Informational Report 4](#): 2015 Fisheries Innovation Fund Grants

[Supplemental Informational Report 5](#): Proposed Agenda for the June 22-25, 2015 Council Coordination Committee Meeting (*May 13, 2015 Version*)

[Supplemental Informational Report 6](#): VMS Discontinued Type Approvals

[Supplemental Informational Report 7](#): NMFS OLE, West Coast Enforcement Division Report to PFMC

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on June 16, 2015 at 6:41 p.m.



12/16/2015

Dorothy Lowman
Council Chair

Date