



## Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 18, 2016

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

**FROM:** Brett Wiedoff, Staff Officer

**SUBJECT:** March 2016 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 8-14, 2016 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA, 95815. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 11, 2015 in the American River Room and Capital Salon B, respectively.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest, including:

- Matters raised during the open comment period;
  - Current habitat issues;
  - Consider California Current Ecosystem Report;
  - Provide guidance on future process and schedule for the Coordinated Ecosystem Indicator Review;
  - Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
  - Preliminary adoption of exempted fishing permits (EFP) for California Mid-Water Commercial Jig Gear for 2017-2018;
  - Council discussion of biennial harvest specifications and management measures for 2017-2018 groundfish fisheries;
  - Consideration of the IPHC meeting reports;
  - Adopt final halibut landing restrictions for the fixed gear sablefish fishery north of Point Chehalis from April 1 to October 31, 2016;
  - Consider groundfish inseason adjustments, including carryover to 2016 fisheries;
  - Adopt final regulations for mid-water sport fishery in Oregon;
  - Provide guidance on options for ESA consultation standards regarding salmon bycatch in groundfish fisheries;
  - Consider an extension, beyond 2016, for Exempted Fishing Permits related to electronic monitoring in groundfish catch share fisheries;
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- Adopt final preferred alternatives for gear change regulations applicable to vessels in the trawl catch share program;
- Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and
- Future Council meeting agenda and workload planning.

This mailing includes the enclosures listed below. Please review these briefing materials in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week. As always, all briefing materials are also available on the web at <http://www.pccouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/current-meeting/>.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council process and management of Pacific groundfish fisheries.

BLW:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Habitat
4. Agenda Item D – Ecosystem Management
5. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Item H – Pacific Halibut Management
7. Agenda Item I.2 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
8. Agenda Item I.3 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
9. EC Agenda
10. GAP Agenda
11. GMT Agenda
12. SSC Agenda and Draft Minutes
13. Informational Reports
14. Hotel-related Information
15. Council Roster

PFMC  
02/08/16