



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 30, 2016

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore

SUBJECT: April 2016 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet April 8-14, 2016 at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel, 3001 West Sixth Street, Vancouver, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet Saturday, April 9 starting at 8 a.m. in the Heritage F Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed, and include additional items that are not on the SSC agenda.

Council Administrative Matters

There is one nomination the SSC will review. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region has nominated Mr. Lyle Enriquez to replace Mr. Craig Heberer on the Highly Migratory Species Management Team. The SSC will be in closed session for this discussion.

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

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review the new update assessment of Pacific sardine, as well as the report of the SSC Coastal Pelagic Species Subcommittee's March review of the assessment, and provide their recommendations to the Council on the use of the new assessment for management decision-making. The SSC will also recommend an overfishing limit for Pacific sardine for the 2016-2017 fishery.

Salmon Management

The SSC will review a list of potential salmon methodology topics to be reviewed later this year. The SSC will receive input from the Salmon Technical Team and the Model Evaluation Workgroup, and provide recommendations for methodologies to be reviewed in 2016.

Groundfish Management

The Council is scheduled to take initial action at this meeting on proposed groundfish stock assessment priorities for the 2017 assessment cycle. The SSC will receive a presentation from Dr. Jim Hastie on criteria and a process to decide future stock assessment priorities. Additionally, notes from the SSC's March 2016 discussion of stock assessment priorities are available in the draft March SSC minutes. The SSC will recommend their priorities for groundfish stock assessments, as well as changes to the three Terms of Reference that guide the process of conducting and reviewing assessments, rebuilding analyses, and proposed assessment methodologies.

Council staff is also soliciting comments on the draft 2016 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document available electronically on the Council's web site under this meeting's briefing materials (Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3, April 2016). Comments/edits are due to Council staff no later than May 20, 2016.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:rdd

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.6 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item C.7 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Salmon Management

4. Agenda Item E.2 – Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection

Groundfish Management

5. Agenda Item F.7 – Initial Stock Assessment Plan and Terms of Reference (TOR) For Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

6. Agenda Item H.1 – Final Action on Sardine Assessment, Specifications, and Management Measures

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

7. April 2016 SSC Agenda
8. Draft March 2016 SSC Minutes
9. Informational Reports
10. Closed Session
11. Hotel-Related Information
12. Roster