



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Herbert A. Pollard II, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 22, 2017
TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, Sacramento River Winter Chinook Workgroup and Interested Persons
FROM: Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: April Council Meeting

In conjunction with the April Council meeting, the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS), Salmon Technical Team (STT), Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW), and Sacramento River Winter Chinook Workgroup (SRWCW) will meet on Thursday, April 6, 2017 with the STT, SAS and SRWCW beginning at 8 a.m. and the MEW beginning at 10 a.m. The meetings will be held in Terrance (SAS), Garden (STT), Rubicon River (MEW), and American River Rooms (SRWCW), of the DoubleTree by Hilton Sacramento in Sacramento, California.

The Council will start the salmon agenda on Friday (April 7) and continue through Monday (April 10). Incidental catch of Pacific halibut in the troll fishery will be finalized on Monday, April 10; habitat issues will be covered Friday, April 7. The harvest control rule for Sacramento River winter Chinook will be reviewed by the Council on Friday afternoon, April 7.

The main salmon issue before the Council will be adopting final management measure recommendations for 2017 ocean fisheries (Agenda Items E.3, E.4, and E.5). Under Agenda Item E.1, the Council will review the SRWCW's report on progress made in developing the Sacramento River Winter Chinook harvest control rule. Agenda Item E.2. covers methodology reviews presented by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

The STT will join the SAS meeting at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 6 and respond to technical questions regarding the 2017 fishery alternatives as presented in Preseason Report II. The SAS should have its preliminary management measures completed in time to allow editing, collation, and copying in the Council Secretariat. We would like final input from SAS as soon as possible, but no later than 11 a.m. Friday morning. Please work with the Council staff to coordinate your efforts.

The SSC will report to the Council under Agenda Item E.2 on potential topics for methodology review on Friday. The SAS may wish to make recommendations to both the SSC and Council on reviews or revisions which should be initiated. The SSC will cover this issue with the STT at its meeting at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 6. The SAS should consider sending a representative to the SSC meeting, to report back to the full SAS.

The SRWCW will meet with the SSC at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6. The SAS and STT may wish to provide input to both the SSC and Council. The SAS should consider sending a representative to the SSC meeting, if possible, to report back to the full SAS. The STT will be represented at this meeting, as the SRWCW representative is also an STT member.

The MEW will meet Thursday morning to discuss potential methodology review topics, and will join the SSC meeting at 1 p.m. that day to report on their recommendations. Because several members of the MEW are also on the STT or SSC, the MEW meeting will need to be flexible to accommodate the needs of all.

A joint session with the Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP) and the SAS is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 7 in Capitol B room to discuss Agenda Item F. 3 (final recommendations to the Council on salmon bycatch ESA consultation). The STT is also welcome to attend. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will report on any updates since the March Council meeting and Susan Bishop will attend to answer any additional questions.

Pacific halibut is on the Council's agenda for Monday, April 10. The SAS will need to recommend landing restrictions for the troll salmon fisheries to allow for incidental halibut harvest.

The Council will receive an update on current habitat issues on Friday morning. The Habitat Committee is meeting on Thursday, April 6 in Maxi's, starting at 8 a.m. Jim Hie will provide a summary to the SAS as needed.

Additionally, there are several Administrative Matters of interest, but not all formally scheduled on your agendas. If the STT, SAS, MEW, would like to comment on one or more of these matters please let me know and we can allocate some discussion time on your agenda. Under Agenda Item C.1 the Council is scheduled to hear an update on the National Ocean Council's marine planning efforts, under Agenda Item C.2 the Council is scheduled to review the latest legislative issues. On the final day, Monday, April 11, the Council will consider membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures under Agenda Item C.3, and also consider future Council Meeting agendas and adopt the June Council meeting agenda on under Agenda Item C.4.

Please take some time and review your briefing materials thoroughly before the meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance in the Council's salmon management process.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.1 through C.4 – Council Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Item D.1 – Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Item E.1 through E.5 – Salmon Management
5. Agenda Item F.3 - Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Items H.1 – Pacific Halibut Management
7. Proposed SSC Agenda
8. Proposed HC Agenda
9. Proposed SAS Agenda

10. Proposed STT Agenda
11. Proposed MEW Agenda
12. Proposed SRWCW Agenda
13. Informational Reports
14. Hotel-related Information and Council Roster

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