



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Philip Anderson, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2017

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

FROM: Ms. Kelly Ames, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11-18, 2017, at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, ID, 83714. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12. The GMT will meet in the Aspen Room and the GAP will meet in the Ponderosa Room.

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 matters;
 - Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
 - Prioritizing considerations for off-year science improvements (e.g., 2018). Such activities include workshops and methodology reviews to prepare for the following assessment cycle (e.g., 2019) and to resolve scientific issues that play a significant role in groundfish decision-making;
 - Identifying priority stock assessment methodology review topics for 2018;
 - Progress reports for the 2017 gear modification exempted fishing permits (EFPs) and adopting final 2018 coastwide non-whiting midwater trawl and gear modification EFPs, as appropriate;
 - Scoping for a multi-year average catch policy and carryover provisions and provide guidance on future analyses and considerations;
 - Adopt preliminary Pacific halibut discard mortality rates to be applied when a vessel is using electronic monitoring and a third-party video review policy for public review;
 - Legislative matters;
 - Adopt draft catch share review recommendations, including research and data needs, and adopt a range of alternatives for follow-on actions;
 - Discuss a climate vulnerability assessment report for the California Current Ecosystem;
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- Review scoping for a Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative and select a final initiative for further development;
- Approve final stock assessments for 2019-2020 management. There is an evening question and answer session on Thursday, September 14 in the Juniper-Laurel Ballroom;
- Adopt final overfishing limits and sigma values, a range of P*/acceptable biological catches, and a preliminary range of new management measures for 2019-2020 management;
- Consideration and adoption of final inseason adjustments; 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.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/current-meeting/>.

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

KLA:ael

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item D – Habitat
4. Agenda Item E – Groundfish Management
5. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
6. Agenda Item H – Administrative Matters
7. Agenda Item I – Ecosystem-Based Management
8. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
9. GAP Agenda
10. GMT Agenda
11. Scientific Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
12. Hotel-related Information
13. Council Roster
14. Memorandum from Executive Director Chuck Tracy

PFMC
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