



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Philip Anderson, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 24, 2017

TO: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel, Highly Migratory Species Management Team, and Interested Persons

FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer for Highly Migratory Species

SUBJECT: November 2017 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meets November 14-20, 2017, at the Hilton Orange County in Costa Mesa, California. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will meet on Friday, November 17 and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Thursday and Friday, November 16-17. The HMSAS will be in the Laguna Beach Rooms 1 & 2 and the HMSMT will be in Laguna Beach Room 3. The meetings begin at 8 a.m. each day. Three HMS topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these topics follow.

H.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region will report on HMS Branch activities. The Region office is also organizing briefings on current advances in bycatch mitigation under its report. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will report on HMS-related research activities. This agenda item is a briefing and no Council action will occur under this agenda item.

H.2 Recommendations for International Management Activities

Council staff will report on the outcomes of the Third North Pacific Albacore Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Workshop and the meeting of the Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC) to the U.S. Section to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Mr. Doug Fricke from the HMSAS and Ms. Cyreis Schmitt of the HMSMT attended the albacore MSE workshop. The Council has the option of making recommendations for U.S. positions at the Fourteenth Regular Session of the WCPFC, coming up in December.

H.3 Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits

The Council has received six new applications for DSBG EFPs for review at the November Council meeting. (One application, from Mr. Stephen Mintz, was submitted as public comment after the deadline for the September meeting and was not reviewed at that meeting. It is included as one of the six applications for review at this meeting.) In September, the Council requested

four applicants to provide information missing from their applications to NMFS before NMFS proceeds with reviewing those applications. NMFS will report on the receipt of that information in a supplemental report.

The Enforcement Consultants have offered to discuss recent enforcement activities that may be of interest to the HMSAS in connection with the Tri-State Enforcement Report presented under Agenda Item I.1. I have included that opportunity on the HMSAS agenda.

To help you keep abreast of topics at future Council meetings, I am also including the materials for Agenda Item G.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning. You may wish to provide comments on what topics are proposed and at what meetings.

Paper copies of referenced briefing materials are enclosed. You may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/briefing-books/>. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advanced briefing book.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item H.1: NMFS Report
3. Agenda Item H.2: Recommendations for International Management Activities
4. Agenda Item H.3: Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits
5. Agenda Item G.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
6. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
7. Informational Reports
8. Hotel-related Information
9. Council Roster

PFMC

10/24/17