

## LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Legislative Committee (LC) will meet on Thursday, March 8, to review bills proposed in the 115th Congress (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1).

The Council received two Congressional requests for comment on the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) bills. Senator Maria Cantwell (WA) requested Council comments on HR 200, the Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act (Young); S 2991, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2014 (Begich, 113<sup>th</sup> Congress); S 1520, the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2017 (Wicker), and the (unnumbered) Strengthening Fishing Communities Through Improving Science, Increasing Flexibility, and Modernizing Fisheries Management Act (Huffman). As directed by the Council in November, a letter was approved using the fast-track process (Attachment 2). The same letter in essence was sent to Representative Kurt Schrader (OR) in response to his request for Council comment on HR 200 and “other legislation relevant to amending or reauthorizing the MSA.”

Also per Council direction in November, letters were sent to Representative Ken Calvert and to Representative Jimmy Panetta commenting on HR 3916, the FISH Act, which would transfer jurisdiction over anadromous species from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Attachments 3 and 4).

Letters were also sent to Representatives Jared Huffman and Mike Thompson on HR 23, the Gaining Responsibility on Water Act (Attachment 5).

On December 13, 2017, the House Natural Resources Committee held a session in which HR 200, the primary House bill for authorizing the MSA, was marked up. Representative Young offered a revised version of HR 200 “Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute” which was subsequently amended and reported by the committee. The staff summary of MSA reauthorization bills has been updated to reflect these changes (Attachment 6). The new version of HR 200 “Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute” is also provided (Attachment 7). A letter from the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) on MSA reauthorization along with the most recent version of the CCC working paper on MSA issues is included in Attachment 8. An updated version of the MSA marked up with the proposed changes from the current MSA bills is provided as Attachment 9 (electronic only).

Finally, the LC will be discussing HR 2936, the Resilient Federal Forests Act, which could have negative impacts on salmon habitat. A summary is attached (Attachment 10). The Council has not been asked for comment.

### **Council Action:**

**Consider the Legislative Committee Report and recommendations.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1: Staff Summary of Federal Legislation.
2. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2: Letter to Senator Maria Cantwell on MSA reauthorization.
3. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3: Letter to Representative Ken Calvert on HR 3916.
4. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 4: Letter to Representative Jimmy Panetta on HR 3916.
5. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 5: Letter to Representatives Jared Huffman and Mike Thompson on HR 23.
6. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 6: Summary of changes proposed by MSA bills.
7. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 7: HR 200 “Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute” **(Electronic Only)**.
8. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 8: Letter from CCC on MSA Reauthorization **(Electronic Only)**.
9. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 9: MSA with changes proposed by HR 200 and HR 2023 **(Electronic Only)**.
10. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 10: American Forest Resource Council Summary of HR 2936.
11. *Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report.*

Agenda Order:

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|---|-----------------|
| C.4 Legislative Matters   | Jennifer Gilden |
| a. Report of the Legislative Committee  | Dave Hanson     |
| b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities                  |                 |
| c. Public Comment   |                 |
| d. <b>Council Action:</b> Consider Legislative Committee Report and Recommendations |                 |

PFMC  
02/14/18