



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2018

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

FROM: Mr. Brett Wiedoff, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 8-14, 2018, Doubletree by Hilton Sonoma, One Doubletree Drive, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 9th in the Cotati Room. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday March 10th in the Vineyard 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;
 - Reports from the West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center;
 - Consider the California Current Ecosystem Report and Identify Ecosystem Science Review Topics for 2018;
 - Review Progress and Provide Guidance Regarding Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative Update;
 - Adopt Sablefish Management Strategy Evaluation for Potential Use in Future Assessments and Management Decisions, as Appropriate;
 - Consider Annual International Pacific Halibut Commission Meeting Report;
 - Legislative Matters;
 - Incidental Catch Recommendations: Options for the Salmon Troll and Final Recommendations for Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries;
 - Trawl Catch Shares - Gear Switching and Trawl Sablefish Area Management, Provide Guidance on Future Process and Schedule;
 - Implementation of the 2018 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement;
 - Adopt for Public Review a Preliminary List and Schedule of Stocks for Assessment in 2019 and 2021 and Terms of Reference for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessments, Methodology Reviews, and Rebuilding Analyses;
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- Review Final Biological Opinion Incidental Take Statement and Identify Council Tasks and Schedule for Addressing Reasonable and Prudent Measures and Pursuant Terms and Conditions;
- Adopt Final Range of Alternatives for Follow-On Actions Analysis and Provide Guidance on Other Trawl Catch Share Issues;
- Update on 2019-2020 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures - Review Progress and Provide Guidance and Adopt Revised Harvest Specifications, As Necessary;
- Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2018, Including Shorebased Carryover and Exempted Fishing Permits, as Necessary, to Achieve, but Not Exceed, Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives;
- 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.

BLW:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C.1 – Council Coordination Committee Update
4. Agenda Item C.2 – Marine Planning Update
5. Agenda Item C.3 – National Marine Sanctuary Coordination Report
6. Agenda Item C.4 – Legislative Matters
7. Agenda Item C.7 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
8. Agenda Item F – Fishery Ecosystem
9. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
10. Agenda Item H – Groundfish Management
11. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
12. GAP Agenda
13. GMT Agenda
14. Scientific Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
15. Hotel-related Information
16. Council Roster

PFMC
02/09/18