



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 16, 2018

TO: Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team and Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2018 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet November 1 – 8, 2018, at the San Diego Marriott Del Mar, 11966 El Camino Real, San Diego, California. The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) will be in session November 2 – 4. Major topics for discussion at this meeting are below.

Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures (I.4)

At the November meeting, the Council will revisit the composition of each advisory body (AB) and consider appointments for the 2019 – 2021 AB term. The CPSAS and CPSMT should consider whether the current makeup of the CPSAS is optimal for providing advice to support Council decision making.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report (E.1)

NMFS and the Southwest Fisheries Science Center will provide updates on regulatory and science activities.

Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection (E.2)

Proposals for new survey or other science-based methodologies must undergo independent review prior to being used in Council stock assessments or other products. For CPS, proponents of new methodologies bring their proposal to the November Council meeting for consideration. If no proposals are submitted to the Council, the agenda item may be canceled.

Amendment 17: Live Bait Fishery Allowance (E.3)

The Council is scheduled to take final action on a fishery management plan (FMP) amendment that would potentially remove incidental landing limits when a CPS stock is declared overfished. The CPSMT and CPSAS should make recommendations to the Council on selection of a final preferred alternative.

Exempted Fishing Permits – Notice of Intent (E.4)

The Council will consider adopting for public review any proposals for exempted fishing permits (EFP), with final approval scheduled for the April 2019 meeting.

Review of Management Categories (E.5)

In April 2018, the Council requested information on the data and process that informs whether CPS stocks are categorized as Active versus Monitored, and asked for workload implications for changing the name or description of those categories. The CPSMT and the CPSAS should discuss and make recommendations about whether the names and descriptions of the Active and Monitored categories are sufficiently described in the FMP, and whether the Council should consider any modifications.

Stock Assessment Prioritization Process (E.6)

The Council also requested information on a potential stock assessment prioritization process for CPS stocks, similar to the process used for groundfish assessment planning. A report by the Southwest Fisheries Science Center and CPSMT is in the advanced briefing book materials, and the CPSMT and CPSAS should be prepared to make recommendations to the Council on the utility of such a process.

Climate and Communities Initiative Update (H.1)

The Council's Ad Hoc Climate Scenarios Investigation Committee (CSI) will hold a public webinar on October 23, 2018 to discuss recommendations and solicit feedback from Council advisory bodies and the public, on the development of potential scenario planning concepts and the scenario planning process. This guidance will help the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) identify a range of potential scenarios for further development and a scope of work for a climate change scenario planning exercise, in consultation with other advisory bodies, and report to the Council in March 2019.

Legislative Matters (I.1)

A request for comment on the AQUAA Act of 2018 was made to the Council. A staff summary of the bill will be in the November Briefing Book materials, and the CPSMT and CPSAS should be prepared to develop comments and recommendations for Council consideration.

Elections

The CPSMT will hold elections for Chair and Vice Chair, for calendar year 2019. The CPSAS composition will not yet have been determined, so CPSAS elections will be held at the first opportunity in 2019.

Finally, please note that there is a new [portal](#) for submitting public comments. For the November meeting, public comments may be submitted either via the new portal or the old way (email to pfmc.comments@noaa.gov, by mail or by fax). Starting with the March 2019 meeting, the new portal will be the only way to submit public comments. This will apply to all public comments, for the advanced Briefing Book and for supplemental public comments. Please note that all other reports (ABs, management teams, etc) should be submitted the same way as in the past and should NOT use the public comment portal.

Enclosed are November agenda materials for your review. Thank you for your continued participation in the Council process and for your part in maintaining sustainable fisheries on the U.S. West Coast.

KFG:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item E.1 – National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report
4. Agenda item E.2 – Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection
5. Agenda Item E.3 – Live Bait Fishery Allowance - FPA
6. Agenda Item E.4 – Exempted Fishing Permits – Notice of Intent
7. Agenda Item E.5 – Review of Management Categories
8. Agenda Item E.6 – Stock Assessment Prioritization Process
9. Agenda Item H.1 – Climate and Communities Initiative Update
10. Agenda Item I.1 – Legislative Matters
11. Agenda Item I.4 – Membership Appointments and COPs
12. Agenda Item I.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
13. CPS Agenda
14. Hotel Information
15. Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 10, 2018

TO: Enforcement Consultants

FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2018 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 1-8, 2018, at the San Diego Marriott Del Mar, 11966 El Camino Real, San Diego, California 92130; telephone, 858-523-1700.

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will meet in the *La Jolla room* on *Saturday, November 3* starting at *3 p.m.* and as necessary thereafter (through Wednesday, November 7) in the **Grand B/C room**. The **annual banquet** to honor outgoing members of the Council family will occur on Friday, November 2 starting at 6 p.m. with a no-host social hour in the Rancho Santa Fe Ballroom. This is a non-RSVP event with a cost of \$20 per person to be collected at the door. Please arrive no later than 6:45 p.m.

Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you. Please note: November will be the second meeting where the Council will consider advisory body compositions and will also be reviewing appointments for the next term for Advisory Subpanels, at-large SSC seats, and non-agency seats on the Habitat Committee. Briefing book materials on this agenda item are enclosed, though at this time it has not been included on your agenda. Your agenda allows for the addition of this item if you should decide it is something on which you would like to comment.

JLS:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. HC Agenda
4. LC Agenda
5. CPSAS Agenda

6. CPSMT Agenda
7. GAP Agenda
8. GMT Agenda
9. HMSAS Agenda
10. HMSMT Agenda
11. SAS Agenda
12. STT Agenda
13. E.3 Amendment 17: Live Bait Fishery Allowance – Final Action
14. E.4 Preliminary Review of New 2019 Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)
15. G.3 Five-Year Catch Share Follow-On Action FMP and Regulatory Amendments – Final Action
16. G.4 Omnibus Project Prioritization
17. G.5 Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Seabirds– Scoping
18. G.6 Inseason Adjustments for 2018 and 2019 - Final Action
19. G.7 Electronic Monitoring (EM) - Review of Existing and Out-of-Cycle Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)
20. J.2 Recommend International Management Activities
21. J.4 Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Range of Alternatives and Limited Entry Criteria
22. I.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
23. I.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
24. Hotel-related Information
25. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 10, 2018

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

FROM: Mr. Brett Wiedoff, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 1-8 the San Diego Marriott Del Mar, 11966 El Camino Real, San Diego, CA 92130. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, November 3 in the Coronado Room and Rancho 3-4, respectively.

The Council will host its Annual Banquet on the evening of Friday, November 2 in the Rancho Santa Fe Ballroom. All are invited. This year Buzz Brizendine, David Crabbe, Peter Dygert, August Felando, Paul Heikkila, Robert Kope, Larrie LaVoy, Dorothy Lowman, and Dayna Matthews will be honored for their service. The banquet is a non-RSVP event and is \$20 per person to attend. Space is limited, so please arrive no later than 6:45 p.m.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest, including:

- Matters raised during the Open Comment Period;
 - Habitat;
 - Pacific Halibut Management;
 - National Marine Fisheries Service Report;
 - Cost Recovery Report and Regulations;
 - Climate and Communities Initiative Update;
 - Legislative Matters;
 - Five-Year Catch Share Follow-on Action FMP and Regulatory Amendments – Final Action
 - Omnibus Project Prioritization;
 - Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Seabirds – Scoping;
 - Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2018 and 2019 – Final Action;
 - Electronic Monitoring (EM) - Review of Existing and Out-of-Cycle Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)
 - Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Salmon – Scoping
 - Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures (COPs); and
 - Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.
-

Of particular note, the Council has the opportunity to consider the composition of its advisory bodies and appoint members for three-year terms under Agenda Item I.4, Memberships Appointments and Council Operating Procedures (COPs). The Council will also review and consider revisions to the COPs. Recently, GMT and GAP membership have changed, and both groups are scheduled to review their current membership and provide direction to the Council regarding potential changes to their respective compositions to ensure adequate expertise and representation.

Finally, the Council is changing how public comments can be submitted. Starting in March 2019, a new web-based public comment [portal](#) will be the only way for the public to provide comment to the advanced and/or supplemental Briefing Book. Please note, for the November meeting, public comments may be submitted as they have in the past (i.e., email to pfmc.comments@noaa.gov, by mail, or by fax) or, alternatively, they can be submitted using the new portal. All other Briefing Book materials and reports should be submitted to the staff officer listed on the Council's November [Agenda](#) and NOT via the public comment portal.

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:kma

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Habitat
4. Agenda Item F – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Item H – Ecosystem Management
7. Agenda Item I.4 and I.5 – Administrative Matters
8. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
9. GAP Agenda
10. GMT Agenda
11. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
12. Informational Reports
13. General Info

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 16, 2018

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 2018 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meets November 3-8, 2018, at the San Diego Marriott Del Mar hotel in Del Mar, California. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Sunday through Wednesday, November 4-7. The HMSAS will be in Grand F/G and the HMSMT will be in Grand H. The meetings begin at 8 a.m. each day. Four HMS topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these topics follow. I also describe several other items that may be of interest.

J.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region will report on HMS Branch activities. 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.

J.2 Recommend International Management Activities

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) holds its annual meeting in December. The Council may make recommendations on positions the U.S. should take at that meeting. Mr. David Hogan, the Department of State representative of on the Council, is planning to attend the November Council meeting. His specific interest is to consult with stakeholders and the Council on the next fishing regime pursuant to the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty; the current regime expires at the end of 2019. He will also be able to provide insight on issues and concerns in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission process (IATTC). In September the Council directed the HMSMT to examine the level of fishing effort in the West Coast albacore fishery relative to measures adopted by the IATTC and WCPFC that set limits on fishing effort in fisheries fishing for North Pacific albacore. The Council also directed the HMSMT and HMSAS to develop recommendations for a long-term management strategy for Pacific bluefin tuna. These assignments could be discussed by you, with any initial recommendations reported to the Council.

J.3 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Preliminary Action

The Council may make recommendations on estimates of the maximum fishing mortality threshold and minimum stock size threshold used by NMFS to make status determinations for stocks managed under the HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Using these criteria NMFS may notify the Council about the status of Pacific bluefin tuna and the Eastern Pacific Ocean stock of yellowfin tuna. The Council may begin considering its recommendations on domestic and international actions to address stock status at this meeting and finalize them at the March 2019 meeting, as outlined in the HMS FMP.

J.4 Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Range of Alternatives and Limited Entry Criteria

The Council is scheduled to take final action on measures to authorize a deep-set buoy gear fishery in March 2019. Through a series of motions the Council has specified the management measures for such a fishery except for one remaining feature: if a limited entry permit is implemented, how will the permits be distributed? The Council should provide some details on this issue in advance of the March 2019 final decision to help the public to comment and allow more detailed analysis of the proposal. This agenda item is an opportunity for the Council to do that.

H.1 Climate and Communities Initiative Update

In September, the Council formed the Ad Hoc Climate Scenarios Investigation Committee (CSI) composed of three Council members. The CSI will provide guidance on developing scenarios to investigate how the Council could respond to the effects of climate change on fish stocks and fishing communities. The CSI will hold a webinar on October 23 to preview its recommendations and obtain feedback from advisory bodies and the public. At the Council meeting the CSI will present their report. The HMSAS and HMSMT may wish to submit comments and recommendations on the CSI's work under this agenda item.

I.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures

The three-year terms of all advisory subpanel members expire on December 31, 2018. At this meeting the Council will select advisory body members for the next three-year term and could further consider the composition of each advisory body.

I.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.

I have also included the materials for this agenda item to help you keep abreast of topics at future Council meetings. In September the Council adopted an overall schedule for HMS-related Council actions ([Agenda Item F.7, Supplemental Attachment 5](#), September 2018). This schedule has been incorporated into the Year-At-A-Glance planning document (Agenda Item I.5, Attachment 1). You may wish to review the schedule for HMS topics and submit recommendations.

New Public Comment Web Portal

Please note that there is a new [portal](#) for submitting public comments. For the November meeting, public comments may be submitted either via the new portal or the old way (email to pfmc.comments@noaa.gov, by mail or by fax). Starting with the March 2019 meeting, the new portal will be the only way to submit public comments. This will apply to all public comments,

for the advanced Briefing Book and for supplemental public comments. Please note that all other reports (ABs, management teams, etc.) should be submitted the same way as in the past; the public comment portal should NOT be used for this purpose.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the Annual Chair's Banquet set for Friday evening, November 2. Outgoing Council members and long-serving advisory body members are honored at the Banquet. This year one of the honorees will be Mr. August Felando, who served on the HMSAS from its inception. Although the banquet date is outside your authorized travel dates for reimbursement, please consider attending. Banquet attendees are given the opportunity to reminisce and pay tribute to the honorees, so this would be your chance to tell us all a good story about Augie and his service to the Council.

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:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item H.1: Climate and Communities Initiative Update
3. Agenda Item J.1: NMFS Report
4. Agenda Item J.2: Recommend International Management Activities
5. Agenda Item J.3: Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Preliminary Action
6. Agenda Item J.4: Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Range of Alternatives and Limited Entry Criteria
7. Agenda Item I.4: Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
8. Agenda Item I.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
9. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
10. Informational Reports
11. Hotel-related Information
12. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 19, 2018

TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Robin Ehlke, Salmon Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2018 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet November 1-8, 2018 at San Diego Marriott Del Mar, San Diego, California. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) and the Salmon Technical Team (STT) will meet November 2-3. The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will not be meeting at the November Council meeting.

There are three salmon items scheduled for the November Council meeting, which include 1.) A report from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), 2.) Review of the preliminary salmon rebuilding plans, and 3.) Final Council recommendation on the preseason salmon management schedule for 2019.

Additional topics on the Council agenda for November include, but are not limited to, the adoption of final Pacific Halibut Catch Share Plan changes and regulations for 2019 (Agenda Item F.1) and an update from NMFS on the Endangered Species Act consultation on Salmon bycatch in Groundfish fisheries (Agenda Item G.8). Under Ecosystem topics (Agenda Item H.1), an update on the Climate and Communities initiative will be provided. The Council will also take up the usual administrative matters including future workload, agenda planning, and membership appointments. 2018 marks the end of the current 3-year terms for the members of the Council's advisory bodies and committees. Under Agenda Item I.4, the Council will consider appointments to the Council advisory bodies and committees for the term 2019-2021. Agenda Item I.5 will address future workload and agenda planning.

Lastly, the Council will host its Annual Banquet the evening of Friday, November 2. There are nine honorees, including Larrie Lavoy and Robert Kope from the STT. Visit the Council web page at www.pcouncil.org for banquet details.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance.

RDE/acl

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Items D.1, D.2, and D.3, – Salmon Management
3. Agenda Item F.1 – Pacific Halibut Management
4. Agenda Items G.8 – Groundfish Management
5. Agenda Item H.1 - Ecosystem
6. Agenda Items I.4 and I.5 – Administrative Matters
7. Groundfish Advisory Subpanel Agenda
8. SAS Agenda
9. STT Agenda
10. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda
11. Hotel-Related Information
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 19, 2018
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore
SUBJECT: November 2018 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 1-8, 2018 at the San Diego Marriott Del Mar Hotel, 11966 El Camino Real, San Diego, CA. The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittees will meet on Thursday, November 1, starting at 10 a.m. in the Grand F/G Room. The full SSC will meet Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3 starting at 8 a.m. each day in the Grand F/G Room. The annual banquet to honor outgoing members of the Council family will occur on Friday, November 2 starting at 6 p.m. with a no-host social hour in the Rancho Santa Fe Ballroom. This is a non-RSVP event with a cost of \$20 per person to be collected at the door. Your meeting materials are enclosed.

Council Administrative Matters

The SSC will review the credentials of nominees for the eight at-large seats on the SSC. The non-at-large members of the SSC will be in closed session during this discussion which is listed on the agenda as Agenda Item I.4.

The SSC will also discuss future workload planning and may report to the Council on their plans under Agenda Item I.5.

Salmon Management

The SSC will review preliminary rebuilding plans for five salmon stocks recently declared overfished and provide their comments and recommendations to the Council.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review any new methodology topics proposed to inform management of coastal pelagic species and will recommend those that should be formally reviewed next year. This agenda item will be cancelled if no new methodology review topics are proposed.

The SSC will review a report by the CPS Management Team (CPSMT) regarding existing management categories for species managed in the CPS Fishery Management Plan and will recommend the need and workload associated with revising management categories.

The SSC will review a report by the CPSMT regarding a proposed stock assessment prioritization process for CPS and provide guidance on a potential prioritization process to the Council.

The SSC will further plan their role in advising the Council on future management actions for the central subpopulation of northern anchovy in preparation for a scheduled Council action on this topic in April 2019.

Highly Migratory Species Management

The SSC will review status determination criteria for highly migratory species (HMS) and recommend to the Council whether these criteria are appropriate for making overfishing and overfished status determinations.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:ael

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item I.4 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item I.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Salmon Management

4. Agenda Item D.2 – Preliminary Rebuilding Plans

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

5. Agenda Item E.2 – Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection
6. Agenda Item E.5 – Review of Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Management Categories
7. Agenda Item E.6 – Stock Assessment Prioritization Process

Highly Migratory Species Management

8. Agenda Item J.3 – Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Preliminary Action

SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Closed Session, Etc.

9. November 2018 SSC Groundfish and CPS Subcommittees Agenda

10. November 2018 SSC Agenda
11. Draft September 2018 SSC Minutes
12. Administrative Closed Session
13. Estimating a Bayesian Prior for Steepness in Pacific Rockfishes (*Sebastes* spp.) off the U.S. West Coast for the 2019 Assessment Cycle (SSC Only)
14. Accounting for Increased Uncertainty in Setting Precautionary Harvest Limits from Past Assessments (SSC Only)
15. Informational Reports
16. Hotel-Related Information
17. Council Roster

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