



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: February 15, 2019

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

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2019 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 6 - 12, at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel, 301 West Sixth Street, Vancouver, Washington 98660. The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) will not be in session at this meeting, but will be holding a joint webinar on March 1, 2019 to consider March Council meeting agenda items. Major topics for discussion and potential CPSMT and CPSAS comments at this meeting are below.

- **California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics (E.1)**
- **Climate and Communities Initiative Update (E.2)**
- **Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review (E.3)**

Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy (CSNA) (K.1)

The United States District Court, Northern District of California recently issued an order requiring the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to develop a new rule on harvest specifications (Overfishing Limit, Acceptable Biological Catch, and Annual Catch Limit) for CSNA by April 18, 2019. Due to the compressed time frame, the normal Council and NMFS process for analyzing and adopting harvest specifications is likely to be expedited. The exact process that will be used was not known at the time this was written, but one possible scenario is that NMFS will publish a proposed rule prior to the March Council meeting, which would provide an opportunity for the Council to comment on the proposed harvest specifications. This agenda item was added to the Council's March meeting to allow for that scenario. In the event a proposed rule is not published, this agenda item may be cancelled at the March Council meeting. Another possible scenario is that NMFS publishes a final (or interim final rule) in April without a Proposed Rule. In anticipation of that scenario, the Council's draft April agenda has an opportunity to develop recommendations to NMFS at that time. In either case, the Scientific and Statistical Committee and CPS Advisory Bodies will provide recommendations to the Council on appropriate harvest specifications at either or both the March and April Council meetings.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of the new [e-portal](#) for submitting public comments. Public comments may be submitted via this link. 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 March 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:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item E.1 – California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics
4. Agenda Item E.2 – Climate and Communities Initiative Update
5. Agenda Item E.3 – Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review
6. Agenda Item C.3 – Membership Appointments and COPs
7. Agenda Item C.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
8. Agenda Item K.1 – Comments on Court Ordered Rulemaking for CSNA
9. Hotel Information
10. Council Roster

PFMC
02/14/19



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: February 15, 2019

TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Kit Dahl, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 6-12, 2019, at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) and the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will meet Wednesday and Thursday, March 6-7. The EAS will be in the Discovery E Room and the EWG will be in the Discovery D Room.

There are three agenda topics under the Ecosystem heading. I have also included the briefing materials for C.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning. Summaries of these topics follow.

Agenda Item E.1 California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics

The California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) composed of staff from the Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers produce the State of the California Current Ecosystem Report annually and delivers it at the March Council meeting. The report informs the Council on ecological conditions through various indicators for physical, biological, and social processes.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee Ecosystem Subcommittee (SSCES) conducts technical review of ecosystem research topics, some of which may contributed to the development or refinement of indicators in the annual ecosystem status report. At this meeting the SSC may identify topics it intends to review in 2019.

Agenda Item E.2 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative Update

In September 2018, the Council formed the Ad Hoc Climate Scenario Investigation (CSI) Committee, which provided guidance on using climate change scenario planning to address the goals of this initiative (see [Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental CSI Report 1](#)). The CSI Committee

directed the EWG to identify candidate topics for a scenario planning exercise and to outline how such an exercise would unfold. The EWG responded to this guidance in a report for the advance briefing book.

Agenda Item E.3 Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review

In September 2018, the Council directed the EWG to assess progress in implementing the FEP objectives, suggest improvements to make them more specific and measurable, and recommend ways that they could be integrated into the Council's four fishery management plans. The Council also directed the EWG to recommend revisions to the FEP document. The EWG drafted a report responding to this guidance, which is included in the advanced briefing book materials.

To help you keep abreast of topics at future Council meetings, I am including the materials for Agenda Item C.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. In addition, you may also 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.

KRD:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item E.1: California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics
3. Agenda Item E.2: Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative Update
4. Agenda Item E.3: Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review
5. Agenda Item C.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
6. EAS and EWG Agendas
7. Informational Reports
8. Hotel-related Information
9. Council Roster



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: February 15, 2019
TO: Enforcement Consultants
FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: March 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 6-12, 2019, at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel, 301 West Sixth Street, Vancouver, Washington 98660, telephone 60-993-4500.

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will meet in the Cedar Room on Thursday, March 7 starting at 3 p.m. and as necessary thereafter (through Wednesday, March 12), except that your March 8 session will be in the Hemlock Room.

Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you. Your agenda allows you to add other items from the Council agenda, if you should decide there are other issues on which you would like to comment.

JLS:rd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. HC Agenda
4. LC Agenda
5. GAP Agenda
6. GMT Agenda
7. HMSAS Agenda
8. HMSMT Agenda
9. SAS Agenda
10. STT Agenda

(Administrative)

11. Agenda Item C.3 Membership Appointments, Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures and Council Operating Procedures

12. Agenda Item C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

(Salmon)

13. Agenda Item D.4 Identify Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2019 Management Alternatives

14. Agenda Item D.5 Recommendations for 2019 Management Alternative Analysis

15. Agenda Item D.6 Further Direction for 2019 Management Alternatives

16. Agenda Item D.7 Further Direction for 2019 Management Alternatives

17. Agenda Item D.8 Adopt 2019 Management Alternatives for Public Review

(Groundfish)

18. Agenda Item G.2 Amendment 28 – Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Rockfish Conservation Area – Final Implementation

19. Agenda Item G.4 Omnibus Workload Planning Process Review and Project Prioritization

20. Agenda Item G.5 Inseason Adjustments—Final Action

(Pacific Halibut)

21. Agenda Item H.2 Incidental Catch Recommendations: Options for the Salmon Troll and Final Recommendations for Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries

22. Informational Report 2

23. Hotel-related Information

24. Council Roster

PFMC

02/14/19



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: February 15, 2019

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

FROM: Mr. Todd Phillips, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 6-12 at the Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 W. Sixth Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, March 7 in the Pine Room and Oak Room, respectively.

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

- Matters raised during the Open Comment Period;
 - Marine Planning Update;
 - California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics;
 - Climate and Communities Initiative Update;
 - Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review;
 - Legislative Matters;
 - Current Habitat Issues;
 - Groundfish: National Marine Fisheries Service Report;
 - Amendment 28 – Essential Fish Habitat and Rockfish Conservation Area – Final Implementation;
 - New Methodology informing Sigma Values – Final Adoption;
 - Omnibus Workload Process Planning Review and Project Prioritization;
 - Inseason Adjustments – Final Action;
 - Implementation of the 2019 Pacific Whiting Fishery under the U.S./Canada Agreement;
 - Annual International Pacific Halibut Commission Meeting Report;
 - Incidental Catch Recommendations: Options for the Salmon Troll and Final Recommendations for Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries;
 - Membership Appointments, Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures and Council Operating Procedures
 - Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.
-

Please note, the National Marine Sanctuary Coordination Report, Annual Cost Recovery Report, and a Vessel Movement Monitoring Update were originally planned for the March Council meeting; however, these items have been postponed due to the lack of supporting meeting materials resulting from the partial government shutdown. These items are tentatively rescheduled for the April Council meeting

As a reminder, the Council has changed how public comments can be submitted. Starting in March 2019, a new web-based public comment [e-portal](#) will be the only way for the public to provide comment to the advanced and/or supplemental Briefing Book. All other Briefing Book materials and reports should be submitted to the staff officer listed on the Council's March [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.

TMP:rdd

Enclosures include:

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

PFMC
02/14/19



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: February 14, 2019

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: March 2019 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meets March 7-12, 2019, at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Saturday through Monday, March 9-11. The HMSAS will be in the Discovery E Room and the HMSMT will be in Discovery D Room. The meetings begin at 8 a.m. each day. Three HMS topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these topics follow. I also note a topic you may wish to comment on under Agenda Item C.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.

J.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will provide an update on the analysis of the range of alternatives adopted for authorizing a deep-set buoy gear regulation the Council adopted in November 2018. You may wish to review the description of the range of alternative contained in NMFS Report 1 to ensure it captures Council intent. Ms. Jenny Suter of the Pacific Fishery Information Network (PacFIN) will brief the Council on the work and future goals of the Eastern Pacific Highly Migratory Species Professional Specialty Group (EP HMS PSG). The group focuses on the integration and reporting of West Coast HMS data.

The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will report on HMS-related research activities.

J.2 Recommend International Management Activities

An update on the outcomes of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Fifteenth Regular Session (WCPFC15) will be provided under this agenda item.

At its November 2018 meeting, the Council directed the HMSMT to analyze fishing effort in the West Coast North Pacific albacore fishery to support discussions at the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) about specifying effort limits consistent with Resolution C-05-02.

Attachment 1 provides background information on United States reporting to the WCPFC Northern Committee on fishing effort in the fishery.

The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) has initiated management strategy evaluations (MSE) for North Pacific albacore and Pacific bluefin tuna in support of the development of harvest strategies by the WCPFC Northern Committee. This is an opportunity to get a progress report on these efforts and make recommendations for their further development.

J.3 Drift Gillnet Performance Metrics Review

Beginning in 2017, the Council has received an annual report on estimated bycatch in the large mesh drift gillnet (DGN) fishery against performance metrics originally adopted by the Council in 2015. The HMSMT has recommended using a more statistically robust methodology for estimating rare event bycatch referred to as the “regression tree” methodology. Based on Scientific and Statistical Committee review, the Council endorsed its use for future reporting of bycatch metrics in the DGN fishery. The Council also assigned the HMSMT several tasks related to the implementation of this method for bycatch reporting, as described in the Situation Summary.

E.1 California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics

For your information I am also including the 2019 Annual State of the California Current Ecosystem Report and related materials. This may be of interest to you in considering management of HMS fisheries.

C.3 Membership Appointments; Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures; and Council Operating Procedures

For your information I am also including the membership appointments and procedural changes material.

C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

In March 2018 the Council decided to pause on receiving additional exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications to test deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) until June 2019. Consideration of any new applications would henceforth be based on the schedule and requirements in Council Operating Procedure (COP) 20, Protocol for Consideration of Exempted Fishing Permits for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries. COP 20 lays out an annual, June-September review schedule for EFP applications. You may wish to comment on 1) whether, in June, the Council should accept new DSBG EFP applications, and 2) if yes, whether the Council should use the standard COP 20 process or the expedited process that was used to accept and review DSBG EFP applications previously.

New Public Comment Web Portal

Please note that there is a new [online portal](#) for submitting public comments. As of the March meeting, public comments must be submitted via this portal. This applies 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.

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:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item E.1: California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Report and Science Review Topics
3. Agenda Item J.1: NMFS Report
4. Agenda Item J.2: Recommend International Management Activities
5. Agenda Item J.3: Drift Gillnet Performance Metrics Review
6. Agenda Item C.3: Membership Appointments; Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures; and Council Operating Procedures
7. Agenda Item C.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
8. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
9. Informational Reports
10. Hotel-related Information
11. Council Roster

PFMC
2/14/19



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: February 15, 2019

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

FROM: Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March Council Meeting

In conjunction with the March Council meeting, the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet from Thursday, March 7 through Monday, March 11, 2019. The Council meeting is at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel in Vancouver, Washington. The STT will meet in the Heritage-C Room, and the SAS will meet in the Heritage-E Room; meetings will start at 8 a.m. The Council will begin the salmon agenda on Thursday, March 7, and continue through Tuesday, March 12. Other topics of interest on the Council agenda include: ecosystem topics, Pacific halibut, habitat, and legislative issues. Also note that you are invited to the Chair's Reception at 6 p.m. Thursday evening.

The Salmon agenda item will begin on Thursday, March 7 with a briefing from National Marine Fisheries Service to the Council on salmon related topics (Agenda Item D.1). On Friday, March 8, the Council will hear a report from the STT on the five salmon rebuilding plans under development (Agenda Item D.2). There is a lot of material to cover on the five rebuilding plans; the SAS would benefit from reading the plans prior to the meeting, and summarizing any comments to share with the group to help formulate any statements.

Also on Friday, March 8, The Council will be briefed by the STT on the *Review of 2018 Ocean Salmon Fisheries* and *Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis for 2019 Ocean Salmon Fisheries* (Agenda Item D.3). The *Review of 2018 Ocean Salmon Fisheries* is scheduled to be posted on the Council web site by February 15. The *Preseason Report I* is being compiled by the STT the week of February 19 and should be posted to the Council web site by March 1. The STT and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will discuss salmon topics on Thursday, March 7.

The main salmon issue before the Council will be developing alternatives for modeling 2019 ocean fisheries. On Friday, March 8, the SAS will present the Council with recommendations for three alternatives (Agenda Item D.4). SAS representatives should review the *Guidance for Alternative Development and Assessment* (Agenda Item D.4, Attachment 1) and clearly identify their fishery priorities and engage in negotiations as necessary to resolve conflicts among fishery sectors and areas to arrive at cohesive and coordinated options. The STT will then collate and analyze the alternatives as directed by the Council (Agenda Items D.5). Working throughout the week the SAS, STT, and

Council will refine the alternatives (Agenda Items D.6 and D.7), which are scheduled to be adopted for public review on Tuesday, March 12 (Agenda Item D.8). The Council will adopt the hearing officers for the three public salmon hearings scheduled for late March under Agenda Item D.9.

Each year at the March meeting, the Council receives the Annual State of the California Current Ecosystem (CCE) Report to bring ecosystem information into the Council process in a succinct, straightforward format to assist decision-making through the consideration of ecosystem variability. The report includes the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (Agenda Item E.1), and is on the Council agenda Thursday, March 7. Following that briefing, the Council will receive a report on the Climate and Communities initiative (Agenda Item E.2). Because both of these topics are early on the Council agenda, there will be little time at the meeting to contemplate the issues and draft any statements. Please take the time to read the enclosed material on both these topics so everyone is prepared for a discussion and ready to draft a statement if desired.

Pacific halibut is scheduled on the Council agenda for Sunday, March 10. The Council will hear reports on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) annual meeting (Agenda Item H.1), which will likely also include some discussion of the non-Indian directed commercial halibut fishery. Under Agenda Item H.2, the Council will consider incidental halibut retention limits in salmon troll and fixed gear sablefish fisheries. The SAS should be prepared to offer recommendations regarding alternatives for post-May 1, 2019 and April 2020 fisheries. In addition, the SAS should be prepared to offer recommendations for any inseason adjustments to the halibut retention regulations for the April 2019 commercial salmon fisheries too. The Council will adopt for public review the incidental halibut retention alternatives in the commercial salmon fisheries and include them in the 2019 management alternatives package (Agenda Item D.8).

Habitat issues (Agenda Item F.1) are covered on Saturday, March 9. The Habitat Committee will meet the day prior to your arrival, so please go through any pertinent material before the meeting and be prepared for any group discussions. The Legislative Committee will not meet, but has provided an update under Informational Report 2.

The Council will consider future Council meeting agendas and workload planning (Agenda Item C.5) on Tuesday, March 12. The SAS and STT may want to request topics for that agenda item.

Your reading material also includes draft revisions to two Council Operating Procedure (COP) documents. These documents outline duties and procedures for advisory subpanels (COP 2) and technical teams (COP 3). Since there are new members this year, it is a good opportunity for everyone to review the documents and become familiar with the protocol and responsibilities of membership. Council staff is also planning to provide some information on 'Navigating the Council' to help everyone understand their roles and responsibilities, and to learn how to maneuver through some of the Council logistics like Concur, the new e-portal, etc. Look for a brief timeslot on your team agenda for this item.

Please take the necessary time needed to review and familiarize yourself with briefing materials thoroughly before the meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your assistance in the Council's salmon management process.

RDE:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.3, C.5 – Council Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Items D.1 through D.9 – Salmon Management
4. Agenda Items E.1 and E.2 – Ecosystem Matters
5. Agenda Item F.1 – Habitat Issues
6. Agenda Items H.1 and H.2 – Pacific Halibut Management
7. Informational Report 2 - Legislative Update
8. Proposed SAS Agenda
9. Proposed STT Agenda
10. Proposed SSC Agenda
11. Hotel-related Information
12. Council Roster

PFMC
02/14/19



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: February 15, 2019

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore

SUBJECT: March 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 6-12, 2019 at the Hilton Vancouver Hotel, 301 West Sixth St., Vancouver, WA. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 6 and Thursday March 7, starting at 8 a.m. each day in the Hemlock Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed.

Council Administrative Matters

The SSC will review the credentials of four nominees for Council management teams. Mr. Greg Krutzikowsky has been nominated for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) seat on the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team being vacated by Ms. Cyreis Schmitt. Mr. Patrick Mirick has been nominated for the ODFW seat on the Endangered Species Act Workgroup vacated by Dr. Caren Braby. Ms. Caroline McKnight has been nominated for the vacant California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Management Team. Ms. Melinda Rowse has been nominated for the National Marine Fisheries Service seat on the Salmon Technical Team vacated by Dr. Robert Kope.

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

Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment State of the California Current report and provide their recommendations to the Council on the use and future content of this report. The SSC will also review a list of proposed topics for review by the SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee and identify priority topics for discussion next September.

The SSC will review the progress made on advancing the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative and will provide comment on future work, including scenario planning topics.

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.

The SSC will review the 2018 Fisheries and Summary of 2019 Stock Abundance Forecasts and recommend to the Council whether this report is the best scientific information available and can be used in modeling 2019 ocean salmon fisheries, specifying acceptable biological catches, and setting annual catch limits.

The SSC may review a proposal under Agenda Item D.4 to conduct Genetic Stock Identification (GSI) research. The SSC has previously recommended GSI research methodology (see [Agenda Item F.2.b, Supplemental SSC Report, November 2007](#)) and the methodology under the current proposal appears to be unchanged. If the SSC decides to provide comments regarding the proposed GSI sampling, they may do so under Agenda Item D.3.

Groundfish Management

The SSC will review a revised meta-analysis of assessed rockfish species to determine a new Beverton-Holt steepness prior to be used in 2019 groundfish stock assessments. Dr. Chantel Wetzel will present the revised meta-analysis in response to the first review by the SSC's Groundfish and CPS Subcommittees in November 2018. The SSC will make their report available to the Council in April and will revise the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments according to their recommendations.

The SSC will review analyses informing new sigma values used to determine acceptable biological catches for groundfish and coastal pelagic species (CPS). This is a follow-up review of analyses reviewed by the SSC's Groundfish and CPS Subcommittees in November 2018. The SSC will make their final recommendations to the Council on sigmas to be used in groundfish and CPS management under Agenda Item G.3

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review a method proposed by Dr. André Punt for determining F_{MSY} for the central subpopulation of northern anchovy (CSNA). The SSC may also review a preliminary biomass estimate for the CSNA and provide initial feedback to the Southwest Fisheries Science Center. It is anticipated that a more in-depth review of a biomass estimate may occur in April. The Council intends to take up the CSNA issue at their March meeting if the National Marine Fisheries Service has published a proposed rule on CSNA harvest specifications. However, this item will be cancelled from the Council's March agenda if a proposed rule is not published. In that case, the SSC will provide their comments and recommendations on CSNA harvest specifications at the April 2019 Council meeting rather than at the March 2019 Council meeting.

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 C.3 – Membership Appointments, Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures and Council Operating Procedures
3. Agenda Item C.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Salmon Management

4. Agenda Item D.2 – Review of Rebuilding Plans
5. Agenda Item D.3 – Review of 2018 Fisheries and Summary of 2019 Stock Forecasts
6. Agenda Item D.4 – Identify Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2019 Management Alternatives

Ecosystem Management

7. Agenda Item E.1 – California Current Ecosystem and Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Annual Report and Science Review Topics
8. Agenda Item E.2 – Climate and Communities Initiative Update

Groundfish Management

9. Agenda Item G.2 – Amendment 28 – Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Rockfish Conservation Area – Final Implementation
10. Agenda Item G.3 – New Methodology Informing Sigma Values – Final Adoption

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

11. Agenda Item K.1 – Comments on Court Ordered Rulemaking on Harvest Specifications for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy

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

12. March 2019 SSC Agenda
13. Draft November 2018 SSC Minutes
14. Administrative Closed Session
15. Response to SSC requests: Estimating a Bayesian Prior for Steepness in Pacific Rockfishes (*Sebastes* spp.) off the U.S. West Coast for the 2019 Assessment Cycle
16. Estimating a Bayesian prior for steepness in Pacific rockfishes (*Sebastes* spp.) off the U.S. West Coast for the 2019 assessment cycle
17. Alternative meta-analysis applications and model ensemble approach for estimating a steepness prior for U.S. west coast groundfish
18. Current and alternative approaches in determining steepness for West Coast rockfish stocks
19. Whitepaper on Frequency of Assessments and Updates to OFLs, ABCs and ACLs for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy

20. An Approach for Computing F_{MSY} , B_{MSY} and MSY for the CSNA
21. Informational Reports
22. Hotel-Related Information
23. Council Roster

PFMC
02/13/19