

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the draft agenda ([Agenda Item D.7., Attachment 2](#)) for the June Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meeting and draft year at a glance ([Agenda Item D.7., Attachment 1](#)) contained in the advanced briefing book, and offer the following comments.

June Council Meeting

The GMT notes that the Endangered Species Act (ESA) seabird mitigation measures final preferred alternative (FPA) item is in the shaded box and not currently scheduled. In order to meet the January 1, 2020 implementation requirement, the FPA needs to be adopted in June, so this item should be scheduled for the June meeting. Additionally, in March, the Council discussed including an item to discuss changes to P* and a phased-in acceptable biological catch (ABC) approach on the June agenda. That item is not currently on the agenda, nor in the shaded box. **The GMT recommends the Council schedule the ESA seabird FPA item and add a P*/ABC item to the June Council meeting agenda.** Additionally, the GMT would prefer to start the day before groundfish is on the Council floor, as it would be advantageous given the number of groundfish items scheduled for June.

As a reminder, under the new groundfish workload prioritization process, there will be an agenda item in June to discuss groundfish workload and provide an update on new management measures..

Year at a Glance

The GMT provided a table of the items we are working on, and anticipated timelines, in [Agenda Item G.1.c, Supplemental GMT Report, Attachment 1](#).

Under the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report ([Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#)), the Council was informed that NMFS is proposing to use the Groundfish Non-Salmonid ESA working group to evaluate impacts of groundfish fisheries on Southern Resident Killer Whales. Given the timing of Council discussion on this issue, the GMT was unable to comment on the most appropriate group to provide input on the groundfish fishery. Similar to the process used for the Chinook salmon Biological Opinion, the GMT requests that we be included early in the discussion to provide input on the groundfish fishery as needed.

PFMC
04/16/19 – 8:13 a.m.