Council Members and Designees

The Department of Commerce announced the 2019 appointments to the Regional Fishery Management Councils in June. Regarding the Pacific Council, Vice Chair Marc Gorelnik was reappointed to an At-Large position for a second three-year term. Additionally, Mr. Peter Hassemer was appointed to the Idaho Obligatory position formally held by Mr. Herb Pollard who recently reached the limit of three consecutive three-year terms. Mr. Hassemer was formerly the designee of the State of Idaho Principal Official, Mr. Ed Schriever. Director Schriever sent a letter to the Council notifying the Council that Mr. Virgil Moore will be replacing Mr. Hassemer as his designee (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1).

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) sent a letter informing the Council that Rear Admiral Jack Vogt relieved Rear Admiral David Throop as Commander of the Thirteenth District and representative to the Council (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2). LCDR Scott McGrew remains Rear Admiral Vogt’s first designee, Mr. Chris German will serve as his second designee, and LCDR Lee Crusius will serve as his third designee.

Council Advisory Body Appointments

Council Standing Committees
The departure of Mr. Herb Pollard has left vacancies on both standing committees of the Council, the Budget Committee and the Legislative Committee. It is anticipated that the Council and its standing committees will discuss this matter and that the Council Chair may make new appointments at this meeting.

Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup
The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) nominated Dr. Tim Copeland to replace Dr. Richard Scully on the ad hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1). The Council chair, in consultation with Council staff, reviewed Dr. Copeland’s qualifications and made the appointment, in part, so that Dr. Copeland could participate fully in summer activities of the EWG as well as attend the September Council meeting as a member.

Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup
The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has nominated Mr. Brian Hooper to fill the vacant NMFS West Coast Region position on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup (Closed
Session A.1.a, Attachment 1). The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Council are scheduled to review this nomination at the September Council meeting.

Groundfish Management Team

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has nominated Ms. Erica Crust to fill the vacant WDFW position on the Groundfish Management Team (Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2). The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Council are scheduled to review this nomination at the September Council meeting.

Changes to Council Operations and Procedures

The Council is scheduled to consider final revisions to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 22 regarding the review of groundfish essential fish habitat (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3). During the last review of groundfish EFH, the Council recommended revisions to COP 22 to improve the efficiency and flexibility of EFH reviews and to broaden COP 22 to ensure transparent, science-based EFH reviews across all of the Council’s Fishery Management Plans. Council staff has utilized both the June and September Council meetings to brief Advisory Bodies and encourage their feedback.

Council Action:

1. Consider adopting final revisions to COP 22 and any changes or additions to the other COPs.
2. Consider any appointment and membership issues.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1: July 1, 2019 letter from IDFG Director Schriever regarding Council membership and an EWG nomination.
5. Closed Session A.1.a, Attachment 2: Crust Groundfish Management Team Nomination.
6. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

C.4 Membership Appointments; Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures; and Council Operating Procedures Mike Burner
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures (COP), Including COP 22 on Essential Fish Habitat

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