

**COUNCIL MEETING RECORD**  
**251<sup>st</sup> Session of the**  
**Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**September 11-18, 2019**  
Riverside Hotel  
2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, ID 83714

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## INTRODUCTION

This document contains or identifies the various elements, documents, and sources comprising the complete and official record of Council meeting discussions and actions. In addition to the Meeting Summary, which follows this introductory section (see #7 below), it includes information or references that serve as the functional detailed minutes for this Council meeting as required by §302(i)(2)(E) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The full record is maintained at the Council office, is available on the Council website (<http://www.pcouncil.org/>) or upon request from the Council office, and consists of the following:

1. **Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda** – These documents are available on the Council Website prior to and following each meeting at <http://www.pcouncil.org/>.
2. **Attendance Records** – These documents are available for the Council meeting and each advisory body meeting by request from the Council office.
3. **All Documents, Reports, and Presentations for Council Consideration** – These items include (1) all documents produced or received for the meeting briefing book, validated by a label assigned by the Council Secretariat and distributed to Council Members; (2) written public comments received at the Council meeting in accordance with agenda labeling requirements; and (3) electronic material or handout materials used in presentations to Council Members during the open session. They are available from links in the Meeting Summary of this document or at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.
4. **Council Decision Summary Document** – This document is distributed shortly after each Council meeting. It provides very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions and is available at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/> and also provided by agenda item in the Meeting Summary of this document.
5. **Draft or Final Decision Documents Finalized after the Council Meeting** – Documents such as Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are available on the Council website as they are completed.
6. **Gavel-to-Gavel Audio Recordings and Summary Transcripts** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting and are labeled by date and time (e.g., 04-11-15am1) and have been annotated as to the time on the recording for the start of each agenda line item to help facilitate review. For additional reference, verbatim transcripts of Council Actions are available on the Council website. The recordings and transcripts may be accessed from the links contained within the Meeting Summary of this document or at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.
7. **Meeting Summary** (immediately follows this section) – The Meeting Summary lists, in agenda item order, the briefing book documents, reports, presentations, and Council motions and actions, including a brief summary from the Council Decisions Summary Document for each agenda item. It constitutes the meeting record formally approved by the Council. The agenda heading for each agenda item, and most listed documents, serve as internet links to the actual briefing book documents. Internet links in brackets (e.g., [[mp3: 11-11-14pm1 @01:21:15](#)]) refer to the audio recording and elapsed time on the recording at which the agenda item was initiated. Links to the audio recordings are annotated by agenda item and may also be accessed at <https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/>.
8. **Voting Log** – The voting log lists, in Agenda order, the summarized Council motions and actions for each agenda item that took place during the meeting.

## MEETING SUMMARY

### A. Call to Order [[mp3: 9-13-19am1](#) 0:00:08]

#### 1. Opening Remarks – Phil Anderson, Chair [[mp3: 9-13-19am1](#) 0:00:10]

Mr. Phil Anderson, Council Chair, called the 251<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 9:00 a.m. on September 13, 2019. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters, an additional closed session was held on September 15, 2019 after Agenda Item H.5 concluded.

#### 2. Council Member Appointments – Barry Thom [[mp3: 9-13-19am1](#) 0:04:49]

Mr. Barry Thom presented the new Council Members with their certificates of appointment after taking the oath of office.

#### 3. Roll Call – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 9-13-19am1](#) 0:08:30]

##### Council Members present during the meeting week:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| National Marine Fisheries Service:          | Mr. Barry Thom<br>Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee<br>Mr. Ryan Wulff, designee<br>Ms. Aja Szumylo, designee<br>Ms. Susan Bishop, designee |
| Alaska State Official:                      | Ms. Dani Evenson (nonvoting designee)   |
| Washington State Official:                  | Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee<br>Ms. Michele Culver, designee<br>Mr. Corey Niles, designee  |
| Washington Obligatory:                      | Mr. Rich Lincoln  |
| Oregon State Official:                      | Dr. Caren Braby, designee<br>Mr. Chris Kern, designee<br>Ms. Maggie Sommer, designee  |
| Oregon Obligatory:                          | Ms. Christa Svensson  |
| California State Official:                  | Mr. Brett Kormos, designee<br>Mr. John Ugoretz, designee<br>Ms. Briana Brady, designee  |
| California Obligatory:                      | Mr. Robert Dooley   |
| Idaho State Official:                       | Mr. Virgil Moore, designee  |
| Idaho Obligatory:                           | Mr. Peter Hassemer  |
| Tribal Official:                            | Mr. Joseph Oatman   |
| At-Large:                                   | Mr. Phil Anderson, Chair<br>Mr. Louis Zimm<br>Mr. Brad Pettinger<br>Mr. Marc Gorelnik, Vice-Chair                                     |
| Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission: | Dr. David Hanson, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee   |
| U.S. Coast Guard:                           | RADM Vogt, nonvoting<br>LCDR Scott McGrew, nonvoting designee<br>LCDR Lee Crusius, nonvoting designee                                 |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:             | Mr. Roger Root, nonvoting designee  |



**Absent from the Meeting:**

U.S. State Department: Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee

**4. Executive Director's Report – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:09:27](#)]**

Mr. Tracy presented information on the informational reports and invited Council Staff on the Website committee to present information on [Agenda Item A.4, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): PFMC Staff Website Committee presentation – Website Demo (*video, right click and save to your hard drive*).

**5. Agenda – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:27:16](#)]**

**a. Council Action: Approve Agenda**

**Motion 1** [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:27:51](#)]: Adopt [Agenda Item A.5, September 11-18, 2019 Council Meeting Agenda](#).

Pete Hassemer/Louis Zimm (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

**B. Open Comment Period [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:28:10](#)]**

**1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:28:10](#)]**

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**

[Agenda Item B.1.a, Supplemental NOAA PPT 1](#): NOAA Fisheries Web Transition Overview  
NOAA Fisheries Web Transition Tutorial Video Link: [https://youtube/uDWC\\_RiyEFE](https://youtube/uDWC_RiyEFE)

**b. Public Comment [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:29:30](#)]**

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

**c. Council Discussion and Comments as Appropriate [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:42:16](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

**C. Administrative Matters**

**1. National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan – Mike Burner [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:42:42](#)]**

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 0:54:37](#)]**

[Agenda Item C.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): West Coast Geographic Draft Strategic Plan 2020-2024

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental NMFS PPT 1](#): West Coast Geographic Draft Strategic Plan 2020-2024: Seeking Pacific Fishery Management Council Input

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental EWG Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental EAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1](#)  
[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental CPSAS Report 1](#)  
[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental HC Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Review National Strategic Plan and Discuss the Process and Timeline for Developing a West Coast Regional Strategic Plan** [[mp3: 9-13-19am1 1:16:56](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

2. **[Legislative Matters](#)** – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:01:06](#)]

[Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1](#): Staff Summary of Federal Legislation

[Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 2](#): Letter to Senator Cantwell on the Forage Fish Conservation Act

[Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): RFMC Positions on MSA Reauthorization Issues; CCC Working Paper (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Letter to Chuck Tracy from Rob Bishop re: request for comments on legislation

[Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Request from Valerie Cleland re: Wicker Fish Disaster Legislation

[Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental \*\*REVISED\*\* Attachment 6](#): Draft Letter to Honorable Robert Bishop

[Agenda Item C.2, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Draft Letter to Honorable Maria Cantwell

a. **[Report of the Legislative Committee](#)** – Dave Hanson [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:02:39](#)]

b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:14:01](#)]

[Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental HMSMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:21:30](#)]

Geoff Shester, Oceana

d. **Council Action: Consider Legislative Committee Report and Recommendations** [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:28:09](#)], [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:05:35](#)], and [[mp3: 9-18-19am2 1:49:31](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council responded to requests for comments on legislation from Senator Cantwell (S. 2346) and Representative Bishop (HR 1979 and HR 2236).

**3. [Approval of Council Meeting Record](#) – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:03:43](#)]**

[Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 250th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (June 19-25, 2019)

- a. **Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Record** [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:04:07](#)]

**Motion 28** [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:04:19](#)]: Council approve the Draft June 2019 Council Meeting record as shown in Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1: Draft Council Meeting Record: 250th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (June 19-25, 2019).

Pete Hassemer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 28 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** None

**4. [Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures](#) – Mike Burner [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:00:08](#)]**

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1](#): July 1, 2019 letter from IDFG Director Schriever regarding Council membership and an EWG nomination

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2](#): July 17, 2019 letter from USCG Captain B.D. Berg regarding Council membership

[Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3](#): Draft Council Operating Procedure 22

- a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:05:41](#)]

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1](#): Comments on COP 22

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental HC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1](#)

- b. **Public Comment**

None

- 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** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:18:46](#)]

**Motion 25** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:19:12](#)]: Council adopt COP 22 with the changes proposed in Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1, Supplemental HC Report 1, and Supplemental STT Report 1, September 2019.

Maggie Sommer/John Ugoretz (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

**Motion 26** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:23:58](#)]: Council appoint Mr. Brian Hooper to the vacant the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region position on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup.

Ryan Wulff/Pete Hassemer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

**Motion 27** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm3 0:24:36](#)]: Council appoint Ms. Erica Crust to the vacant Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife position on the Groundfish Management Team. Corey Niles/Virgil Moore (Motion 27 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council appointed Mr. Bob Dooley and Mr. Virgil Moore to the Legislative Committee. Mr. Brian Hooper was appointed to the vacant National Marine Fisheries Service seat on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup, and Ms. Erica Crust was appointed to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Management Team formerly held by Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus.

The Council adopted a final Council Operating Procedure (COP) 22, describing a process to conduct essential fish habitat reviews. The new COP 22 applies to all Council fishery management plans, and establishes a tiered approach, with the expectation that the Council will develop a more detailed approach for each individual essential fish habitat review, upon initiating those reviews.

The Council was informed that Dr. Rishi Sharma and Dr. Aaron Berger have resigned their At-Large seats on the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The Council directed staff to solicit nominations for these two seats between now and the November meeting with a specific request for nominees with expertise in groundfish stock assessment or highly migratory species. The Council also anticipates that long-time SSC member Dr. David Sampson will be retiring at the end of the year and the Council anticipates working with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to fill the Oregon SSC seat he will be vacating.

**5. [Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:25:21](#)]**

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-At-a-Glance Summary

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, November 14-20, 2019, Costa Mesa, California

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-At-a-Glance Summary; *Version Dated 09/17/2019; 15:40*

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, November 14-20, 2019, Costa Mesa, California *Version Dated 09/17/2019; 5:03 PM*

**a. [Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies](#) [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:32:17](#)]**

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental EC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

**b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 9-18-19am1 0:49:52](#)]**

Geoff Shester, Oceana

Mark Helvey, California Pelagic Fisheries Association  
Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative  
Jon Gonzalez, Pacific Seafood  
Gilly Lyons, PEW Charitable Trusts  
[Agenda Item C.5.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

- c. **Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning** [[mp3: 9-18-19am2 0:00:02](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

## **D. Habitat**

1. **[Current Habitat Issues](#)** – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:00:08](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 1](#): Final Letter to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 2](#): Draft Letter to the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management

- a. **[Report of the Habitat Committee](#)** – Lance Hebdon [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:01:14](#)]
- b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:11:24](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1.b, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

- c. **Public Comment**

[Agenda Item D.1.c, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

- d. **Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations** [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:14:55](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council approved submitting a letter to the United States Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management commenting on essential fish habitat impacts of the Jordan Cove pipeline project.

The Council also requested that the Habitat Committee draft a comment letter to the Bureau of Reclamation on the Central Valley Project/State Water Project, and a letter encouraging the Klamath River Renewal Corporation in their Klamath dam removal efforts, both for the November briefing book. Finally, they directed the Habitat Committee to track the Ventura Shellfish Project.

## **E. Ecosystem Management**

1. **Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review** – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:25:55](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-13-19am2 0:31:19](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.a, EWG Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental EWG Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental EWG Presentation 1: Ecosystem Workgroup Fishery Ecosystem Plan Update](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental EAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental CPSAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment [[mp3: 9-13-19pm1 0:00:47](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.1.b, Public Comments \(\*Electronic Only\*\)](#)

Dr. Phillip Levin, University of Washington

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Corey Ridings & Dr. Liz Cerny-Chipman, Ocean Conservancy

**c. Council Action: Review Alternative FEP Vision Statements, Including Purpose, Goals, and Objectives and Adopt a Revised FEP Vision Statement [[mp3: 9-13-19pm1 0:17:43](#)]**

**Motion 2 [[mp3: 9-13-19pm1 0:43:17](#)]:** Council adopt a modification of vision statement Alternative D (below) and the July 2019 Goals and Objectives, to go out to public comment to inform further Council consideration of FEP 5-year Review as described in EWG Report 1, (Agenda Item E.1.a, EWG Report 1, September 2019) and as modified below:

**Alternative D (modified):** The Council envisions a California Current Ecosystem (CCE) that continues to provide ecosystem services to current and future generations—including livelihoods, recreational opportunities, and cultural practices that contribute to the wellbeing of fishing communities and the nation. To implement this vision, the Council continues to employ precautionary harvest policies that target healthy population levels, preserve biodiversity and ecological relationships between species, and ensure fair and equitable sharing of harvest benefits. The Council also develops management measures to conserve habitats and encourage practicable measures for avoiding the bycatch of protected and non-target marine life. Achieving this vision will require adaptive management and policies that are resilient to the coming changes, and increased variability and change in the climate and ocean environment. The vision can be achieved only with continued commitment to scientific research and ongoing monitoring of the biological, ecological, physical, social, and economic characteristics of the ecosystem. In addition, it requires the resources and support to implement adaptive changes in a timely fashion. The vision will always be strengthened by the Council’s serving as an open and transparent forum for all who wish to civilly engage in the discussions of how the public resources of the California Current should be conserved and managed.

Caren Braby/Rich Lincoln

**Amendment 1 [[mp3: 9-13-19pm1 0:1:01:43](#)]:** Amend the motion by striking “recreational” and replace with “fishing” and striking the language: To implement this vision, the Council continues to employ precautionary harvest policies that target healthy population levels, preserve biodiversity and ecological relationships between species, and ensure fair and equitable sharing of harvest benefits. The Council also develops management measures to conserve habitats and encourage practicable measures for avoiding the bycatch of protected

and non-target marine life. Achieving this vision will require adaptive management and policies that are resilient to the coming changes, and increased variability and change in the climate and ocean environment. The vision can be achieved only with continued commitment to scientific research and ongoing monitoring of the biological, ecological, physical, social, and economic characteristics of the ecosystem. In addition, it requires the resources and support to implement adaptive changes in a timely fashion. The vision will always be strengthened by the Council's serving as an open and transparent forum for all who wish to civilly engage in the discussions of how the public resources of the California Current should be conserved and managed.

Pete Hassemer/Bob Dooley

**Amendment 1a:** Amend the motion by striking “recreational” and replace with “fishing” and striking the language from the vision statement: To implement this vision, the Council continues to employ precautionary harvest policies that target healthy population levels, preserve biodiversity and ecological relationships between species, and ensure fair and equitable sharing of harvest benefits. The Council also develops management measures to conserve habitats and encourage practicable measures for avoiding the bycatch of protected and non-target marine life. Achieving this vision will require adaptive management and policies that are resilient to the coming changes, and increased variability and change in the climate and ocean environment. The vision can be achieved only with continued commitment to scientific research and ongoing monitoring of the biological, ecological, physical, social, and economic characteristics of the ecosystem. In addition, it requires the resources and support to implement adaptive changes in a timely fashion. The vision will always be strengthened by the Council's serving as an open and transparent forum for all who wish to civilly engage in the discussions of how the public resources of the California Current should be conserved and managed. This language would be retained as supporting language for the vision statement.

Michele Culver/Brad Pettinger (Amendment 1a carried unanimously)

Amendment 1, as amended, carried unanimously

Motion 2, as amended, carried unanimously

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted for public review the following vision statement for the FEP:

*The Council envisions a CCE [California Current Ecosystem] that continues to provide ecosystem services to current and future generations—including livelihoods, fishing opportunities, and cultural practices that contribute to the wellbeing of fishing communities and the nation.*

The Council also adopted for public review a revised set of goals and objectives, which are found in [Agenda Item E.1.a, EWG Report 1, September 2019](#), beginning on page 9 of the report.

In March 2020 the Council will finalize revisions to FEP Chapters 1 and 2, including the vision statement and goals and objectives.

**2. [Climate and Communities Initiative](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 0:00:14](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.2, Supplemental FEP Scenario Planning Presentation 1](#): Scenario Planning Update  
(Jonathan Star)

- a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 0:4:28](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental CCCT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental EWG Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental EAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

- b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 0:56:13](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2.b, Public Comments \(\*Electronic Only\*\)](#)

Dr. Phillip Levin, University of Washington

Corey Ridings and Gway Kirchner, Nature Conservancy

- c. **Council Action: Review the Scenario Planning Exercise Topic, Process, and Timeline and Provide Guidance on Next Steps, Including the Logistics, Participation, and Focus of a Scenario Planning Workshop** [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 1:12:32](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

## F. Salmon Management

1. **[Methodology Review – Final Topic Selection](#)** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 1:43:024](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 1:48:04](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental MEW Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

- b. **Public Comment**

None

- c. **Council Action: Identify Priority Projects for Review in 2019** [[mp3: 9-13-19pm2 2:04:12](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council approved three topics for methodology review: (1) Conduct the technical analysis needed to inform a change of the salmon management boundary line from latitude 40° 05' (Horse Mountain, California) five miles north to latitude 40° 10'; (2) Examine the data and models used to forecast impacts on Columbia River summer Chinook to determine whether a change in methodology is warranted; and (3) Provide documentation of the abundance forecast approach used for Willapa Bay natural coho.



2. **Rebuilding Plans – Final Action** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:01:36](#)]

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1](#): Draft Salmon Rebuilding Plan – Strait of Juan de Fuca Coho (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2](#): Draft Salmon Rebuilding Plan – Queets River Coho (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3](#): Draft Salmon Rebuilding Plan – Snohomish River Coho (*Electronic Only*)

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:10:47](#)]

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental Tulalip Tribal Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental Point No Point Treaty Council Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Review Rebuilding Plans and an Update on Sacramento River Fall Chinook Harvest Model Development; Adopt Final Plans for Strait of Juan de Fuca, Queets River, and Snohomish River Coho** [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:29:18](#)]

**Motion 3** [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:31:13](#)]: Council adopt the Strait of Juan de Fuca natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1 as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and adopt Recommendation 2 Alternative I (status quo), as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

**Motion 4** [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:34:48](#)]: Council adopt the Queets River natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2 as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and Recommendation 2 Alternative I, as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

**Motion 5** [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:38:04](#)]: Council adopt the Snohomish River natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3 as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the rebuilt criterion from the fishery management plan (FMP), and adopt Recommendation 2 Alternative II (S<sub>MSY</sub> Buffer) as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted rebuilding plans for Strait of Juan de Fuca natural coho, Queets River natural coho, and Snohomish River natural coho, choosing a final preferred alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. For the Strait of Juan de Fuca natural coho and Queets River natural coho, Alternative I (status quo) was adopted as the final preferred alternative. Alternative II (buffered  $S_{MSY}$ ) was adopted as the final preferred alternative for the Snohomish River natural coho.

**3. [Southern Resident Killer Whale Endangered Species Act Consultation](#) – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-14-19am1 0:53:31](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#): Workgroup 2019 Schedule

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-14-19am2 0:00:26](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental NMFS SRKW Presentation 1](#): NMFS SRKW Workgroup – Update on Draft Salmon Fishery Risk Assessment (*Jording*)

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental SRKW Workgroup Report 1](#): Salmon FMP Impacts to Southern Resident Killer Whales; DRAFT Risk Assessment

[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment**

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Public Comments \(\*Electronic Only\*\)](#)

**c. Council Action: Review Progress of the Ad Hoc Southern Resident Killer Whale Workgroup and Provide Guidance on the Preliminary Risk Assessment, Proposed Schedule, and Future Analyses [[mp3: 9-14-19am2 1:14:58](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

**4. Review of Annual Management Cycle – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-14-19am3 0:00:21](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1](#): Excerpts from the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-14-19am3 0:03:22](#)]**

[Agenda Item F.4.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Draft Proposal for Refinement of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Salmon Preseason Schedule

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment**

None

**c. Council Action: Review Proposed Changes to the Preseason Management Cycle and Provide Preliminary Recommendations for 2020 and Beyond [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:00:10](#)]**

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council tasked Council staff and National Marine Fisheries Service staff to develop a work plan and timeline for a potential amendment to the Pacific salmon fishery management plan that would modify the annual salmon management cycle consistent with the proposals requested by [National Marine Fisheries Service](#). The workgroup will report back to the Council at the November 2019 Council meeting.

## **G. Pacific Halibut Management**

### **1. [2020 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations](#) – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:24:37](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 1](#): 2019 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A

[Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 2](#): Visual Representation of the 2019 Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan for Pacific Halibut

#### **a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:29:01](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Report on the 2019 Pacific Halibut Fisheries in Area 2A

[Agenda Item G.1.a, ODFW Report 1](#): Proposed Changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for the 2020 Fishery

[Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental IPHC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

#### **b. Public Comment**

[Agenda Item G.1.b, Public Comments \(\*Electronic Only\*\)](#)

#### **c. Council Action: Adopt Proposed 2020 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulation Changes for Public Review [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:43:16](#)]**

**Motion 6** [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:44:14](#)]: Council adopt the range of alternatives for changes to the 2020 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan as shown in Agenda Item G.1.a, ODFW Report 1. Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

**Motion 7** [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 0:48:16](#)]: Council adopt the proposed changes to the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan as described in Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 1 for public review.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion 7 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted for public review proposed changes to the 2020 Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and annual fishing regulations in Washington and Oregon recreational fisheries. No changes were proposed for California recreational fisheries.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife proposed three changes for public review:

1. Puget Sound Subarea: Provide flexibility for this subarea to open in April.

2. North Coast, South Coast, and Columbia River Subareas: In years when April 30 falls on a Thursday, provide flexibility for the season to open on April 30.
3. All Washington Subareas: Revise the current CSP language to provide the flexibility to open up to three days per week.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife proposed five changes for public review:

1. Oregon Coastwide: Allow All-Depth Halibut Fishing and Longleader Gear Fishing on the Same Trip (*Status quo: Longleader gear fishing not allowed on the same trip as all-depth halibut, Alternative 1: Allow longleader gear fishing on the same trip as all-depth halibut*).
2. Columbia River and Southern Oregon Subareas: Revise the Southern Oregon Subarea Allocation (*Status quo: The Southern Oregon Subarea allocation is 3.91 percent of the Oregon sport allocation. Alternative 1: The Southern Oregon Subarea allocation is 3.91 percent of the Oregon sport allocation up to a maximum of 8,000 pounds. Any poundage over that will be allocated to the Columbia River Subarea*).
3. Central Coast Subarea: Revise the start date of the nearshore fishery (*Status quo: Opens June 1, seven days per week. Alternative 1: If the Central Coast Nearshore fishery allocation is 25,000 pounds or greater, the season will open May 1; if the allocation is less than 25,000 pounds the season will open June 1*).
4. Central Coast Subarea: Revise the days per week open in the summer all-depth fishery (*Status quo: Open the first Friday and Saturday in August, then every other Friday and Saturday until Oct. 31, or quota attainment. Alternative 1: If the allocation projected to remain in the spring all-depth fishery after its conclusion plus the summer all-depth allocation total 60,000 pounds or more after the spring all-depth season concludes, a third open day may be added to the summer all-depth season open days. Alternative 1a. Thursday will be the additional open day, Alternative 1b. Sunday will be the additional open day*).
5. Central Coast Subarea: Revise the spring all-depth season back-up days (*Status quo: Available back-up days are every other Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Alternative 1: After the spring all-depth season fixed dates, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service, International Pacific Halibut Commission and Council staff can confer and determine if back-up dates can be open every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday*).

**2. Commercial Directed Fishery Regulations for 2020 – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 1:02:49](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1](#): Excerpt from June 2019 Council Decision Summary Document

[Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 2](#): PFMC News Release

[Agenda Item G.2, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Letter from PFMC to IPHC re: Transition Planning for Transfer of Management Authority of the Area 2A Non-Indian Commercial Directed Halibut Fishery

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 1:05:57](#)]**

[Agenda Item G.2.a, ODFW Report 1](#): ODFW Report on the Non-Indian Directed Fishery

[Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 1:17:49](#)]

[Agenda Item G.2.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

Harrison Ibach, Humboldt Fisheries Marketing Association  
Tom Marking, Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers

c. **Council Action: Adopt Proposed 2020 Regulation Changes for Public Review**  
[[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 1:26:23](#)]

**Motion 8** [[mp3: 9-14-19pm1 1:39:09](#)]: Council adopt the following preliminary recommendations on the 2020 Non-Tribal Commercial Directed Pacific Halibut fishery in the Area 2A for public review:

Fishing period duration:

Option 1 (status quo): 10 hours

Option 2: 5 days

Fishing season start:

Option 1: Last Wednesday in June (status quo)

Option 2: Last Wednesday in May

Maggie Sommer/Christa Svensson (Motion 8 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted for public review preliminary recommendations for the 2020 Area 2A non-Indian directed commercial halibut fishery. Two options for fishing duration included 1) status quo (10-hour period) and 2) a five-day fishing period (with reduced vessel limits anticipated). Two options for season start date included: 1) Last Wednesday in June (status quo), and 2) Last Wednesday in May.

## H. Groundfish Management

1. **[National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#)** – Todd Phillips [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:01:34](#)]

a. **Regulatory Activities** – Aja Szumylo [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:04:17](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Groundfish and Halibut *Federal Register* Notices

[Agenda Item H.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): California Groundfish Collective EFP

[Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 3](#): Spreadsheet showing groundfish rulemakings and activities

[Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 4](#): EFP Regulations

b. **Fisheries Science Center Activities** – Owen Hamel [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:15:36](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.b, NMFS NWFSC Report 1](#): Estimated Discard and Catch of Groundfish Species in the 2018 U.S. West Coast Fisheries (*Electronic only*)

[Agenda Item H.1.b, NMFS NWFSC Report 2](#): Pacific Halibut Bycatch in U.S. West Coast Fisheries (2002-2018) (*Electronic only*)

[Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental REVISED NMFS NWFSC Report 3](#): Groundfish Mortality Report Tables COVER SHEET (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item H.1.b, NMFS NWFSC Report 3](#): Groundfish Mortality Report Tables (*Excel File Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental NWFSC Presentation 1: Groundfish Science Center \(Owen Hamel\)](#)

- c. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:41:58](#)]

[Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental WDFW Report 1: Proposed rule for Amendment 28](#)

- d. **Public Comment**

None

- e. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:48:21](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

- 2. **[Workload and New Management Measure Update](#)** – Todd Phillips [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 0:57:45](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 1:03:10](#)]

[Agenda Item H.2.a, GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report 2](#)

- b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 1:30:04](#)]

Jon Gonzalez, Pacific Seafood

[Agenda Item H.2.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

- c. **Council Action: Review the List of Proposed Projects, Fishery Management Plan Amendments, and New Management Measures, Consider Overall Workload, and Provide Guidance on Priorities and Schedules** [[mp3: 9-15-19am1 1:32:20](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council heard from their groundfish advisory bodies and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel on new proposed management measures, groundfish retention in the salmon fishery, two items relating to the non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area, and two exempted fishing permits. The Groundfish Management Team provided [analyses](#) on conversion factors and the salmon vessel monitoring ping rate as requested by the Council at their June 2019 meeting. After review of all the items, the Council elected not to adjust the current unprioritized list ([Table 3](#)), prioritize any new measures, or request analyses of any new measures.

3. [Electronic Monitoring Program Guidelines and Data Storage Procedural Directive: Preliminary Review](#) – Brett Wiedoff [[mp3: 9-15-19am2 0:00:07](#)]

[Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 1](#): Electronic Monitoring Video Data Management Workshop Summary

a. **National Marine Fisheries Service Presentation – Melissa Hooper** [[mp3: 9-15-19am2 0:05:25](#)]

[Agenda Item H.3.b, NMFS Report 1](#): Draft Groundfish EM Program Guidelines

[Agenda Item H.3.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): DRAFT Procedural Directive – Minimum Data Retention Period for EM Programs for Federally Managed U.S. Fisheries

[Agenda Item H.3.b, Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1](#): EM Program Guidelines and National Data Storage Procedural Directive (*Melissa Hooper*)

b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-15-19am2 0:35:53](#)]

[Agenda Item H.3.b, Supplemental GEMPAC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.3.b, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-15-19am2 0:55:47](#)]

Robert Smith, F/V Raven

Kate Kauer, The Nature Conservancy

Jeff Lackey, F/V Miss Sue and F/V Seeker

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative presented [Agenda Item H.3.c, Supplemental Public Presentation 1](#) (Mann)

Melissa Mahoney, Environmental Defense Fund, presented [Agenda Item H.3.c, Supplemental Public Presentation 2](#) (Mahoney)

Jacob Isaac Lowry, FlyWire Cameras

[Agenda Item H.3.c, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

d. **Council Action: Review the Draft Program Guidelines and Data Storage Procedural Directive and Develop Recommendations for National Marine Fisheries Service** [[mp3: 9-15-19am2 1:47:39](#)] & [[mp3: 9-15-19pm1 0:00:02](#)]

**Motion 9** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm1 0:36:39](#)]: Council provide National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with the recommendations from the GEMPAC relative to the draft program guidelines and data storage procedural directive.

Phil Anderson/Virgil Moore (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

**Motion 10** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm1 0:39:10](#)]: Council send a letter to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission urging them to identify a pathway that allows the commission to continue providing the Electronic Monitoring (EM) program review as is currently being done. Phil Anderson/Bob Dooley (Motion 10 carried, Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Staff Summary:** The Council recommended that National Marine Fisheries Service consider the suggested changes identified in the Groundfish Electronic Monitoring (EM) Policy Advisory Committee [report](#) regarding the EM Program Guidelines and the draft Data Storage Procedural document. The Council will also send a letter to Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) requesting PSMFC identify a pathway forward that allows PSMFC to continue

providing EM review services for the industry in 2021. The Council is anticipated to review revised Program Guidelines and an EM Manual and further discuss program implementation at the November 2019 Council meeting.

4. **[Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Salmon](#)** – Todd Phillips [**[mp3: 9-15-19pm1 0:47:17](#)**]

**[Agenda Item H.4, Attachment 1](#)**: Initial Review Draft, Regulatory Impact Review for Proposed Endangered Species Act Salmon Bycatch Mitigation Measures under the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan

**[Agenda Item H.4, Attachment 2](#)**: Summary of Data for Preliminary Analysis of Economic Effects of Salmon Bycatch Mitigation Measures in the West Coast Trawl Fisheries

**[Agenda Item H.4, Supplemental Attachment 3](#)**: Spatial closures available and/or proposed for bottom trawl and midwater trawl by depth and latitudinal range

**[Agenda Item H.4, Supplemental Attachment 4](#)**: Staff Presentation; Todd Phillips

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [**[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 0:00:19](#)**]

**[Agenda Item H.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)**

**[Agenda Item H.4.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)**

b. **Public Comment** [**[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 0:24:42](#)**]

Dan Waldeck, Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative

Michele Longo-Eder, F/V Timmy Boy

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative and Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood

**[Agenda Item H.4.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)**

c. **Council Action: Adopt Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for Mitigation Measures for Salmon Interactions in the Groundfish Fisheries Pursuant to the 2017 NMFS Biological Opinion** [**[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 0:40:40](#)**]

**Motion 11** [**[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 0:56:31](#)**]: Council adopt the following as Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for salmon bycatch mitigation measures in groundfish fisheries:

1. Block Area Closures (BAC)  
**Alternative 1:** BACs would be developed as a routine inseason mitigation tool for salmon bycatch in the midwater trawl fisheries in the whiting and non-whiting sectors.
2. Extension of Block Area Closure for All Trawl Gears to the Western Boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)  
**Alternative 1:** Develop regulations to allow for the extension of any block area closure seaward of 250 fathoms south of 46°16' 00" N. latitude (WA/OR border) for all trawl gears to the western boundary of the EEZ (for midwater trawl) or to the 700 fathom essential fish habitat (EFH) Conservation Area closure (for bottom trawl).
3. Selective Flatfish Trawl Net requirement (SFFT)  
**Alternative 1:** SFFT nets would be available for use as a routine inseason mitigation tool to address salmon bycatch in the groundfish bottom trawl fisheries.
4. Pacific Whiting Cooperative Operational Rules  
**Alternative 2:** Develop regulations to allow each whiting sector co-op to develop salmon mitigation plans for approval by NMFS.



- Include a requirement for annual season summary reporting to the Council and NMFS describing high-salmon bycatch incident information and avoidance measures taken.
5. Automatic Authority for NMFS to Close Trawl Sectors and Preserve 500 Chinook salmon for Fixed Gear and Recreational Fisheries
- Alternative 1:** Develop an inseason process that would close the trawl sectors as follows:
- Close the bottom and mid-water trawl sectors upon attainment of 8,500 Chinook salmon
  - Close the whiting sectors upon attainment of 14,000 Chinook salmon
  - Close all trawl fisheries upon attainment of 19,500 Chinook salmon
6. Development of Reserve rule provision
- Alternative 1:** A sector may only access the Reserve if the Council or NMFS has taken action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch in that sector prior to it reaching its Chinook salmon bycatch guideline.
- The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the at-sea whiting sectors would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of each of those sector's respective co-op salmon mitigation plans.
  - The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the shoreside whiting sector would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of that sector's co-op salmon mitigation plans provided all participating vessels are members of a shoreside co-op with an approved salmon mitigation plan.
  - If there are vessels participating in the shoreside whiting fishery that are not members of a shoreside whiting co-op, then additional actions by the Council or NMFS may be needed to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch (e.g., BACs, SFFT) prior to allowing access to the reserve by that sector.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council reviewed the range of alternatives developed in April 2019 for this item and adopted the preliminary preferred alternatives (PPA). Most of the PPAs adopted by the Council mirrored the language found in the [Initial Review Draft](#). The PPAs are shown below and are underlined, with any modifications to the original Alternative noted:

- Block Area Closures: Alternative 1
- Extension of Block Area Closure for All Trawl Gears to the Western Boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone:  
Alternative 1: Develop regulation to allow for the extension of any block area closure seaward of 250 fathoms south of 46° 16' 00" N. latitude (WA/OR border) for all trawl gears to the western boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (for midwater trawl) or to the 700 fathom Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Area closure (for bottom trawl).
- Selective Flatfish Trawl Net requirement: Alternative 1
- Pacific Whiting Cooperative Operational Rules Alternative 2:  
Develop regulations to allow each whiting sector co-op to develop salmon mitigation plans for approval by NMFS. Include a requirement for annual season summary reporting to the Council and NMFS describing high-salmon bycatch incident information and avoidance measures taken.

- Automatic Authority for NMFS to Close Trawl Sectors and Preserve 500 Chinook salmon for Fixed Gear and Recreational Fisheries: [Alternative 1](#)

Development of Reserve rule provision

- [Alternative 1](#): A sector may only access the Reserve if the Council or NMFS has taken action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch in that sector prior to it reaching its Chinook salmon bycatch guideline.
  - The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the at-sea whiting sectors would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of each of those sector's respective co-op salmon mitigation plans.
  - The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the shoreside whiting sector would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of that sector's co-op salmon mitigation plans, provided all participating vessels are members of a shoreside co-op with an approved salmon mitigation plan.
  - If there are vessels participating in the shoreside whiting fishery that are not members of a shoreside whiting co-op, then additional actions by the Council or NMFS may be needed to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch (e.g., Block Area Closures, Selective Flatfish Trawls) prior to allowing access to the reserve by that sector.

**5. [Adopt Final Stock Assessments](#) – John DeVore [mp3: 9-15-19pm2 1:31:40]**

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 1](#): Executive Summary of “Assessing Cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) stocks in waters off of California and Oregon, with catch limit estimation for Washington State

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 1](#): FULL VERSION of “Assessing Cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) stocks in waters off of California and Oregon, with catch limit estimation for Washington State” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 2](#): Cabezon Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 3](#): Executive Summary of “Status of Big Skate (*Beringraja binoculata*) Off the U.S. Pacific Coast in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 3](#): FULL VERSION of “Status of Big Skate (*Beringraja binoculata*) Off the U.S. Pacific Coast in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 4](#): Big Skate Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 5](#): Executive Summary of “Stock assessment of the longnose skate (*Beringraja rhina*) in state and Federal waters off California, Oregon and Washington”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 5](#): FULL VERSION of “Stock assessment of the longnose skate (*Beringraja rhina*) in state and Federal waters off California, Oregon and Washington” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 6](#): Longnose Skate Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 7](#): Executive Summary of “Status of the sablefish stock in U.S. waters in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 7](#): FULL VERSION of “Status of the sablefish stock in U.S. waters in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 8](#): Sablefish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 9](#): Executive Summary of “Status of Cowcod (*Sebastes levis*) in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 9](#): FULL VERSION of “Status of Cowcod (*Sebastes levis*) in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 10](#): Cowcod Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 11](#): Executive Summary of “The Combined Status of Gopher (*Sebastes carnatus*) and Black-and-Yellow Rockfishes (*Sebastes chrysomelas*) in U.S. Waters Off California in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 11](#): FULL VERSION of “The Combined Status of Gopher (*Sebastes carnatus*) and Black-and-Yellow Rockfishes (*Sebastes chrysomelas*) in U.S. Waters Off California in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 12](#): Gopher/Black and Yellow Rockfishes Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel Report

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 13](#): Executive Summary of “Status of petrale sole (*Eopsetta jordani*) along the U.S. west coast in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 13](#): FULL VERSION of “Status of petrale sole (*Eopsetta jordani*) along the U.S. west coast in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 14](#): Executive Summary of “Stock Assessment Update: Status of Widow Rockfish (*Sebastes entomelas*) Along the U.S. West Coast in 2019”

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 14](#): FULL VERSION of “Stock Assessment Update: Status of Widow Rockfish (*Sebastes entomelas*) Along the U.S. West Coast in 2019” (**Electronic Only**)

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 15](#): A 2019 Catch-Only Projection from the 2015 Assessment of the Status of Black Rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) along the U.S. West Coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 16](#): A 2019 catch-only update/projection from the 2017 assessment update of blackgill rockfish (*Sebastes melanostomus*) in the Conception and Monterey INPFC areas

[Agenda Item H.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 17](#): Catch update for blue/deacon rockfishes (*Sebastes mystinus* and *diaconus*) along the U.S. California coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 18](#): The status of canary rockfish (*Sebastes pinniger*) in the California Current in 2019: A catch-only update

[Agenda Item H.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 19](#): A 2019 catch-only projection from the 2015 assessment of the status of China rockfish (*Sebastes nebulosus*) along the U.S. West Coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 20](#): Catch update for darkblotched rockfish (*Sebastes crameri*) off the U.S. West Coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 21](#): Catch update for Dover sole (*Microstomus pacificus*) along the U.S. West Coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 22](#): A 2019 catch-only projection of the 2017 Lingcod Stock Assessment

[Agenda Item H.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 23](#): Catch-Only Update: Stock Assessment and Status of Longspine Thornyhead (*Sebastobus altivelis*) off California, Oregon and Washington in 2019

[Agenda Item H.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 24](#): A 2019 catch-only projection from the 2013 assessment of the status of rougheye rockfish (*Sebastes aleutianus*) and blackspotted rockfish (*S. melanostictus*) as a complex along the U.S. West Coast

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 25](#): A 2019 catch-only projection from the 2013 Stock Assessment of Shortspine Thornyhead

[Agenda Item H.5, Attachment 26](#): Catch report for 2017 and 2018 for yelloweye rockfish off the U.S West Coast

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 1:36:41](#)]

[Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental EWG Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 2:11:55](#)]

Michael Drexler, Ocean Conservancy

c. **Council Action: Approve Final Stock Assessments for 2021-2022 and Beyond** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 2:15:53](#)]

**Motion 12** [[mp3: 9-15-19pm2 2:18:00](#)]: Council adopt the stock assessments, catch-only updates, and the yelloweye acceptable biological catch (ABC) projections and catch report endorsed by the SSC in Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, September 2019.

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted the assessments, catch-only projections, yelloweye rockfish projections of new acceptable biological catches, and the yelloweye catch report endorsed by the [Scientific and Statistical Committee](#). These assessments and projections of harvest specifications will inform management of the West Coast groundfish fishery in 2021 and beyond.

6. **[2020 Harvest Specifications for Cowcod and Shortbelly Rockfish](#)** – John DeVore [[mp3: 9-17-19am1 0:01:04](#)]

[Agenda Item H.6, Attachment 1](#): Draft Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for a Proposed Regulatory Amendment under the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-17-19am1 0:06:50](#)]

[Agenda Item H.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item H.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-17-19am1 0:52:33](#)]

Sarah Nayani, Arctic Storm Management Group

Geoff Shester, Oceana

Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

Dan Waldeck, Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative

Mike Okoniewski, Pacific Seafood

Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

[Agenda Item H.6.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

c. **Council Action: Adopt a Range of Alternatives and Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for 2020 Harvest Specifications for Cowcod and Shortbelly Rockfish** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:00:12](#)]

**Motion 16** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:16:10](#)]: Council adopt the following statement of purpose and need for revising the 2020 shortbelly rockfish annual catch limit:

Action is needed to reduce the risk of closures or constraints in groundfish trawl fisheries due to the possibility of high bycatch of shortbelly rockfish in 2020, and avoid the adverse economic impacts to West Coast fishing communities that would result from such closures or constraints, while continuing to protect the availability of shortbelly rockfish as important forage in the California Current Ecosystem.

The purpose of this action is to review and adjust the annual catch limit for shortbelly rockfish in 2020 to a level that will accommodate incidental bycatch of this stock given recent high bycatch in groundfish trawl fisheries, while continuing to minimize bycatch and discourage development of a targeted fishery for shortbelly rockfish.

Maggie Sommer/Christa Svensson (Motion 16 carried unanimously)

**Motion 17** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:23:28](#)]: Council adopt the following range of alternatives for the shortbelly rockfish annual catch limit (ACL) in 2020, and select Alternative 1 as the preliminary preferred alternative:

- No Action: Maintain the 500 mt shortbelly rockfish ACL for 2020
- Alternative 1: Increase the 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACL to 3000 mt
- Alternative 2: Increase the 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACL to 4,184 mt (the anticipated 2021 acceptable biological catch)

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

**Motion 18** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:36:16](#)]: Council adopt the following statement of purpose and need for revising the 2020 cowcod annual catch target:

Action is needed to reduce the risk that vessels fishing south of 40° 10' N. latitude in the groundfish trawl individual fishing quota (IFQ) program will reach their annual vessel limit for cowcod in 2020 and have to cease fishing in the trawl IFQ program for the remainder of the year, which would result in severe adverse economic impacts on those vessels and fishing communities in the area.

The purpose of this action is to revise or remove the annual catch target for cowcod in 2020 south of 40° 10' N. latitude, given the improved state of the cowcod stock, and to reduce the yield set-aside for cowcod mortality in research activities, based on anticipated research impacts in 2020.

Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

**Motion 19** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:40:47](#)]: Council adopt the following range of alternatives for revising the 2020 cowcod annual catch target (ACT) and research set-aside, and select Alternative 1, Option 2 as the preliminary preferred alternative:

- No Action: Maintain the 6 mt cowcod ACT for 2020. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 858 lbs.
- Alternative 1: Eliminate the 6 mt cowcod ACT for 2020 and manage fisheries to stay within the 10 mt ACL. Reduce the 2020 research set-aside by:

- Option 1: No adjustment: set-aside remains 2 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1,124 lbs.
- Option 2: 50 percent: set aside is 1 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1,264 lbs.
- Option 3: 75 percent: set aside is 0.5 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1335 lbs.

Maggie Sommer/John Ugoretz (Motion 19 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted Purpose and Need statements in consideration of 1) increasing the 2020 ACL for shortbelly rockfish and 2) in consideration of eliminating the 2020 ACT and reducing the yield set-aside for cowcod south of 40° 10' N. latitude as a means of increasing the annual vessel limit of cowcod in the trawl individual fishing quota fishery.

The Council adopted a range of 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACLs from the status quo 500 mt ACL to an ACL of 4,184 mt, which is equal to the 2021 and 2022 acceptable biological catch of shortbelly rockfish. The Council's preliminary preferred alternative for a 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACL is 3,000 mt, as recommended by the [Groundfish Advisory Subpanel](#).

The Council also adopted an alternative to the status quo ACT of 6 mt for cowcod south of 40° 10' N. latitude, which would eliminate the ACT. Three options for adjusting the yield set-aside range from no adjustment to the specified set-aside of 2 mt to a 75 percent reduction of the set-aside (0.5 mt). The Council's preliminary preferred alternative for this action is to eliminate the ACT and reduce the set-aside by 50 percent (1 mt). This action would increase the 2020 annual cowcod vessel limit from 858 lbs. to 1,264 lbs.

The Council is scheduled to take final action for both of these initiatives at their November meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

**7. [Phased-In Approach to Changing Harvest Limits](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:51:06](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.7, Attachment 1](#): Draft National Standard 1 Technical Guidance for Designing, Evaluating, and Implementing Carry-over and Phase-in Provisions within ABC Control Rules

**a. [Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies](#) [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 0:56:13](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.7.a, Supplemental \*\*REVISED\*\* SSC Report 1](#) (*with notes*)

[Agenda Item H.7.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment**

None

**c. Council Action: Continue Scoping Actions and Refining a Phased-In Approach to Changing Harvest Control Rules, Including Developing a Purpose and Need Statement for the Proposed Action [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 1:15:57](#)]**

**Motion 20** [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 1:27:49](#)]: Council not proceed with adding new approaches for phased in changes to harvest limits, harvest control rules, and ACL carryovers to the groundfish fishery management plan at this time.

John Ugoretz/Louis Zimm (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council took no action in consideration of specifying a phased-in approach to changing groundfish harvest limits in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) at this time. The Council cited the recommendations of the [Groundfish Management Team](#) and [Groundfish Advisory Subpanel](#) that the workload costs outweigh the potential benefits associated with this action. Further, the Council tasked staff with sending a response letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service forwarding the comments of the [Scientific and Statistical Committee](#) on the draft National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Technical Memorandum - “[National Standard 1 Technical Guidance for Designing, Evaluating, and Implementing Carry-over and Phase-in Provisions within ABC Control Rules.](#)”

**8. [Initial Harvest Specifications and Management Measure Actions for 2021-2022 Management](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 1:37:52](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.8, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1](#): 2021 and 2022 Groundfish Harvest Specifications Under Default Harvest Control Rules

[Agenda Item H.8, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Additional Projections of Harvest Specifications for West Coast Groundfish Stocks in 2021 and Beyond Informed by the New Sigma Values for Determining ABCs

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-17-19am2 1:50:57](#)] & [[mp3: 9-17-19pm1 0:00:03](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment [[mp3: 9-17-19pm1 0:46:57](#)]**

Merit McCrea

Geoff Shester

[Agenda Item H.8.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

**c. Council Action: Adopt Final Overfishing Limits, a Range of P\*/Acceptable Biological Catches, and Annual Catch Limits for Stocks That May Depart from Default Harvest Control Rules; Adopt a Preliminary List of Potential Management Measures Necessary to Implement Harvest Specifications to be Included in the 2021-2022 Regulation Process [[mp3: 9-17-19pm1 0:58:23](#)] & [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:00:15](#)]**

**Motion 21 [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:01:15](#)]:** Council:

- 1) Adopt the 2021-2022 overfishing limits (OFLs) and category designations shown in Tables 1 and 2 in [Agenda Item H.8, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1](#), September 2019 for all stocks except for shortspine thornyhead, canary rockfish, English sole, and brown rockfish.
- 2) Adopt the following preliminary range of P\*, Acceptable Biological Catch, and Annual Catch Limit values for those stocks that may depart from default harvest control rules for more detailed analysis, as shown in the table below which presents the recommendations in [Agenda](#)

Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2019. Allow the GMT to evaluate a higher level for the petrale constant catch ACL alternative.

| # | Stock                          | Default HCR               | Alternative 1   | Alternative 2     |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Shortbelly RF                  | ABC (P*0.4), ACL = 500 mt | Use the same PPA selected under H.6 2020 shortbelly RF specifications (3000 mt) | N/A               |
| 2 | Oregon black RF                | ABC P*0.45                | “Case-by-case” ABC set = 2020 ABC of 512 mt                                     | N/A               |
| 3 | Cowcod South of 40° 10' N lat. | ABC P*0.45                | Alt 1: ABC P*0.40   | Alt 2: ABC P*0.30 |
| 4 | Petrable sole                  | ACL=ABC P*0.45            | Constant 3,200 ACL  | P*0.40            |
| 5 | Sablefish                      | ABC P*0.40                | ABC P*0.45  | N/A               |

3) Request that Council staff work with the Science Centers and the SSC to develop projections for the stocks that may depart from default harvest control rules shown in the table above, to inform consideration of harvest specifications for these stocks in November.

Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 21 carried unanimously)

**Motion 22 [mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:11:46]:** Council adopt the preliminary range of potential groundfish management measures for 2021-2022 in Supplemental CDFW Report 1, Supplemental GMT Report 1, and Supplemental GAP Report 1, under Agenda Item H.8, September 2019.

In addition, for shortbelly rockfish, consider:

- an ACT below the ACL, and actions that might be triggered by approaching or reaching that ACT
- amending the FMP to prohibit directed fishing
- managing shortbelly rockfish as an Ecosystem Component Species or Shared Ecosystem Component species

Maggie Sommer/Rich Lincoln (Motion 22 carried unanimously)

**Motion 23 [mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:17:54]:** Council request that the SSC review the sablefish ACL apportionment methods proposed in Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2019 at the SSC meeting in conjunction with the November 2019 Council meeting.

Maggie Sommer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 23 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted the [2021 and 2022 groundfish harvest specifications](#) informed by the overfishing limits, stock categories, and sigma values (to inform new acceptable



biological catches) endorsed by the [Scientific and Statistical Committee](#). The Council also recommended exploration of alternative harvest control rules and resulting harvest specifications for cowcod south of 40° 10' N. latitude, petrale sole, sablefish, shortbelly rockfish, and Oregon black rockfish.

The Council also requested further comment on new management measures recommended by the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#), [Groundfish Management Team](#), and [Groundfish Advisory Subpanel](#).

The Council will consider a range of alternative stock harvest control rules and new management measures for detailed analysis at their November meeting in Costa Mesa, California. The Council is scheduled to decide final 2021 and 2022 groundfish harvest specifications at their April 2020 meeting in Vancouver, Washington and final management measures at their June 2020 meeting in San Diego, California.

9. **[Final Action on Inseason Adjustments – Including Final Recommendations on Exempted Fishing Permits for 2020](#)** – Todd Phillips [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:21:30](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:26:00](#)]

[Agenda Item H.9.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 1](#): Update on 2019 Trawl Gear EFP

[Agenda Item H.9.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.9.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.9.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.9.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment**

[Agenda Item H.9.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

c. **Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments as Necessary to Achieve but Not Exceed Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives and Consider Recommending the Extension of the Midwater Trawl and Electronic Monitoring EFPs into 2020** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:52:28](#)]

**Motion 24** [[mp3: 9-17-19pm2 0:58:33](#)]: Council adopt Sablefish Daily Trip Limit Alternative 2 for Limited Entry North (1,700 lb/week, not to exceed 5,100 lb/2 months) and Alternative 1 for Open Access North (300 lb/day, or one landing per week up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 3,000 lb/2 months) as recommended in Supplemental GMT Report 1 and Supplemental GAP Report 1 under Agenda Item H.9, September 2019.

In addition, recommend to NMFS extending the Midwater Trawl and Electronic Monitoring EFPs through 2020, with the proposed modifications. Encourage NMFS and the industry to consider improved lighting and/or catch handling practices to address the issue relating to the identification of rex sole by EM systems.

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted new sablefish daily trip limits as follows:

- Open Access North: 300 lb/day, or one landing per week up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 3,000lbs/ 2 months
- Limited Entry North: 1,700 lb/week, not to exceed 5,100 lb/ 2 months

The Council also recommended that the National Marine Fisheries Service extend the midwater trawl and electronic monitoring exempted fishing permits through 2020. The Council also encouraged the National Marine Fisheries Service to consider improvements to the electronic monitoring exempted fishing permits as recommended by the [GMT](#).

**10. [Methodology Review – Final Topic Selection](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 9-16-19pm3 0:00:09](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 1](#): Proposal for a Methodology Review of a Combined Visual-Hydroacoustic Survey of Oregon’s Nearshore Semi-Pelagic Black (*Sebastes melanops*), Blue (*Sebastes mystinus*) and Deacon (*Sebastes diaconus*) Rockfish

[Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 2](#): Proposal for Review of Data-moderate Approaches that are Highly Reliant on Length Data

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-16-19pm3 04:06](#)]**

[Agenda Item H.10.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item H.10.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment**

None

**c. Council Action: Identify Priority Projects for Review in 2020 [[mp3: 9-16-19pm3 0:10:43](#)]**

**Motion 15 [[mp3: 9-16-19pm3 0:12:56](#)]**: Council adopt the following topics for groundfish methodology review in 2020:

- Combined visual-hydroacoustic survey of Oregon’s nearshore semi-pelagic black, blue, and deacon rockfish as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 1](#)
- Data-moderate approaches that are highly reliant on length data as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 2](#)
- A meta-analysis of productivity estimates for elasmobranchs

Maggie Sommer/Louis Zimm (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted those methodology review topics recommended by the [Scientific and Statistical Committee](#) for formal methodology reviews next year. These topics include: 1) a combined visual-hydroacoustic survey of Oregon’s nearshore semi-pelagic black, blue, and deacon rockfish as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 1](#); 2) a review of data-moderate approaches that are highly reliant on length data as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 2](#); and 3) a meta-analysis of productivity estimates for elasmobranchs. These methodologies will be reviewed next year and may inform future groundfish stock assessments and management decisions if endorsed.

## I. Highly Migratory Species Management

### 1. [National Marine Fisheries Service Report](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:53:18](#)]

#### a. Regulatory Activities – Ryan Wulff [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:54:34](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#)

#### b. Fisheries Science Center Activities – Kristen Koch [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 0:56:22](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1.b, Supplemental SWFSC Presentation 1](#): SWFSC HMS Activities (Koch)

#### c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 1:24:37](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1.c, Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#): Drift Gill Net Transition Program

[Agenda Item I.1.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

#### d. Public Comment [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 1:31:42](#)]

Geoff Shester, Oceana

#### e. Council Discussion [[mp3: 9-16-19am1 1:36:44](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** None

### 2. [Recommend International Management Activities](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:00:36](#)]

[Agenda Item I.2, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1](#): Draft List of U.S. Priorities for the WCPFC

[Agenda Item I.2, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Chairs' Summary of the 4th Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna; 3 – 5 September 2019

#### a. Report on the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission's Northern Committee Activities – Dorothy Lowman [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:09:22](#)]

#### b. Report on the 94<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission – Brett Wiedoff [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:25:21](#)]

#### c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:28:41](#)]

[Agenda Item I.2.c, NMFS Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental REVISED NMFS Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental HMSMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

#### d. Public Comment

None

- e. **Council Action: Provide Recommendations to the Permanent Advisory Committee on U.S. Positions at the 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, as Appropriate** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:38:15](#)]

**Motion:** None

**Staff Summary:** The Council made the following recommendations on U.S. positions for the Permanent Advisory Committee to advise the U.S. Commissioners to the Western Central Pacific Fisheries.

Commission:

- Negotiate an equitable allocation of harvest opportunity for Pacific bluefin tuna between the Eastern Pacific Ocean and the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.
- Seek a change in the proportion of Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Northern Committee members that must be present for its meeting to achieve a quorum. The current threshold is too high, such that the Northern Committee did not reach a quorum when members met in September 2019.

**3. Exempted Fishing Permits – Final Recommendations – Kit Dahl** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:55:20](#)]

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application from Nathan Perez and Thomas Carson

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 2](#): *Federal Register* Notice; Request for Comments (84FR43109)

a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 0:58:21](#)]

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 1:02:12](#)]

Chugey Sepulveda, PIER

[Agenda Item I.3.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

c. **Council Action: Final Recommendation on Perez-Carson EFP Application** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 1:03:56](#)]

**Motion 13** [[mp3: 9-16-19am2 1:04:31](#)]: Council approve the EFP application submitted by Mr. Nathan Perez and Mr. Thomas Carson to fish a modified configuration of both standard and linked night-set buoy gear and recommend that National Marine Fisheries Service issue the EFP with a requirement for 100 percent observer coverage.

John Ugoretz/Bob Dooley (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council approved the Exempted Fishing Permit application submitted by Mr. Nathan Perez and Mr. Thomas Carson to fish a modified configuration of both standard and linked night-set buoy gear (fishing the gear at night) and recommended that National Marine Fisheries Service issue the permit with a 100 percent observer coverage requirement.

**4. Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Kit Dahl [mp3: 9-16-19am2 1:11:41]**

[Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 1](#): Draft changes to the HMS FMP (Amendment 6)

[Agenda Item I.4, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Letter from Dianne Feinstein to PFMC re: DSBG final action

**a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies [mp3: 9-16-19am2 1:19:21] & [mp3: 9-16-19pm1 0:00:14]**

[Agenda Item I.4.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Amendment 6 to the Fishery Management Plan for West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fisheries: Authorization of Deep-set Buoy Gear, Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement

[Agenda Item I.4.a, NMFS Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 3](#)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1](#): (*Enriquez*)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 1](#)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 3](#)

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Presentation 1](#): Reports on DSBG Authorization: FPA

[Agenda Item I.4.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1](#)

**b. Public Comment [mp3: 9-16-19pm1 0:42:58]**

Tom Schiff

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Geoff Shester, Oceana

Chugey Sepulveda, PIER

Gary Burke, CFSB

Gilly Lyons and Nick Rowe, PEW Charitable Trusts presented [Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental Public Presentation 1](#): (*Gilly Lyons, video – right click to download*)

Kate Kauer, The Nature Conservancy

Donald Krebs

[Agenda Item I.4.b, Public Comments \(Electronic Only\)](#)

**c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative for Deep-Set Buoy Gear Fishery Authorization and Associated Fishery Management Plan Amendment Language [mp3: 9-16-19pm2 0:00:08]**

**Motion 14 [mp3: 9-16-19pm2 0:04:55]**: Council adopt the Preliminary Preferred Alternative for authorization of a Deep-Set Buoy Gear Fishery as its Final Preferred Alternative with the following clarifications, as outlined in I.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 3 and changes based on public comment:

- 1) Permit issuance is intended to be cumulative, adding 25 permits each year to the prior year total until a maximum of 300 is reached. Any permits issued in previous years that were not issued or renewed would also be available for issuance each year.
- 2) NMFS will provide updates to the Council on permit issuance, though the number of additional permits issued by NMFS each year need not be reconsidered nor approved by the Council annually.
- 3) A cessation or temporary halt (“pause”) in permit issuance before 300 permits are issued is possible and would be considered by the Council in order to address concerns identified by NMFS or the Council.

- 4) Remove the end-date for demonstrated landings found in the Limited Entry Permit issuance criterion number 8.

Council adopt the amendments to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan as proposed by the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 1) with the following changes (in ~~strikeout~~/underline for clarity):

- 1) Modify the gear description to read:

Line fishing gear in two configurations: standard buoy gear and linked buoy gear. The gear consists of either a vertical line affixed to a buoy array with one or more hooks, or a horizontal line with hooks attached, connected to the terminal ends of two vertical lines affixed to buoy arrays ~~with hooks attached~~, respectively. Both configurations limit the number of hooks used and require the hooks to be set ~~below~~ deeper than a specified minimum depth and that buoys are configured to avoid entanglement. The gear is fished during specified hours and ~~has~~ requires active tending ~~requirements~~.

- 2) Modify the Deep-Set Buoy Gear permit transfer section to read:

HMS LE DSBG permits are not transferable. ~~The Council may authorize permit transfers, and any related conditions, through the biennial management process (Chapter 5).~~

- 3) Modify the Limited Entry Permit Qualification Criteria to read:

1. DSBG EFP holders who ~~have~~ made at least 10 observed DSBG sets by December 31, 2018.
2. DGN LE permit holders who ~~have~~ made at least one DGN landing between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years and surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
3. DSBG EFP holders who have made at least 10 observed DSBG sets by the effective date of the Final Rule authorizing DSBG.
4. Individuals who possessed a California Swordfish Permit in the 2018-2019 fishing year and made at least one swordfish landing using harpoon gear between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years.
5. DGN LE permit holders who have made at least one DGN landing between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years and did not surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or Federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
6. DGN permit holders who have not made a swordfish landing with DGN gear since March 31, 2013 and surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or federal DGN LE permit trade-in or buy-back program.
7. DGN LE permit holders who have not made a swordfish landing with DGN gear since March 31, 2013 and did not surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or Federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
8. Any individual with a documented commercial swordfish landing ~~between the 2013-2014 fishing year and the effective date of the Final Rule authorizing DSBG~~. The basis for documenting a commercial swordfish landing attributable to the applicant will be specified in Federal regulations.

John Ugoretz/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted its Preliminary Preferred Alternative for authorization of a Deep-Set Buoy Gear Fishery as its Final Preferred Alternative with the following clarifications:

1. Permit issuance is intended to be cumulative, adding 25 permits each year to the prior year total until a maximum of 300 is reached. Any permits issued in previous years that were not issued or renewed would also be available for issuance each year.
2. NMFS will provide updates to the Council on permit issuance, though the number of additional permits issued by NMFS each year need not be reconsidered nor approved by the Council annually.
3. A cessation or temporary halt (“pause”) in permit issuance before 300 permits are issued is possible and would be considered by the Council in order to address concerns identified by NMFS or the Council.
4. The end-date for demonstrated swordfish experience found in the Limited Entry Permit issuance criterion (Suboption 4) number 8 is removed.

The Council also adopted [draft proposed FMP amendment language](#) (Amendment 6 to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan) with some modest changes.

The Council’s preliminary preferred alternative (now final preferred) is described in the [Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) as Alternative 3 (see section 2.3 beginning on page 8).

## INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

[Informational Report 1](#): PFMC Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs for the year ended December 31, 2018

[Informational Report 2](#): Letter to PFMC from Barry Thom dated July 9, 2019 re: determination that the northern subpopulation of Pacific sardine is overfished, based on the best scientific information available

[Supplemental REVISED Informational Report 3](#): NOAA announcement: Sign up now for the 3rd National Electronic Monitoring Workshop Series

[Informational Report 4](#): Flyer – 3rd Local Seafood Summit hosted by LocalCatch.org

[Supplemental Informational Report 5](#): Letter dated August 23, 2019 to Chuck Tracy from Dayv Lowry, re: Sixtieth Annual Meeting of the Technical Subcommittee (TSC) of the Canada-U.S. Groundfish Committee

[Supplemental Informational Report 6](#): NMFS Update on the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018

[Supplemental REVISED Informational Report 7](#): Status Report of the 2019 Ocean Salmon Fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California Preliminary data through August 31, 2019

## VOTING LOG

**Motion 1:** Adopt [Agenda Item A.5, September 11-18, 2019 Council Meeting Agenda](#).  
Pete Hassemmer/Louis Zimm (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

**Motion 2:** Council adopt a modification of vision statement Alternative D (below) and the July 2019 Goals and Objectives, to go out to public comment to inform further Council consideration of FEP 5-year Review as described in EWG Report 1, ([Agenda Item E.1.a, EWG Report 1, September 2019](#)) and as modified below:

**Alternative D (modified):** The Council envisions a California Current Ecosystem (CCE) that continues to provide ecosystem services to current and future generations—including

livelihoods, fishing opportunities, and cultural practices that contribute to the wellbeing of fishing communities and the nation.

The following language would be retained as supporting language for the vision statement: To implement this vision, the Council continues to employ precautionary harvest policies that target healthy population levels, preserve biodiversity and ecological relationships between species, and ensure fair and equitable sharing of harvest benefits. The Council also develops management measures to conserve habitats and encourage practicable measures for avoiding the bycatch of protected and non-target marine life. Achieving this vision will require adaptive management and policies that are resilient to the coming changes, and increased variability and change in the climate and ocean environment. The vision can be achieved only with continued commitment to scientific research and ongoing monitoring of the biological, ecological, physical, social, and economic characteristics of the ecosystem. In addition, it requires the resources and support to implement adaptive changes in a timely fashion. The vision will always be strengthened by the Council's serving as an open and transparent forum for all who wish to civilly engage in the discussions of how the public resources of the California Current should be conserved and managed.

Caren Braby/Rich Lincoln (Motion 2, as amended, carried unanimously)

**Motion 3:** Council adopt the Strait of Juan de Fuca natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in [Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1](#) as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and adopt Recommendation 2 Alternative I (status quo), as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

**Motion 4:** Council adopt the Queets River natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in [Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2](#) as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and Recommendation 2 Alternative I, as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

**Motion 5:** Council adopt the Snohomish River natural coho rebuilding plan as presented in [Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3](#) as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the rebuilt criterion from the FMP, and adopt Recommendation 2 Alternative II (SMSY Buffer) as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

**Motion 6:** Council adopt the range of alternatives for changes to the 2020 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan as shown in [Agenda Item G.1.a, ODFW Report 1](#).

Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

**Motion 7:** Council adopt the proposed changes to the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan as described in [Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 1](#) for public review.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion 7 carried unanimously)



**Motion 8:** Council adopt the following preliminary recommendations on the 2020 Non-Tribal Commercial Directed Pacific Halibut fishery in the Area 2A for public review:

Fishing period duration:

Option 1 (status quo): 10 hours

Option 2: 5 days

Fishing season start:

Option 1: Last Wednesday in June (status quo)

Option 2: Last Wednesday in May

Maggie Sommer/Christa Svensson (Motion 8 carried unanimously)

**Motion 9:** Council provide NMFS with the recommendations from the GEMPAC relative to the draft program guidelines and data storage procedural directive.

Phil Anderson/Virgil Moore (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

**Motion 10:** Council send a letter to the PSMFC urging them to identify a pathway that allows the commission to continue providing the EM program review as is currently being done.

Phil Anderson/Bob Dooley (Motion 10 carried, Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Motion 11:** Council adopt the following as Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for salmon bycatch mitigation measures in groundfish fisheries:

1. Block Area Closures (BAC)

**Alternative 1:** BACs would be developed as a routine inseason mitigation tool for salmon bycatch in the midwater trawl fisheries in the whiting and non-whiting sectors.

2. Extension of Block Area Closure for All Trawl Gears to the Western Boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

**Alternative 1:** Develop regulations to allow for the extension of any block area closure seaward of 250 fathoms south of 46° 16' 00" N. latitude (WA/OR border) for all trawl gears to the western boundary of the EEZ (for midwater trawl) or to the 700 fathom EFH Conservation Area closure (for bottom trawl).

3. Selective Flatfish Trawl Net requirement (SFFT)

**Alternative 1:** SFFT nets would be available for use as a routine inseason mitigation tool to address salmon bycatch in the groundfish bottom trawl fisheries.

4. Pacific Whiting Cooperative Operational Rules

**Alternative 2:** Develop regulations to allow each whiting sector co-op to develop salmon mitigation plans for approval by NMFS.

- Include a requirement for annual season summary reporting to the Council and NMFS describing high-salmon bycatch incident information and avoidance measures taken.

5. Automatic Authority for NMFS to Close Trawl Sectors and Preserve 500 Chinook salmon for Fixed Gear and Recreational Fisheries

**Alternative 1:** Develop an inseason process to would close the trawl sectors as follows:

- Close the bottom and mid-water trawl sectors upon attainment of 8,500 Chinook salmon
- Close the whiting sectors upon attainment of 14,000 Chinook salmon
- Close all trawl fisheries upon attainment of 19,500 Chinook salmon

6. Development of Reserve rule provision

**Alternative 1:** A sector may only access the Reserve if the Council or NMFS has taken action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch in that sector prior to it reaching its Chinook salmon bycatch guideline.

- The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the at-sea whiting sectors would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of each of those sector's respective co-op salmon mitigation plans.
- The requirement for Council or NMFS action to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch for access to the Reserve by the shoreside whiting sector would be satisfied upon approval by NMFS of that sector's co-op salmon mitigation plans provided all participating vessels are members of a shoreside co-op with an approved salmon mitigation plan.
- If there are vessels participating in the shoreside whiting fishery that are not members of a shoreside whiting co-op, then additional actions by the Council or NMFS may be needed to minimize Chinook salmon bycatch (e.g., BACs, SFFT) prior to allowing access to the reserve by that sector.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

**Motion 12:** Council adopt the stock assessments, catch-only updates, and the yelloweye ABC projections and catch report endorsed by the SSC in [Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, September 2019](#).

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

**Motion 13:** Council approve the EFP application submitted by Mr. Nathan Perez and Mr. Thomas Carson to fish a modified configuration of both standard and linked night-set buoy gear and recommend that National Marine Fisheries Service issue the EFP with a requirement for 100 percent observer coverage.

John Ugoretz/Bob Dooley (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

**Motion 14:** Council adopt the Preliminary Preferred Alternative for authorization of a Deep-Set Buoy Gear Fishery as its Final Preferred Alternative with the following clarifications, as outlined in the [HMSMT Supplemental Report 3](#) and changes based on public comment:

- 1) Permit issuance is intended to be cumulative, adding 25 permits each year to the prior year total until a maximum of 300 is reached. Any permits issued in previous years that were not issued or renewed would also be available for issuance each year.
- 2) NMFS will provide updates to the Council on permit issuance, though the number of additional permits issued by NMFS each year need not be reconsidered nor approved by the Council annually.
- 3) A cessation or temporary halt ("pause") in permit issuance before 300 permits are issued is possible and would be considered by the Council in order to address concerns identified by NMFS or the Council.
- 4) Remove the end-date for demonstrated landings found in the Limited Entry Permit issuance criterion number 8.

Council adopt the amendments to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan as proposed by the Highly Migratory Species Management Team ([Agenda Item 1.4, Attachment 1](#)) with the following changes (*in strikeout/underline for clarity*):

- 1) Modify the gear description to read:

Line fishing gear in two configurations: standard buoy gear and linked buoy gear. The gear consists of either a vertical line affixed to a buoy array with one or more hooks, or a horizontal line with hooks attached, connected to the terminal ends of two vertical lines affixed to buoy arrays with hooks attached, respectively. Both configurations limit the number of hooks used and require the hooks to be set ~~below~~ deeper than a specified minimum depth and that buoys are configured to avoid entanglement. The gear is fished during specified hours and ~~has~~ requires active tending ~~requirements~~.

2) Modify the Deep-Set Buoy Gear permit transfer section to read:

HMS LE DSBG permits are not transferable. ~~The Council may authorize permit transfers, and any related conditions, through the biennial management process (Chapter 5).~~

3) Modify the Limited Entry Permit Qualification Criteria to read:

1. DSBG EFP holders who ~~have~~ made at least 10 observed DSBG sets by December 31, 2018.
2. DGN LE permit holders who ~~have~~ made at least one DGN landing between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years and surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
3. DSBG EFP holders who have made at least 10 observed DSBG sets by the effective date of the Final Rule authorizing DSBG.
4. Individuals who possessed a California Swordfish Permit in the 2018-2019 fishing year and made at least one swordfish landing using harpoon gear between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years.
5. DGN LE permit holders who have made at least one DGN landing between the 2013-2014 and 2017-2018 fishing years and did not surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or Federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
6. DGN permit holders who have not made a swordfish landing with DGN gear since March 31, 2013 and surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or federal DGN LE permit trade-in or buy-back program.
7. DGN LE permit holders who have not made a swordfish landing with DGN gear since March 31, 2013 and did not surrender their DGN LE permit as part of a state or Federal DGN permit trade-in or buy-back program.
8. Any individual with a documented commercial swordfish landing ~~between the 2013-2014 fishing year and the effective date of the Final Rule authorizing DSBG~~. The basis for documenting a commercial swordfish landing attributable to the applicant will be specified in Federal regulations.

John Ugoretz/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

**Motion 15:** Council adopt the following topics for groundfish methodology review in 2020:

- Combined visual-hydroacoustic survey of Oregon's nearshore semi-pelagic black, blue, and deacon rockfish as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 1](#)
- Data-moderate approaches that are highly reliant on length data as proposed in [Agenda Item H.10, Attachment 2](#)
- A meta-analysis of productivity estimates for elasmobranchs

Maggie Sommer/Louis Zimm (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

**Motion 16:** Council adopt the following statement of purpose and need for revising the 2020 shortbelly rockfish annual catch limit:

Action is needed to reduce the risk of closures or constraints in groundfish trawl fisheries due to the possibility of high bycatch of shortbelly rockfish in 2020, and avoid the adverse economic impacts to West Coast fishing communities that would result from such closures or constraints, while continuing to protect the availability of shortbelly rockfish as important forage in the California Current Ecosystem.

The purpose of this action is to review and adjust the annual catch limit for shortbelly rockfish in 2020 to a level that will accommodate incidental bycatch of this stock given recent high bycatch in groundfish trawl fisheries, while continuing to minimize bycatch and discourage development of a targeted fishery for shortbelly rockfish.

Maggie Sommer/Christa Svensson (Motion 16 carried unanimously)

**Motion 17:** Council adopt the following range of alternatives for the shortbelly rockfish annual catch limit (ACL) in 2020, and select Alternative 1 as the preliminary preferred alternative:

- No Action: Maintain the 500 mt shortbelly rockfish ACL for 2020
- Alternative 1: Increase the 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACL to 3000 mt
- Alternative 2: Increase the 2020 shortbelly rockfish ACL to 4,184 mt (the anticipated 2021 acceptable biological catch)

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

**Motion 18:** Council adopt the following statement of purpose and need for revising the 2020 cowcod annual catch target:

Action is needed to reduce the risk that vessels fishing south of 40° 10' N. latitude in the groundfish trawl individual fishing quota (IFQ) program will reach their annual vessel limit for cowcod in 2020 and have to cease fishing in the trawl IFQ program for the remainder of the year, which would result in severe adverse economic impacts on those vessels and fishing communities in the area.

The purpose of this action is to revise or remove the annual catch target for cowcod in 2020 south of 40° 10' N. latitude, given the improved state of the cowcod stock, and to reduce the yield set-aside for cowcod mortality in research activities, based on anticipated research impacts in 2020.

Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

**Motion 19:** Council adopt the following range of alternatives for revising the 2020 cowcod annual catch target (ACT) and research set-aside, and select Alternative 1, Option 2 as the preliminary preferred alternative:

- No Action: Maintain the 6 mt cowcod ACT for 2020. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 858 lbs.
- Alternative 1: Eliminate the 6 mt cowcod ACT for 2020 and manage fisheries to stay within the 10 mt ACL. Reduce the 2020 research set-aside by:
  - Option 1: No adjustment: set-aside remains 2 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1,124 lbs.
  - Option 2: 50 percent: set aside is 1 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1,264 lbs.
  - Option 3: 75 percent: set aside is 0.5 mt. Cowcod annual vessel limit is 1335 lbs.

Maggie Sommer/John Ugoretz (Motion 19 carried unanimously)

**Motion 20:** Council not proceed with adding new approaches for phased-in changes to harvest limits, harvest control rules, and ACL carryovers to the groundfish fishery management plan at this time.

John Ugoretz/Louis Zimm (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

**Motion 21:** Council:

- 1) Adopt the 2021-2022 OFLs and category designations shown in Tables 1 and 2 in [Agenda Item H.8, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1, September 2019](#) for all stocks except for shortspine thornyhead, canary rockfish, English sole, and brown rockfish.
- 2) Adopt the following preliminary range of P\*, Acceptable Biological Catch, and Annual Catch Limit values for those stocks that may depart from default harvest control rules for more detailed analysis, as shown in the table below which presents the recommendations in [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2019](#). Allow the GMT to evaluate a higher level for the petrale constant catch ACL alternative.

| # | Stock                          | Default HCR               | Alternative 1   | Alternative 2     |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Shortbelly RF                  | ABC (P*0.4), ACL = 500 mt | Use the same PPA selected under H.6 2020 shortbelly RF specifications (3000 mt) | N/A               |
| 2 | Oregon black RF                | ABC P*0.45                | “Case-by-case” ABC set = 2020 ABC of 512 mt                                     | N/A               |
| 3 | Cowcod South of 40° 10' N lat. | ABC P*0.45                | Alt 1: ABC P*0.40   | Alt 2: ABC P*0.30 |
| 4 | Petrale sole                   | ACL=ABC P*0.45            | Constant 3,200 ACL  | P*0.40            |
| 5 | Sablefish                      | ABC P*0.40                | ABC P*0.45  | N/A               |

- 3) Request that Council staff work with the Science Centers and the SSC to develop projections for the stocks that may depart from default harvest control rules shown in the table above, to inform consideration of harvest specifications for these stocks in November.

Maggie Sommer/Brad Pettinger (Motion 21 carried unanimously)

**Motion 22:** Council adopt the preliminary range of potential groundfish management measures for 2021-2022 in [Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#), [Supplemental GMT Report 1](#), and [Supplemental GAP Report 1](#), under Agenda Item H.8, September 2019.

In addition, for shortbelly rockfish, consider:

- an ACT below the ACL, and actions that might be triggered by approaching or reaching that ACT
- amending the FMP to prohibit directed fishing
- managing shortbelly rockfish as an Ecosystem Component Species or Shared Ecosystem Component species

Maggie Sommer/Rich Lincoln (Motion 22 carried unanimously)

**Motion 23:** Council request that the SSC review the sablefish ACL apportionment methods proposed in [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2019](#) at the SSC meeting in conjunction with the November 2019 Council meeting.

Maggie Sommer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 23 carried unanimously)

**Motion 24:** Council adopt Sablefish Daily Trip Limit Alternative 2 for Limited Entry North (1,700 lb/ week, not to exceed 5,100 lb/2 months) and Alternative 1 for Open Access North (300 lb/day, or one landing per week up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 3,000 lb/2 months) as recommended in [Supplemental GMT Report 1](#) and [Supplemental GAP Report 1](#) under Agenda Item H.9, September 2019.

In addition, recommend to NMFS extending the Midwater Trawl and Electronic Monitoring EFPs through 2020, with the proposed modifications. Encourage NMFS and the industry to consider improved lighting and/or catch handling practices to address the issue relating to the identification of rex sole by EM systems.

Maggie Sommer/Bob Dooley (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

**Motion 25:** Council adopt COP 22 with the changes proposed in Agenda Item C.4.a, [Supplemental ODFW Report 1](#), [Supplemental HC Report 1](#), and [Supplemental STT Report 1](#), September 2019.

Maggie Sommer/John Ugoretz (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

**Motion 26:** Council appoint Mr. Brian Hooper to the vacant NMFS West Coast Region position on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup.

Ryan Wulff/Pete Hassemer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

**Motion 27:** Council appoint Ms. Erica Crust to the vacant Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife position on the Groundfish Management Team.

Corey Niles/Virgil Moore (Motion 27 carried unanimously)

**Motion 28:** Council approve the Draft June 2019 Council Meeting record as shown in [Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1](#): Draft Council Meeting Record: 250th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (June 19-25, 2019).

Pete Hassemer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 28 carried unanimously)

## ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on September 18, 2019 at 11:42 a.m.



Phil Anderson  
Council Chair

2/26/2020

Date