

RECOMMEND INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

As discussed under Agenda Item I.2, September 2019, the Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC) to Advise the U.S. Commissioners to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) met October 10-11. The purpose of the PAC is to provide stakeholder input to U.S. Commissioners about U.S. positions before the WCPFC. Attachment 1 contains the recommendations of the PAC adopted at that meeting. The Fifteenth Regular Session of the WCPFC will occur December 5-11, 2019. Attachment 2 is the provisional annotated agenda; additional meeting materials of interest to the Council may be distributed supplementally as they become available. The Council has the opportunity to make comments on U.S. positions at the upcoming meeting.

The U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty governs access by albacore fishing vessels of each country to the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the other (see Attachment 3). The Treaty has been periodically amended over the past decade to establish three-year “fishing regimes” that specify access for the purpose of fishing and port privileges. In general, Canadian vessels fish in the U.S. EEZ more extensively than U.S. vessels do in the Canadian zone. U.S. vessels have a greater interest in accessing Canadian ports to deliver catch, service vessels, and pick up foreign crew. The current fishing regime applies to the period of June 15, 2017 to December 31, 2019. A new agreement will have to be negotiated before the start of the next fishing season on June 15, 2020. The Council may wish to discuss its recommendations for the terms of the next fishing regime. The State Department representative on the Council, Mr. David Hogan, will not be attending the November meeting but will be able to attend the March 2020 meeting. The Council could revisit its recommendations in March to speak directly with Mr. Hogan about them. Based on past precedent, negotiations with Canada over a new regime will not begin in earnest until April 2020.

Council Action:

Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and Other Forums, as Appropriate.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 1: 2019 Recommendations from the Permanent Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.
2. Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 2: Sixteenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Provisional Annotated Agenda.
3. Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 3: Treaty between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on Pacific Coast Albacore Tuna Vessels and Port Privileges
4. Agenda Item J.2.a, NMFS Report 1.
5. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

J.2 Recommend International Management Activities

Kit Dahl

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and Other Forums, as Appropriate

PFMC

10/21/19