



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2020

TO: Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team, Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel, and Interested Persons

FROM: Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting

This meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will be held via webinar Tuesday, September 8 through Friday, September 18, 2020, with no meetings scheduled for the weekend of September 12-13. The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) is scheduled to convene September 8-10 and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) is scheduled to convene September 9-10. Instructions for how to connect to advisory body (AB) webinars and the main Council meeting will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. For advisory bodies, there will be one daily opportunity for public comment.

The only coastal pelagic species agenda item on the September Council meeting agenda is the Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan – Final Action (Agenda Item G.1). The CPSMT and CPSAS will also discuss other items not on the Council's September agenda. See below:

Sardine Rebuilding Plan (G.1)

The Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan Preliminary Environmental Analysis (Agenda Item G.1, Attachment 1) provides the background, description of alternatives, affected environment, and a qualitative analysis of the alternatives, which were adopted by the Council at its June 2020 meeting. CPSMT Report 1 provides additional background and highlights some of the challenges with developing this rebuilding plan. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report 1 is the Rebuilder Tool analysis by Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) analysts, to assist in evaluating the impacts of the alternatives and in identifying key rebuilding reference points such as a minimum rebuilding time (Tmin), a maximum rebuilding time (Tmax), and a target rebuilding time (Ttarget). The CPSMT and CPSAS should be prepared to discuss and recommend rebuilding reference points and a final preferred alternative for Council adoption.

Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness (C.2)

On May 7, 2020, Executive Order (EO) 13921, Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth, was published in the *Federal Register* (Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1).

Section 4 of this EO requires that each Council submit a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production within sustainable fisheries. Some AB Chairs and Co-Chairs received a briefing on the issue, in early August. Advisory body reports are expected to include recommendations responsive to the E.O. for Council consideration. Council recommendations must be finalized at this meeting in order to meet a November 2, 2020 deadline for responses.

Climate and Communities Initiative – Update (F.1)

The Council has continued conducting a scenario planning exercise as part of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Climate and Communities Initiative, and is scheduled to receive a progress update as well as plans for a series of workshops that identify the implications and actions that follow from the scenarios. The CPSMT and CPSAS should review and may wish to comment.

Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review (F.2)

The Council’s Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) continues its review of the FEP and will present a review draft of Chapter 3 and proposed revisions to Chapters 4 and 5. The CPSMT and CPSAS should review and may wish to comment.

The CPSMT and CPSAS will also be discussing offshore wind energy siting. Please note Informational Report 4, a letter from the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee to U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, and a draft letter on wind energy siting off the California coast (Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 1, CEC Letter).

Enclosed are September materials for your review. Thank you for your continued participation in the Council process and for your part in maintaining sustainable fisheries on the U.S. West Coast.

KFG:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5 – September Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item G.1 –Sardine Rebuilding Plan
3. Informational Reports
4. Agenda Item F.1 – Climate and Communities Initiative - Update
5. Agenda Item F.2 – Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review
6. Agenda Item C.7 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
7. CPSMT Agenda
8. CPSAS Agenda
9. General Information and Council Roster

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08/19/20



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 12, 2020
TO: Enforcement Consultants
FROM: Jim Seger Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 8-11 and 14-18, 2020, via webinar. All meetings are open to the public. For Advisory Bodies, there will be one daily opportunity for public comment.

Instructions for how to connect to Advisory Body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. It is recommended that you use a computer headset to listen to the meeting, but you may use your telephone for the audio-only portion of the meeting. The audio portion may be attended using a telephone by following the connect to audio instructions on your screen, shown after joining the webinar.

The main meeting for the Enforcement Consultants (EC) will be held Thursday September 10, at 8 a.m. and the EC will meet Friday September 11, and Monday September 15 through Thursday September 18, as necessary. Other sessions may be scheduled during that period, as needed, and the times for those sessions will be posted on the Council's June meeting website.

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

JLS:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
 2. EC Agenda
 3. EAS Agenda
 4. EWG Agenda
 5. CPSMT Agenda
 6. CPSAS Agenda
-

7. GAP Agenda
8. GMT Agenda
9. HC Agenda
10. LC Agenda
11. HMSMT Agenda
12. HMSAS Agenda
13. SAS Agenda
14. STT Agenda

Administrative Matters

15. C.2 Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth – Final Recommendations
16. C.7 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Groundfish Management

17. D.5 Inseason Adjustments – Final Action
18. D.6 Update on Humpback Whale Endangered Species Act Consultation

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

19. G.1 Sardine Rebuilding Plan – Final Action

Salmon Management

20. H.2 Amendment 20: Annual Management Schedule and Klamath Management Zone Boundary Change – Final Action
21. H.3 Southern Resident Killer Whale Endangered Species Act Consultation

Pacific Halibut

22. I.1 2021 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations
23. I.2 Transition of Area 2A Fishery Management
24. I.3 Commercial-Directed Fishery Regulations for 2021

Informational Reports

25. Informational Reports 1-6

General Information

26. Schedule of Council Meetings and Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 18, 2020
TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons
FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 8-11 and 14-18 by webinar. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) and the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will meet Tuesday to Thursday, September 8-10. Instructions for how to connect to advisory body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. Two ecosystem topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these agenda items and other topics of interest follow.

F.1 Climate and Communities Initiative Update

The Ad Hoc Climate and Communities Core Team (CCCT) has drafted a description of four climate change scenarios for the California Current Ecosystem, initially developed at a January workshop and fleshed out through consultations with Council advisory bodies. The Council will review the descriptions and provide comments so that the document may be finalized. These scenario descriptions will be the primary source material for a series of workshops that identify the implications and actions that follow from the scenarios. Jonathan Star, contracted by the Council to manage the scenario planning process, drafted a proposal for these workshops with input from the CCCT. Four "regional" online workshops are proposed. The Council will consider the proposal and provide guidance.

F.2 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review

The EWG has provided a draft of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Chapter 3 for review at this meeting. The Council will also solicit public comment on proposed revisions to Chapters 4 and 5.

C.2 Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth – Final Recommendations

Executive Order (EO) 13921, published May 7, 2020, requires each Council to submit a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production within sustainable fisheries. Council advisory bodies may submit recommendations for the Council's response.

C.7 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

You may wish to provide comments on scheduling topics at future Council meetings.

In addition to the enclosed briefing materials, you may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advance briefing book. Public comment is available only in electronic form through the Council's [e-portal](#). Visit the [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) to access these materials.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Items F: Ecosystem Management
3. Agenda Items C: Administrative Matters
4. EAS and EWG Meeting Agendas
5. Informational Reports
6. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2020

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

FROM: Mr. Todd Phillips, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet via webinar September 8-11 and 14-18, 2020. The Council and its advisory bodies will not be holding any meetings on the weekend of Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) meeting and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8 and conclude Wednesday, September 16. All meetings are open to the public and there will be a once-daily opportunity for public comment on advisory body agendas. Instructions for how to connect to online meetings will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest. The briefing book materials attached to this memorandum provide detailed information for these items on the Council's September agenda; however, the following agenda items, summarized below, may be of particular interest.

C.2 Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth – Final Recommendations

On May 7, 2020, President Trump issued [Executive Order \(EO\) 13921](#). Section 4 of this EO directs the Secretary of Commerce to request that each Regional Fishery Management Council provide a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production within sustainable fisheries. A detailed summary of EO 13921 is included in this mailing as Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 2. Under this agenda item, the GMT and GAP have the opportunity to provide recommendations to the Council that “may include changes to regulations, orders, guidance documents, or other similar agency actions” to accomplish the goals of this EO.

D.1 Gear Switching and Sablefish Area Management Scoping

From June 2018 through April 2020, the Sablefish Area Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee (SaMTAAC) has convened to identify the issues of achieving the goals and objectives of the catch share plan related to the under-attainment of non-sablefish trawl allocations

and unharvested sablefish quota pounds (QP) south of 36° N. lat. The SaMTAAC was also charged with developing options that may revise gear switching rules for trawl permit holders and QP leasing to vessels using fixed gear, as well as consider developing options that may encourage increased utilization of sablefish QPs south of 36° N. lat., as appropriate. Under this agenda item, the Council will deliberate on whether further development of this issue is warranted. If the Council decides to move forward on this item, it will need to adopt a formal purpose and need statement. The GMT and GAP have the opportunity to provide their recommendations to the Council regarding these and other agenda-related concepts.

D.2 Workload and New Management Measure Priorities – Including the Scoping of Mothership Utilization Issues

This agenda item will cover the workload and new management measure prioritization process as well as the scoping of mothership whiting utilization. The GMT and GAP have the opportunity to recommend new groundfish management measures, as well as suggest revisions and updates to the existing list. The GMT and GAP should also consider providing input on the required review of the limited entry permit stacking program, particularly, how the review may affect workload..

Additionally, the Council will scope the previously prioritized mothership utilization issue. Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) staff have developed a scoping paper on the matter and the Council anticipates hearing from the GMT and the GAP to assist the Council determine the next steps in light of the full suite of workload priorities.

D.6 Update on Humpback Whale Endangered Species Act Consultation

The Council will receive an update on the status of the NMFS Endangered Species Act consultation that was reinitiated in November of 2018. The Council will have the opportunity to advise NMFS on how the scope and prospective conservation measures of the consultation could affect the management of the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery.

F.1 Climate and Communities Initiative – Update

The Council has been conducting a climate change scenario planning exercise over the past year as part of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative. A series of webinars were convened with Council advisory bodies to further develop the initiative and progress was reported to the Council in June. Based on advisory body input, the Climate and Communities Core Team has created a final draft of the scenario descriptions. The next stage of the scenario planning exercise will involve a series of workshops to identify the implications and actions that follow from the scenarios. The Council is scheduled to review progress on the development of four scenarios and provide guidance on next steps for the initiative. Advisory body input is integral to informed development of these scenarios.

F.2 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review

The Council directed the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) to continue reviewing and revising Fishery Ecosystem Plan Chapter 3 and provide a final draft for adoption at the September 2020 Council meeting. At this meeting, the Council will also solicit public comment on proposed revisions to Chapters 4 and 5.

Informational meetings will be held as EWG webinars on September 9 and 10 at 1:20 p.m. where questions may be asked on both F.1 and F.2.

I.2 Transition of Area 2A Fishery Management

In 2019, the Council opted to move forward with the transition of management authority of the Area 2A Non-Indian Commercial Directed Pacific Halibut Fishery from the International Pacific Halibut Commission to the Council and National Marine Fisheries Service. At its March 2020 meeting, the Council discussed the [report](#) provided by the Project Team and adopted a range of alternatives. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to select its preliminary preferred alternatives.

Please review the enclosed [briefing materials](#) in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council process and management of Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries.

TMP:ael

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment Items
3. Agenda Item C.1 – NMFS Report 1
4. Agenda Item C.2 – Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness
5. Agenda Item C.7 – Future Meeting and Workload Planning
6. Agenda Item D – Groundfish Management
7. Agenda Item F – Ecosystem
8. Agenda Item I – Pacific Halibut
9. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
10. GAP Agenda
11. GMT Agenda
12. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
13. Informational Reports
14. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2020

TO: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel, Highly Migratory Species Management Team, and Interested Persons

FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer for Highly Migratory Species

SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 8-11 and 14-18 by webinar. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Tuesday to Thursday, September 8-10. Instructions for how to connect to advisory body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. Four highly migratory species (HMS) topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these agenda items and other topics of interest follow.

E.1 International Management Activities

The situation summary updates the schedule of Regional Fishery Management Organization meetings, which are being conducted online. The 95th meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) did not occur as originally scheduled in August and may occur in October or November. Related to this, the IATTC/WCPFC (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission) Joint Working Group on Pacific Bluefin Tuna Management will meet in October. This gives the Council the opportunity to comment on Pacific bluefin tuna management and specifically the adoption of a new IATTC resolution to succeed Resolution C-18-01 (Measures for the Conservation and Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, 2019 and 2020).

E.2 Review Exempted Fishing Permits and Consider Final Recommendations

Usually scheduled for the June Council meeting, this item has been pushed back to September. Twenty exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications were received by the August 17 deadline. All applications are for the use of deep-set buoy gear (DSBG), which the Council has been considering in a one-meeting process; however, one application is to test DSBG fishing at night, which is a non-standard use of the gear and another application is by an existing EFP holder to test night setting on an additional vessel. Previously, the Council has considered applications for activities other than standard use of DSBG over two meetings.

E.3 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Preliminary

In even-numbered years the Council may review and comment on status determination criteria established by National Marine Fisheries Service for the species managed under the HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP). This is the first meeting in the process, with a draft HMS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document containing this information available for review. The Council also has the option to scope new management measures during this process. The issue of increased fishing capacity in the West Coast commercial albacore fishery was raised in June and the Council decided to further scope the issue under this agenda item.

E.4 Essential Fish Habitat Review

At its March 2020 meeting the Council initiated a review of essential fish habitat (EFH) provisions in the HMS FMP. The HMSMT's Phase 1 Report (E.4.a, HMSMT Report 1) presents new information that could inform potential revisions to HMS EFH descriptions. The Council will determine whether the new information merits updating the EFH provisions in the HMS FMP.

J.1 Current Habitat Issues

The HMSAS and HMSMT expressed interest in better understanding the issue of offshore wind energy facility development on the West Coast. HMSAS member Mike Conroy has offered to brief the committees on this issue. Furthermore, the Habitat Committee drafted a letter for Council review on this topic (Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 1). Finally, Informational Reports 4 through 6 concern offshore wind energy development.

C.2 Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth – Final Recommendations

Executive Order (EO) 13921, published May 7, 2020, requires each Council to submit a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production within sustainable fisheries. Council advisory bodies may submit recommendations for the Council's response.

C.7 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

With Council meetings being conducted online, the number of agenda items at each meeting has been limited. Keeping this in mind, you may wish to provide comments on scheduling HMS topics at future Council meetings.

In addition to the enclosed briefing materials, you may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advance briefing book. Public comment is available only in electronic form through the Council's [e-portal](#). Visit the [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) to access these materials.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Items E: Highly Migratory Species
3. Agenda Item J.1: Current Habitat Issues
4. Agenda Items C: Administrative
5. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
6. Informational Reports
7. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2020

TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, Southern Resident Killer Whale Workgroup, Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet via webinar September 8-18, 2020. The Council and its Advisory Bodies will not be holding meetings the weekend of Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13.

Instructions for how to connect to the Council meeting and Advisory Body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting.

In conjunction with the September 2020 Council meeting, the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) and the Salmon Technical Team (STT) will meet during the Council meeting. The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW), the Ad Hoc Southern Resident Killer Whale Workgroup (SRKW Workgroup), and the Ad Hoc Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Workgroup (SONCC Coho Workgroup) will not meet during the Council meeting. However, all advisory members are welcome to attend the online SAS meeting (Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8-9), or the STT meeting (Tuesday, September 8) to discuss topics of interest on the Council agenda. In addition, a representative from the SRKW Workgroup will participate in the September Council meeting to provide a statement on the topic.

The Council will cover the salmon agenda items on Wednesday, September 16 and Thursday, September 17. Three salmon topics will be discussed by the Council. The first topic (Agenda Item H.1) will be a presentation from the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation informing the Council on salmon reintroduction efforts upstream of Grand Coulee Dam. The second topic (Agenda Item H.2) covers Amendment 20 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan initiated by the Council in November 2019. Two primary topics are proposed for change that constitute Amendment 20: the salmon preseason schedule and modification of the boundary of the Klamath Management Zone. The Council reviewed the range of alternatives in June, and will discuss the proposed changes and consider adopting final preferred alternatives at this September meeting. The last salmon topic (Agenda Item H.3), will focus on the SRKW Endangered Species Act consultation process. The Council will review and potentially adopt a range of alternatives for potential management recommendations developed by the SRKW Workgroup for Council consideration.

There are also three topics addressing Pacific Halibut fishery management on the September Council agenda on Thursday, September 17. The Council will review the current Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and adopt for public review any proposed changes which typically focuses on recreational fisheries. In addition, under Agenda Item I.3, the Council will adopt for public review proposed changes to the directed commercial fishery for recommendation to the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Agenda Item I.2 will cover the Area 2A fishery transition. The Council reviewed a range of alternatives in March and is scheduled to adopt Preliminary Preferred Alternatives at this September meeting.

Ecosystem topics will be covered on Wednesday, September 16 and include Agenda Items F.1 (Climate and Communities Update) and F.2 (Fishery Ecosystem Plan 5-year Review). There will be an 'open house' webinar hosted by the Ecosystem Workgroup to field questions about these two topics on September 8 and repeated on September 9. The Habitat committee will meet on Wednesday and Thursday, September 8-9, and provide reports to the Council under Agenda Item J.1 on Friday, September 18.

On Friday, September 11 under Agenda Item C.1, National Marine Fisheries Service will provide a report that covers a variety of topics that may be of interest. In addition, there are multiple Administrative Matters of interest on the Council's agenda scheduled for Friday, September 18. Under Agenda Item C.2, the Council will discuss and provide final recommendations for Executive Order 13921: Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth. Legislative Matters are covered under Agenda Item C.3, and Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures are covered under Agenda Item C.6. Future Council meeting agendas and workload planning will be discussed under Agenda Item C.7.

Also, under Informational Reports, the STT will submit an inseason harvest report for the ocean salmon fisheries. Look for this report once the Council meeting is underway.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

RDE:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Items C.1, C.2, C.3, C.6, C.7 – Council Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Items F.1 and F.2 – Ecosystem Management
4. Agenda Items H.1, H.2, H.3 – Salmon Management
5. Agenda Items I.1, I.2, I.3 – Pacific Halibut Management
6. Agenda Item J.1 – Habitat Issues
7. Informational Reports
8. Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 21, 2020
TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee
FROM: John DeVore, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2020 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 8-11, 14-18, 2020 via webinar. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet on Wednesday, September 9 and Thursday, September 10, starting at 8 a.m. each day. Your meeting materials are enclosed.

Instructions for how to connect to Advisory Body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 2020 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. It is recommended that you use a computer headset to listen to the meeting, but you may use your telephone for the audio-only portion of the meeting.

Council Administrative Matters

The SSC will review the nomination of Dr. Fabio Prior Caltabellotta, Oregon State University (OSU), to fill the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the SSC vacated by Dr. David Sampson. The SSC will also review the nomination of Ms. Amber Rhodes, National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region (NMFS WCR), to fill the NMFS WCR seat on the Highly Migratory Species Management Team, vacated by Mr. Lyle Enriquez.

The SSC will discuss future workload planning and will report to the Council on their plans under Agenda Item C.7.

The SSC will continue planning and development of a new Research and Data Needs database.

Groundfish Management

The SSC will review any proposed methodologies informing groundfish impact analyses and recommend any such methodologies for a formal review next year.

The SSC will review methodology review reports and recommendations on 1) proposed nearshore remotely operated vehicle (ROV) surveys designed to inform future groundfish stock assessments and 2) proposed length-based assessment methods. The SSC will also review proposed changes to the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Process for 2021 and 2022 regarding length-based assessments. The SSC will recommend any of these new methodologies they endorse for informing future groundfish stock assessments and will also recommend language for the stock assessment TOR pending an endorsement of new length-based assessment methods.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review the draft Pacific sardine rebuilding analysis and the report and recommendations of the SSC's CPS Subcommittee and will consider recommending the rebuilding analysis to inform the Council in deciding a Pacific sardine rebuilding plan.

Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review recommended edits to Chapters 3-5 of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan and provide their recommendations to the Council.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process.

JDD:rdd

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.7 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Groundfish Management

3. Agenda Item D.3 – Impact Analyses Methodology Review Preliminary Topics
4. Agenda Item D.4 – Assessment Methodology Review – Final

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

5. Agenda Item G.1 – Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan – Final Preferred Alternative

Ecosystem Management

Agenda Item F.1 – Fishery Ecosystem Plan Five-Year Review – Chapters 3-5

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

6. September 2020 SSC Agenda
7. Draft June 2020 SSC Minutes
8. Closed Session
9. Informational Reports
10. General Information and Council Roster

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