Pacific Fishery Management Council  

MEETING NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 15, 2021

CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Tracy  
503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204

Pacific Fishery Management Council to Hold Webinar-Only Meeting in April 2021 to Adopt Management Measures for Ocean Fisheries

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC or Council) and its advisory bodies will meet April 6-9 and 12-15, 2021 by webinar only, to address issues related to groundfish, coastal pelagic species, Pacific halibut, salmon, and administrative matters.

Key actions for consideration at the meeting include:

- Adopt Final Exempted Fishing Permit Recommendations for 2021-2022 Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries
- Review Phase 1 Report and Determine if Modifications to Coastal Pelagic Species Essential Fish Habitat Provisions are Needed
- Adopt a Pacific Sardine Assessment, Final Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures for the 2021-2022 Pacific Sardine Fishery
- Scope of Non-trawl Gear and Sector Area Management Measures Issues for Further Development
- Adopt Final Incidental Pacific Halibut Catch Recommendations for 2021 and Early 2022 Non-Indian Salmon Troll Fisheries
- Review the Development of a Research and Data Needs Database and Provide Guidance
- Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2021, as Necessary, to Achieve but Not Exceed Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives
- Review Analyses and Adopt a Maximum Sablefish Gear Switching Level
- Adopt Final Management Measures for 2021 Ocean Salmon Fisheries
A schedule of advisory body meetings is provided on the last pages of the attached proposed agenda. Copies of briefing materials prepared for the meeting can be found on our website [www.pccouncil.org](http://www.pccouncil.org) by Friday, March 26, 2021.

**Meeting Arrangements**

The meeting of the Council and its advisory entities was originally planned to be held in person, but due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic, the format of the meetings has been changed to be conducted only by webinars.

All meetings are open to the public. For more information on the meetings, refer to the attached proposed detailed agenda. Information is also available on the Council website [http://www.pccouncil.org](http://www.pccouncil.org) or by calling the Council office at 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204 (toll-free).

The meeting of the Council general session will be streamed live on the internet. The broadcast will begin at 9 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) Thursday, April 8, 2021. There will be no meetings scheduled during the weekend of April 9-10, however, the meeting will continue daily on Monday, April 12 at 8 a.m. through Thursday, April 15, 2021. Broadcasts end daily at 5 p.m. or when business for the day is complete. Only the audio portion and presentations displayed on the screen will be broadcast. The audio portion for the public is listen-only except that an opportunity for oral public comment will be provided prior to Council Action on each agenda item. To access the meeting online, please visit the Council website. 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.

Meetings of advisory bodies will also be conducted by webinar based on the schedules in the attached agenda. There will be opportunity for public comment daily in each of the webinars. Instructions for how to connect to those webinars will be posted on the Council’s [April 2021 Meeting webpage](http://www.pccouncil.org) prior to the first day of the meeting.

**Public Comment Guidelines**

The public is encouraged to comment on Council agenda items in writing prior to the webinar through our Public Comment Electronic Portal (see below). Additionally, there will be an opportunity for oral public comment prior to Council Action on each agenda item for those attending the webinar. Timing of agenda items may change as the meeting progresses, and items not completed on the scheduled day will be carried over to later in the meeting, usually the next day.

**Oral Public Comments**

Oral public comments will be accepted during the meeting prior to Council action on each agenda item. Instructions for oral public comments will be available on the [April 2021 Meeting webpage](http://www.pccouncil.org).

**Written Public Comments**

Written public comments must be submitted to our Public Comment Electronic Portal. For the April 2021 Council meeting, this will open Monday, March 15. To access the [E-Portal](http://www.pccouncil.org), visit the Council website ([www.pccouncil.org](http://www.pccouncil.org)). You will see “Upcoming Council Meeting” on the Home page, with a button titled “E-Portal for Public Comment”. Click the E-Portal button and you will be taken
to the E-Portal page for that meeting. Select the agenda item you are interested in commenting on and either enter your comments in the text box, or upload a file containing your comments in .pdf. You will be limited to one comment per agenda item before Friday, March 26, 2021, when the advance briefing materials will be available for review on the Council website, and one comment after. Supplemental materials will be posted as they are received and reviewed.

Written Comments After the Public Comment Deadline (5 p.m. on Monday, April 5, 2021):

- Due to the webinar-only format of this Council meeting, written comments after the Council meeting starts will only be accepted if they are in support of oral public comment and are submitted prior to Council Action on the agenda item.

To receive this notice in the future via email, sign up for the “PFMC E-Mail Notification List”.
259th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council
April 6-9 and 12-15, 2021

Meeting by Webinar Only

Instructions for joining the webinar will be posted to the Council web page

Schedule of Ancillary Meetings begins on page 7

Refer to the Schedule of Ancillary Meetings beginning on page 8 for a complete list of technical and administrative committees, advisory bodies, work groups, state delegations, and special sessions.

Proposed Detailed Agenda begins on next page

The following items are on the Pacific Council agenda. However, please note that the timing—including the day—of the agenda items may change based on the time required for prior agenda items, and the order may change as required to effectively address the issues.

Council Action descriptions to adopt imply consideration to adopt; adoption is not mandatory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 6-7</th>
<th>Thursday April 8</th>
<th>Friday April 9</th>
<th>April 10-11</th>
<th>Monday April 12</th>
<th>Tuesday April 13</th>
<th>Wednesday April 14</th>
<th>Thursday April 15</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Bodies will meet Tues. and Weds. A listing of meeting times begins on page 7.</td>
<td>Closed Session</td>
<td>Coastal Pelagic Species</td>
<td>No Advisory Body or Council Meetings</td>
<td>Groundfish</td>
<td>Groundfish</td>
<td>Groundfish</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>Open Comment</td>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Pacific Halibut</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
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<td>Salmon</td>
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Thursday, April 8, 2021

General Council Session
Meeting by Webinar

8:00 a.m.  Closed Executive Session

This session is closed to all except Council members, their designees, and others designated by the Council Chair to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

9 a.m.

A. Call to Order
   A.1 Opening Remarks  Marc Gorelnik, Chair
   A.2 Roll Call  Chuck Tracy
   A.3 Executive Director’s Report  Chuck Tracy
   A.4 Agenda  Marc Gorelnik
      a. **Council Action:** Approve Agenda

B. Open Comment Period
   B.1 Comments on Non-Agenda Items  Chuck Tracy
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. Council Discussion and Comments, as Appropriate

C. Habitat Issues
   C.1 Current Habitat Issues  Jennifer Gilden
      a. Report of the Habitat Committee  Lance Hebden
      b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      c. Public Comment
      d. **Council Action:** Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations

D. Salmon Management
   D.1 Tentative Adoption of 2021 Management Measures for Analysis  Robin Ehlke
      a. Update of Estimated Impacts of March 2021 Alternatives  Michael O’Farrell
      b. Summary of Public Hearings  Hearings Officers
      c. Recommendations of the U.S. Section of the Pacific Salmon Commission  Phil Anderson
      d. Recommendations of North of Cape Falcon Forum  Oregon, Washington, Tribes
      e. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      f. Public Comment
      g. **Council Action:** Adopt Tentative 2021 Ocean Salmon Management Measures and any Necessary Harvest Specifications for Collation and Analysis
Friday, April 9, 2021

8 a.m.  

Meeting by Webinar

A. Call to Order (reconvene)  
A.5 Commencing Remarks

E. Coastal Pelagic Species Management

E.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
   a. Regulatory Activities
   b. Fisheries Science Center Activities
   c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   d. Public Comment
   e. Council Discussion

E.2 Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) for 2021-2022 - Final Action
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment
   c. Council Action: Adopt Final EFP Recommendations for 2021-2022 Fisheries

E.3 Review of Essential Fish Habitat
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment
   c. Council Action: Review Phase 1 Report and Determine if Modifications to Essential Fish Habitat Provisions are Warranted

E.4 Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures – Final Action
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment

D. Salmon Management (continued)

D.2 Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment

D.3 Clarify Council Direction on 2021 Management Measures
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment
   c. Council Guidance and Direction

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED APRIL 10-11, 2021
Monday, April 12, 2021

8 a.m.  Meeting by Webinar

A. Call to Order (reconvene)  Marc Gorelnik
   A.6 Commencing Remarks  Chuck Tracy

F. Groundfish Management
   F.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report  Todd Phillips
      a. Regulatory Activities  Kelly Ames
      b. Fisheries Science Center Activities  Kevin Werner
      c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      d. Public Comment
      e. Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate

   F.2 Humpback Whale Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation  Todd Phillips
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on the Development of Management Measures to Satisfy the Terms and Conditions of the Humpback Whale ESA Consultation, as Appropriate

   F.3 Scoping of Prioritized Non-trawl Sector Area Management Measures  Todd Phillips/Brett Wiedoff
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. **Council Action:** Scope Issues Regarding Implementing Gear and Methods Tested Under the Emley/Platt Exempted Fishing Permit in Regulations and Modifying Rockfish Conservation Areas for Non-Trawl Sectors; Consider Purpose and Need Statements; and Provide Guidance on Further Development of Issues and Alternatives

G. Pacific Halibut Management
   G.1 Incidental Catch Limits for 2021 Salmon Troll Fishery – Final Action  Robin Ehlke
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Incidental Pacific Halibut Catch Recommendations for 2021 and Early 2022 Non-Indian Salmon Troll Fisheries

D. Salmon Management (continued)
   D.4 Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation  Robin Ehlke
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. **Council Action:** Review Workgroup Progress on Developing a Risk Assessment and Range of Alternatives; Provide Guidance as Necessary

H. Administrative Matters
   H.1 Research and Data Needs Update  John DeVore
      a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
      b. Public Comment
      c. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on the Development of a Research and Data Needs Database and Provide Guidance
Tuesday, April 13, 2021

8 a.m.  
*Meeting by Webinar*

A. **Call to Order** (*reconvene*)
   
   A.7  Commencing Remarks
   
   Marc Gorelnik

D. **Salmon Management** (continued)
   
   D.5  Further Direction for 2021 Management Alternatives
   
   Robin Ehlke

   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   
   b. Public Comment
   
   c. Council Guidance and Direction

F. **Groundfish Management** (continued)
   
   F.4  Sablefish Gear Switching – Identify the Gear Switching Level to Use in Developing Alternatives
   
   Jim Seger

   (Part 1 - *F.4.a and F.4.b on Tuesday, then continue Wednesday with F.4.c*)

   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   
   b. Public Comment

   c. **Council Action:** Select Gear Switching Level to Guide Development of the Gear Switching Alternatives and Provide Other Guidance as Appropriate

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

8 a.m.  
*Meeting by Webinar*

A. **Call to Order** (*reconvene*)

   A.8  Commencing Remarks

   Chuck Tracy

F. **Groundfish Management** (continued)

   F.5  Cost Recovery Report and Final Regulations
   
   Jim Seger

   
   Keeley Kent

   b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

   c. Public Comment

   d. **Council Action:** Provide Comments on the Report and Adopt Final Regulatory Changes

F.6  Inseason Adjustments for 2021 – Final Action

   Todd Phillips

   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

   b. Public Comment

   c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2021, as Necessary, to Achieve but Not Exceed Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives

F.7  Implementation of the 2021 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement

   John DeVore

   a. Joint Management Committee Report
   
   Frank Lockhart, Phil Anderson

   b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

   c. Public Comment

   d. **Council Action:** Consider Necessary Actions for Implementing the 2021 Pacific Whiting Fishery
F. **Groundfish Management** (continued)

F.4 Sablefish Gear Switching – Identify Maximum Fixed Gear Attainment  
Jim Seger  
(Continued from Tuesday)

c. **Council Action:** Select Gear Switching Level to Guide Development of the Gear Switching Alternatives and Provide Other Guidance as Appropriate

D. **Salmon Management** (continued)

D.6 2021 Management Measures - Final Action  
Robin Ehlke

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Management Measures for 2021 Ocean Salmon Fisheries

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**Thursday, April 15, 2021**

8 a.m.  
*Meeting by Webinar*

A. **Call to Order (If Necessary)**  
Marc Gorelnik

A.9 Commencing Remarks  
Chuck Tracy

H. **Administrative Matters** (continued)

H.2 Update on Executive Order 13921  
Jim Seger

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. **Council Action:** Review Progress on Initiating the Prioritized List of Recommended Actions to Reduce Burdens on Domestic Fishing and Increase Production, Including the Review of Aquaculture Opportunity Areas, Provide Guidance as Appropriate

H.3 Legislative Matters  
Jennifer Gilden

a. Report of the Legislative Committee  
Dave Hanson
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
c. Public Comment
d. **Council Action:** Consider Legislative Committee Report and Recommendations

H.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures  
Mike Burner

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. **Council Action:** Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Consider Changes to Council Operating Procedures

H.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning  
Chuck Tracy

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
b. Public Comment
c. **Council Action:** Consider Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

**ADJOURN**
## SCHEDULE OF ANCILLARY MEETINGS

*The Council Secretariat will be open 8 am to 5 pm April 6-9 & 12-15, 2021*

### Day 1—Tuesday, April 6, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>How to Attend</th>
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</table>
| 8:00 a.m.    | Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel<br>Coastal Pelagic Management Team<br>Groundfish Advisory Subpanel<br>Groundfish Management Team<br>Habitat Committee<br>Salmon Advisory Subpanel<br>Salmon Technical Team<br>Scientific and Statistical Committee<br>Model Evaluation Workgroup | See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website

### Day 2—Wednesday, April 7, 2021

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>How to Attend</th>
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| 8:00 a.m.    | Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel<br>Coastal Pelagic Management Team<br>Enforcement Consultants<br>Groundfish Advisory Subpanel<br>Groundfish Management Team<br>Habitat Committee<br>Salmon Advisory Subpanel<br>Salmon Technical Team<br>Scientific and Statistical Committee | See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website

### Day 3—Thursday, April 8, 2021

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<th>Time</th>
<th>How to Attend</th>
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| 7:00 a.m.    | California State Delegation<br>Oregon State Delegation<br>Washington State Delegation<br>Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel<br>Coastal Pelagic Management Team<br>Groundfish Advisory Subpanel<br>Groundfish Management Team<br>Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel<br>Highly Migratory Management Team<br>Salmon Advisory Subpanel<br>Salmon Technical Team<br>Enforcement Consultants | Contact CDFW<br>Contact ODFW<br>Contact WDFW<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>See PFMC Website<br>As Necessary
### Day 4—Friday, April 9, 2021

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact CDFW</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact ODFW</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact WDFW</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>See PFMC Website</strong></td>
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### No Meetings Scheduled for Saturday, April 10 or Sunday, April 11, 2021

### Day 5—Monday, April 12, 2021

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<th>Time</th>
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### Day 6—Tuesday, April 13, 2021

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<td><strong>Contact ODFW</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact WDFW</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>See PFMC Website</strong></td>
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### Day 7—Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Contact CDFW</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact ODFW</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Contact WDFW</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>See PFMC Website</strong></td>
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### Day 8—Thursday, April 15, 2021

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<tr>
<th>Delegation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California State Delegation</td>
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<td>Contact CDFW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon State Delegation</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Contact ODFW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington State Delegation</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Contact WDFW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salmon Technical Team</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>See PFMC Website</td>
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PFMC  3/26/2021 10:53 AM
PROPOSED PACIFIC COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, APRIL 6-9 & 12-15, 2021 VIA WEBINAR

Time estimates are approximate and not reliable for planning participation. Agenda items may be cancelled or rescheduled under agenda approval at the meeting’s onset and/or as meetings progresses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronyms</th>
<th>Thurs, April 8</th>
<th>Fri, April 9</th>
<th>April 10-11</th>
<th>Mon, April 12</th>
<th>Tues, April 13</th>
<th>Wed, April 14</th>
<th>Thurs, April 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC: Enforcement Consultants</td>
<td><strong>CLOSED SESSION 8 AM</strong> Discuss Litigation &amp; Personnel Matters (1 hr)</td>
<td><strong>C. HABITAT</strong> 1. Habitat Issues (1 hr)</td>
<td><strong>D. SALMON</strong> 1. Tent. Adopt. of 2021 Mgt. Meas. for Analysis (3 hr 30 min)</td>
<td><strong>F. GROUNDFISH</strong> 1. NMFS Rpt. (1 hr) 2. Final EFs for 2021 (30 min)</td>
<td><strong>D. SALMON</strong> 5. Further Direction for 2021 Mgmt. Alternatives (1 hr 30 min)</td>
<td><strong>F. GROUNDFISH</strong> 5. Cost Recovery Report &amp; Final Regulatory Change (2 hr)</td>
<td><strong>H. ADMINISTRATIVE</strong> 2. Update on Executive Order 13921 (1 hr)</td>
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<td>ED: Executive Director Endangered Species Act</td>
<td><strong>A. CALL TO ORDER 9 AM</strong> 1-4. Opening Remarks, Roll Call, ED Report, Approve Agenda (30 min)</td>
<td><strong>D. SALMON</strong> 2. Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection (30 min) 3. Clarify Council Direction on 2021 Management Measures (1 hr 30 min)</td>
<td><strong>NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR SAT. OR SUN.</strong></td>
<td><strong>F. GROUNDFISH</strong> 4. Sablefish Gear Switching – Identify Max. Fixed Gear Attainment Level Part 1 (6 hr) <strong>Continues Weds.</strong></td>
<td><strong>D. SALMON</strong> 4. SONCC Coho ESA Consultation Update (1 hr)</td>
<td><strong>F. GROUNDFISH</strong> 4. Sablefish Gear Switching – Identify Max. Fixed Gear Attainment Level Part 2 (2 hr) <strong>Continued from Tues.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HC: Habitat Committee</td>
<td><strong>E. COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES</strong> 1. NMFS Report (30 min) 2. final EFs for 2021 (30 min) 3. Review of Essential Fish Habitat – Phase 1 Report (1 hr) 4. Final Sardine Assessment &amp; Management Measures (3 hr)</td>
<td><strong>G. PACIFIC HALIBUT</strong> 2. Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection (30 min) 3. Clarify Council Direction on 2021 Management Measures (1 hr 30 min)</td>
<td><strong>NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR SAT. OR SUN.</strong></td>
<td><strong>F. GROUNDFISH</strong> 4. Sablefish Gear Switching – Identify Max. Fixed Gear Attainment Level Part 1 (6 hr) <strong>Continues Weds.</strong></td>
<td><strong>H. ADMINISTRATIVE</strong> 2. Update on Executive Order 13921 (1 hr)</td>
<td><strong>D. SALMON</strong> 6. Management Measures for 2021 – Final Action (2 hr)</td>
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<td>LC: Legislative Committee</td>
<td><strong>NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROPOSED ADVISORY BODY SCHEDULES ARE TENTATIVE AND ARE NOT RELIABLE FOR PLANNING PARTICIPATION.</strong></td>
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<td>PPA: Preliminary Preferred Alternative ROA: Range of Alternatives</td>
<td><strong>SONNC: Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast SSC: Scientific and Statistical Committee</strong></td>
<td><strong>NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>HABITAT</strong> 1. Habitat Issues (1 hr)</td>
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**Proposed Advisory Body schedules are tentative and are not reliable for planning participation.**

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