

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management team (CPSMT) reviewed the Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary (Agenda Item C.10, Attachment 1) and the Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, September 2021 (Agenda Item C.10, Attachment 2). The CPSMT offers the following for Council consideration.

Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance (YAG) Summary

Management Categories

The CPSMT notes that this agenda item is listed as “Scoping” on the Council’s YAG for November 2021 (C.10, Attachment 1) but the CPSMT does not view the November 2021 agenda item as a true scoping agenda item. The CPSMT has previously provided the elements of a scoping document including a draft purpose and need statement, an outline of three potential options, a draft process, and a timeline for implementation (Supplemental Revised CPSMT Report 1, Agenda Item F.4.a, June 2019). At its June 2019 meeting, the Council made a motion directing the CPSMT to produce a revised CPS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that removes the nomenclature Active and Monitored management categories, and instead provides individual descriptions of the management of each CPS stock. Originally, the Council was scheduled to consider a draft FMP revision at the June 2020 meeting, but this was cancelled due to COVID-19 scheduling difficulties. Therefore, November provides the Council an opportunity to review draft revised FMP text.

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Review - Phase 2

The CPSMT suggests the Council consider placing the EFH Review Phase 2 on its November 2021 or April 2022 meeting agenda. The CPSMT and Council staff could then provide an action plan to provide the scope of work, staffing, and tentative schedule to complete the work for EFH Review Phase 2. The CPSMT recognizes substantial new work with Marine Planning, potential Council staffing changes, and the heavy dependence on Southwest Fisheries Science Center expertise to accomplish some EFH review objectives. All contribute uncertainty related to scheduling this agenda item.

Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, September 2021

The CPSMT is not currently scheduled to attend the September 2021 meeting but anticipates developing a report and holding an online work session in early August to provide specific proposed FMP and Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document revisions to comply with the Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology final rule. The CPSMT also intends to meet virtually after the September briefing book materials are made available but prior to the September meeting to provide opportunity to respond to other agenda items (e.g., Ecosystem, Marine Planning) and does not see a need to meet during the September Council meeting.

The CPSMT looks forward to a future when the Council will be able to meet fully in person once again.