

## MARINE PLANNING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) engagement with marine planning issues has increased, commensurate with increased activity related to offshore wind and aquaculture planning. At its April meeting, the Council received a report from the four states represented on the Council, describing potential pathways for addressing marine planning issues in an effective manner (April Agenda Item H.5.a, Supplemental State [Report 1](#)). That report requested the Council's Executive Director to analyze Advisory Body models, staffing, and other elements germane to the Council's interest in marine planning and offshore development. The Executive Director's response is included as Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1. This agenda item is primarily focused on the Council's preferred approach to addressing and responding to marine planning issues. We also offer an update on recent Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) activities and plans, primarily for informational purposes:

- BOEM recently issued a [press release](#) (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2) announcing an agreement to advance areas for offshore wind off the northern and central coasts of California. One area, the Morro Bay 399 [Area](#), is spatially aligned and moderately larger than the Morro Bay Call Area, established in 2018. The announcement also stated that the Department of the Interior (DOI) is also advancing the Humboldt [Call Area](#) as a potential area for offshore wind energy.
- A meeting of the BOEM California Renewable Energy Task Force has been rescheduled from June 24 to the week of July 12, 2021.
- A meeting of the BOEM Oregon Renewable Energy Task Force is tentatively slated for fall 2021, with Call Areas off the Oregon Coast to be announced at some point late 2021 or early 2022.
- The California State Lands Commission (lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act), is preparing a Preliminary Environmental Assessment for two proposed offshore wind energy projects in state waters off the coast of Vandenberg Air Force Base (Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3).
- A meeting is tentatively slated some time the week of July 19, 2021, similar to the February 24 webinar. Details have yet to be solidified.

A BOEM representative will provide additional information on West Coast ocean energy planning.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Consider Executive Director report on marine planning process and schedule for future Council engagement.**
- 2. Provide guidance, as appropriate.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1: Analysis Of Four State Proposal On Marine Planning Workload.

2. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 2: DOI press release.
3. Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 3: CA Lands Commission EA Notice.
4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

C.4 Marine Planning

Kerry Griffin

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Review Recent Activity and Provide Guidance on a Process and Schedule for Future Council Engagement

PFMC

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