



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2022

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

FROM: Jessi Doerpinghaus, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April 2022 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet in a hybrid online format April 8 – 13, 2022, with Council members and salmon Advisory Bodies (ABs) meeting in person. Other ABs will meet online. The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will convene April 7-9 online. The Council is scheduled to take up CPS matters on April 9 and the majority of the CPSMT and CPSAS will likely attend those Council sessions. As time allows, both advisory bodies may reconvene after the Council has completed those agenda items. Major topics for discussion at this meeting are below. For more detailed information, please refer to the situation summaries in the Briefing Book materials.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Report (E.1)

NMFS will provide a regulatory update and the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) will provide an update on science center activities.

Exempted Fishing Permits for 2022-2023 – Final Action (E.2)

There were three proposals for exempted fishing permit activities submitted at the November 2021 meeting which are all designed to support stock survey work. If approved by the Council, the proponents will submit their applications to NMFS.

Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications and Management Measures- Final Action (E.3)

The NMFS SWFSC completed an update assessment of the Pacific sardine resources off the United States West Coast. The stock biomass estimate fell below the 50,000 Minimum Stock Size Threshold (MSST) in 2019, requiring the development of a rebuilding plan. The rebuilding plan was approved by the Council in September 2020 and awaits approval by the Secretary of Commerce. The CPS fishery management plan (FMP) allows limited harvest in the live bait and

small-scale fishing sectors while the stock is overfished. The CPSAS and CPSMT should be prepared to make recommendations on incidental and live bait harvest for the 2022 – 2023 fishing year.

Fishery Management Plan Management Categories – Final Action (E.4)

In November 2021, the Council adopted proposed changes to the CPS FMP for public review that would eliminate the labeling of stocks as Active, Monitored, or Prohibited but would not change the management, harvest control rules, or reference points for stocks in the FMP. The Council also directed the CPSMT to explore adding language referencing the CPS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document and Council Operating Procedure 9. The Council is expected to adopt final FMP language at this meeting.

JKD:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment
3. Agenda Item E.1 – National Marine Fisheries Service Report
4. Agenda Item E.2 – Exempted Fishing Permits for 2022-2023- Final Action
5. Agenda item E.3 – Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures- Final Action
6. Agenda Item E.4 – Fishery Management Plan Management Categories- Final Action
7. Agenda Item H.2 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
8. Agenda Item H.3 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
9. CPSMT Agenda
10. CPSAS Agenda
11. General Information

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2022
TO: Enforcement Consultants
FROM: Jim Seger Staff Officer
SUBJECT: April 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Council together with its Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet April 7-13 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Seattle Airport, Seattle, Washington. Other Council advisory bodies will be meeting April 7-13 via webinar. All meetings are open to the public and there will be an opportunity each day for public comment.

The main meeting for the Enforcement Consultants (EC) will be held Thursday, April 7, at 9 a.m. and the EC will have additional sessions as needed on an ad hoc basis Friday, April 8 through Tuesday, April 12. Ad hoc sessions scheduled during that period, and the times for those sessions, will be posted on the EC webinar screen and/or the Council's April meeting website.

Instructions for how to connect to Advisory Body webinars will be posted on the Council's [April 2022 Meeting](#) webpage prior to the first day of the meeting. ***Upon entering the meeting, please modify your entry on the participant list to reflect your full identification (full name and agency acronym).*** This additional information helps participants identify speakers in the webinar. 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.

Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you.

JLS:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
 2. EC Agenda
 3. GAP Agenda
 4. GMT Agenda
 5. HC Agenda
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6. CPSAS Agenda
7. CPSMT Agenda
8. SAS Agenda
9. SSC Agenda
10. STT Agenda

Salmon Management

11. D.2 Tentative Adoption of 2022 Management Measures for Analysis
12. D.3 Clarify Council Direction on 2022 Management Measures
13. D.5 Further Direction for 2022 Management Alternatives
14. D.6 2022 Management Measures - Final Action

Coastal Pelagics Species Management

15. E.2 Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) for 2022-2023 - Final Action
16. E.3 Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures – Final Action

Groundfish Management

17. F.4 Preliminary Preferred Management Measure Alternatives for 2023-2024 Fisheries
18. F.6 Non-trawl Sector Area Management Measures
19. F.7 Electronic Monitoring Update
20. F.8 Inseason Adjustments for 2022 – Final Action

Pacific Halibut Management

21. G.1 Incidental Catch Limits for the Salmon Troll Fishery – Final Action

Administrative Matters

22. H.2 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
23. H.3 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Enforcement Management

24. I.1 Annual U.S. Coast Guard West Coast Fishery Enforcement Report

Other Information

25. General Information and Council Roster



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2022

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

FROM: Mr. Todd Phillips, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) together with its salmon advisory bodies will meet April 7-13 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Seattle Airport, Seattle, Washington. Other Council advisory bodies will be meeting April 7-13 via webinar. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) online meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, April 7. The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) online meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 8. Both sessions are scheduled to conclude on Tuesday, April 12.

Instructions for how to connect to advisory body webinars will be posted on the Council's [April 2022 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. Please remember to enter your full name (including your Agency acronym, if appropriate) when prompted on the webinar entry screen. This additional information helps Council identify speakers in the webinar.

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 April 2022 agenda; however, the following agenda items, summarized below, may be of particular interest.

F.2 Trawl Cost Recovery Report

The Council will receive its annual report from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on the trawl cost recovery program. Under this agenda item, the Council has the opportunity to review the costs and fee collections data as well as fee rates for this year.

F.3 Biennial Harvest Specifications for 2023-2024 Fisheries – Final Action

In September and November 2021, the Council adopted preliminary preferred alternatives (PPAs) for 2023 and 2024 harvest specifications, and annual catch limits for groundfish stocks and stock complexes. The Council is scheduled to adopt final preferred alternatives at this meeting.

F.4 Preliminary Preferred Management Measure Alternatives for 2023-2024 Fisheries

The Council is scheduled to select their preliminary preferred alternatives for the 2023-2024 biennial groundfish management measure. The GMT has developed an analytical document (Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2, April 2022) that provides detailed analyses for both routine management measure, such as changes to trip limits adjustments, allocations, etc. and new management measures, such as FMP amendments, change to the primary tier sablefish fishery season end date, etc. The GMT and GAP should review all reports associated with this item and provide recommendations to the Council in order to aid their decision making process in selecting PPAs.

F.5 Implementation of the 2022 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement

A new [stock assessment](#) for Pacific whiting was conducted and endorsed by the [Scientific Review Group](#) in the U.S./Canada Pacific Whiting Treaty Process. The Joint Management Committee met March 1-3 to formalize their recommendations for the coastwide (U.S. and Canada) total allowable catch. The Council will be informed of the outcomes from this meeting and consider any necessary actions regarding the 2022 Pacific whiting U.S. annual catch limit.

F.6 Non-Trawl Sector Area Management Measures

During the November 2021 meeting, the Council adopted a revised purpose and need statement and a range of alternatives (ROAs) to provide fishing access to the Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (NT_RCA), modify allowed gear types and the existing boundaries of the NT_RCA, repeal Cowcod Conservation Areas (CCAs), and potentially modify certain Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Areas (EFHCAs). Council staff provide an analysis of the current ROAs for further consideration and development of the action. The Council is scheduled to review the draft analysis and potentially revise the ROAs that would continue to meet the purpose and need statement adopted by the Council.

F.7 Electronic Monitoring Program Update

The Council is scheduled to review the electronic monitoring (EM) Program status update from NMFS, consider potential policy changes to the EM Program as well as the scheduling of future agenda items for Council consideration. The Council's Ad Hoc Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committees will meet on March 30th to discuss the policy updates from NMFS and provide a supplemental report for Council consideration.

F.8 Inseason Adjustments – Final Action

This agenda item will consider progress to date of the groundfish fisheries as well as routine inseason adjustments to the 2022 fisheries, as necessary, to achieve conservation objectives. No adjustments were recommended by Council at their March 2022 meeting.

H.1 Final West Coast Regional Framework for Determining the Best Scientific Information Available

The Council considered the NMFS draft West Coast framework for determining best scientific information available (BSIA) at their November 2021 meeting and requested the NMFS West Coast Region consider the comments and recommendations provided by the Council's advisory

bodies, e.g., [Science and Statistical Committee](#), in the final draft. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to review and comment on the final draft of the West Coast BSIA framework. The GMT and GAP should review this framework and comment as appropriate.

Other Items

- On March 25, 2022, the GMT will host its pre-April Council meeting [webinar](#).
- On March 30, 2022, the Ad Hoc Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee will meet via [webinar](#).
- On April 5, the Marine Planning Committee will hold a [webinar](#) to discuss offshore wind energy development, NOAA Aquaculture Opportunity Areas, and other relevant items.

This mailing includes the enclosures listed below. Please review these briefing materials in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week. Briefing materials for this meeting can be accessed from the [April 2022 Meeting webpage](#).

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

TMP:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B.1 – Open Comment Items
3. Agenda Item F – Groundfish Management
4. Agenda Item H– Administrative
5. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
6. GAP Agenda
7. GMT Agenda
8. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
9. General Information and Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2022

TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April 2022 Council Meeting

In conjunction with the April Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meeting, the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Seattle. The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will meet online. The STT will meet in the Cascade Rooms 3-4 starting at 8 a.m. April 7 and continue through April 13; the SAS will meet in the Cascade Rooms 5-6 starting at 8 a.m. April 7 and continue through April 12. The MEW will meet beginning at 10 a.m. on April 7. The Council will begin the salmon agenda on April 8 and continue through April 12. Other topics of interest on the Council agenda include habitat and Pacific halibut.

The Council will start the salmon agenda (Agenda Item D) on Friday, April 8 and continue through Tuesday, April 12. Incidental catch of Pacific halibut in the troll fishery will be finalized on Sunday, April 10 (Agenda Item G).

The main salmon issue before the Council will be adopting final management measure recommendations for 2022 ocean fisheries (Agenda Items D.2, D.3, D.5, and D.6). The Methodology Review for preliminary topic selection will be covered under Agenda Item D.4, and National Marine Fisheries Service will provide a report on salmon related topics under Agenda Item D.1.

Pacific halibut is on the Council's agenda for Sunday, April 10. Under Agenda Item G.1, the SAS will need to recommend landing restrictions for the 2022 troll salmon fisheries to allow for incidental halibut harvest.

The STT chair will join the SAS meeting at 8:15 a.m. Thursday, April 7 and respond to technical questions regarding the 2022 fishery alternatives as presented in Preseason Report II. The SAS should have its preliminary management measures (Agenda Item D.2) completed as soon as possible, but no later than 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 7. This will allow time for compilation and processing. Please work with the Council staff to coordinate your efforts.

On Sunday April 10, the final regional Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA) framework is scheduled to be adopted by the Council. Habitat topics (C.1) will be discussed on Friday, April 7. The United States Coast Guard will give their annual report under Agenda Item I.1 on Tuesday, April 12.

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On Wednesday, April 13 the Council will discuss Administrative issues including Membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures (Agenda Item H.2), and future Council meeting agendas and workload (Agenda Item H.3).

Please take the necessary time needed to review and familiarize yourself with briefing materials thoroughly before the meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your assistance in the Council's salmon management process.

RDE:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.1 – Habitat Issues
3. Agenda Items D.1 through D.6 – Salmon Management
4. Agenda Items G.1 – Pacific Halibut Management
5. Agenda Item H.1 through H.3 – Council Administrative Matters
6. Informational Reports
7. Proposed SAS Agenda
8. Proposed STT Agenda
9. Proposed SSC Agenda
10. Proposed MEW Agenda
11. Proposed HC Agenda
12. General Information and Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2022

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: April 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will conduct a hybrid meeting April 7-13 from Seattle, Washington. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet **online** on Thursday, April 7 and Friday, April 8, starting at 8 a.m. each day. Your meeting materials are enclosed.

Instructions for how to connect to Council and Advisory Body meetings will be posted on the Council's April 2022 Meeting webpage prior to the first day of the meeting. Upon entering the meeting, please modify your entry on the participant list to reflect your full identification (full name and affiliation). This additional information helps participants identify speakers in the webinar. 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. Brittany Schwartzkopf, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), to replace Dr. Kevin Hill, SWFSC, on the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT). Additionally, the SSC will review the nomination of Ms. Taylor Debevec, NMFS West Coast Region, to replace Mr. Joshua Lindsay on the CPSMT. The SSC will also review the nomination of Ms. Emily Shallow, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), to fill the vacant ODFW seat on the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW).

The SSC will review a final draft of the West Coast framework for determining best scientific information available and report their recommendations under Agenda Item H.1.

The SSC will discuss future workload planning matters and will report to the Council on their plans under Agenda Item H.3.

Salmon Management

The SSC will review a list of potential salmon methodology topics to be reviewed later this year, including the methodology for the estimation of the Chinook abundance threshold intended to address the effects of Council-area ocean salmon fisheries on Southern Resident Killer Whales . The SSC will receive input from the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the MEW and will provide recommendations for methodologies to be reviewed in 2022 under Agenda Item D.4.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review exempted fishing permits proposed for 2022 and will report their recommendations under Agenda Item E.2.

The SSC will review an update assessment for Pacific sardine and will provide their recommendations to the Council on the use of the new assessment for management decision-making under Agenda Item E.3. The SSC will also recommend an overfishing limit for the 2022-2023 fishery.

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.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item H.1 – Final West Coast Regional Framework for Determining the Best Scientific Information Available
3. Agenda Item H.2 – Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
4. Agenda Item H.3 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Salmon Management

5. Agenda Item D.4 – Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

6. Agenda Item E.2 – Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) for 2022-2023 – Final Action
7. Agenda Item E.3 – Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures – Final Action

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

8. April 2022 SSC Agenda
9. Draft March 2022 SSC Minutes
10. Closed Session
11. General Information and Council Roster