

MARINE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING  
AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Marine Planning Committee (MPC) notes that Marine Planning (MP) is next on the Council's agenda in November 2022. The MPC recommends scheduling a two-hour September MP agenda item based on:

1. A lease auction for California wind energy sites is scheduled to happen this fall. September would likely be the last opportunity for the Council to discuss and comment on the topic in open session.
2. The volume and fast pace of offshore wind activities means that several important issues would not be discussed in open Council session until November.
3. Multiple comment letters would have to be developed via the Council's Quick Response procedure. While the Quick Response process has generally worked as designed, it precludes full public, transparent consideration of any particular issue and the Council's proposed comments.

Related to Council meeting agendas and future workload planning, the MPC has explored different approaches regarding timing and duration for its meetings. Given the substantial workload, the MPC may consider 1) longer stand-alone meetings of one to three days as needed in advance of Council meetings; 2) shorter more frequent meetings; 3) establishing monthly virtual meetings; or 4) some combination of these. So far, the MPC has not met in conjunction with a Council meeting because it would create many scheduling conflicts. The MPC would appreciate Council input on future MPC meeting planning.

In addition, the MPC suggests the Council schedule a standing MP agenda item for every meeting. The numerous issues, comment letters, and meetings require a substantial amount of time and focus from the MPC and Council staff, and the MPC appreciates Council guidance as we continue to navigate the new reality of offshore wind energy and aquaculture development on the Pacific Coast.

PFMC  
6/12/22