



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pccouncil.org
Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022

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

FROM: Jessi Doerpinghaus, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet in person from September 9-14, 2022. The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) are not scheduled to convene during the September Council meeting. Instead, the CPSMT will meet via webinar on August 29, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the CPSAS will meet via webinar on September 1, 2022 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Although there are no CPS-related agenda items in September, several topics are of interest to the CPSMT and CPSAS. Major topics for discussion at this meeting are below. For more detailed information, please refer to the situation summaries in the Briefing Book materials.

Instructions for how to connect to the Council meeting will be posted on the Council's September 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.

Research and Data Needs- Next Steps (C.1)

The Council will be updated as to the status of the Research and Data Needs database development through a presentation by Ms. Meisha Key. The Council and its advisory bodies should consider if the format fits their needs and comment on a process for updating the database in the future.

Equity and Environment Justice (C.2)

National Marine Fisheries Service is requesting comment on the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries' Draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy. CPSMT and CPSAS members were encouraged to attend the webinar reviewing this strategy on August 19, 2022. The CPSMT and CPSAS should review the strategy and consider providing comments or recommendations to the Council.

Council Meeting Process and Efficiencies (C.3)

In April 2022, the Council directed the Executive Director to prepare a white paper surveying ways in which Council operations might change based on what we have learned from operating successfully as a virtual, online organization through the COVID-19 pandemic. Council staff has prepared a white paper for the Council and its advisory bodies to consider on ideas that can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council process. The CPSMT and CPSAS should review the staff white paper and provide any feedback to the Council on items that they are interested in learning more about from staff at a future meeting or if they have any other suggestions that would be beneficial to the Council process.

Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Initiatives Appendix and New Initiative (H.1)

At the March 2022 Council meeting, the CPSMT and CPSAS provided comments on the draft FEP initiatives appendix as well as thoughts regarding the Council selecting a new initiative. The Council adopted the FEP initiatives appendix for public review at this meeting, with the aim to review and adopt the revisions at this meeting. In addition, the Council may consider moving forward on one or more of the initiatives described in the appendix. The CPSMT and CPSAS should consider the documents under this agenda item and providing the Council with a recommendation on a new initiative or initiatives.

Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures (C.7)

In April 2022, the Council directed Council staff to examine changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 23 on CPS Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP) that would have the CPSMT conduct an initial review of EFP applications and identify any scientific or experimental design elements of the EFP application that need SSC review. In June 2022, the Enforcement Consultants (EC) recommended language be added to COP 23 to address violation checks. The CPSMT and CPSAS should review the staff and EC proposed changes and offer recommendations to the Council.

JKD:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Administrative Matters
4. Agenda Item H- Ecosystem Matters
5. General Information

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 17, 2022

TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 6-14 in Boise, Idaho. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) will meet **online** Thursday and Friday, September 8-9. The Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will meet **online** Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, August 26, 29, and 30. Ecosystem topics are on the Council agenda on Monday, September 12. Instructions for how to connect to the EAS webinar will be posted on the Council's [September 2022 Meeting webpage](#) prior to the first day of the meeting. The EWG webinar has been noticed separately from the Council meeting; [logon information may be found here](#).

Summaries of Ecosystem topics and other items of interest on the Council agenda are listed below.

H.1 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives Appendix and New Initiative

The Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan includes an appendix compiling ideas for future ecosystem initiatives. These initiatives are the principal mechanism for Council work on ecosystem issues. At the March Council meeting the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup presented a substantially revised draft of the Appendix. The Council directed the EWG to make further revisions including the addition of an initiative description developed by the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel. The revised draft of the Appendix is included in the briefing materials as Agenda Item H.1.a, EWG Report 1. The Council is expected to adopt the revised draft. Based on that, the Council may identify an initiative or initiatives to embark on in the coming year. In addition to any final comments on the Initiatives Appendix, you likely want to recommend which initiative the Council should take up.

H.2 Western Regional Action Plan

National Marine Fisheries Service is providing the Council with the opportunity to provide comments on its draft Western Regional Action Plan (WRAP), which identifies measures to implement its Climate Science Strategy in the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem over the next three to five years.

C.1 Research and Data Needs

Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Council maintains a list of research and data priorities. Heretofore, this was memorialized in a periodically updated document but is now being transitioned to an online database. Once fully functional, advisory bodies will have an opportunity to provide input on priorities through the database. At the September meeting the Council will approve the database format and the process for updating it. The situation summary for this item links to a demonstration video of the database.

C.2 Equity and Environmental Justice

National Marine Fisheries Service is presenting its draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy for comment.

C.3 Council Meeting and Process Efficiencies

At its April meeting the Council directed staff to draft a white paper surveying possible changes to Council processes in service of better decision-making. This effort is largely in response to the changes in process that were taken on during the COVID-19 pandemic, when Council processes occurred entirely online. The white paper is included in the briefing materials as Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1. After reviewing the white paper, the Council will likely direct staff to further flesh out particular concepts and lay out a timeline for further consideration and implementation. Since the white paper includes a discussion of ways in which advisory body meetings could be conducted, your input would be valuable.

C.4 Marine Planning

The Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee (MPC) met on July 26 to consider various marine planning issues; a report describing meeting outcomes and current marine planning issues is included in the briefing materials (Agenda Item C.4.a, MPC Report 1). Council staff has been collaborating with the MPC on a policy document summarizing marine planning issues in support of ongoing Council input to other regulatory agencies responsible for offshore development (with a focus on offshore wind energy facilities). A document draft is included in the briefing materials as Attachment 1. Advisory bodies are encouraged to comment on the contents of the draft.

In addition to the previous topics, you may wish to provide comments on scheduling HMS topics at future Council meetings under Agenda Item C.8, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.

In addition to the enclosed briefing materials, you may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advance briefing book. Public comment is available only in electronic form through the Council's [e-portal](#). Visit the [September 2022 Meeting webpage](#) to access these materials.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:kma

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Items C: Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Items H: Ecosystem Management
4. EAS Meeting Agenda
5. Informational Reports

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022
TO: Enforcement Consultants
FROM: Jim Seger Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet **in person** [September 8-14, 2022](#) at The Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd, Boise, Idaho 83714 together, with its Budget Committee and its groundfish and highly migratory teams and advisory panels. All other Council advisory bodies will be meeting September 6-13 via webinar. All meetings are open to the public.

The main meeting for the *Enforcement Consultants (EC)* will be held via webinar Thursday, September 8, at 10 a.m. Mountain Time (MT) and the EC will have additional sessions as needed on an ad hoc basis Friday, September 9 through Tuesday, September 13.

Instructions for how to connect to Advisory Body webinars will be posted on the Council's [September 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:acl

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
 2. EC Agenda
 3. BC Agenda
 4. EAS Agenda
 5. GAP Agenda
 6. GMT Agenda
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7. HC Agenda
8. HMSAS Agenda
9. HMSMT Agenda
10. SSC Agenda
11. Agenda Item C – Administrative Matters
12. Agenda Item E – Pacific Halibut
13. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
14. Agenda Item I – Highly Migratory Management
15. General Information and Roster
16. Informational Reports

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022

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

FROM: Mr. Todd Phillips, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet in person [September 8-14, 2022](#) at The Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd, Boise, Idaho. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) will convene their sessions starting Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. Mountain Time and adjourn on Monday, September 12, 2022 in the Cinnabar Room and the Aspen Room, respectively. All meetings are open to the public.

The Chair's reception will be held at the River's Edge Terrance, starting promptly at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 9th.

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 September 2022 agenda. The following agenda items summarized below, however, may be of particular interest to the GMT and GAP. Please note that the Council will continue to encourage participants to obtain briefing book materials via our website. Printed materials may not be available at the meeting.

C.3 Council Efficiencies

The Council is considering methods to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council process. Staff drafted a white paper (C.3, Attachment 1) which explores potential process efficiencies for the Council and its advisory bodies to consider. The GMT and GAP should review this document and provide feedback to the Council, as appropriate

C.4 Marine Planning

Under this agenda item, the Council will be updated on current marine planning issues, including aquaculture and offshore wind energy. The Council will consider finalizing the [draft policy guidance document](#) provided at the June 2022 meeting. If the GAP and GMT intend to submit reports under this agenda item, they should focus on the Marine Planning Committee's report and policy guidance document.

E.1 2023 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to develop recommendations for changes to the Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and annual regulations for IPHC Area 2A. This Agenda Item is the opportunity for stakeholders to provide input to the Council on the CSP and annual Pacific halibut regulations for fisheries in 2023.

E.2 Commercial-Directed Fishery Regulations for 2023

The Council is scheduled to adopt a proposed 2023 Pacific halibut season structure at this meeting. Additionally, in 2023 NMFS will assume management authority of the Pacific halibut fishery on the West Coast. Under this agenda item NMFS will report on the on the status of the management authority transfer. .

G.2 Workload and New Management Measure Update

This agenda item provides the opportunity for new management measures to be proposed and for the Council to review and revise the current list of proposed groundfish management measures (GMT Report 1). As part of this agenda item, Council staff is requesting the Council consider revisions to [Council Operating Procedure \(COP\) 19](#): Protocol for consideration of Exempted Fishing Permits in Groundfish Fisheries as presented in Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1. The GMT and GAP should consider the list and make recommendations, as appropriate, and review the new COP 19 language.

G.3 Electronic Monitoring Update

The Council is scheduled to receive an update regarding potential changes to the Council's Electronic Monitoring Program. A verbal report to the Council will be provided regarding the progress of subgroups that are addressing the issues identified in the [April report](#).

G.5 Stock Definitions – Update

The Council is initiating a process to define west coast groundfish stocks for management purposes in order to properly assess species and to meet multiple objects of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This process will require an Amendment to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. At this meeting the Council will consider multiple aspects of this process including adopting a purpose and need statement, defining stocks to be assessed in 2023, and developing a timeline for the process. The GMT and GAP should review Attachments 1 and 2 to inform their recommendations for the Council to consider.

G.6 Non-Trawl Area Management

The Council is scheduled to review the draft Environmental Assessment for this item, which contains the analysis for the [range of alternatives](#) adopted in April 2022 and may also reconsider the purpose and need statement, as appropriate. The goal of this agenda item is for the Council to finalize the range of alternatives and select preliminary preferred alternatives.

G.7 Stock Assessment Check-In and Plan – Final Action

At this meeting, the Council will make their final recommendation for species to be assessed in 2023 and develop a preliminary assessment list for 2025. In particular, the Council is expected to decide what areas (e.g., coastwide, California only, etc.) are to be considered for the copper rockfish 2023 stock assessment.

G.8 Trawl Catch Share Program – Cost Project

As part of the Trawl Catch Share Program review, the Council will examine concerns raised by stakeholders relating to the costs borne by industry. In April 2022, The Council directed staff to initiate a review of the programmatic costs to industry and NMFS. At this meeting, the Council will review the initial plans and timeline needed to accomplish this task and provide guidance to staff. The GMT and GAP should review this plan as presented in Agenda Item G.8, Attachment 1 and comment as appropriate.

G.9 Trawl Catch Share Program and Inter-Sector Allocation Review – Planning

The Council is scheduled to review the initial plans for Trawl Catch Share Program review. The Council is also planning to review the Amendment 21 trawl/non-trawl intersector allocations, sablefish north of 36° N. lat., Pacific whiting allocation among trawl sectors, and trawl bycatch allowances of Pacific halibut as part of this process. The GMT and GAP should review the potential aspects of this process as described in Agenda Item G.9 Attachment 1 when considering this agenda item.

G.10 Inseason Adjustments – Final Action

The Council 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 under this agenda item. Recommendations related to inseason adjustments may be made under this agenda item.

H.1 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives (FEP) Appendix and New Initiative

The Council is expected to review the revised FEP Initiatives Appendix at this meeting. The Council may also consider moving forward on one or more of the initiatives described in the Appendix.

H.2 Draft Western Regional Action Plan to Implement the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy in 2022 – 2024

The Council will be briefed by Dr Toby Garfield (SWFSC) on the draft Western Regional Action Plan, which is focused on implementation of the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy.

Informational Reports

The Pacific Coast Groundfish 2023-2024 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Draft Analytical Document detailing all alternatives, including the preferred alternative, is available for download only.

Additionally, Council staff has developed a description of the preliminary range of alternatives adopted by the Council at its September 2021 meeting and augmented at its June 2022 meeting for the Council and its advisory bodies to review in advance of the November 2022 meeting entitled “*Range of Gear Switching Alternatives Adopted for Analysis by the Council at Its September 2021 and June 2022 Meetings.*” This report details the major modifications to the alternatives based on the Council direction and discussion in June. This information will be discussed at the November 2022 meeting.

Other Items

- The GMT will host a two half-day [webinars](#) on August 25th and 30th from 8:30 a.m. to 12: p.m. each day to discuss the Council’s September Agenda Items..

- The GAP will host a pre-Council [webinar](#) on August 25th to discuss the Council's September Agenda Items.
- The Ad Hoc Marine Ecosystem Working Group will hold [three webinars](#) on August 26th, 29th, and 30th to inform the Council's advisory bodies and the public on Ecosystem Agenda Items scheduled for the Council's September meeting.
- The Council will host a [webinar](#) on August 19 to provide information on the NOAA Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy process

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 also be accessed from the September 2022 Meeting briefing book 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 C – Administrative
4. Agenda Item E – Pacific Halibut
5. Agenda Item G – Groundfish Management
6. Agenda Item H – Ecosystem Management
7. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
8. GAP Agenda
9. GMT Agenda
10. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
11. Scientific and Statistical Committee Groundfish Subcommittee Agenda
12. General Information and Roster
13. Informational Reports

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022

TO: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel, Highly Migratory Species Management Team, and Interested Persons

FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer for Highly Migratory Species

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 6-14 in Boise, Idaho. Both the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) are scheduled to meet **in person**. Both the HMSAS and the HMSMT will meet Saturday through Tuesday, September 10-13. HMS topics are on the Council agenda on Tuesday, September 13. Meeting information will be posted on the Council's [September 2022 Meeting webpage](#).

The HMSAS is also meeting online on Wednesday, August 30 to review topics on the Council agenda and prepare for its in-person meeting.

Summaries of HMS topics and other items of interest on the Council agenda are listed below.

I.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will brief the Council on recent regulatory activities.

I.2 International Management Activities

Several Regional fishery management organization (RFMO) meetings of interest occurred over the summer and outcomes will be reported on. These include The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), and the IATTC and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Northern Committee (NC) Joint Working Group on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG). The next NC meeting will occur online in October, giving the Council the option to provide input to the U.S. delegation at its upcoming meeting. The WCPFC Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC) is also meeting in October. Council member, Christa Svensson (WCPFC Commissioner) and staff member Kit Dahl (ex-officio PAC member) will be attending.

The PAC provides input to the U.S. Commissioners to the WCPFC, whose regular session occurs annually in early December.

I.3 Exempted Fishing Permits – Final Recommendations

Council Operating Procedure (COP) 20 lays out an annual June-September schedule for reviewing exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications for HMS fisheries. Following a one-meeting, expedited process for review and approval of deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) EFP applications, the Council approved eight applications in June and held over an additional six applications for further consideration in September. The Council will make its final recommendation on those applications with input from the HMSAS and HMSMT.

I.4 Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Preliminary

The HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) lays out a schedule where the Council may review and comment on the status determination criteria (SDC) used by NMFS to determine if a stock is subject to overfishing or overfished. The process begins at the September meeting in even years. At this meeting NMFS will provide preliminary estimates of reference points and associated SDC based on the most recent stock assessments available for HMS stocks. A draft version of the HMS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document is also provided under this agenda item as Attachment 1. A version of the SAFE is maintained online on the Council website but according to the FMP a draft of the SAFE shall be provided to the Council at the September meeting and a final version at the November meeting. Under this agenda item the Council also has the option to consider regulatory changes under the framework adjustment process described in the HMS FMP.

I.5 Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan

The Council has been maintaining a Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan (SMMP) in draft form since 2015. The Plan serves as a guide for Council management of the West Coast swordfish fishery based on four goals articulated in the Plan. The Plan also describes management actions the Council intends to take and an associated timeline. The Plan was last revisited in September 2018. Given the long hiatus in reviewing and updating the plan, and the fact it remains a draft, the Council intends to have a more fulsome discussion of the rationale for Plan and its contents.

C.1 Research and Data Needs

Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Council maintains a list of research and data priorities. Heretofore, this was memorialized in a periodically updated document but is now being transitioned to an online database. Once fully functional, advisory bodies will have an opportunity to provide input on priorities through the database. At the September meeting the Council will approve the database format and the process for updating it. This topic is on the Council agenda before the HMSAS and HMSMT are meeting so there will not be an opportunity to provide reports. But the situation summary for this item, which links to a demonstration video of the database, is provided for those who are interested in the database's development.

C.2 Equity and Environmental Justice

NMFS is presenting its draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy for comment. As with Agenda Item C.1, this topic is on the Council agenda before the HMS advisory bodies meet so you will not have an opportunity to submit reports for this item. But the briefing materials are provided here for your edification.

C.3 Council Meeting and Process Efficiencies White Paper

At its April meeting, the Council directed staff to draft a white paper surveying possible changes to Council processes in service of better decision-making. This effort is largely in response to the changes in process that were taken on during the Covid pandemic, when Council processes occurred entirely online. The white paper is included in the briefing materials as Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1. After reviewing the white paper, the Council will likely direct staff to further flesh out particular concepts and lay out a timeline for further consideration and implementation. Since the white paper includes a discussion of ways in which advisory body meetings could be conducted, your input would be valuable.

C.4 Marine Planning Update

The Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee (MPC) met on July 26 to consider various marine planning issues; a report describing meeting outcomes and current marine planning issues is included in the briefing materials (Agenda Item C.4.a, MPC Report 1). Council staff has been collaborating with the MPC on a policy document summarizing marine planning issues in support of ongoing Council input to other regulatory agencies responsible for offshore development (with a focus on offshore wind energy facilities). A document draft is included in the briefing materials as Attachment 1. Advisory bodies are encouraged to comment on the contents of the draft.

H.1 Final Adoption of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Appendix and New Initiative

The Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan includes an appendix compiling ideas for future ecosystem initiatives. These initiatives are the principal mechanism for Council work on ecosystem issues. At the March Council meeting the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup presented a substantially revised draft of the Appendix. The Council directed the EWG to make further revisions including the addition of an initiative description developed by the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel. The revised draft of the Appendix is included in the briefing materials as Agenda Item H.1.a, EWG Report 1. The Council is expected to adopt the revised draft. Based on that, the Council may identify an initiative or initiatives to embark on in the coming year. You may wish to recommend which initiative the Council should take up.

H.2 Western Regional Action Plan

NMFS is providing the Council with the opportunity to provide comments on its draft Western Regional Action Plan (WRAP), which identifies measures to implement its Climate Science Strategy in the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem over the next three to five years. This is an update to the original WRAP produced in 2016.

In addition to the previous topics, you may wish to provide comments on scheduling HMS topics at future Council meetings under Agenda Item C.8, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.

In addition to the enclosed briefing materials, you may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advance briefing book. Public comment is available only in electronic form through the Council's [e-portal](#). Visit the [September 2022 Meeting webpage](#) to access these materials.

If you are in town on Friday, September 9th, please join us for the Chair's Reception in the Fireplace Foyer at 6 p.m.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Items C: Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Items H: Ecosystem Management
4. Agenda Items I: Highly Migratory Species Management
5. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
6. Informational Reports
7. General Information and Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022

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

FROM: Ms. Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet in person [September 8-14, 2022](#) at The Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd, Boise, Idaho.

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) will meet on-line on September 7 beginning at 9 a.m. (Mountain Time, MT). The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) each will meet in August to discuss items on the Council's September meeting agenda and may provide statements to the Council on some agenda items. All meetings are open to the public.

The one salmon topic before the Council is adopting priority topics for Methodology Review (Agenda Item D.1). Also under this agenda item, the STT will provide a report to the Council on progress made towards improving performance of the effort forecasts generated by the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model.

The STT will join the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) meeting at 10:00 a.m. (MT) Wednesday, September 7 to discuss the status of the methodology review candidate topics adopted in April 2022.

Items under Administrative Matters of interest to the STT include:

- Research and Data Needs (Agenda Item C.1), Friday, September 9. The Council is scheduled to prioritize new and existing research and data needs in the spring of 2023, as part of the five-year review cycle. A new database structure has been developed and the Council will make decisions on the final format of the database and the process for updating and identifying topic priorities within the database.
 - Process Efficiencies (Agenda Item C.3), Monday, September 12. The Council is considering methods to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council process. Staff have drafted a white paper (C.3, Attachment 1) which explores potential process efficiencies for the Council and its advisory bodies to consider.
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- Future Council Meeting and Workload Planning (Agenda Item C.8), Wednesday, September 14. The STT and MEW submitted a report under this item to provide the requested information on the timeline and workload necessary to investigate potential improvements to the exploitation rates forecasts for Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho.

Habitat Issues (F.1) will be discussed on Saturday, September 10. Topics relative to salmon include a letter from the Council expressing concern on water temperature targets in the Sacramento River as part of the Federal California Central Valley Project (F.1, Attachment 1) and a report from the Southwest Fishery Science Center (SWFSC) on integrated models to support management of Sacramento River winter-run Chinook (F.1.a, SWFSC Report 1).

Marine Planning (C.4) is covered on Tuesday, September 13. Under this agenda item, the Council will be updated on current marine planning issues, including aquaculture and offshore wind energy. The Council will consider finalizing the [draft policy guidance document](#) provided at the June 2022 meeting. Any statements from the STT, SAS, or MEW should focus on the Marine Planning Committee's report and policy guidance document.

There are two Ecosystem topics on the Council's agenda. Agenda Item H.1 is the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives (FEP) Appendix and New Initiative. The Council is expected to review the revised FEP Initiatives Appendix and may also consider moving forward on one or more of the initiatives described in the Appendix. Agenda Item H.2 is the Draft Western Regional Action Plan to Implement the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Climate Science Strategy in 2022 – 2024. The Council will be briefed by Dr. Toby Garfield (SWFSC) on the draft Western Regional Action Plan, which is focused on implementation of the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy.

Other items

- The Council will host a [webinar](#) on August 19 starting at 11:00 a.m. (PDT) to provide information on the NOAA Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy process.
- The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel will host a pre-Council [webinar](#) on August 25 starting at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the Council's September Agenda Items, and will include a discussion on the non-trawl RCA .
- The Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup will hold [three webinars](#) on August 26, 29, and 30 to inform the Council's advisory bodies and the public on Ecosystem topics scheduled for the Council's September meeting.
- The SAS will host a pre-Council [webinar](#) on August 31 starting at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the Council's September Agenda Items.
- The Ecosystem Subcommittee of the SSC will hold webinar on September starting at 8:30 a.m. to review new analyses conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team.

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 also be accessed from the September 2022 Meeting briefing book webpage.

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

RDE:acl

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C – Council Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Items D – Salmon Management
4. Agenda Item F – Habitat Issues
5. Informational Reports
6. Proposed STT Agenda
7. Proposed SSC Agenda
8. General Information and Council Roster

PFMC

08/17/22



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Marc Gorelnik, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2022

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2022 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will conduct a hybrid meeting September 9-14 in Boise, Idaho. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet **online** on Tuesday, September 6 through Thursday, September 8, starting at 9 a.m. Mountain Time (8 a.m. Pacific Time) 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 September 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. Richard Zabel, NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center to fill the Salmon Technical Team seat vacated by Ms. Mindy Rowse. The SSC will also review the nomination of Dr. Tommy Moore, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, for one of the vacant at-large seats on the SSC. Additionally, the SSC will review any other nominations for the vacant SSC at-large seats and any vacant management or technical team seats that may come in before the September Council meeting. Your recommendations will be offered to the Council under the Council Closed Session on Friday, September 9.

The SSC will review progress made in developing the research and data needs database and will offer comments and recommendations to the Council on the future process for soliciting research priorities under Agenda Item C.1.

The SSC will review a staff white paper on considerations for improving efficiencies in and effectiveness of the Council process. The SSC will offer their recommendations under Agenda Item C.3.

The SSC will discuss future workload planning matters and will report to the Council on this matter under Agenda Item C.8.

Salmon Management

The SSC will report their recommendations on salmon methodology topics to be reviewed later this year under Agenda Item D.1.

Groundfish Management

The SSC will review any new methodology review topics that might be proposed and recommend whether such methodologies should be reviewed in 2023. The SSC will also review an SSC Groundfish Subcommittee report and their recommendations on constructing abundance indices using hook-and-line survey data as well as the use of the Species Distribution Model in Template Model Builder. The SSC will provide their recommendations under Agenda Item G.4.

The SSC will review the materials provided in Agenda Item G.5 and report recommendations and considerations for amending the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan to define stocks for purposes of making status determinations. The SSC will report recommendations under Agenda Item G.5. Note that Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 2 will also inform discussion and recommendations on final stock assessment priorities for 2023 under Agenda Item G.7.

The SSC will review the material under Agenda Item G.7, as well as Agenda Item G.5, Attachment 2, before recommending 2023 stock assessment priorities. Specifically, the SSC will discuss the tradeoff of assessing copper rockfish in all West Coast areas relative to limiting the assessment to California areas. One implication for this decision is the need to conduct assessments according to preferred stock definitions (hence the connection to discussions under Agenda Item G.5). If copper rockfish are assessed in all West Coast areas, one of the 2023 assessments will need to be delayed to another cycle. The SSC will report their recommendations on 2023 stock assessment priorities, including a schedule of stock assessment review panels, under Agenda Item G.7.

The SSC will review new methodology for developing groundfish discard mortality rates proposed by the Groundfish Management Team. The SSC will consider endorsing this methodology and new discard mortality rates and will report their recommendations at the November 2022 Council meeting.

Ecosystem Management

The SSC will review a revised Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative Appendix and consider work on a new initiative. The SSC will report their recommendations under Agenda Item H.1.

Highly Migratory Species Management

The SSC will review preliminary reference point values for highly migratory species and will make recommendations on their use in determining stock status under Agenda Item I.4.

Coastal Pelagic Species Management

The SSC will review a revised Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Terms of Reference and report their recommendations at the November 2022 Council meeting.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process.

JDD:ael

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.4 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C

Salmon Management

3. Agenda Item D

Groundfish Management

4. Agenda Item G

Ecosystem Management

5. Agenda Item H

Highly Migratory Species Management

6. Agenda Item I

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

7. September 2022 SSC Agenda
8. Draft June 2022 SSC Minutes
9. Closed Session
10. General Information and Council Roster

PFMC

08/15/22