

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Habitat Committee (HC) normally meets at the beginning of each Council meeting to discuss habitat issues but did not meet in person in September despite a large workload. Following the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) vigorous discussion of Council efficiencies, the HC Chair asked each member to opine whether all-virtual meetings, in-person (with an option for remote participation), or a combination would work best for the November meeting and future meetings in general. The strong consensus is that the HC prefers to meet in person, with an option for remote participation for those HC members who have health or family-related reasons. However, the HC recognized the benefits of virtual meetings (for example, reduced time spent on travel and lower carbon footprint and disease transmission risk) when the agenda is light. Recognizing the HC's general preference to meet in person, the HC suggests that Council staff and the HC Chair take a closer look at potential November HC agenda items to ensure it would warrant meeting in-person in November.

PFMC  
9/14/22