

MARINE PLANNING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Marine Planning Committee (MPC) met September 30, 2022 to hear presentations and discuss topics including suitability modeling related to offshore wind (OSW) energy planning, the United States Coast Guard's Draft Pacific Coast Port Access Route Study (PAC PARS), the West Coast Oceans Alliance (WCOA), and other topics.

The MPC Report (C.6.a, MPC Report 1) summarizes issues, including current and upcoming comment opportunities. These include the pending release of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on oil and gas rig decommissioning off the California Coast, the October 5th publication of the [Final Environmental Assessment](#) for the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (WEA) (C.6, Attachment 2), the pending lease sale and Final Sale Notice for WEAs off California, suitability modeling for Oregon Call Areas (see C.6, Attachment 1), the draft PAC PARS report, and the [WCOA](#).

After the September 30th MPC meeting, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a [Federal Register Notice](#) (FRN) (C.6, Attachment 3) regarding its intent to gather public opinions and attitudes related to OSW energy development off the Oregon Coast. Although not directly related to the Council's OSW-related activities, the FRN does request comment on the plans. The MPC did not have the opportunity to discuss the topic or make recommendations, but MPC Report 1 includes additional information for the Council's consideration.

John Hansen, WCOA Executive Director, will provide an overview of recent and upcoming activities. The WCOA was awarded five years of funding to pursue regional ocean planning. The Council should consider potential collaboration with the WCOA on marine planning issues.

The Council should consider the MPC Report and whether to develop responses on:

- Suitability modeling for Oregon Call Areas
- NOAA's request for comments on collecting public sentiment towards OSW
- BOEM's draft PEIS on oil rig decommissioning

Council Action:

Consider the Marine Planning Committee report and provide guidance as appropriate.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.6, Attachment 1: BOEM announcement on an improved process for identifying Oregon WEAs.
2. Agenda Item C.6, Attachment 2: Morro Bay Final EA Notice.
3. Agenda Item C.6, Attachment 3: NOAA FR Notice.
4. Agenda Item C.6.a, MPC Report 1.
5. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

C.6 Marine Planning

Kerry Griffin

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Consider Marine Planning Committee Report and Provide Guidance

PFMC

10/11/22