

Pacific Fishery Management Council

MEETING NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 4, 2022

CONTACT: Mr. Merrick Burden 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204

Pacific Fishery Management Council to Hold a Meeting November 2-8, 2022 to Adopt Management Measures for Ocean Fisheries, Including Final Measures for Pacific Halibut, Highly Migratory Species Fisheries, and Groundfish.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC or Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 2-8, 2022 in Garden Grove, California and via webinar. The Council meeting will be live streamed with the opportunity to provide public comment remotely. The Council's Budget, Legislative, Scientific and Statistical, Enforcement Consultants, Highly Migratory Species, and Groundfish Committee meetings will occur in-person only in Garden Grove. All other Advisory Body meetings will meet by webinar only. The Council is scheduled to address issues related to salmon, Pacific halibut, highly migratory species, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and administrative matters.

Key actions for consideration at the meeting include:

- Adopt final topics for the salmon methodology review and discuss model improvements
- Establish the 2023 preseason management schedule for salmon
- Adopt final changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and regulations for recreational and commercial fisheries in 2023
- Provide recommendations on U.S. positions for upcoming international highly migratory species (HMS) meetings
- Adopt final hard cap recommendations for the HMS drift gillnet fishery
- Adopt preliminary biennial harvest specifications and management measures for HMS fisheries
- Establish a hearings schedule for the Trawl Catch Share Program and inter-sector allocation reviews
- Adopt a preliminary preferred alternative for sablefish gear switching in the groundfish
 Trawl Catch Share Program
- Adopt final topics for the groundfish methodology review, including assessment methods and impact projection models
- Adopt a range of alternatives for establishing groundfish stocks in the groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP)
- Adopt a range of alternatives that would modify the groundfish electronic monitoring program, which is scheduled for implementation on January 1, 2024
- Adopt inseason adjustments for 2022 and 2023 groundfish fisheries including 2023 Pacific whiting set-asides
- Preliminary consideration of exempted fishing permits for coastal pelagic species (CPS)
- Adopt proposed housekeeping revisions to the CPS FMP for public review

- Adopt a final CPS stock assessment terms of reference and prioritize species for stock assessments
- Consider whether additional fishing regulations are needed in the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary
- Review and provide feedback on the National Marine Fisheries Service National Policy for Saltwater Recreational Fisheries
- Review and discuss the West Coast Region and Science Centers accomplishments and priorities
- Consider the Marine Planning Committee Report and provide guidance

A schedule of advisory body meetings is provided on the last pages of the attached proposed agenda. Copies of briefing materials prepared for the meeting can be found on our website www.pcouncil.org no later than Friday, October 14, 2022.

Meeting Arrangements

The Council recommends that participants follow the guidelines of local, State, and Federal health authorities with regard to COVID-19 protocols. Council Leadership will continue to track the status of the pandemic and plans to provide COVID tests.

All meetings are open to the public and there will be an opportunity to participate and provide oral testimony remotely for the Council session. For more information on the meetings, refer to the attached proposed detailed agenda. Information is also available on the Council website www.pcouncil.org or by calling the Council office at 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204 (toll-free).

The meeting of the Council general session will be streamed live on the internet. The broadcast will begin at 9 a.m. on Thursday, November 3, 2022. The meeting will continue daily at 8 a.m. through Tuesday, November 8. Broadcasts end daily at 5 p.m. or when business for the day is complete. Only the audio portion and presentations displayed on the screen will be broadcast. The audio portion for the public is listen-only except that an opportunity for oral public comment will be provided prior to Council Action on each agenda item. To access the meeting online, please visit the Council website. 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.

Some advisory body meetings will be conducted in-person and some online according to the schedules in the attached agenda. There will be opportunity for public comment daily in each of the meetings. Instructions for how to connect to meetings being held via webinar will be posted on the Council's <u>November 2022 Meeting webpage</u> prior to the first day of the meeting.

Public Comment Guidelines

The public is encouraged to comment on Council agenda items in writing prior to the webinar through our <u>Public Comment Electronic Portal</u> (see below). Additionally, there will be an opportunity for oral public comment prior to Council Action on each agenda item for those attending the webinar. Timing of agenda items may change as the meeting progresses, and items not completed on the scheduled day will be carried over to later in the meeting, usually the next day.

Oral Public Comments

Oral public comments will be accepted during the meeting prior to Council action on each agenda item. Instructions for oral public comments will be available on the November 2022 Meeting webpage.

Written Public Comments

Written public comments must be submitted to our Public Comment Electronic Portal. To access the <u>E-Portal</u>, visit the Council website (<u>www.pcouncil.org</u>). You will see "Upcoming Council Meeting" on the home page, with a button titled "E-Portal for Public Comment". Click the E-Portal button and you will be taken to the E-Portal page for that meeting. Select the agenda item you are interested in commenting on and either enter your comments in the text box or upload a file containing your comments in Adobe pdf. You will be limited to one comment per agenda item before Thursday, October 13, 2022, when the advance briefing materials will be available for review on the Council website, and one comment after that until the E-Portal closes on Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Supplemental materials will be posted as they are received and reviewed, but no later than the start of the Council meeting.

Written Comments After the Public Comment Deadline 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022:

Written comments after the Council meeting starts will only be accepted if they are in support
of oral public comment and are submitted via the E-Portal prior to Council Action on the
agenda item.

To receive this notice in the future via email, sign up for the "PFMC E-Mail Notification List."

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