

MARINE PLANNING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Marine Planning Committee (MPC) met February 2, 2023, to hear presentations and discuss topics including suitability modeling related to offshore wind (OSW) energy planning, an update on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Aquaculture Opportunity Areas, upcoming events and comment opportunities, and other topics.

At the February 2nd meeting, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) provided updates on recent and upcoming activities, including plans for using spatial suitability modeling to inform Wind Energy Areas off the Oregon Coast. Representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) presented updated fisheries effort and revenue information that will be used in the suitability model. The slides and recording of the meeting are available on the meeting [webpage](#). Feedback from the MPC and the Council will help finalize the data being used in the suitability model. The MPC Report (G.3.a, MPC Report 1) provides further details on offshore wind energy as well as updates on other related issues.

The MPC briefly discussed BOEM's proposed [Renewable Energy Modernization Rule](#) that would facilitate the development of outer continental shelf renewable energy and streamline the process. The MPC did not have sufficient time to evaluate the proposed rule but intends to discuss the issue at its February 23rd meeting and consider whether a comment letter via the quick response procedure may be warranted.

The Council should consider the recommendations, comments, and observations in MPC Report 1 and provide guidance as appropriate. The Council may wish to discuss the future direction of Marine Planning on the Pacific Coast, and whether to formalize participation and tracking of Marine Planning issues. Representatives from BOEM, NOAA, and ODFW will be available to provide relevant updates, summaries of presentations to the MPC, and will be available for questions.

Council Action:

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

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 1, WCOA Overview.
2. Agenda Item G.3.a, MPC Report 1.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

G.3 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
2/16/23