



Pacific Fishery Management Council
MEETING NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 2023

CONTACT: Mr. Merrick Burden
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**Pacific Fishery Management Council to Hold a Meeting
September 7-14, 2023 to Adopt Management Measures
for Ocean Fisheries**

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC or Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 7-14, 2023 in Spokane, Washington and via webinar. The Council meeting will be live streamed with the opportunity to provide public comment in person and remotely. Advisory body meetings will be conducted via a combination of online and in-person formats as described on the last pages of the attached proposed agenda. Instructions for joining online meetings will be posted to the [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#). Briefing materials will be available on our [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#) no later than Friday, August 18, 2023 by the end of the business day.

The Council is scheduled to address issues related to salmon, Pacific halibut, habitat, ecosystem, groundfish, highly migratory species (HMS), and administrative matters. Key actions for consideration at the meeting include:

- Identify the final salmon methodology review topics
- Adopt revised Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) language for public review, necessary to clarify the review process for revising the southern resident killer whale Chinook threshold value
- Adopt proposed changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and commercial regulations to be implemented in 2024 or later
- Provide guidance on the development of Initiative 4 to the Fishery Ecosystem Plan, which would incorporate ecosystem and climate information into harvest and season-setting decision processes
- Adopt groundfish stock assessments for use in 2025 and beyond
- Adopt the final groundfish stock assessment methodology review topics
- Establish a purpose and need and range of alternatives (if possible) for groundfish fixed gear marking and entanglement risk reduction measures and limited entry follow on actions
- Discuss designation documents for the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary
- Adopt the scope of fisheries and areas to be closed to promote coral restoration and research within the Greater Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries
- Provide comments on the National Marine Fisheries Service Geographic Strategic Plan and Regional Equity and Environmental Justice Implementation Plan
- Adopt initial groundfish harvest specifications and management measures for 2025-2026
- Review the final report for Phase 1 of the trawl cost project and provide feedback for Phase 2. Recommend next steps for the trawl catch share and allocation reviews

- Adopt technical corrections to the yelloweye rockfish and sablefish harvest specifications and inseason adjustments for 2023 and 2024 fisheries, as needed
- Comment on the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for National Standards 4, 8, 9 and revised National Standard 1 Technical Guidance, as appropriate
- Provide recommendations on U.S. positions at upcoming international HMS meetings
- Adopt final recommendations on the issuance of HMS exempted fishing permits
- Adopt preliminary proposed essential fish habitat revisions in the HMS FMP for public review

The Council recommends that participants follow the COVID-19 guidelines provided by [local](#), [State](#), and [Federal](#) health authorities. Council process participants are encouraged to bring masks and tests to the meeting in the event they are needed. A limited supply of tests and masks will be available in the Secretariat and Council Ballroom.

All meetings are open to the public and there will be an opportunity to participate and provide oral testimony in person and remotely for the Council session. For more information on the meetings, refer to the attached proposed detailed agenda. Information is also available on the [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#) or by calling the Council office at 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204 (toll-free).

The meeting of the Council will be live streamed on the internet. The broadcast will begin at 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 9, 2023. The meeting will continue daily at 8:00 AM through Thursday, September 14. Broadcasts end daily at 5:00 PM 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 [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#). 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.

Advisory body meetings will be conducted in person and online according to the schedules in the attached proposed agenda. There will be an 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 [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#) 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 meeting through our [Public Comment Electronic Portal](#). Additionally, there will be an opportunity for oral public comment in person and remotely prior to Council Action on each agenda item. 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 in person and remotely during the meeting prior to Council action on each agenda item. Instructions for oral public comments will be available on the [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#).

Written Public Comments

Written public comments must be submitted to our [Public Comment Electronic Portal](#). To submit written public comment, visit the [September 2023 Meeting webpage](#) and select “E-portal for Public Comments”, select the upcoming meeting, and then select the agenda item of interest. You can 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, August 17, 2023 at 5:00 PM (Advanced Briefing Book Deadline) and one comment after that until the E-Portal closes on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5:00 PM (Supplemental Briefing Book Deadline). 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 Supplemental Public Comment Deadline 5:00 PM on Tuesday, September 5, 2023

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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