

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 26, 2023

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Pacific Fishery Management Council to Hold a Meeting November 1-8, 2023 to Adopt Management Measures for Ocean Fisheries

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC or Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 1-8, 2023 in Garden Grove, California and via webinar. The Council meeting will be live streamed with the opportunity to provide public comment in person and remotely starting Friday, November 3, 2023, at 9 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), reconvening at 8 a.m. on Saturday, November 4 through Wednesday, November 8, 2023. All meetings are open to the public, except for a Closed Session held from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., Friday, November 3, to address litigation and personnel matters. Advisory body meetings will be conducted via a combination of online and inperson formats as described on the last pages of the attached proposed agenda. Instructions for joining online meetings will be posted to the <u>November 2023 Meeting webpage</u>. Briefing materials will be available on our <u>November 2023 Meeting webpage</u> no later than Friday, October 13, 2023 by the end of the business day.

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

- Adopt a final amendment to the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to clarify the southern resident killer whale thresholds
- Adopt final salmon methodology changes for 2024 and beyond
- Establish the final 2024 preseason management schedule for salmon and discuss the management framework for California coastal Chinook in 2024 California Chinook fisheries
- Adopt quillback rebuilding analyses and catch-only projections for selected groundfish species for use in 2025 and beyond
- Adopt final inseason actions for groundfish fisheries in 2023 and 2024, including Pacific whiting set-asides for 2024
- Establish biennial groundfish harvest specifications and management measures for 2025-2026 including final overfishing limits, acceptable biological catches, and preliminary preferred annual catch limits. Adopt preliminary preferred exempted fishing permits, preliminary two-year allocations for selected species, and a range of alternative management measures for detailed analysis.
- Adopt final Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan and regulation changes for implementation in 2024. Identify a process and schedule for remaining items, as needed
- Identify a preliminary preferred alternative for sablefish gear switching in the Trawl Rationalization Program

- Adopt final essential fish habitat revisions to the HMS FMP
- Establish the scope and objectives for an HMS Roadmap Workshop

The Council recommends that participants follow the COVID-19 guidelines provided by of <u>local</u>, <u>State</u>, and <u>Federal</u> health authorities. Council 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 <u>November</u> <u>2023 Meeting webpage</u> 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 a.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023. The meeting will continue daily at 8:00 a.m. through Wednesday, November 8. Broadcasts end daily at 5:00 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 <u>November 2023 Meeting webpage</u>. 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 <u>November 2023 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 meeting through our <u>Public Comment Electronic Portal</u>. 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 <u>November 2023 Meeting webpage</u>.

Written Public Comments

Written public comments must be submitted to our <u>Public Comment Electronic Portal</u>. To submit written public comment, visit the <u>November 2023 Meeting webpage</u> 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, October 12, 2023** at

5:00 p.m. (Advanced Briefing Book Deadline) and one comment after that until the E-Portal closes on Monday, October 30, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. (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 p.m. on Monday, October 30, 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 <u>E-Portal</u> 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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