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# NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT INCLUDING A TAKE REDUCTION TEAM OVERVIEW

Under this agenda item, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region and Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) will update the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) regarding their activities. NMFS is expected to discuss rulemakings and notices posted in the *Federal Register*, as well as updating the Council on its current workload and future rulemaking plans. The NWFSC is expected to discuss current groundfish-related science and research activities with the Council.

The NMFS Office of Protected Resources is expected to provide an overview of the marine mammal take reduction team (TRT) process. A TRT is being convened for humpback whale in the sablefish pot fishery (Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 1) in response to a <u>stipulated settlement</u> from a lawsuit brought against NMFS by the Center for Biological Diversity.

## **Council Action:**

## Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate.

#### Reference Materials:

- 1. F.1, Attachment 1: Federal Register Notice Scoping for a Marine Mammal Take Reduction Team to Address Incidental Mortality and Serious Injury of Humpback Whale Stocks in the Pacific (*Electronic Only*).
- 2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

#### Agenda Order:

F.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report including a Take

Reduction Team Overview

a. Regulatory Activities

b. Office of Protected Resources

b. Office of Professed Resources

c. Fisheries Science Center Activities

d. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

- e. Public Comment
- f. Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate

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