



# Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Brad Pettinger, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

May 17, 2024

RE: A.4 Executive Director's Report

Dear Council Members:

The Executive Director's report to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council, PFMC) typically provides information on Informational Reports, changes to Council membership, Advisory Body and Committee alternates that are in place for the current meeting, activities of staff and Council members that have occurred since the last meeting, and other updates not announced elsewhere that may warrant summarization.

## Council Roster

- Dr. Debbie Colbert has been named the new Director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Ms. Rachel Wadsworth has been named as a Council designee for the National Marine Fisheries Service

## Informational Items

Informational Reports are included in your Briefing Book. These include:

- Informational Report 1: NOAA Fisheries 2023 West Coast Whale Entanglement Summary
- Informational Report 2: NOAA Fisheries 2023 Annual Enforcement Report

## Advisory Body Alternates

At the time of drafting this memo, we will have a few alternates at this meeting as indicated in the table below.

| Advisory Body | Seat                     | Member name   | Alternate name |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| HMSMT         | WCR                      | Celia Barroso | Karter Harmon  |
| HMSAS         | Private Sport            | Tom Mattusch  | Gary Maganaris |
| GAP           | Fixed Gear Commercial    | Bob Alverson  | Bob Eder       |
| HC            | NW/Columbia River Tribal | Shannon Adams | Brandon Rogers |
| GAP           | Fixed Gear Commercial    | Scott Hartzel | Georgon Lapham |
| GMT           | CDFW                     | Vacant        | Thompson Banez |

## Changes to Personnel

Ms. Gilly Lyons will begin her tenure as PFMC staff on May 29<sup>th</sup> and will be the staff lead for the Council's work on climate resilience. Gilly is a familiar face to the PFMC after having been

involved with several Council initiatives and as a member of Council advisory subpanels. Her background and experience within the Council process and beyond will be an asset to the Council.

In addition, we recently agreed to employment terms with Ms. Katrina Bernaus. Ms. Bernaus will begin employment at the PFMC in mid-July and will help staff the Council's Coastal Pelagic Species and Highly Migratory Species work. Ms. Bernaus has a Master's degree from Duke University and has prior experience working with Archipelago Marine Industries and the Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

### **Inflation Reduction Act Funding**

At the date of drafting this report, the Council continues to await a formal announcement regarding Inflation Reduction Act proposals and related funding. Recent dialog with NMFS headquarters indicates that decisions are coming "soon" and may be made prior to the Council Coordination Committee meeting (May 21<sup>st</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup>).

### **General Information**

The declared COVID health emergency is over; however, we are continuing to provide illness protocols within the "General Information" materials in your Briefing Book. We encourage everyone to bring masks and tests to the meeting in case they are needed. We will have a limited supply available within the ballroom and Secretariat.

Sincerely,



Merrick J. Burden  
Executive Director

MJB:rdd