

MARINE PLANNING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee (MPC) met online April 18, 2024, to consider current issues and activities related to offshore wind (OSW) energy development and fisheries issues off the Pacific Coast, and to produce a report (H.1.a, MPC Report 1) for consideration at the Council's June meeting.

During the meeting, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) presented updates on the West Coast Offshore Wind Energy Strategic Science Plan and on fisheries spatial layers for future siting off the coast of California, similar to the layers that NMFS and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife provided to inform siting Oregon Wind Energy Areas. Representative from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) provided updates on Pacific Region activities, including the pending release of documents related to OSW energy development off the Oregon Coast. In addition, MPC members provided updates on activities and issues in California, Oregon, and Washington. The MPC Report includes additional details as well as a list of upcoming events, comment opportunities, and other items of interest.

On May 1, 2024, BOEM published the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Commercial Wind Lease Issuance on the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf, Oregon. The EA encompasses issuance of leases, site assessment and characterization activities, and issuance of rights-of-way and easements for cable routes. The May 31 comment period deadline necessitated that the MPC develop a comment letter via the quick response process.

BOEM also published a Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) which includes auction details and lease terms for two OSW areas off the Oregon coast. The MPC anticipates providing a draft comment letter on the PSN in the supplemental June Briefing Book materials for Council consideration. Comments are due by July 1, 2024.

Finally, the Council should anticipate updates from NMFS on the OSW Strategic Science Plan from BOEM on Pacific Region activities, as well as from the MPC. The Council should consider MPC Report 1 and other materials, and provide guidance, as appropriate.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider the Marine Planning Committee report and provide guidance, as appropriate.**
- 2. Consider and provide guidance potential comments on the BOEM Proposed Sale Notice.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1, Letter from Oregon Governor Kotek to BOEM.
2. Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 2, Open letter from the Washington Governor's Office.
3. Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 3, BOEM 5-year renewable energy leasing schedule.
4. Agenda Item H.1.a, MPC Report 1.
5. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

H.1 Marine Planning

- a. Report of the Marine Planning Committee
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Discussion and Guidance, As Appropriate

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PFMC
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