

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND PRIORITIES

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) supports the Council exploring the following components of the recommendations from the Executive Director report on Council Operations and Priorities ([Agenda Item C.2 Attachment 1](#)):

- A.1 – Limiting Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Agenda Item meetings to twice a year. This will require a thorough review of which meetings those would be and the timing of specific items related to workload, stock assessments, data availability, and changes needed to Council Operating Procedures (COPs).
- A.2 – Holding the April Council meeting in the Pacific Northwest as described in the Executive Director report. The CPSMT also recommends that the other meeting with CPS agenda items be held in Southern California to even out any necessary travel for its advisory body (AB) members, the public, and fishery participants attending Council meetings who live closer to Southern California.
- A.3.1 – Exploring an ad-hoc Cross Fishery Management Plan (FMP) AB composed of members from various FMP advisory groups. The CPSMT suggests the Cross FMP AB be for specific well-identified topics and be composed of members with expertise in those topics. The ad-hoc Cross FMP AB would likely need to have membership changes when it takes up different topics so that it has the necessary expertise to provide the Council with advice.
- A.3.2 –
 - The CPSMT supports approaches that reduce Council meeting length. These include considering changing public comment or Council discussion time limits. Modifying AB report format as described should be explored, but a two page limit may not always be possible for complex issues. Summarizing supplemental AB reports rather than reading them completely on the Council floor should be encouraged. Alternatively, presentations for complex issues should also be encouraged instead of reading a report.
 - If the ABs are not meeting on a day when the Council takes up its items on the floor, the CPSMT agrees with creative scheduling so that AB members traveling can still be able to support those in the Council seat remotely.
- A.3.3 –
 - Workload planning taken up twice a year in sequence with budget decisions. Deference would be given to Council staff at other times, but clarity is still needed on when those planning discussions would occur and the level of consultation between Council staff and the relevant ABs.
 - New Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) could be taken up only once per year. This will require looking closely at timing of when EFPs are taken up relative to CPS management actions and modifications needed to COPs.

- If EFP renewals were to bypass Council consideration and go directly to National Marine Fisheries Service, the CPSMT would like information on the process used to determine when an EFP has served its purpose and no longer needs to be renewed.
 - The CPSMT also supports moving some items to informational reports as outlined to help reduce the time needed for administrative matters.
- B.2 – The CPSMT sees value in exploring moving the September meeting to a virtual format as described.

PFMC

06/10/24