



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | www.pcouncil.org
Brad Pettinger, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

July 1, 2024

Mr. Dan Lawson
Ms. Kristy Long
7600 Sand Point Way Northeast
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr. Lawson and Ms. Long:

Thank you for joining the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meeting and presenting information on the proposed West Coast Take Reduction Team (TRT) to address three strategic marine mammal stocks (i.e., Central America/Southern Mexico humpback whales, Mainland Mexico humpback whales, and Eastern North Pacific blue whales) and five commercial fisheries, including Federal sablefish pot, CA Dungeness crab pot, OR Dungeness crab pot, WA Dungeness crab pot, and CA spot prawn pot. At their June 7-13, 2024 meeting, the Council discussed the proposed TRT and provided the following recommendations for your consideration.

The scope of the TRT is quite large, covering both federal and state fisheries across a large geographic area. To adequately formulate measures which reduce the take of protected species, the membership of the TRT will need to be broad, the time commitment of TRT members will need to be substantial, and meetings will need to occur across the geography of the west coast. The Council recognizes the value of in-person meetings for achieving consensus on complex natural resource issues, however we are acutely aware of the need to also offer flexible opportunities for engagement. To align the goals of the TRT and increase accessibility, the Council recommends that National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) provide for 1) remote participation and 2) allow alternates for TRT members. These options will allow industry members and professional staff to participate on the TRT while also engaging in their normal day to day business. This is particularly important since we understand that TRT members will not be paid to participate; only travel and meals will be reimbursed. Web broadcasting would also provide the public with meaningful opportunities to participate in and understand the formulation and design of the solutions.

In addition to concerns relating to accessibility and time commitments, the Council recommends TRT meetings be scheduled outside of the prime Dungeness crab season, which is November through March. The Council also supports holding meetings in or near coastal communities. Council staff are available to host meetings at our Portland office, where we can provide the necessary IT support for web broadcasting.

The Council discussed the TRT industry member selection criteria that was outlined in the April presentation to the Council ([Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Presentation](#)) and identified ten individuals that meet the criteria including participating in multiple fisheries under review and having a proven track record of participating in Council, Federal, or state advisory venues. Table 1 contains the individuals recommended by the Council listed in alphabetical order (i.e., the order does not reflect priority order) for consideration. Mr. Hartzell, Mr. Ibach, and Mr. Kasheta are current members of the Council's Groundfish Advisory Subpanel. The column labeled "state" indicates experience fishing off the coast of a particular state.

The Council appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the TRT meeting structure and industry recommendations for your consideration and looks forward to collaborating with you in the future. The Council intends to identify an individual to occupy the Council member seat on the TRT at a future meeting. Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus is the staff officer who will provide support to the Council member serving on the TRT and is also available to assist the agency as needed.

If you have any further questions, please contact me or Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus of the Pacific Council staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Merrick J. Burden", is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Merrick J. Burden
Executive Director

MJB:ael

cc: Pacific Council Members



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PFMC Recommended Candidates for the TRT

Name	Email	Phone	Address	State	Sablefish Pot	Sablefish Longline	Dungeness crab	Participant in Other Advisory Venues (Federal or State)
Burkholder, Bernie	bernieburkholder@gmail.com bernie@efishco.com	228-596- 0507	2012 Bayou LaPorte Dr. Biloxi, MS 39531	WA	X	X	X	N
Clampitt, Paul	pfishcl@gmail.com	206-618-3991	7722 168th PL SW Edmonds, WA 90826	WA	X	X		N
Eder, Bob	lroberteder@gmail.com	541-265-6650	PO Box 721 Newport, OR 97365	OR	X		X	Y
Funderburg, Clint	fvkraken@hotmail.com	541-961-6766		OR	X	X	X	Y
Hartzell, Scott	ossian108@gmail.com	541-997-2152	6016 Collard Lake Way Florence, OR 97439	WA, OR, CA	X		X	Y
Ibach, Harrison	harrison.ibach@yahoo.com	707-601-8701	1736 A Avenue, McKinleyville, CA 95519	CA	X	X	X	Y
Kasheta, Dave	dkasheta@gmail.com	510-418-4376	4538 Queen Anne Drive, Union City, CA 94587	CA	X	X	X	Y
Lapham, Georgon "Poggy"	georgonlapham@gmail.com	541-206-2882	PO Box 1478 Newport, OR 97365	OR	X	X	X	Y
Lethin, David	ddlethin@56degreesnorth.com	360-269-6420	1696 Altoona Pillar Rock Road Rosburg, WA 98643	WA, OR, CA	X	X	X	Y
Thevik, Larry	thevik_rouse@yahoo.com	360-581-3910	PO Box 88 Ocean Shores, WA 98569	WA		X	X	Y