

EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT ON
MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES-
INCLUDING 2025-2027 ADVISORY BODY COMPOSITION

The Equity and Environmental Justice Committee (EEJC) met on Thursday, August 1 and discussed the 2025-2027 Membership Appointments Process and Council Operating Procedures.

Regarding the membership appointments process, the EEJC reiterates their comments made in June 2024 ([Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental EEJC Report 1](#)) that new strategies to reach individuals from communities historically underrepresented in the Council process be explored. If the same channels of communication for outreach are used each cycle, then only the same individuals will be reached. The EEJC recognizes that identifying, reaching, and engaging with underrepresented communities has had its challenges in the past and looks forward to the findings in the proposed gap analysis (Agenda Item C.2) on this and related topics.

The EEJC also reiterates their June 2024 comments ([Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental EEJC Report 1](#)) that any changes to current Council operations and priorities in light of the current budget considerations take into account the impacts on underserved and underrepresented communities. In implementing the Council's June 2024 recommendations ([June 2024 Decision Summary Document, Administrative Matters](#)), efforts should be taken to ensure any reductions in time or resources (Council floor time, number of advisory body meetings, etc.) made to different fishery management plans are equitably distributed and EEJ impacts that may arise are identified and addressed.

The EEJC continues to recognize and highlight Tribal fishing rights and encourages ongoing exploration towards Council and National Marine Fisheries Service understanding of the role that fisheries, especially salmon, play towards supporting Tribal dietary and cultural needs. As the Council makes decisions, the key question “are Tribal needs being met?” should be considered. The definition of sustainable and productive fisheries should include Tribal food security, and when fisheries are not productive or healthy, what effect does this have on Tribal access and harvest, and consequent Tribal peoples?

PFMC
09/11/24