

**MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES -
 INCLUDING FINAL 2025-27 ADVISORY BODY APPOINTMENTS**

During this agenda item, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) considers administrative appointment issues regarding the Council’s Membership Roster, including Council and Advisory Body members, and any relevant changes in the Council Operating Procedures (COP). Membership discussions include Advisory Body nominations and final appointments for the 2025-27 term. The Council will also consider establishing an ad hoc committee to assist the Council in preparing a comment letter on the anticipated proposed revisions to National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act which ensure fair and equitable allocation of fishery resources (Standard 4), consider the economic impact of management decisions on fishing communities (Standard 8), and minimize bycatch and bycatch mortality (Standard 9).

Council Officers, Members, and Designees

There were no changes to the Council’s membership roster submitted for the advanced briefing book production.

Council Advisory Body Appointments

Groundfish Management Team (GMT)

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) nominated Ms. Katlyn Lockart to replace Ms. Katie Pierson in one of the ODFW positions on the GMT (Closed Session A.1, Attachment 1). The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) is scheduled to review the nomination and report to the Council under Closed Session.

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) nominated Dr. Tim Copeland to replace Mr. Alan Byrne in one of the IDFG positions on the SSC (Closed Session A.1, Attachment 2). The SSC is scheduled to review the nomination and report to the Council under Closed Session.

Vacancies

The table below outlines the current vacancies on management teams, committees, and workgroups, with temporary alternates indicated where applicable.

Team, Committee, or Workgroup	Position
Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) – Alternate is Ms. Katie Davis
Habitat Committee	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission – Alternate is Mr. Stan Allen

Team, Committee, or Workgroup	Position
Model Evaluation Workgroup	California Department of Fish and Wildlife Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife – Alternate is Dr. Derrick Dapp
Salmon Technical Team	Tribal - Currently vacant
Scientific and Statistical Committee	NMFS Southwest Fishery Science Center – Currently vacant

Council Advisory Body Appointments for the 2025-27 Term

The current three-year Advisory Body term ends December 31, 2024 and the Council is initiating the renewal process described in [COP 9, Schedule 6](#). During the June and September Council meetings, the Council reviewed all term-limited Advisory Body positions and approved the final composition as detailed in Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1. Nominations for the 2025-27 term opened on September 26 and will close on November 7, 2024. The list of applicants will be published in the supplemental briefing book, and nomination materials will be included in the Closed Session materials. In November, the Council will review the nominations and make appointments for the 2025-27 term.

Proposed Ad hoc Committee

The National Marine Fisheries Service is expected to issue a proposed rule to modify National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9 which ensure fair and equitable allocation of fishery resources (Standard 4), consider the economic impact of management decisions on fishing communities (Standard 8), and minimize bycatch and bycatch mortality (Standard 9). The expected proposed rule is in response to several ongoing fishery management challenges, including changes in environmental conditions, shifting distributions of fish stocks, and equity and environmental justice considerations that affect fishing communities that are currently or have been historically dependent on the resource ([Advanced Notice of Proposed Rule Making, May 2023](#); [Agenda Item H.6.a, Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1, September 2023](#); [Council Comment Letter October 2023](#)).

Given the complexity of the issues and the potential broad impact of the proposed changes on fishery managers and industry, Council staff recommends forming an ad hoc committee tasked with gathering representative input and advising the Council in drafting a comment letter. This committee would include interested members from all Advisory Bodies and the Scientific and Statistical Committee, similar to the structure of the Marine Planning Committee and the proposed Cross Fishery Management Plan groups (see [Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1, June 2024](#)). This approach would replace multiple advisory groups submitting individual comments on the proposed rule, offering a diverse range of viewpoints from Council advisors, providing a solid basis for Council discussions, and optimizing the use of Council floor time. These recommendations stem from the Council’s recent discussions on enhancing Council efficiency.

Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2 outlines the proposed committee's charge and membership for the Council's consideration.

Council Operating Procedures

There were no changes to Council Operating Procedures submitted for the advanced briefing book production.

Council Action:

1. **Appoint an ODFW representative to the GMT.**
2. **Appoint an IDFG representative to the SSC.**
3. **Adopt final appointments to all term-limited Advisory Body positions for the 2025-27 term.**
4. **Approve formation and adopt a charge for an ad hoc committee tasked with preparing comments on the proposed revisions to the National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1: Summary of Term-Limited Advisory Body Positions for the 2025-2027 Term.
2. Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2: Proposed Ad hoc Committee for National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9.
3. Closed Session A.1, Attachment 1: ODFW Nomination for the GMT (Lockhart).
4. Closed Session A.1, Attachment 2: IDFG Nomination for the SSC (Copeland).
5. If received, Public Comments are Electronic Only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- C.5 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures -
Including Final 2025-27 Advisory Body Appointments Kelly Ames
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies including Final 2025-27 Advisory Body Appointments; Consider Changes to Council Operating Procedures

PFMC
10/23/24