# **COUNCIL MEETING RECORD**

# 277th Session of the

# Pacific Fishery Management Council June 7-13, 2024

Doubletree by Hilton San Diego-Mission Valley 7450 Hazard Century Drive, San Diego, CA 92108

# **Contents**

IN	ΓRC	DDUCTION	5
MI	EET	ING SUMMARY	6
A.	1. 2. 3.	Il to Order	6 6 7
B.		en Comment Period	7 7 7
C.	1.	ministrative Matters  Council Coordination Committee Update - Merrick Burden  a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies  b. Public Comment  c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate  Council Operations and Priorities - Kelly Ames	7 7 7
	3.	<ul> <li>a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies</li></ul>	7
	J.	a. Report of the Legislative Committee (LC)	8 8 8
	4.	a. Report of the Budget Committee (BC)	8 8 8

	5.	Approval of Council Meeting Records - Brad Pettinger	9
		a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Records	9
	6.	Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures -2025-27 Advisory	
		Body Composition and Respectful Workplace Policies - Kelly Ames	0
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		b. Public Comment.	
		c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies for 2024; Adopt Preliminary Advisory Body Composition for 2025-27; Discuss Updates Related to Respectful Workplace Polices; Adopt Changes to	
	7	Council Operating Procedures, As Appropriate	
	/.	Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning - Merrick Burden	
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		b. Public Comment	
		c. Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting and Workload Planning	. 12
D.	На	bitat Issues	. 12
		Current Habitat Issues - Kerry Griffin	
		a. Report of the Habitat Committee - Correigh Greene	
		b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		c. Public Comment.	
		d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations	
		•	
E.		lmon Management	
	1.	Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup - Progress Report - Robin Ehlke	
		a. Workgroup Report - Will Satterthwaite	
		b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	. 12
		c. Public Comment	. 12
		d. Council Action: Consider Workgroup Report and Provide Guidance on Next	
		Steps	. 12
	2.	Queets River Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan – Progress Report – Angela	
		Forristall	
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	. 13
		b. Public Comment	. 13
		c. Council Action: Consider Progress Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps	. 13
F	Gr	oundfish Management	13
1.		National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Todd Phillips	
	1.	a. Regulatory Activities - Keeley Kent	
		c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		d. Public Comment.	
	_	e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate	. 13
	2.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Coral Research and Restoration Closures	4 .
		- Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment Final Action - Jessi Doerpinghaus	
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		b. Public Comment	
		c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative and FMP Amendment	. 14

	1.	Create the following Groundfish Exclusion Area (GEA) closures to the commercial groundfish bottom contact gears, for the purpose of deep-sea coral research and restoration as described in F.2 Attachment 1:	1⊿
	2.	Adopt the proposed FMP Amendment Language as shown in Agenda Item F.2 Attachment 2	
	3.	<ul> <li>Final Stock Assessment Plan and Terms of Reference - Marlene Bellman</li></ul>	. 14 . 14
	4.	Stock Definitions for Species Assessed in 2025 and 2027 – Range Of Alternatives - Marlene Bellman	. 17 . 17 . 17
	5.	Fixed Gear Marking and Entanglement Risk Reduction – Final Action - Jessi Doerpinghaus	. 18 . 18
	6.	2025-26 Harvest Specifications, Management Measures, and Exempted Fishing Permits – Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment - Final Action - Todd Phillips/Marlene Bellman  a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies b. Public Comment. c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Harvest Specifications, Management Measures, including a California Quillback Rebuilding Plan, and Exempted Fishing Permits for 2025-26 Fisheries	. 19 . 20
	7.	Inseason Management - Todd Phillips	. 26 . 26
G.	-	Shly Migratory Species Management  National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Kit Dahl  a. Regulatory Activities - Ryan Wulff  b. Fisheries Science Center Activities - Annie Yau  c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies  d. Public Comment.  e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate	. 26 . 26 . 27 . 27
	2.	International Management Activities - Kit Dahl  a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies  b. Public Comment	. 27

		c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming	
		Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate	. 27
	3.	Exempted Fishing Permits - Kit Dahl	
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	. 27
		b. Public Comment	. 28
		c. Council Action: Adopt Preliminary or Final Exempted Fishing Permit	
		Applications, As Appropriate	
	4.	Drift Gillnet Bycatch Performance Report - Kit Dahl	
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		b. Public Comment	. 28
		c. Council Action: Review Annual Estimates Against Performance Metrics for	
		Bycatch Species	. 28
Н.	Cro	oss Fishery Management Plan (FMP)	. 28
		Marine Planning - Kerry Griffin	
		a. Report of the Marine Planning Committee - Mike Conroy	
		b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		c. Public Comment	
		d. Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate	. 28
	2.	NMFS Regional Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Plan and EEJ Committee -	
		Update - Angela Forristall	. 29
		a. Report of the NMFS - Maggie Sommer	. 29
		b. Report of the EEJC - Joe Oatman/Corey Ridings	. 29
		c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	. 29
		d. Public Comment	. 29
		e. Council Action: Review Committee Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps	. 29
I.	Co	pastal Pelagic Species Management	. 30
	1.		
		Kerry Griffin	. 30
		a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies	
		b. Public Comment	
		c. Council Action: Adopt the Stock Assessment Terms of Reference and Accepted	
		Practices, Provide Guidance on Future Reviews	. 30
IN	FOF	RMATIONAL REPORTS	. 30
VC	TT(	NG LOG	. 30

#### INTRODUCTION

This document contains or identifies the various elements, documents, and sources comprising the complete and official record of Council meeting discussions and actions. In addition to the Meeting Summary, which follows this introductory section (see #7 below), it includes information or references that serve as the functional detailed minutes for this Council meeting as required by  $\S302(i)(2)(E)$  of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The full record is maintained at the Council office, is available on the Council website (<a href="http://www.pcouncil.org/">http://www.pcouncil.org/</a>) or upon request from the Council office, and consists of the following:

- 1. **Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda** These documents are available on the Council Website prior to and following each meeting at <a href="http://www.pcouncil.org/">http://www.pcouncil.org/</a>.
- 2. **Attendance Records** These documents are available for the Council meeting and each advisory body meeting by request from the Council office.
- 3. All Documents, Reports, and Presentations for Council Consideration These items include (1) all documents produced or received for the meeting briefing book, validated by a label assigned by the Council Secretariat and distributed to Council Members; (2) written public comments received at the Council meeting in accordance with agenda labeling requirements; and (3) electronic material or handout materials used in presentations to Council Members during the open session. They are available from links in the Meeting Summary of this document or at <a href="https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/">https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/</a>.
- 4. **Council Decisions Summary Document** This document is distributed shortly after each Council meeting. It provides very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions and is available at <a href="https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/">https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/</a> and also provided by agenda item in the Meeting Summary of this document.
- 5. **Draft or Final Decision Documents Finalized after the Council Meeting** Documents such as Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are available on the Council website as they are completed.
- 6. **Gavel-to-Gavel Audio Recordings and Summary Transcripts** These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting. For additional reference, verbatim transcripts of Council Actions are available on the Council website. The recordings and transcripts may be accessed from the links contained within the Meeting Summary of this document or at <a href="https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/">https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/</a>.
- 7. **Meeting Summary** (immediately follows this section) The Meeting Summary lists, in agenda item order, the briefing book documents, reports, presentations, and Council motions and actions, including a brief summary from the Council Decisions Summary Document for each agenda item. It constitutes the meeting record formally approved by the Council. Links to the audio recordings may also be accessed at <a href="https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/">https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/</a>.
- 8. **Voting Log** The voting log lists, in Agenda order, the summarized Council motions and actions for each agenda item that took place during the meeting.

#### **MEETING SUMMARY**

#### A. Call to Order

# 1. Opening Remarks – Brad Pettinger, Chair

Mr. Brad Pettinger, Council Chair, called the 277<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 8, 2024. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

#### 2. Roll Call - Merrick Burden

# **Council Members present during the meeting week:**

National Marine Fisheries Service: Mr. Ryan Wulff, designee

Ms. Keeley Kent, designee Ms. Maggie Sommer, designee Mr. Josh Lindsay, designee

Alaska State Official: Ms. Dani Evenson, nonvoting designee

Washington State Official: Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee

Ms. Heather Hall, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee

Washington Obligatory: Mr. Butch Smith

Oregon State Official: Mr. Mike Harrington, designee

Mr. John North, designee Mr. Justin Ainsworth, designee Ms. Lynn Mattes, designee

Oregon Obligatory: Ms. Christa Svensson

California State Official: Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee

Mr. John Ugoretz, designee

California Obligatory: Ms. Corey Ridings

Idaho State Official: Mr. Virgil Moore, designee

Ms. Sharon Keifer, designee

Idaho Obligatory:Mr. Pete HassemerTribal Official:Mr. Joseph OatmanAt-Large:Mr. Phil AndersonMr. Robert Dooley

Mr. Brad Pettinger, Vice-Chair
Mr. Marc Gorelnik, Chair

Mr. Marc Gorelnik, Chair

U.S. Coast Guard: LT Karrie Jeffries, nonvoting designee

LT Devon Zych, nonvoting designee

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Mr. Mike Clark, nonvoting designee

Dr. Kyle Hanson, nonvoting designee

**Absent from the Meeting:** 

Pacific States Marine Fisheries

Commission: Mr. Chris Oliver, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee

U.S. State Department: Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee

# 3. Agenda – Brad Pettinger

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

**Motion 1**: Council to approve <u>Agenda Item A.3, June 7-13, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda</u>. Dani Evenson/Joe Oatman (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

#### 4. Executive Director's Report – Merrick Burden

# **B.** Open Comment Period

- 1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items Merrick Burden
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

#### C. Administrative Matters

- 1. Council Coordination Committee Update Merrick Burden
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - **b.** Public Comment
  - c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

- 2. Council Operations and Priorities Kelly Ames
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Review Executive Director Recommendations and Adopt Changes for Public Review, Provide Guidance on Next Steps

**Staff Summary:** The Council provided guidance and benchmarks for improving the efficiency of Council operations while reducing costs, facilitating robust public comment, and strengthening decision-making. The guidance included reducing Council meeting length by at least half a day with corresponding reductions in advisory body meetings, considering more economical meeting locations, remote meetings, and the possibility of a meeting in a coastal fishing community. Strategic scheduling will be implemented by Fishery Management Plan (FMP), for example, highly migratory species topics would be discussed 3 meetings per year, coastal pelagic species 2

meetings per year, groundfish 4 meetings per year with at least one meeting every 2 years remote. Advisory bodies will receive clearer guidance on relevant issues for discussion and the format of advisory body reports will be standardized to include summaries and executive summaries. The public comment time will be revised to five minutes, with flexibility for the Council Chair or Vice Chair to adjust this time based on the number of participants. Workload and agenda planning will be reduced to twice per year to better align with the Council's budget process. A streamlined process for exempted fishing permits (EFPs) will be developed, potentially limiting new EFPs to once per year and simplifying renewals. Additionally, in 2025, the Council should discontinue staff and contractor international travel associated with highly migratory species and Pacific halibut management.

At the September Council meeting, staff will bring forward materials under the Fiscal Matters, Council Operating Procedures, and Workload Planning agenda items that incorporate the straightforward changes recommended by the Council in June. The more complex matters, for example, strategic scheduling by FMP, will be discussed at the November Council meeting.

- 3. Legislative Matters Merrick Burden
  - a. Report of the Legislative Committee (LC)
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Council Action: Consider LC Report and Recommendations

Staff Summary: None

- 4. Fiscal Matters Patricia Hearing
  - a. Report of the Budget Committee (BC)
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Council Action: Consider BC Report and Recommendations

**Motion 10:** Council adopt the recommendation of the Budget Committee as described in Agenda Item C.4.b, Supplemental Budget Committee Report 1, June 2024. Pete Hassemer/Butch Smith (Motion 10 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted a 2024 Operational budget of \$6,564,954 and approved the 2025-2029 Grant Narrative and Budget. The Council approved convening the Budget Committee in September for the purpose of reviewing and providing recommendations to the Council on the no-cost extension budget and project list, proposed 2025 budget, and reviewing the results of the 2023 audit.

# 5. Approval of Council Meeting Records - Brad Pettinger

a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Records

**Motion 12:** Council approve the draft Council meeting records included in Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1: Draft Council Meeting Record, 275<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, March 5-11, 2024 and Attachment 2: Draft Council Meeting Record, 276<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, April 5-11, 2024.

Sharon Kiefer/Bob Dooley (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

- 6. Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures -2025-27 Advisory Body Composition and Respectful Workplace Policies 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 for 2024; Adopt Preliminary Advisory Body Composition for 2025-27; Discuss Updates Related to Respectful Workplace Polices; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures, As Appropriate

**Motion 18:** I move that Mr. Brad Pettinger serve as Council Chair and Mr. Pete Hassemer serve as Council Vice-Chair for the August 11, 2024-August 10, 2025 term. Marc Gorelnik/Bob Dooley (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

**Motion 19:** I move that staff send a letter to the Office of Protected Resources recommending the following individuals for the industry positions on the Take Reduction Team. Individuals are listed in alphabetical order and not by priority. The letter should also include the considerations contained in the GAP Report with regard to alternates, remote participation, and meeting location (Agenda Item C.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report, June 2024).

Name	State	Sablefish Pot	Sablefish Longline	Dungeness	GAP	Participant in Other Advisory Venues (Federal or State)
Burkholder, Bernie	WA	X	X	X	N	N
Clampitt, Paul	WA	X	X		N	N
Eder, Bob	OR	X		X	Alt.	Y
Funderberg, Clint	OR	X	X	X	N	Y
	WA,					
Hartzell, Scott	OR, CA	X		X	Y	Y
Ibach, Harrison	CA	X	X	X	Y	Y
Kasheta, Dave	CA	X	X	X	Y	Y
Lapham, Georgon "Poggy"	OR	X	X	X	Alt.	Y

	WA,					
Lethin, David	OR, CA	X	X	X	N	Y

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko

**Amendment 1**: Add Larry Thevik to the TRT list

Phil Anderson/Butch Smith (Amendment carried, Mr. Gorelik, Ms. Ridings, Ms. Keifer, Ms. Yaremko voted no, Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Motion 19**, as amended, carried (Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Motion 20:** Council appoint Mr. Thompson Banez to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife position on the Groundfish Management Team.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

**Motion 21:** Council adopt the following changes to Council Advisory Body positions for public review:

#### **Salmon Advisory Subpanel**

Remove the gillnet position and one of the California sport positions originally created for inland fisheries.

# **Coastal Pelagic Species**

Revise the description of the Washington commercial seat on the CPS advisory subpanel to be either Washington commercial or Washington processor (Washington commercial/processor).

# **Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel**

Request that Council Staff in exploration of new IRA funding and associated work provide guidance on how the composition of the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel might be more efficient or change with this new funding and associated work.

# **Groundfish Advisory Subpanel**

Revise the current three Sport Fisheries (at-large) positions to be three state specific positions and one sport fishery at-large.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson

**Amendment 1:** strike "and one of the California sport positions originally created for inland fisheries" from the original motion.

Corey Ridings, Amendment 1 fails due to lack of second.

**Amendment 2:** amend the motion for the 3 Sport Fisheries (at-large) positions to read "one Washington, one Oregon and two California, consistent with the GAP recommendation, striking "three state specific positions and one sport fishery at large".

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Amendment 2 carried, Ms. Hall voted no, Mr. Wulff abstained)

#### Motion 21, as amended, carried unanimously

Motion 22: Council appoint Ms. Lynn Mattes to the Council representative position on the International Pacific Halibut Commission's Management Strategy Advisory Board. Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion carries unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council made the following appointments:

- Elected Mr. Brad Pettinger to serve as Council Chair and Mr. Pete Hassemer as Council Vice-Chair for the August 11, 2024 to August 10, 2025 term.
- Appointed Mr. Thompson Banez to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife position on the Groundfish Management Team.
- Appointed Ms. Lynn Mattes to the International Pacific Halibut Commission's Management Strategy Evaluation Board.

The Council's current three-year Advisory Body term ends December 31, 2024. The Council reviewed the current Advisory Body composition and adopted the following changes for public review. In September 2024, the Council is scheduled to adopt the final composition of term-limited Advisory Body positions for 2025-2027 and will seek nominations. Appointments are scheduled to be made in November 2024.

- Salmon Advisory Subpanel: Remove the gillnet position and one of the California sport positions originally created for inland fisheries.
- Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Advisory Subpanel: Revise the description of the Washington commercial seat on the CPS advisory subpanel to be either Washington commercial or Washington processor (Washington commercial/processor).
- **Groundfish Advisory Subpanel**: Revise the current 3 Sport Fisheries At-large positions to be one Washington, one Oregon, and two California Sport Fishery positions.

The Council tasked staff with exploring the role and composition of the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, considering the Inflation Reduction Act projects (see <u>Agenda Item G.4</u>, <u>Attachment 3</u>, <u>April 2024</u>). These projects are aligned with the Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiatives and are anticipated to utilize all resources usually allocated for ecosystem projects. Staff will bring forward their recommendations for the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel at the September Council meeting.

The Council tasked staff with sending a letter to the Office of Protected Resources, nominating the following individuals to serve in the industry seat on the take reduction team under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (see Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1, April 2024 and West Coast Take Reduction Team). Only 2-3 individuals are expected to fill the industry seats. The take reduction team will address 3 strategic marine mammal stocks (i.e., Central America/Southern Mexico humpback whales, Mainland Mexico humpback whales, and Eastern North Pacific blue whales) and 5 commercial fisheries, including Federal sablefish pot, CA Dungeness crab pot, OR Dungeness crab pot, WA Dungeness crab pot, and CA spot prawn pot. Additional fisheries and/or marine mammal stocks may be included in the notice formally establishing the team in 2025. The team is expected to meet in person for several meetings over a six-month period to develop consensus recommendations that achieve the Marine Mammal Protection Act goals.

- Burkholder, Bernie
- Clampitt, Paul
- Eder, Bob
- Funderberg, Clint

- Hartzell, Scott
- Ibach, Harrison
- Kasheta, Dave
- Lapham, Georgon "Poggy"
- Lethin, David
- Thevik, Larry
- 7. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning Merrick Burden
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
- c. Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting and Workload Planning Staff Summary: None

#### D. Habitat Issues

- 1. Current Habitat Issues Kerry Griffin
  - a. Report of the Habitat Committee Correigh Greene
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations

**Staff Summary:** The Council considered Supplemental Habitat Committee (HC) Report 1 and directed the HC to continue tracking the Columbia River Dredge Materials Management Plan and the Hells Canyon Hydropower relicensing process. The HC will provide draft comment letters for Council consideration during the September Council meeting, or via the quick response procedure, as appropriate.

#### E. Salmon Management

- 1. Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup Progress Report Robin Ehlke
  - a. Workgroup Report Will Satterthwaite
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Council Action: Consider Workgroup Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps

**Staff Summary:** At their June 2023 meeting, the Council formed an ad-hoc Sacramento River Fall Chinook (SRFC) Workgroup and approved draft Terms of Reference (June 2023 Council Meeting, <u>Agenda Item I.1</u>, <u>Supplemental Attachment 3</u>). The Council received their first update from the SRFC workgroup in June 2024 and provided the following guidance:

- (1) Future work should reflect that Maximum Sustainable Yield serves as the basis of salmon fishery management (as modified per the National Standard 1 Guidelines to achieve Optimum Yield), and not Maximum Sustainable Production, as described in <u>Agenda Item E.1.a</u>, <u>Supplemental STT Report</u>, <u>June 2024</u>.
- (2) Task the workgroup with evaluating the draft cohort reconstruction that is underway for Sacramento fall Chinook and determine if it will provide substantial improvement and accuracy over current forecasting and modeling methodologies.

The Workgroup will meet over the summer and fall to work on the above items, further evaluate the current conservation objective, support the development of stop light tables to inform climate risks, and address other items as outlined in the Terms of Reference. The Workgroup is scheduled to deliver their next update to the Council in November 2024.

- 2. Queets River Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan Progress Report Angela Forristall
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Consider Progress Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps Staff Summary: None

#### F. Groundfish Management

- 1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report Todd Phillips
  - a. Regulatory Activities Keeley Kent
  - b. Fisheries Science Center Activities Craig Russell
  - c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - d. Public Comment
  - e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

- 2. Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Coral Research and Restoration Closures – Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment Final Action - Jessi Doerpinghaus
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative and FMP Amendment
- **Motion 2:** Council adopt the following recommendations as the Final Preferred Alternative for Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary coral research and restoration closures, to be implemented as an amendment to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan and regulations:
  - 1. Create the following Groundfish Exclusion Area (GEA) closures to the commercial groundfish bottom contact gears, for the purpose of deep-sea coral research and restoration as described in F.2, Attachment 1:
    - A. Alternative 1 Option a: Año Nuevo Canyon (Shown in Figure 1, coordinates defined in Table 1)
    - B. Alternative 1 Option b: Ascension Canyon (Shown in Figure 2, Coordinates defined in Table 2)
    - C. Alternative 2, Sur Ridge (Shown in Figure 3, Coordinates defined in Table 3)
  - 2. Adopt the proposed FMP Amendment Language as shown in Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings

**Amendment 1**: Strike 1A and B to from the motion, keeping alternative 2 Sur Ridge as defined in the motion.

Bob Dooley/Butch Smith (Amendment carried – Ms. Mattes, Ms. Ridings, Ms. Yaremko, Mr. Niles, Mr. Gorelnik, Ms. Kent voted no, Mr. Hassemer abstained)

# Motion 2, as amended, carried (Ms. Ridings voted no)

**Staff Summary:** The Council selected their final preferred alternative that would create a Groundfish Exclusion Area at Sur Ridge (see Figure 3 of <u>Attachment 1</u>) for commercial groundfish bottom contact gear for the purposes of deep-sea coral restoration and research. Two other proposed sites at Año Nuevo and Ascension Canyon were not selected. The Council also adopted FMP amendment language and recommended a schedule for the Council to review the progress of the coral restoration and research at 3, 6, and 9 years after implementation.

- 3. Final Stock Assessment Plan and Terms of Reference Marlene Bellman
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment

- c. Council Action: Adopt a Schedule and Final List of Groundfish Stocks for Assessment in 2025; Adopt Final Terms of Reference for Assessments, Methodology Reviews, and Rebuilding Analysis; and Refine the Preliminary List of Stocks for 2027 Assessments, As Needed
- **Motion 3:** Council adopt the species, assessment type, and anticipated assessment area(s) in Table 1 below as the final preferred alternative list for 2025 assessments, and the species, assessment type, and anticipated assessment area(s) in Table 2 below as the preliminary list for 2027 assessments:

Table 1. Final Preferred Species, Assessment Type, and Anticipated Assessment Area(s) for 2025 Stock Assessments.

Species	Assessment Type	Anticipated Assessment Area(s)
Sablefish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Quillback rockfish off California	Benchmark	South of 42° N. Lat.
Rougheye/ Blackspotted rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Yellowtail rockfish	Benchmark	North of 40° 10' N. lat.
Chilipepper rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Redbanded rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Widow rockfish 1/	Update	Coastwide
Yelloweye rockfish 1/	Update	Coastwide
Petrale sole	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Canary rockfish	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Shortspine Thornyhead	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Darkblotched rockfish	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Black rockfish	Catch-only projection	Oregon
Bocaccio	Catch-only projection	Coastwide

1/ if there is the capacity to only do one update assessment, widow rockfish is the priority over yelloweye rockfish. Yelloweye rockfish would then be a priority for a benchmark assessment in 2027.

Table 2. Preliminary Species, Assessment Type, and Anticipated Assessment Area(s) for 2027 Stock Assessments

Species	Assessment Type	Anticipated Assessment Area(s)
Pacific spiny dogfish shark	Benchmark	Coastwide
English sole	Benchmark	Coastwide
Vermilion/sunset rockfish	TBD	Multiple Areas
Cowcod	Benchmark	Coastwide
Lingcod	Benchmark	North and South of 40° 10' N. lat.
Petrale sole (if not done in 2025)	Benchmark	Coastwide

Yelloweye rockfish (if not done in 2025)	Benchmark	Coastwide
Slope rockfish species (TBD)	TBD	Coastwide

And the Council adopt as the final preferred alternative: (1) the draft Terms of Reference for groundfish stock assessments (<u>Attachment 4</u>) including the clarifications in <u>Supplemental Attachment 7</u> and the edit from the SSC Report (<u>Agenda Item F.3.a</u>, <u>Supplemental SSC Report 1</u>), the Terms of Reference for rebuilding analyses (<u>Attachment 5</u>); and (3) Terms of Reference for Methodology (<u>Attachment 6</u>).

Have Council staff work with NMFS Science Center staff to determine which assessments should occur at which STAR panel, based on the assessor being assigned to the assessment, data deadlines, and age reading needs.

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted a final list of groundfish species to be assessed in 2025 as follows:

Full assessments: sablefish, quillback rockfish off California, rougheye/blackspotted rockfish, yellowtail rockfish (north of 40° 10' N. lat.), chilipepper rockfish, and redbanded rockfish.

Update assessments: widow rockfish and yelloweye rockfish.

Catch-only projection updates: petrale sole, canary rockfish, shortspine thornyhead, darkblotched rockfish, black rockfish off Oregon, and bocaccio.

The Council adopted a preliminary list of assessment priorities for 2027 as follows:

Full assessments: Pacific spiny dogfish shark, English sole, cowcod, lingcod, petrale sole, yelloweye rockfish (dependent on outcome of 2025 update), and slope rockfish species (to be determined).

The Council also adopted three Terms of Reference (TOR) recommended by the Scientific and Statistical Committee; for 1) guiding the groundfish stock assessment review process, 2) the groundfish rebuilding analyses, and 3) the groundfish and coastal pelagic species methodology reviews. The Council action requested several clarifying revisions to the TOR for guiding the groundfish stock assessment review process, which will be incorporated in the final version posted to the webpage for groundfish stock assessment documents shortly following the June meeting.

The Council provided guidance to coordinate planning to accommodate the selected species in a schedule for STAR Panels during the 2025 stock assessment cycle. The resulting plan will be available for review at the September 2024 Council meeting.

- 4. Stock Definitions for Species Assessed in 2025 and 2027 Range Of Alternatives Marlene Bellman
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Adopt a Purpose and Need and Range of Alternatives for Analysis

**Motion 7:** Council adopt the following purpose and need statement:

With an Amendment (number TBD) to the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish FMP, the Council intends to identify stocks in need of conservation and management in the FMP, which will enhance the ability to attain sustainability objectives, especially those outlined in National Standard 1 of the Magnuson Stevens Act as guided by National Standard 3 and informed by National Standard 2. Appropriate specification of stocks in need of conservation and management is a foundational aspect of sustainability, and instrumental in the Council's ability to attain Optimum Yield objectives. With this Amendment, the Council intends to identify a subset of species, those expected to be assessed soon, within the Groundfish FMP to define stock boundaries for status determination based on key biological, ecological, social, and economic information currently available.

And adopt the species and alternatives in the table below as the Range of Alternatives for stock definitions for stocks being assessed in 2025 and preliminarily identified for assessment in 2027.

Species	Alt. 1 Coastwide	Alt. 2 State/ Region	Alt. 3 North and South of 40° 10' N lat.
Chilipepper rockfish	*		
English sole	*		
Redbanded rockfish	*		
Rougheye/ Blackspotted rockfish	*		
Widow rockfish	*		
Yellowtail rockfish			*
Yelloweye rockfish	*	*	

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko (Motion 7 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted a Purpose and Need Statement for a proposed FMP Amendment to define groundfish stocks for species being assessed in 2025 and potentially assessed in 2027.

"With an Amendment (number TBD) to the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish FMP, the Council intends to identify stocks in need of conservation and management in the FMP, which will enhance the ability to attain sustainability objectives, especially those outlined in National Standard 1 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act as guided by National Standard 3 and informed by National Standard 2. Appropriate specification of stocks in need of conservation and management is a foundational aspect of sustainability, and instrumental in the Council's ability to attain Optimum Yield objectives. With this Amendment, the Council intends to identify a subset

of species, those expected to be assessed soon, within the Groundfish FMP to define stock boundaries for status determination based on key biological, ecological, social, and economic information currently available."

The following species and stock definitions were adopted as a Range of Alternatives to analyze for the September Council meeting.

Species	Alt. 1 Coastwide	Alt. 2 State/ Region	Alt. 3 North and South of 40° 10' N. lat.
Chilipepper rockfish	*		
English sole	*		
Redbanded rockfish	*		
Rougheye/ Blackspotted rockfish	*		
Widow rockfish	*		
Yelloweye rockfish	*	*	
Yellowtail rockfish			*

- 5. Fixed Gear Marking and Entanglement Risk Reduction Final Action Jessi Doerpinghaus
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative

**Motion 8**: Council adopt the alternatives described in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024, Table 1 as the Final Preferred Alternatives except, revise the transition period from temporary marks to manufactured line (Alt. 1, Opt. D) to 3 years and specify that the temporary mark should be continuous over the 20 fm marking requirement and consist of alternating bands of the gear-specific colors to be determined by NMFS.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion 8 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted the following as the final preferred alternative for groundfish fixed gear (pot and longline) marking and entanglement risk reductions measures. These measures would only apply to vessels using pot and longline gear in the limited entry fixed gear, directed open access, and individual fishing quota sectors.

Buoy Marking: Require cattle ear tags with identification information attached to the molded eye of each surface buoy in a gear-specific marking (shape/color)

Line Marking: Require gear-specific line marking as follows:

Portion of line marked: Vertical line only

Distance of line marked: At least the top 20 fm of the vertical line starting where it attaches to the main buoy closest to the groundline

Method of Marking: Multi-color manufactured line. Continuous temporary markings in alternating bands of gear-specific colors would be allowed for a transition period

Transition period: Required transition to manufactured line only in three years

Surface Gear Requirements: Fixed gear vessels may choose to only use surface gear (buoys and flags) on one terminal end of the groundline.

Surface Line Limitation: Limit the amount of surface line permitted for fixed gears to a maximum length of 10 fm.

The Council also recommended changes to the biodegradable escape panel regulations to add clarification to prohibit panel placement at bottom of pot, with exception for slinky pots (which do not have a bottom). Additionally, the Council recommended changing the thread count of the line used to close the biodegradable panel from No. 21 to No. 30 or smaller untreated cotton twine.

Finally, the Council gave guidance to NMFS to develop a best practices guide.

- 6. 2025-26 Harvest Specifications, Management Measures, and Exempted Fishing Permits Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment Final Action Todd Phillips/Marlene Bellman
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

#### b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Harvest Specifications, Management Measures, including a California Quillback Rebuilding Plan, and Exempted Fishing Permits for 2025-26 Fisheries

**Motion 13:** Council adopt as final preferred alternative the tribal set-asides, harvest guidelines and allocations as shown in item Agenda Item F.5.a, Tribal Supplemental Report 1, April 2024. Joe Oatman/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

**Motion 14:** Council adopt the following alternatives as the final preferred alternative for groundfish management measures in 2025-2026: (Numbers from <u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, <u>Attachment 1, June 2024</u>, the Action Item Checklist)

# **Exempted Fishing Permits**

Adopt both EFP renewals for the 2025-26 management period:

- 1. West Coast Seafood Processors Association (WCSPA) and Oregon Trawl Commission (OTC) Year-Round Trawl Gear (Midwater Rockfish) EFP
- 2. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Fishery-Dependent Biological Data Collection EFP renew for cowcod, and add quillback and yelloweye rockfishes for 2025-2026

# **Action Item #2 Off-the-top Deductions**

Adopt the following final set-asides for 2025 and 2026, as shown in Appendix 1 in <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GMT Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>:

• Research: use the rolling 10-year maximum of research mortality to set research setasides in 2025-26, except for:

Stock or Management Unit	2025-2026 Research Set-Aside (in mt)			
Canary rockfish	10.1			
Cowcod	10.0			
California Quillback Rockfish	0.1			
Yelloweye Rockfish	2.9			

• <u>Incidental Open Access</u>: use the rolling 10-year maximum methodology to set IOA setasides in 2025-26 except for:

2025-2026 IOA Set-Aside (in mt)
2.2
2.8
10.7
1.3
4.4
25.0
1.0
1.1
0.9
3.9

• Exempted Fishing Permits: no set-asides for 2025-2026

- Recreational Sablefish north of 36° N. lat.:
  - o recreational off-the-top set-aside of 30 mt

#### Action Item #5 Two Year Trawl/Non-Trawl Allocations

Adopt status quo for two-year allocations for all stocks, except:

• Widow rockfish-300 mt non-trawl, remainder to trawl as recommended by the GAP in Appendix 1 of Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024.

# **Action Item # 6 Rebuilding Species/ Overfished Species Allocations**

Maintain the current yelloweye rockfish rebuilding allocations: 8 percent trawl, 92 percent non-trawl.

# **Action Item #7 Amendment-21 Allocation Changes**

Maintain current Amendment-21 trawl/non-trawl allocations for all species except for shortspine thornyhead (covered under Action Item #19), and reconsider allocations during inter-sector allocation review.

# Action Item #8 Harvest Guidelines/ State Shares for Stocks in a Complex

Adopt status quo HG for

• Blackgill rockfish (within the Slope Rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat. complex)

No species-specific HGs for:

- Oregon Black/Blue/Deacon Rockfish Complex
- OR and WA cabezon/kelp greenling complexes

# **Action Item #17 Oregon Recreational Fishery**

Adopt the recommendations for the Oregon recreational fishery as outlined in <u>Agenda Item</u> F.5.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1, April 2024.

# Action Item #19g New Management Measures-Other

Adopt the updated scientific name for Pacific sand lance to *Ammodytes personatus* and the common name for spiny dogfish to Pacific spiny dogfish in regulation.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

**Motion 15:** Council adopt the following final preferred management measure alternatives for 2025-2026, following the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1, June 2024)

#### Action Item #1 Area Management

Minor revisions to Rockfish Conservation Area waypoints as recommended in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, April 2024

# **Action Item #4 ACT(s)**

Adopt the following:

Yelloweye rockfish non-trawl ACTs as shown in Table 7 below:

Table 7. PPA. 2025-26 non-trawl yelloweye rockfish harvest guidelines (HG) and annual catch target (ACT) for the sector and sub-sectors.

	20	25	2026	
	HG (mt)	ACT (mt)	HG (mt)	ACT (mt)
Non-Trawl Sector	37.7	29.6	38.8	30.4
Non-nearshore / Nearshore (20.9%)	7.9	6.2	8.1	6.4
WA Rec (25.6%)	9.7	7.6	9.9	7.8
OR Rec (23.3%)	8.8	6.9	9.1	7.1
CA Rec (30.2%)	11.4	8.9	11.7	9.2

Remove the California quillback rockfish non-trawl ACT

California copper rockfish: Remove statewide ACT and establish a recreational ACT south of 34° 27' N. lat. of 15.8 mt in 2025 and 18.0 mt in 2026 as recommended in Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, June 2024.

# Action Item #10 (LEFG/OA/Recreational)

Adopt Status Quo 2-year within trawl and/or non-trawl sharing agreement for:

Blackgill rockfish and slope rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat.

Canary rockfish: 36 percent commercial non-trawl, 12.3 percent WA recreational, 18.5 percent OR recreational, 33.2 percent CA recreational

Cowcod south of 40°10' N. lat.: 50 percent commercial non-trawl, 50 percent recreational Bocaccio south of 40°10' N. lat.: 30.9 percent commercial non-trawl, 69.1 percent recreational

Sablefish south of 36° N. lat.: 70 percent LEFG, 30 percent OA

• 10 mt sablefish south of 36° N. lat. set-aside for the recreational sector

Nearshore Rockfish Complex north of 40°10′ N. lat. by state

- No federal HGs for the area  $42^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$  10' N. lat.
- Status quo state-specified informal HGs for Washington and Oregon

Yelloweye rockfish: 20.9 percent commercial non-trawl, 25.6 percent WA

recreational, 23.3 percent OR recreational, 30.2 percent CA recreational

# Action Item #18 California Recreational Trip Limits, Bag Limits, and Season Structures

Adopt the recreational fishery season structure and subbag limits (same as 2024) and remove size limits for cabezon, greenling, and CA scorpionfish as described in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, April 2024.

Include EC fillet skin requirements as described in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental EC Report 1, April 2024.

# Action Item #19 e and f: New Management Measures (Recreational)

- e): Option 2, Require recreational anglers to possess a descending device aboard while fishing in federal waters.
- f): Option 2, Modify continuous vessel transit limitations for California recreational vessels in federal waters.

#### Action Item #20 Quillback Rockfish Rebuilding Plan

Remove California quillback rockfish from the nearshore rockfish complexes off California Adopt Harvest Specification Alternative 2, the ABC Rule from the rebuilding analysis

Adopt the California Quillback Rockfish Rebuilding Plan Analysis for 2025 and beyond (Agenda Item F.6, Supplemental Revised Attachment 3, June 2024)

Adopt proposed FMP language and changes (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 6, June 2024) Marci Yaremko/Bob Dooley (Motion 15, as reconsidered, carried unanimously)

**Motion 16:** Council adopt the following alternatives as the final preferred management measure alternatives for 2025-2026, numbering refers to the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1, June 2024.

#### **Action Item #9 At-Sea Set Asides**

Adopt at-sea whiting fishery 2025-26 set-asides as detailed in Table 21 of Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2, June 2024

# **Action Item #11 Shorebased IFQ**

Adopt status quo IFQ trip limits for non-IFQ species

# Action Item #12 - 15 OA and LEFG North and South of 40 10

Adopt trip limits in Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, June 2024, Appendices 2 and 3

### Action Item #16 - WA Recreational

Adopt the recommendations for the Washington recreational fishery as described in Supplemental WDFW Report 1, June 2024

# Action Item #19 - New Management Measures Commercial

- 19a. Adopt Option 2, establish a directed open access permit program
- 19b. Adopt Option 2, correct EM program discard and retention requirement regulations
- 19d. Adopt shortspine thornyhead management changes (as noted in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, April 2024 and detailed in Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2, April 2024):
  - 1) Remove the management line for shortspine thornyhead
  - 2a) Sub-Option B, allocation proportions for the 2025-2026 biennium (in 2025, 64 percent trawl/36 percent to non-trawl; in 2026, 71 percent trawl/29 percent non-trawl)
  - 2b) Sub-Option 2, non-trawl ACT north of 34°27′ N. lat. set at 25 percent of the coastwide non-trawl allocation with 2a Sub-Option B, 2025 ACT 67 mt and 2026 ACT 55 mt
  - 2c) Option 2, non-trawl trip limits:
    - Convert OA trip limits from monthly to bimonthly.
    - Increase trip limits for LEFG north 40° 10′ N. lat. and between 40° 10′ N. lat. 34° 27′ N. lat. trip limits.
  - Confirm two-year allocation
  - o Adopt proposed FMP amendment language, as appropriate

# Action Item #21 – Convert Current shortspine thornyhead ACL to a single coastwide ACL

Convert current shortspine thornyhead ACLs north and south of 34° 27' N. lat. to a single coastwide ACL based on recommendation under 19d.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson

Amendment 1: strike "■ Increase trip limits for LEFG north 40° 10′ N. lat. and between 40° 10′ N. lat. - 34° 27′ N. lat. trip limits." from the motion.

Phil Anderson/Lynn Mattes (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 16, as amended, carried unanimously

**Motion 17:** Move to reconsider CDFW Motion (Motion 15) Corey Ridings (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary**: The Council adopted final preferred alternatives (FPAs) for the 2025-26 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures, which are summarized below.

### California Quillback Rockfish

The California stock of quillback rockfish was determined as overfished by the Secretary of Commerce in December 2023. In March 2024, the Council adopted the California quillback rockfish rebuilding analysis which specified rebuilding parameters, and a rebuilding strategy and plan was adopted at this meeting. The adopted rebuilding plan will apply Alternative 2, the "Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Rule" harvest specifications for California quillback rockfish as the rebuilding strategy. The ABC rule results in 2025 and 2026 annual catch limits (ACL) of 1.3 mt and 1.5 mt, respectively. The ABC Rule results in a rebuilding target (T<sub>Target</sub>) of 2061, with a maximum rebuilding timeline (T<sub>max</sub>) of 2070. The Council also removed this stock from the nearshore rockfish complexes off California and will manage it as an individual stock. The predicted impacts of the ABC rule on California fishing communities and industry are detailed in Agenda Item F.6, Supplemental Revised Attachment 3, June 2024. Management measures to achieve the rebuilding timeline are detailed in Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2, June 2024. The rebuilding plan parameters were supported by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) in Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2, June 2024 and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) in Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024.

#### **Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP)**

The Council recommended two EFPs to NMFS implementation in the 2025-26 biennium. The two EFPs are 1) West Coast Seafood Processors and Oregon Trawl Commission proposal to collect information on bycatch of salmon and other species of concern while conducting a trawl fishery targeting midwater rockfish without existing gear/time/area restrictions; and the 2) California Department of Fish and Wildlife proposal to collect cowcod, yelloweye rockfish, and quillback rockfish from the recreational fishery in California.

#### **Management Measures**

The Council largely adopted their preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) as the FPA for routine management measures in the 2025 and 2026 groundfish fisheries as detailed in Appendix 1 (Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, June 2024). The GAP concurred with the GMT as shown in Appendix 1 of Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024. These measures are summarized below and follow the structure of the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1, June 2024).

The Council adopted updates to Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) waypoints as described in <u>F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental CDFW Report 1</u>, <u>April 2024</u> that will better align coordinates with the depth contours. The Council adopted research and incidental open access set-asides based on an adopted rolling ten-year maximum except for the species noted in <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>,

<u>Supplemental GMT Report 1, June 2024</u>. No EFP set-asides were adopted. Additionally, a 30 mt set-aside for sablefish north of 36° N. lat. was adopted by the Council for the recreational sector. The PPA Tribal set-asides were adopted as FPA.

Status quo annual catch targets (ACT) for non-trawl and state-specific recreational sectors were adopted for yelloweye rockfish as shown on page 41, Table 7 in <u>Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2, June 2024</u>). The Council removed the statewide California quillback rockfish ACT, and adopted a recreational ACT for copper rockfish south of 34° 27′ N. lat. of 15.8 mt and 18.0 mt for 2025 and 2026, respectively.

The Council adopted PPA as FPA for all formal, biennial, rebuilding species (yelloweye rockfish), and harvest guidelines/state shares for stocks in complex allocations. The only allocations that changed for the 2025-26 biennium were for widow rockfish and shortspine thornyhead. The non-trawl allocation of widow rockfish decreased from 400 mt to 300 mt, with the remainder to trawl. The shortspine thornyhead allocation modifications are discussed below in the new management measure discussion.

The Council adopted PPA as FPA for at-sea whiting fishery 2025-26 set-asides as detailed in <u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, <u>Attachment 2</u>, <u>June 2024</u> and summarized on the <u>Action Item Checklist</u>. The Council adopted a suite of trip limit changes as specified in Appendices 2 and 3 of <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GMT Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>. The majority of these changes were converting monthly trip limits to bimonthly trip limits in order to increase consistency across non-trawl sectors. No changes to individual fishing quota trip limits were adopted.

The Council adopted recreational management measures recommended by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

#### **New Management Measures**

The Council adopted a suite of new management measures including an amendment to the FMP (F.6, Attachment 6). The new management measures adopted establish a directed open access permit program, correct electronic monitoring program discard and retention requirements regulations, require recreational anglers to possess a descending device aboard while fishing in Federal waters, modify continuous vessel transit limitations for California recreational vessels in Federal waters, and update the scientific name of Pacific sand lance and common name of Pacific spiny dogfish in Federal regulation. A notable new management measure adopted by the Council modifies the allocation structure of shortspine thornyhead from formal to biennial, removes the management line at 34° 27′ N. lat., establishes a coastwide ACL, and changes the trawl/non-trawl allocation percentages. This new management measure is detailed in Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2, June 2024, specifically in Section 1.12, page 70 under 9D Shortspine Thornyhead Management Measure Change.

#### **Amendment 33**

The Council adopted Amendment 33 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Management Plan (<u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, <u>Attachment 6</u>). This Amendment adds the new section 4.6.3.7 to Chapter 4 and describes the California stock of quillback rockfish and yelloweye rockfish rebuilding plans. It also strikes out shortspine thornyhead north and south of 34° 27′ N. lat. as a formally allocated stock in Chapter 6, Section 6.3.2.3. These changes were necessary to support Council action under this agenda item.

### 7. Inseason Management - Todd Phillips

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2024

**Motion 11:** Council adopt the recommended trip limit increases for Sablefish north of 36° N. lat., Widow Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat., and Yellowtail Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat., as described in Agenda Item F.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024.

Marci Yaremko/Bob Dooley (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council adopted the inseason adjustments to trip limits as recommended in <u>Agenda Item F.7.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GAP Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u> to be implemented as soon as possible. The trip limit adjustments are shown below:

Sablefish north of 36° N. lat.

- Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG): 7,000 lbs./week, not to exceed 14,000 lbs./2 months
- Open Access (OA): 3,500 lbs./not to exceed 7,000 lbs./2 months

Widow Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat.

- LEFG: 6,000 lbs. every 2/months
- OA: 3,000 lbs. every 2/months

Yellowtail Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat.

- LEFG: 4,500 lbs. per month
- OA: 2,500 lbs. per month

#### G. Highly Migratory Species Management

- 1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report Kit Dahl
  - a. Regulatory Activities Ryan Wulff

- b. Fisheries Science Center Activities Annie Yau
- c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

- 2. International Management Activities Kit Dahl
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - **b.** Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate

**Staff Summary:** The Council made the following recommendations for U.S. government actions related to international HMS management:

North Pacific albacore tuna:

- Engage early with stakeholders as negotiations for a long-term fishing regime under the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty are planned.
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) should schedule workshops to foster further discussions with U.S. stakeholders regarding implementation of the <a href="harvest strategy">harvest strategy</a>, after the International Scientific Committee (ISC)/Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) finalizes its work advising how fishing intensity could be translated to catch/effort management measures under the harvest strategy.

#### Pacific bluefin tuna:

- The priorities enumerated by the HMSAS (<u>Agenda Item G.2.a</u>, <u>Supplemental HMSAS Report 1</u>) related to potential catch increases, rebalancing of fishing opportunity between the Western Pacific Ocean and Eastern Pacific Ocean, and prioritizing progress on a long-term harvest strategy should be considered when negotiating changes to conservation measures to be adopted by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission in 2024.
- Engage with domestic stakeholders on management changes that may flow from the international agreements on Pacific bluefin tuna management.
- 3. Exempted Fishing Permits Kit Dahl
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

- **b.** Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Adopt Preliminary or Final Exempted Fishing Permit Applications, As Appropriate

**Motion 4:** Council recommend that NMFS approve the EFPs for Mr. Mintz (Attachment 1) and Mr. Langowski (Attachment 2) for 10 pieces of night-set buoy gear each and consistent with the Terms and Conditions for all other night-set buoy gear EFPs issued to date.

John Ugoretz/Corey Ridings (Motion 4 carried, Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Staff Summary:** The Council took final action to recommend that NMFS issue the exempted fishing permits to Mr. Mintz (<u>Attachment 1</u>) and Mr. Langowski (<u>Attachment 2</u>) for each of them to deploy for testing no more than 10 pieces of night-set buoy gear per set. In doing so NMFS should apply terms and conditions comparable to those used for all other night-set buoy gear EFPs issued to date.

- 4. Drift Gillnet Bycatch Performance Report Kit Dahl
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Review Annual Estimates Against Performance Metrics for Bycatch Species

**Staff Summary:** The Council reviewed the drift gillnet bycatch performance report prepared by the HMSMT (<u>Agenda Item G.4.a</u>, <u>Supplemental HMSMT Report 1</u>), noting that none of the thresholds had been exceeded in 2023 and 2024. The Council indicated that it would continue to receive these annual reports until such time as the fishery ceases operating.

# H. Cross Fishery Management Plan (FMP)

- 1. Marine Planning Kerry Griffin
  - a. Report of the Marine Planning Committee Mike Conroy
  - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate

Motion 5: Council adopt the Draft Comment Letter on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Oregon Outer Continental Shelf – Proposed Sale Notice (H.1, Supplemental Attachment 6) and the Draft Comment Letter on Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's draft Environmental Assessment for the Oregon Wind Energy Areas (H.1, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 4) as final and submit them to BOEM.

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 5 carried, Messrs. Harrington and Wulff abstained)

**Motion 6:** Council draft a Comment Letter for submission to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development on BOEM's request for a Consistency Determination that the leasing activities planned for the Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) offshore Oregon are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP) conditions applied using Oregon's enforceable policies. This letter would include the November 2023 comment letter on BOEM's Draft WEAs off the Oregon Coast and the two letters approved in the prior motion on the Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Sale Notice.

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 6 carried, Messrs. Harrington and Wulff abstained)

**Staff Summary:** The Council considered Marine Planning Committee (MPC) Report 1, as well as an update from the West Coast Ocean Alliance and a presentation on the NMFS Offshore Wind Energy Strategic Science Plan. The Council endorsed sending three comment letters related to offshore wind (OSW) energy areas off the Oregon Coast: 1) the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) Draft Environmental Assessment, 2) BOEM's Proposed Sale Notice, and 3) Oregon's consistency review determination. The Council also directed the MPC to explore the Migratory Bird Treaty Act provisions regarding take of sea birds as it relates to OSW energy development, and to invite a presentation from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at the next MPC meeting.

- 2. NMFS Regional Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Plan and EEJ Committee Update Angela Forristall
  - a. Report of the NMFS Maggie Sommer
  - b. Report of the EEJC Joe Oatman/Corey Ridings
  - c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - d. Public Comment
  - e. Council Action: Review Committee Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps

Staff Summary: The Council received an update on the development of the Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Regional Implementation Plan, as well as a report on a National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) study titled *Equity in the Distribution of Fisheries Management Benefits: Data and Information Availability (2024)* (Agenda Item H.2.a, Attachment 1). The Council also received a report from the Equity and Environmental Justice Committee (EEJC). The Council reiterated its guidance to staff that a gap analysis be conducted, as proposed in September 2023 (see September 2023, Agenda Item H.5.b, Supplemental EEJC Report 1). This analysis should review Council processes and products noting where there might be improvements that would address EEJ considerations. The gap analysis will be further informed by the management team and advisory body reports delivered at the June meeting. The EEJC will meet over the summer and deliver their next report to the Council in September 2024.

# I. Coastal Pelagic Species Management

- 1. Stock Assessment Terms of Reference and Accepted Practices Final Action Kerry Griffin
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. Council Action: Adopt the Stock Assessment Terms of Reference and Accepted Practices, Provide Guidance on Future Reviews

# **Motion 9:** Council adopt the:

Terms of Reference for the Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Review Process for 2025-2026 (I.1, Attachment 2) and Accepted Practices Guidelines for Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessments in 2025 (I.1, Attachment 4) as modified by Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1 and Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1.

Corey Ridings/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

**Staff Summary:** The Council considered a draft <u>Terms of Reference</u> document and <u>Accepted Practices Guidelines</u> for coastal pelagic species stock assessments. The Council directed staff to incorporate the suggested edits from Supplemental <u>SSC Report 1</u> and Supplemental <u>CPSMT Report 1</u> and approved the documents as final. Updates to the two documents include clarifying expectations for respectful behavior, solidifying the process for obtaining and verifying catch data, and establishing that the documents will be updated as needed, rather than on a fixed schedule. The final versions will be posted to the <u>webpage</u> for CPS stock assessment documents shortly following the June meeting.

#### INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Informational Report 1: 2023 West Coast Whale Entanglement Summary

<u>Informational Report 2:</u> FY23 Annual Enforcement Report to the PMFC West Coast Enforcement Division

<u>Supplemental Informational Report 3</u>: Shorebased Whiting Cooperative Salmon Mitigation Plan Postseason report on the 2023 Pacific Whiting Fishery

Supplemental Informational Report 4: Whiting Mothership Cooperative An Amendment 20 Mothership Catcher Vessel Cooperative Annual report on the 2023 Pacific Whiting Fishery
 Supplemental Informational Report 5: Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative Amendment 20 Catcher/Processor Cooperative – Annual Report 2023

#### **VOTING LOG**

**Motion 1**: Council to approve <u>Agenda Item A.3, June 7-13, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda</u>. Dani Evenson/Joe Oatman (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 2: Council adopt the following recommendations as the Final Preferred Alternative for Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary coral research and restoration closures, to be

implemented as an amendment to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan and regulations:

- 3. Create the following Groundfish Exclusion Area (GEA) closures to the commercial groundfish bottom contact gears, for the purpose of deep-sea coral research and restoration as described in F.2, Attachment 1:
  - A. Alternative 2, Sur Ridge (Shown in Figure 3, Coordinates defined in Table 3)
- 4. Adopt the proposed FMP Amendment Language as shown in <u>Agenda Item F.2</u>, <u>Attachment 2</u>.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 2, as amended carried, Ms. Ridings voted no)

**Motion 3:** Council adopt the species, assessment type, and anticipated assessment area(s) in Table 1 below as the final preferred alternative list for 2025 assessments, and the species, assessment type, and anticipated assessment area(s) in Table 2 below as the preliminary list for 2027 assessments:

Table 1. Final Preferred Species, Assessment Type, and Anticipated Assessment Area(s) for 2025 Stock Assessments.

Species	Assessment Type	Anticipated Assessment Area(s)
Sablefish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Quillback rockfish off California	Benchmark	South of 42° N. Lat.
Rougheye/ Blackspotted rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Yellowtail rockfish	Benchmark	North of 40° 10' N. lat.
Chilipepper rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Redbanded rockfish	Benchmark	Coastwide
Widow rockfish 1/	Update	Coastwide
Yelloweye rockfish 1/	Update	Coastwide
Petrale sole	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Canary rockfish	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Shortspine Thornyhead	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Darkblotched rockfish	Catch-only projection	Coastwide
Black rockfish	Catch-only projection	Oregon
Bocaccio	Catch-only projection	Coastwide

1/ if there is the capacity to only do one update assessment, widow rockfish is the priority over yelloweye rockfish. Yelloweye rockfish would then be a priority for a benchmark assessment in 2027.

Table 2. Preliminary Species, Assessment Type, and Anticipated Assessment Area(s) for 2027 Stock Assessments

Species	Assessment Type	Anticipated Assessment Area(s)
Pacific spiny dogfish shark	Benchmark	Coastwide
English sole	Benchmark	Coastwide
Vermilion/sunset rockfish	TBD	Multiple Areas

Cowcod	Benchmark	Coastwide
Lingcod	Renchmark	North and South of 40° 10' N. lat.
Petrale sole (if not done in 2025)	Benchmark	Coastwide
Yelloweye rockfish (if not done in 2025)	Benchmark	Coastwide
Slope rockfish species (TBD)	TBD	Coastwide

And the Council adopt as the final preferred alternative: (1) the draft Terms of Reference for groundfish stock assessments (<u>Attachment 4</u>) including the clarifications in <u>Supplemental Attachment 7</u> and the edit from the SSC Report (<u>Agenda Item F.3.a</u>, <u>Supplemental SSC Report 1</u>), the Terms of Reference for rebuilding analyses (<u>Attachment 5</u>); and (3) Terms of Reference for Methodology (<u>Attachment 6</u>).

Have Council staff work with NMFS Science Center staff to determine which assessments should occur at which STAR panel, based on the assessor being assigned to the assessment, data deadlines, and age reading needs.

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

Motion 4: Council recommend that NMFS approve the EFPs for Mr. Mintz (<u>Attachment 1</u>) and Mr. Langowski (<u>Attachment 2</u>) for 10 pieces of night-set buoy gear each and consistent with the Terms and Conditions for all other night-set buoy gear EFPs issued to date.

John Ugoretz/Corey Ridings (Motion 4 carried, Mr. Wulff abstained)

Motion 5: Council adopt the Draft Comment Letter on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Oregon Outer Continental Shelf – Proposed Sale Notice (H.1, Supplemental Attachment 6) and the Draft Comment Letter on Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's draft Environmental Assessment for the Oregon Wind Energy Areas (H.1, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 4) as final and submit them to BOEM.

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 5 carried, Messrs. Harrington and Wulff abstained)

**Motion 6:** Council draft a Comment Letter for submission to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development on BOEM's request for a Consistency Determination that the leasing activities planned for the Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) offshore Oregon are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP) conditions applied using Oregon's enforceable policies. This letter would include the November 2023 comment letter on BOEM's Draft WEAs off the Oregon Coast and the two letters approved in the prior motion on the Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Sale Notice.

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 6 carried, Messrs. Harrington and Wulff abstained)

# **Motion 7:** Council adopt the following purpose and need statement:

With an Amendment (number TBD) to the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish FMP, the Council intends to identify stocks in need of conservation and management in the FMP, which will enhance the ability to attain sustainability objectives,

especially those outlined in National Standard 1 of the Magnuson Stevens Act as guided by National Standard 3 and informed by National Standard 2. Appropriate specification of stocks in need of conservation and management is a foundational aspect of sustainability, and instrumental in the Council's ability to attain Optimum Yield objectives. With this Amendment, the Council intends to identify a subset of species, those expected to be assessed soon, within the Groundfish FMP to define stock boundaries for status determination based on key biological, ecological, social, and economic information currently available.

And adopt the species and alternatives in the table below as the Range of Alternatives for stock definitions for stocks being assessed in 2025 and preliminarily identified for assessment in 2027.

Species	Alt. 1 Coastwide	Alt. 2 State/ Region	Alt. 3 North and South of 40° 10' N lat.
Chilipepper rockfish	*		
English sole	*		
Redbanded rockfish	*		
Rougheye/ Blackspotted rockfish	*		
Widow rockfish	*		
Yellowtail rockfish			*
Yelloweye rockfish	*	*	

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko (Motion 7 carried unanimously)

**Motion 8**: Council adopt the alternatives described in <u>Agenda Item F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GAP Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>, Table 1 as the Final Preferred Alternatives except, revise the transition period from temporary marks to manufactured line (Alt. 1, Opt. D) to 3 years and specify that the temporary mark should be continuous over the 20 fm marking requirement and consist of alternating bands of the gear-specific colors to be determined by NMFS.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion 8 carried unanimously)

# **Motion 9:** Council adopt the:

Terms of Reference for the Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Review Process for 2025-2026 (I.1, Attachment 2) and Accepted Practices Guidelines for Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessments in 2025 (I.1, Attachment 4) As modified by Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, and Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1.

Corey Ridings/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

**Motion 10:** Council adopt the recommendation of the Budget Committee as described in <u>Agenda Item C.4.b</u>, <u>Supplemental Budget Committee Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>.

Pete Hassemer/Butch Smith (Motion 10 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

**Motion 11:** Council adopt the recommended trip limit increases for Sablefish north of 36° N. lat., Widow Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat., and Yellowtail Rockfish north of 40° 10' N. lat., as described in Agenda Item F.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2024.

Marci Yaremko/Bob Dooley (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

Motion 12: Council approve the draft Council meeting records included in <u>Agenda Item C.5</u>, <u>Attachment 1: Draft Council Meeting Record, 275<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, March 5-11, 2024 and Attachment 2: Draft Council Meeting Record, 276<sup>th</sup> Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, April 5-11, 2024.</u>

Sharon Kiefer/Bob Dooley (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

**Motion 13:** Council adopt as final preferred alternative the tribal set-asides, harvest guidelines and allocations as shown in item <u>Agenda Item F.5.a, Tribal Supplemental Report 1, April 2024</u>. Joe Oatman/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

**Motion 14:** Council adopt the following alternatives as the final preferred alternative for groundfish management measures in 2025-2026: (Numbers from <u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, Attachment 1, June 2024, the Action Item Checklist)

# **Exempted Fishing Permits**

Adopt both EFP renewals for the 2025-26 management period:

- 2. West Coast Seafood Processors Association (WCSPA) and Oregon Trawl Commission (OTC) Year-Round Trawl Gear (Midwater Rockfish) EFP
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Fishery-Dependent Biological <u>Data Collection EFP</u> - renew for cowcod, and add quillback and yelloweye rockfishes for 2025-2026

# **Action Item #2 Off-the-top Deductions**

Adopt the following final set-asides for 2025 and 2026, as shown in Appendix 1 in <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GMT Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>:

• <u>Research</u>: use the rolling 10-year maximum of research mortality to set research setasides in 2025-26, except for:

Stock or Management Unit	2025-2026 Research Set-Aside (in mt)
Canary rockfish	10.1
Cowcod	10.0
California Quillback Rockfish	0.1
Yelloweye Rockfish	2.9

• <u>Incidental Open Access</u>: use the rolling 10-year maximum methodology to set IOA set-asides in 2025-26 except for:

Stock or Management Unit	2025-2026 IOA Set-Aside (in mt)
Bocaccio south of 40° 10' N lat.	2.2
Canary rockfish	2.8
Darkblotched rockfish	10.7
Longspine thornyhead north of 34° 27' N lat.	1.3
Petrale sole	4.4
Sablefish south of 36° N lat.	25.0
Widow rockfish	1.0
Nearshore rockfish north of 40° 10' N lat.	1.1
Slope rockfish south of 40° 10' N lat.	0.9
Yelloweye Rockfish	3.9
	•

• Exempted Fishing Permits: no set-asides for 2025-2026

- Recreational Sablefish north of 36° N. lat.:
  - o recreational off-the-top set-aside of 30 mt

#### Action Item #5 Two Year Trawl/Non-Trawl Allocations

Adopt status quo for two-year allocations for all stocks, except:

• Widow rockfish-300 mt non-trawl, remainder to trawl

As recommended by the GAP in Appendix 1 of <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GAP Report</u> 1, June 2024.

# Action Item # 6 Rebuilding Species/ Overfished Species Allocations

Maintain the current yelloweye rockfish rebuilding allocations: 8 percent trawl, 92 percent non-trawl.

# Action Item # 7 Amendment-21 Allocation Changes

Maintain current Amendment-21 trawl/non-trawl allocations for all species except for shortspine thornyhead (covered under Action Item #19), and reconsider allocations during inter-sector allocation review.

# Action Item #8 Harvest Guidelines/ State Shares for Stocks in a Complex

Adopt status quo HG for

• Blackgill rockfish (within the Slope Rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat. complex)

No species-specific HGs for:

- Oregon Black/Blue/Deacon Rockfish Complex
- OR and WA cabezon/kelp greenling complexes

# **Action Item #17 Oregon Recreational Fishery**

Adopt the recommendations for the Oregon recreational fishery as outlined in <u>Agenda Item</u> F.5.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1, April 2024.

# Action Item #19g New Management Measures-Other

Adopt the updated scientific name for Pacific sand lance to *Ammodytes personatus* and the common name for spiny dogfish to Pacific spiny dogfish in regulation.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

**Motion 15:** Council adopt the following final preferred management measure alternatives for 2025-2026, following the Action Item Checklist (<u>Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1, June 2024</u>).

# Action Item #1 Area Management

Minor revisions to Rockfish Conservation Area waypoints as recommended in <u>Agenda Item</u> F.5.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, April 2024

# **Action Item #4 ACT(s)**

Adopt the following:

Yelloweye rockfish non-trawl ACTs as shown in Table 7 below:

Table 7. PPA. 2025-26 non-trawl yelloweye rockfish harvest guidelines (HG) and annual catch target (ACT) for the sector and sub-sectors.

	20	25	2026		
	HG (mt)	ACT (mt)	HG (mt)	ACT (mt)	
Non-Trawl Sector	37.7	29.6	38.8	30.4	
Non-nearshore / Nearshore (20.9%)	7.9	6.2	8.1	6.4	
WA Rec (25.6%)	9.7	7.6	9.9	7.8	
OR Rec (23.3%)	8.8	6.9	9.1	7.1	
CA Rec (30.2%)	11.4	8.9	11.7	9.2	

Remove the California quillback rockfish non-trawl ACT

California copper rockfish: Remove statewide ACT and establish a recreational ACT south of 34° 27' N. lat. of 15.8 mt in 2025 and 18.0 mt in 2026 as recommended in <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, June 2024.

# Action Item #10 (LEFG/OA/Recreational)

Adopt Status Quo 2-year within trawl and/or non-trawl sharing agreement for:

Blackgill rockfish and slope rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat.

Canary rockfish: 36 percent commercial non-trawl, 12.3 percent WA recreational, 18.5 percent OR recreational, 33.2 percent CA recreational

Cowcod south of 40°10' N. lat.: 50 percent commercial non-trawl, 50 percent recreational Bocaccio south of 40°10' N. lat.: 30.9 percent commercial non-trawl, 69.1 percent recreational

Sablefish south of 36° N. lat.: 70 percent LEFG, 30 percent OA

• 10 mt sablefish south of 36° N. lat. set-aside for the recreational sector

Nearshore Rockfish Complex north of 40°10′ N. lat. by state

- No federal HGs for the area  $42^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$  10' N. lat.
- Status quo state-specified informal HGs for Washington and Oregon

Yelloweye rockfish: 20.9 percent commercial non-trawl, 25.6 percent WA recreational, 23.3 percent OR recreational, 30.2 percent CA recreational

# Action Item #18 California Recreational Trip Limits, Bag Limits and Season Structures

Adopt the recreational fishery season structure and subbag limits (same as 2024) and remove size limits for cabezon, greenling, and CA scorpionfish as described in <u>Agenda Item F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental CDFW Report 1</u>, <u>April 2024</u>.

Include EC fillet skin requirements as described in <u>Agenda Item F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental EC</u> Report 1, April 2024.

# Action Item #19 e and f: New Management Measures (Recreational)

- e): Option 2, Require recreational anglers to possess a descending device aboard while fishing in federal waters.
- f): Option 2, Modify continuous vessel transit limitations for California recreational vessels in federal waters.

# Action Item #20 Quillback Rockfish Rebuilding Plan

Remove California quillback rockfish from the nearshore rockfish complexes off California Adopt Harvest Specification Alternative 2, the ABC Rule from the rebuilding analysis Adopt the California Quillback Rockfish Rebuilding Plan Analysis for 2025 and beyond (Agenda Item F.6, Supplemental Revised Attachment 3, June 2024).

Adopt proposed FMP language and changes (<u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, <u>Attachment 6</u>, <u>June 2024</u>) Marci Yaremko/Bob Dooley (Motion 15, as reconsidered, carried unanimously)

**Motion 16:** Council adopt the following alternatives as the final preferred management measure alternatives for 2025-2026, numbering refers to the Action Item Checklist (<u>Agenda Item F.6</u>, Attachment 1, June 2024.

#### Action Item #9 At-Sea Set Asides

Adopt at-sea whiting fishery 2025-26 set-asides as detailed in Table 21 of Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2, June 2024

# **Action Item #11 Shorebased IFQ**

Adopt status quo IFQ trip limits for non-IFQ species

# Action Item #12 - 15 OA and LEFG North and South of 40 10

Adopt trip limits in <u>Agenda Item F.6.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GMT Report 1</u>, <u>June 2024</u>, Appendices 2 and 3

#### Action Item #16 – WA Recreational

Adopt the recommendations for the Washington recreational fishery as described in Supplemental WDFW Report 1, June 2024

# Action Item #19 - New Management Measures Commercial

- 19a. Adopt Option 2, establish a directed open access permit program
- 19b. Adopt Option 2, correct EM program discard and retention requirement regulations
- 19d. Adopt shortspine thornyhead management changes (as noted in <u>Agenda Item F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GAP Report 1, April 2024</u> and detailed in <u>Agenda Item F.5.a</u>, <u>Supplemental GMT Report 2, April 2024</u>):
  - 1) Remove the management line for shortspine thornyhead
  - 2a) Sub-Option B, allocation proportions for the 2025-2026 biennium (in 2025, 64 percent trawl/36 percent to non-trawl; in 2026, 71 percent trawl/29 percent non-trawl)
  - 2b) Sub-Option 2, non-trawl ACT north of 34°27′ N. lat. set at 25 percent of the coastwide non-trawl allocation with 2a Sub-Option B, 2025 ACT 67 mt and 2026 ACT 55 mt
  - 2c) Option 2, non-trawl trip limits:
    - Convert OA trip limits from monthly to bimonthly.
  - Confirm two-year allocation
  - Adopt proposed FMP amendment language, as appropriate

# Action Item #21 – Convert Current shortspine thornyhead ACL to a single coastwide ACL

Convert current shortspine thornyhead ACLs north and south of 34° 27' N. lat. to a single coastwide ACL based on recommendation under 19d.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion 16, as amended, carried unanimously)

#### **Motion 17:** Move to reconsider CDFW Motion (Motion 15)

Corey Ridings (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

**Motion 18:** I move that Mr. Brad Pettinger serve as Council Chair and Mr. Pete Hassemer serve as Council Vice-Chair for the August 11, 2024-August 10, 2025 term.

Marc Gorelnik/Bob Dooley (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

**Motion 19:** I move that staff send a letter to the Office of Protected Resources recommending the following individuals for the industry positions on the Take Reduction Team. Individuals are listed in alphabetical order and not by priority. The letter should also include the considerations contained in the GAP Report with regard to alternates, remote participation, and meeting location (Agenda Item C.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report, June 2024).

Name	State	Sablefish Pot	Sablefish Longline	Dungeness	GAP	Participant in Other Advisory Venues (Federal or State)
Burkholder, Bernie	WA	X	X	X	N	N
Clampitt, Paul	WA	X	X		N	N
Eder, Bob	OR	X		X	Alt.	Y
Funderberg, Clint	OR	X	X	X	N	Y
	WA,					
Hartzell, Scott	OR, CA	X		X	Y	Y
Ibach, Harrison	CA	X	X	X	Y	Y
Kasheta, Dave	CA	X	X	X	Y	Y
Lapham, Georgon						
"Poggy"	OR	X	X	X	Alt.	Y
	WA,					
Lethin, David	OR, CA	X	X	X	N	Y
Thevik, Larry						

Lynn Mattes/Marci Yaremko (Motion 19, as amended, carried; Mr. Wulff abstained)

**Motion 20:** Council appoint Mr. Thompson Banez to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife position on the Groundfish Management Team.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

**Motion 21:** Council adopt the following changes to Council Advisory Body positions for public review:

#### Salmon Advisory Subpanel

Remove the gillnet position and one of the California sport positions originally created for inland fisheries.

# **Coastal Pelagic Species**

Revise the description of the Washington commercial seat on the CPS advisory subpanel to be either Washington commercial or Washington processor (Washington commercial/processor).

# **Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel**

Request that Council Staff in exploration of new IRA funding and associated work provide guidance on how the composition of the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel might be more efficient or change with this new funding and associated work.

# **Groundfish Advisory Subpanel**

Revise the current three Sport Fisheries (at-large) positions to be one Washington, one Oregon and two California, consistent with the <u>GAP recommendation</u>.

Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion 21, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 22: Council appoint Ms. Lynn Mattes to the Council representative position on the International Pacific Halibut Commission's Management Strategy Advisory Board. Heather Hall/Phil Anderson (Motion carries unanimously)

# **ADJOURN**

The Council meeting adjourned on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 5:16 p.m. The Council completed items ahead of the planned Thursday, June 13, 2024 adjournment as identified in the agenda.

Brad Pettings	October 17, 2024
Brad Pettinger	Date

Brad Pettinger Council Chair