



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Brad Pettinger, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 14, 2025

TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Gilly Lyons, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: March 2025 Council meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet March 4-11, 2025, at the Hilton Vancouver Washington in Vancouver, WA. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) and Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will meet **in person** on Thursday and Friday, March 6 and 7. There is one Ecosystem topic scheduled on the Council agenda for Friday, March 7, as described below.

F.1 2024-25 California Current Annual Ecosystem Status Report and 2025 Science Review Topics

The California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team (CCIEA) has produced the 2024-2025 California Current Ecosystem Status Report (ESR) and appendices (Agenda Item F.1.a, CCIEA Team Report 1). There will be an [online briefing](#) by Drs. Mary Hunsicker and Andrew Leising on this year's ESR on February 25 at 10 a.m. (in advance of the Council meeting). You are encouraged to attend. Drs. Hunsicker and Leising will also meet with the EAS and EWG in joint session at the March meeting to further review and discuss the ESR.

In previous years you have made recommendations for changes or improvements to the report, as summarized in Appendix W of the 2024-25 ESR. You have the option to do so again this year.

J.4 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

The EAS and EWG may also wish to draft reports for Agenda Item J.4, Future Council Agenda and Workload Planning, to comment on the scheduling of Ecosystem and other items on future Council Meeting agendas.

EAS/EWG Administrative Matters

In addition to the above items, the EAS and EWG's advisory body agendas for this meeting include discussion and planning items related to the completion of Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Initiative

4 (Risk Tables for Groundfish and Salmon), the development of projects related to the FEP, and recommendations for the Council's updated Research and Data Needs process.

For the Initiative 4 item, the EWG should discuss any next steps regarding the full transition of this work to relevant Fishery Management Plan (FMP) advisory bodies. This may include a review of earlier workplans and progress reports for Initiative 4, and identifying any updates needed to describe or meet remaining milestones in the coming months. The Council is next scheduled to consider and discuss the use of risk tables for both Groundfish and Salmon at its June 2025 meeting.

For the Research and Data Needs item, the EAS and the EWG will participate in a joint session at this meeting to discuss any preliminary recommendations you may have on research and data needs to support the management of U.S. West Coast fisheries. These preliminary recommendations should be crafted to best address the [top challenges](#) identified by the Council at its November 2024 meeting. In April 2025, the Council is scheduled to adopt a list of preliminary research and data needs associated with the science and management challenges. The preliminary list can be further refined, and a final list is scheduled to be adopted at the June 2025 Council meeting.

In addition to the enclosed briefing materials, you may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the Advance Briefing Book. Please visit the [March 2025 Meeting webpage](#) to access these materials. Public comment is available in electronic form only through the Council's [e-portal](#).

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

GNL:acl

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.3: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Items F: Ecosystem Matters
3. Agenda Items D: Cross-FMP Matters
4. Agenda Items J: Administrative Matters
5. EAS and EWG Meeting Agendas
6. Informational Reports
7. Hotel Information and Council Roster

PFMC
02/11/25