

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AD HOC COMMITTEE CHARGES

Cost Recovery Committee (created June 2011)

1. Review cost information provided by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries and Office of Law Enforcement, as well as the state agencies and evaluate which costs should be categorized as incremental costs and which are more appropriately considered general program costs.
2. Provide recommendations of incremental costs on a sector by sector basis that are subject to cost recovery.
3. Discuss opportunities for long-term cost efficiencies.
4. The committee membership include one representative from each of the following industry sectors and agencies: shoreside trawl sector (whiting and non-whiting seats), at-sea whiting mothership sector, at-sea catcher-processor sector, processor, NMFS Northwest Region, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Fish and Game, and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) (created June 2013, charge updated September 2024)

The EWG will provide technical and policy advice in support of the Council's three Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)-funded projects. IRA projects are focused on increasing the climate resilience of Council-managed resources and are anticipated to be completed by late 2027. The EWG may provide technical and policy advice to the Council on other Ecosystem issues and items as needed and/or requested by the Council. (Council Motion under Agenda Item K.3, September 2024)

Equity and Environmental Justice Committee (EEJC) (created April 2023)

The EEJC will assist the Council in addressing EEJ issues and, in particular, advise the Council on working with NMFS on the forthcoming EEJ Strategy Regional Implementation Plan and the Geographic Strategic Plan. The group includes a Tribal member, a member from each state, and a NMFS member. (Council Motion 26, Agenda Item F. 6, April 2023)

Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory Committee (GEMPAC) (created June 2013)

The GEMPAC charge is to focus on the development of alternatives for EM consideration consistent with the objectives described in [Agenda Item F.6.a, Attachment 1, June 2013](#) (page 1985) as follows

1. reduce total fleet monitoring costs to levels sustainable for the fleet and agency;
2. reduce observer costs for vessels that have a relatively lower total revenue;
3. maintain monitoring capabilities in small ports;
4. increase national net economic value generated by the fishery;
5. decrease incentives for fishing in unsafe conditions;
6. use the technology most suitable and cost effective for any particular function in the monitoring system; and
7. reduce the physical intrusiveness of the monitoring system by reducing observer presence; while
8. maintaining current individual accountability for catch and preserving equitable distribution of monitoring coverage among members of the fleet,
9. supporting the collection of biological information necessary for managing the fishery, for stock assessments, and to meet other needs for scientific data, with no degradation relative to pre-trawl catch share program standards,
10. taking into account agency budgets and abilities to support any new policy,
11. maintaining capabilities for annual catch limit (ACL) management (e.g. for non-quota species), and
12. following an implementation path most optimal for the fishery.

The Committee is comprised of the following positions: PSMFC (Chair), an at-sea whiting trawl, a shoreside midwater trawl, two shoreside bottom trawl, an IFQ fixed gear, an EM provider, and a conservation representative.

Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee (created June 2013)

No charge specified, the motion was as follows:

“Establish a technical advisory committee as shown in Table 1, Agenda Item F.6.a, Attachment 1, page 3, on the right hand side; which includes: PSMFC, NMFS West Coast, NMFS NWFSC, NMFS OLE, NOAA GC, and the states of Washington, Oregon, and California.”

HMS Roadmap – Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (created November 2024)

The workgroup is tasked with developing and refining Council procedures which help facilitate the more rapid creation of new HMS gears and achieve the goals of the HMS Roadmap (Council Motion under Agenda Item C.5, November 2024). The work should include:

- Modification of the Council Operating Procedure 20 (HMS exempted fishing permit [EFP] process)
- Improvement of HMS EFP guidance
- Development of HMS EFP performance goals, including acceptable bycatch, and metrics to evaluate EFP performance
- Consideration of the National Seafood Strategy as it pertains to HMS fisheries
- Review of the draft HMS roadmap, as appropriate
- Discussion of relevant innovative fishery tools or measures needed to support a robust HMS fishery

Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup (KRWG) (created June 2023)

The KRWG is directed by [Terms of Reference](#) that were adopted by the Council in June 2023. In summary, the KRWG is tasked with helping the Council develop interim management measures for Klamath River fall Chinook (KRFC) during the period after dam removal, until the natural environment stabilizes, and the population becomes more predictable. At least 8 to 12 years of data will likely be necessary before a new, long-term escapement objective can be derived.

Marine Planning Committee (created June 2021)

The Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee (MPC) was established to provide the Council with an open and transparent process to gather industry and stakeholder input and provide advice on marine planning, particularly offshore wind energy and NOAA Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOA). The MPC is charged with developing constructive recommendations for Council action and communication with the planning action agency in question. The MPC also responds to state-specific processes, to provide advice and comment letters as appropriate, for Council consideration.

Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup (created June 2023)

The SRWG is directed by [Terms of Reference](#) that were adopted by the Council in June 2023. In summary, the SRWG is directed to assist the Council with developing improvements to Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC) assessment and management tools. This includes developing a range of alternative reference points, conservation objectives, and harvest control rules.

PFMC
02/12/25