



Agenda Item D.4
Supplemental Attachment 3
September 2026

State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street, Olympia, WA

September 11, 2026

Merrick Burden
Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 Northeast Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Dear Executive Director Burden,

I am writing to let you know that Whitney Roberts's last day with the agency was September 8. She accepted a job with the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, as their Fishery Management and Policy Section Chief later this month. We are grateful for Ms. Robert's six and half years with us working towards WDFW's and the Council's shared conservation and management goals.

With the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) not meeting in September, we are not recommending an alternate to take her place at this time. We do plan to fill the vacated position as soon as practical although we expect it may be some weeks or months. Dr. Claudia Friess will continue to represent the agency on the Groundfish Management Team and can coordinate with the GMT on WDFW commercial and recreational fisheries data and analysis needs in the meantime.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Heather Hall at (360) 490-9628.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Sussewind", is written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Sussewind
Director

Enclosure

cc: Heather Hall
Corey Niles
Kyle Adicks
Kelly Cunningham