ECOSYSTEM ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) discussed Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning and has the following comments.

Ecosystem topics, and therefore the EAS workload, have historically been focused on the March and September meetings. However, Cross-Fishery Management Plan (FMP) items that are ecosystem-related now appear on most, if not all, of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) agendas for the next year. We appreciate the Council considering ecosystem topics through its multiple FMP management processes, which highlights the interconnected nature of the ecosystem items. We propose scheduling consideration of ecosystem-related topics at the March and September Council meetings to allow timely, cohesive, and efficient input.

With this in mind, we have reviewed the Council's Year-at-a-Glance Summary and note that we are currently scheduled to meet in conjunction with all remaining 2026 meetings except November. We recommend that the Council consider postponing the June Cross-FMP item for Special Project 2 until September when other Ecosystem and Cross-FMP items are currently scheduled. This consolidation of the Cross-FMP projects would result in more efficient use of advisory body resources. We also request the Council change the format of our September meeting to an in-person meeting given the scope of the items for EAS discussion.

PFMC
03/09/26