HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Habitat Committee (HC) recommends that the November HC meeting be held in person as indicated in previous briefing book Year-at-a-Glance calendars. While remote participation has provided convenience and flexibility, the current ratio between remote and in-person meetings has limited the opportunities for the appropriate collaboration and production that are needed to fulfill the HC's responsibilities. Virtual meetings also limit interaction between HC members, other Advisory Bodies (ABs), and the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) alike, which in the long run can interfere with the effectiveness of our work. We believe holding the November meeting in person would offer several benefits, such as improving the quality of discussions and providing more access to relevant material, improving problem solving strategies, onboarding new members, providing more opportunities to collaborate, as well as strengthening the relationship between HC members, ABs, and the Council. Because of these reasons, we support and respectfully request that the HC meet in person during the November Council meeting.

PFMC
09/18/25