COUNCIL MEETING RECORD
282nd Session of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
June 11-16, 2025
Doubletree by Hilton Sonoma – Wine Country
One Doubletree Drive, Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Contents

INTRODUCTION 5

MEETING SUMMARY 6

A. Call to Order 6
1. Opening Remarks – Brad Pettinger, Chair 6
2. Roll Call – Merrick Burden 6
3. Agenda – Brad Pettinger 6
a. Council Action: Approve Agenda 6
4. Executive Director's Report – Merrick Burden 7

B. Open Comment Period 7
1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items - Merrick Burden 7
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 7
b. Public Comment 7
c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate 7

C. Administrative Matters 7
1. Council Coordination Committee Meeting Update - Merrick Burden 7
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 7
b. Public Comment 7
c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate 7
2. Legislative Matters - Merrick Burden 7
a. Report of the Legislative Committee – Chris Oliver 7
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 7
c. Public Comment 7
d. Council Action: Consider Legislative Committee Report and Recommendations 7
3. Fiscal Matters - Patricia Hearing 7
a. Report of the Budget Committee - Pete Hassemer 7
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 7
c. Public Comment 7
d. Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Report and Recommendations 7
4. Approve Council Meeting Records - Brad Pettinger 8
a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Records 8
5. Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures - Kelly Ames 8
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 8
b. Public Comment 8

c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures, As Appropriate 8
6. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning - Merrick Burden 9
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 9
b. Public Comment 9
c. Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting and Workload Planning 9
D. Cross Fishery Management Plan (FMP) 10
1. Presidential Executive Orders and Administration Updates - Kelly Ames 10
a. National Marine Fisheries Report 10
b. Public Comment 10
c. Council Discussion 10
2. Council Response to Executive Orders and Administration Updates - Kelly Ames 10
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 10
b. Public Comment 10
c. Council Action: Identify Actions; Provide Guidance on Prioritization Factors and Process, As Appropriate 10
3. Research and Data Needs – Final Action - Marlene Bellman 13
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 13
b. Public Comment 13
c. Council Action: Adopt Final Research and Data Needs 13
E. Groundfish Management 14
1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Todd Phillips 14
a. Regulatory Activities - Keeley Kent 14
b. Fisheries Science Center Activities - Craig Russell 14
c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 14
d. Public Comment 14
e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate 14
2. Limited Entry Fixed Gear Actions: Gear Endorsements, Cost Recovery, and Other Administrative Changes – Final Action - Jessi Waller 14
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 14
b. Public Comment 14
c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternative including a Fishery Management Plan Amendment 14
3. Inseason Management – Final Action - Jessi Waller 15
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 15
b. Public Comment 15
c. Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2025 15
4. Adopt Stock Assessments - Marlene Bellman - CANCELLED 18
5. Intersector Allocation Review – Final Action - Jessi Waller 18
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 18
b. Public Comment 18
c. Council Action: Adopt the Intersector Allocation Review 19
6. Phase 2 Stock Definitions — Final Action - Todd Phillips, Katrina Bernaus 19
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 19
b. Public Comment 19

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives Where Possible; Adopt Preliminary Preferred Alternatives Where Appropriate 19
7. Harvest Specifications Flexibility – Scoping - Jessi Waller 28
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 28
b. Public Comment 28
c. Council Action: Further Define Problem and Desires Outcomes, Provide Guidance on Range of Alternatives and Sequencing 28
8. 2027-28 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Planning - Todd Phillips, Marlene Bellman 29
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 29
b. Public Comment 29
c. Council Action: Initial Scoping, Adopt a Process and Schedule for Developing Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for 2027-28 Fisheries 29

F. Highly Migratory Species Management 30
1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Kerry Griffin 30
a. Regulatory Activities - Ryan Wulff 30
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 30
c. Public Comment 30
d. Council Action: Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate 30
2. International Management Activities - Kerry Griffin 30
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 30
b. Public Comment 30
c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate 30
3. Exempted Fishing Permits – Final Action - Kerry Griffin 32
a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 32
b. Public Comment 32
c. Council Action: Adopt Preliminary or Final Exempted Fishing Permit Applications, As Appropriate 32
4. Highly Migratory Species Roadmap Development - Kerry Griffin 32
a. Report of the Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (FIW) - Christa Svensson, Josh Madeira 32
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 32
c. Public Comment 32
d. Council Action: Adopt FIW Terms of Reference and Roadmap, Provide Guidance on Next Steps 32

G. Habitat Issues 33
1. Current Habitat Issues - Kerry Griffin 33
a. Report of the Habitat Committee 33
b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies 33
c. Public Comment 33
d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations 33

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS 33

VOTING LOG 33

ADJOURN 43

INTRODUCTION

This document contains or identifies the various elements, documents, and sources comprising the complete and official record of Council meeting discussions and actions. In addition to the Meeting Summary, which follows this introductory section (see #7 below), it includes information or references that serve as the functional detailed minutes for this Council meeting as required by §302(i)(2)(E) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The full record is maintained at the Council office, is available on the Council website (http://www.pcouncil.org/) or upon request from the Council office, and consists of the following:

1. **Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda** – These documents are available on the Council Website prior to and following each meeting at http://www.pcouncil.org/ .
2. **Attendance Records** – These documents are available for the Council meeting and each advisory body meeting by request from the Council office.
3. **All Documents, Reports, and Presentations for Council Consideration** – These items include (1) all documents produced or received for the meeting briefing book, validated by a label assigned by the Council Secretariat and distributed to Council Members; (2) written public comments received at the Council meeting in accordance with agenda labeling requirements; and (3) electronic material or handout materials used in presentations to Council Members during the open session. They are available from links in the Meeting Summary of this document or at https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/.
4. **Council Decisions Summary Document –** This document is distributed shortly after each Council meeting. It provides very brief descriptions of most key Council decisions and is available at https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/ and also provided by agenda item in the Meeting Summary of this document.
5. **Draft or Final Decision Documents Finalized after the Council Meeting** – Documents such as Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are available on the Council website as they are completed.
6. **Gavel-to-Gavel Audio Recordings and Summary Transcripts** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting. For additional reference, verbatim transcripts of Council Actions are available on the Council website. The recordings and transcripts may be accessed from the links contained within the Meeting Summary of this document or at https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/.
7. **Meeting Summary** (immediately follows this section) – The Meeting Summary lists, in agenda item order, the briefing book documents, reports, presentations, and Council motions and actions, including a brief summary from the Council Decisions Summary Document for each agenda item. It constitutes the meeting record formally approved by the Council. Links to the audio recordings may also be accessed at https://www.pcouncil.org/council-meetings/previous-meetings/.
8. **Voting Log –** The voting log lists, in Agenda order, the summarized Council motions and actions for each agenda item that took place during the meeting.

MEETING SUMMARY

A. Call to Order

1. Opening Remarks – Brad Pettinger, Chair

Mr. Brad Pettinger, Council Chair, called the 282nd meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 13, 2025. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

2. Roll Call – Merrick Burden

Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Mr. Ryan Wulff, designee
	Ms. Keeley Kent, designee
Alaska State Official:	Ms. Rachel Baker, nonvoting designee
	Ms. Dani Evenson, nonvoting designee
Washington State Official:	Ms. Heather Hall, designee
	Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Butch Smith
Oregon State Official:	Mr. Justin Ainsworth, designee
	Ms. Lynn Mattes, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Christa Svensson
California State Official:	Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee
	Mr. John Ugoretz, designee
	Ms. Caroline McKnight, designee
California Obligatory:	Ms. Corey Ridings
Idaho State Official:	Ms. Sharon Keifer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Pete Hassemer, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. David Sones
At-Large:	Mr. Marc Gorelnik
	Dr. Rebecca Lent
	Mr. Brad Pettinger, Chair
	Ms. Aja Szumylo
U.S. Coast Guard:	LT Karrie Jeffries, nonvoting designee
	Mr. Chris German, nonvoting designee
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission:	Mr. Chris Oliver, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee

Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:	Mr. Hugh Morrison (nonvoting)
U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee

3. Agenda – Brad Pettinger

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

Motion 1: Council adopt a revised Agenda for the June Meeting as presented Agenda Item A.3, June 11-16, 2025 Council Meeting Agenda, with the modification of moving item D.2 from its current place in the agenda to between E.7 and E.8.

Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

4. **Executive Director's Report – Merrick Burden**

B. Open Comment Period

1. **Comments on Non-Agenda Items - Merrick Burden**
   a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
   b. **Public Comment**
   c. **Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

C. Administrative Matters

1. **Council Coordination Committee Meeting Update - Merrick Burden**
   a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
   b. **Public Comment**
   c. **Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. **Legislative Matters - Merrick Burden**
   a. **Report of the Legislative Committee – Chris Oliver**
   b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
   c. **Public Comment**
   d. **Council Action: Consider Legislative Committee Report and Recommendations**

Staff Summary: None

3. **Fiscal Matters - Patricia Hearing**
   a. **Report of the Budget Committee - Pete Hassemer**
   b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
   c. **Public Comment**
   d. **Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Report and Recommendations**

Motion 21: Council adopt the recommendations presented in Agenda Item C.3.a, Supplemental Budget Committee Report 1.
Sharon Kiefer/Butch Smith (Motion 21 carried unanimously)
Staff Summary: The Council considered the fiscal status, risks, and outlook for 2025. Significant uncertainties exist regarding the Council's fiscal outlook for the remainder of 2025 and beyond.

These risks and their associated implications led the Council to make several decisions regarding fiscal expenditures for 2025, including:

1. Leave the open staff officer position vacant, at least until the Council's fiscal picture is clarified.
2. Hold a partial in-person September Council meeting. The Council, some staff, and the Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet in person. The Groundfish Management Team, Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, and Enforcement Consultants will be remote.
3. Convene the Executive Committee in mid- August to consider the format of the November Meeting.
4. Plan for a September 2025 Budget Committee meeting to review a 2025 Operational Budget and review a proposed preliminary 2026 Budget.

4. Approve Council Meeting Records - Brad Pettinger

a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Records

Motion 22: Council approve the Council meeting records for the 280th Session (March 2025) and the 281st Session (April 2025).
Sharon Kiefer/Rebecca Lent (Motion 22 carried unanimously)

5. Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures - Kelly Ames

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures, As Appropriate

Motion 23: Council appoint Mr. Pete Hassemer as Council Chair and Mr. Butch Smith as Council Vice Chair for the August 11, 2025 - August 10, 2026 term.
Aja Szumylo/Heather Hall (Motion 23 carried unanimously)

Motion 24: Council appoint Ms. Aja Szumylo as the Council's representative to the Joint Management Committee to the Pacific Hake/Whiting Treaty.
Heather Hall/Butch Smith (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

Motion 25: Council appoint Deputy Assistant Special Agent in Charge Eric Morgan as the primary National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Law Enforcement representative on the Enforcement Consultants. Mr. Brian Corrigan would be the designee.
Sharon Keifer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

Motion 26: Council appoint Ms. Megan Mackey to one of the National Marine Fisheries Service positions on the Groundfish Management Team.
Ryan Wulff/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

Motion 27: Council appoint the following individuals to the At-Large positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

- Dr. Selina Heppell
- Dr. Alberto Rovellini
- Dr. Francisco Werner

Sharon Kiefer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 27 carried, Ms. Lent abstained)

Staff Summary: The Council made the following appointments:

- Elected Mr. Pete Hassemer as Council Chair and Mr. Butch Smith as Council Vice Chair for the August 11, 2025 – August 10, 2026 term.
- Appointed Ms. Aja Szumylo as the Council's representative to the Joint Management Committee to the Pacific Hake/Whiting Treaty.
- Appointed Deputy Assistant Special Agent in Charge Eric Morgan as the primary National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Law Enforcement representative on the Enforcement Consultants. Mr. Brian Corrigan would be the designee.
- Appointed Ms. Megan Mackey to one of the National Marine Fisheries Service positions on the Groundfish Management Team.
- Appointed the following to the At-Large positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee
    - Dr. Selina Heppell
    - Dr. Alberto Rovellini
    - Dr. Francisco Werner

The Council tasked staff with re-advertising for the tribal position on the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel.

Chair Pettinger appointed Arlene Merems to the Habitat Committee seat and Kevin Godes to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel seat on the Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee.

6. **Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning - Merrick Burden**
    a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
    b. **Public Comment**
    c. **Council Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting and Workload Planning**

Staff Summary: None

D. Cross Fishery Management Plan (FMP)

1. Presidential Executive Orders and Administration Updates - Kelly Ames

a. National Marine Fisheries Report

b. Public Comment

c. Council Discussion

Staff Summary: None

2. Council Response to Executive Orders and Administration Updates - Kelly Ames

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Identify Actions; Provide Guidance on Prioritization Factors and Process, As Appropriate

Motion 17: Council offer the following, unprioritized list of ongoing and upcoming regulatory actions that meet the EO goals as a preliminary list, to be finalized at the September meeting. The Council should prioritize actions that reduce regulatory burdens on the fleet while maintaining stock health and conservation objectives.

In progress (on YAG and previously recommended to NMFS for implementation; not in priority order)

IRA/Special Projects

- Decision-Making for Stronger Communities
- Flexible and Adaptive Management
- New Fishing Opportunities within Bycatch Allowances

Groundfish

- Cordell Banks
- LEFG Follow On
- Groundfish Specifications Flexibility
- Groundfish Stock Definitions
- Inseason Management
- Exempted fishing permits
- Biennial specifications cycle
- Whiting Treaty Implementation
- Independent evaluation of our stock assessment process (addressing items mentioned in Agenda Item E.7a, Supplemental GAP Report 1)

CPS

- Sardine stock definitions including reviewing use of parameters (like Emsy, distribution) in the harvest control rules
- Exempted fishing permits
- Annual harvest specifications

Highly Migratory Species

- HMS Roadmap

- Exempted fishing permits
- International Management
- Biennial Harvest Specifications

Salmon

- Updating conservation objectives
- Inseason management
- Annual season setting process

Pacific Halibut

- Catch sharing plan and annual regulations for recreational and commercial fisheries
- Inseason management

Planned (from past prioritization efforts, or anticipated actions)

Groundfish

- Trawl Follow On Actions (particularly those that reduce cost to industry - cost recovery, EDC, observer coverage requirements)
- Midwater rockfish EFP into regulation

CPS

- Science and management priorities identified at the April 2025 Council meeting
- Near term inseason catch accounting for sardine

Cross FMP

- EFP streamlining across all FMPs with COPs
- Relevant elements from Council's recent process refinement efforts
- Marine planning to manage current and future impacts to fisheries (offshore wind, aquaculture, seabed mining, oil and gas)

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson

Amendment 1: To include language regarding international management for Salmon, CPS, and Halibut as needed.

Christa Svensson/Aja Szumylo (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 17, as amended, carried unanimously

Motion 18: Council task staff to use the following guidance to explore additional opportunities to stabilize markets, improve access, enhance economic profitability, and prevent closures. In addition to the list below, staff should look to ideas from recent NOAA guidance documents (e.g., National Seafood Strategy), and events (e.g., Managing Our Nation's Fisheries) for ideas. For items identified as national and international, task ED with coordination through the CCC. Include an assessment of both staff workload and potential impact to industry according to the EO metrics.

Regional

Cost reduction measures for industry. Examples include:
VMS efficiencies (turn off VMS, declaration changes at sea)
Cost recovery regulations at regional level
Monitoring and reporting requirements
Data collection improvement/expansion
Evaluate ways to incorporate fisherman-collected data or data from citizen science into stock assessments, looking to approaches from other regions (e.g., South Atlantic Region Citizen Science Program)

Data collection innovations already included in the Council's Research and Data Needs priority list (Agenda Item D.3, Attachment 1, June 2025)
Evaluation of all regulations established more than two decades ago
Evaluation of hatchery program production to see if science is matching initial program goals
Evaluation of the Council's approach to scientific uncertainty and risk
Evaluation of risk of overfishing
P*sigma
Evaluation of timing/frequency of stock evaluation processes (e.g., increasing frequency of catch-only projections)
Evaluation of the Council's approach to management uncertainty
Evaluation of management uncertainty buffers framework across FMPs
Fishing level recommendations for preventing overfishing could be established for multi-year periods (e.g., rolling average of catch versus ABC)
Additional measures to provide flexibility across fishing activities

National

MSA evaluations
Cost recovery provisions
Revisions to National Standard Guidelines to support EO goals
Create support of domestic infrastructure
Port infrastructure
Processing infrastructure
Fleet recapitalization
Programs (education, loans) to bring young fishermen into the fleet
Market/industry support mechanisms
Access to U.S.D.A. programs for food producers/farms for fishermen, such as grants, insurance and access to capital
Stronger NOAA Fisheries marketing of primacy of U.S. fisheries management, and how that contributes to a superior product
U.S. seafood commodity marketing support (similar organizations to Genuine Alaska Pollock Producers)
Support for product diversification/business incubator products (like Hatch, Positively Groundfish)

International

Leveling the playing field for our international products
Equitable tariffs and quotas
Foreign fisheries impact on U.S. production
Engagement with Seafood Trade Task Force
Improve nation-wide communication to U.S.D.C. Seafood Inspection Approved Establishments when there are seafood export changes

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson (Motion 18 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 19: Council recommend to NMFS that it not prioritize review, development or issuance of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) outside of the Council process to the Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative to process whiting south of 42° N. latitude in response to Executive Order 14276: Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness. Prospective applicants should

continue to use established on-ramps for Council consideration of new groundfish EFPs via either the groundfish workload and management measure prioritization process, the Preliminary EFP agenda item shown on the proposed November 2025 Agenda (Agenda Item C.6, Supplemental Attachments 4 and 6), or open public comment.

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 19 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 20: Council adopt the Advisory Body reports under this agenda item for refinement and application of criteria to the identified Council actions to determine their alignment with the EO and the prioritization thereof, as outlined in the situation summary for this agenda item and further Council action in September.

Corey Ridings/Rebecca Lent (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council received a presentation from Mr. Sam Rauch of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on Executive Order (EO) 14276, Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness, along with other Administration updates. Section 4 of the EO requires that each Regional Fishery Management Council submit a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production of sustainable fisheries. In response to Section 4 of the EO, the Council adopted a preliminary set of priorities for all Fishery Management Plans and Pacific halibut, which reflect measures previously prioritized on the Council's Year at a Glance (YAG) and other anticipated actions. Council members also expressed interest in communicating the broader context within which fishery management takes place, stressing the importance of trade, science, and other factors which are critical to ensuring a vibrant domestic seafood industry and the goals of the EO. Draft priorities and discussion of broad contextual factors will be included in the advanced briefing book to support final action at the September Council meeting.

The Council also discussed the Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative's intent to submit an exempted fishing permit application to process whiting south of 42° N. latitude, in response to the EO. The Council discussed its desire to have NMFS coordinate with the Council should it receive applications outside of the Council's exempted fishing permit review process.

3. Research and Data Needs – Final Action - Marlene Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Research and Data Needs

Motion 16: Council to adopt as final the Research and Data Needs as described in Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report.

Corey Ridings/Sharon Keifer (Motion 16 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted an updated set of final research and data needs, as recommended by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (see Appendix in Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1). This fulfills the Magnuson-Stevens Act requirement to review and provide a list of the Council's priorities to support the management of U.S. west coast fisheries.

The updated research and data needs will be transmitted to NMFS and other West Coast institutions, as well as posted to the Council's website. The Council will review and consider the process for developing the new format of Research and Data Needs in the spring of 2026, for future implementation.

E. Groundfish Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Todd Phillips

a. Regulatory Activities - Keeley Kent

b. Fisheries Science Center Activities - Craig Russell

c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

d. Public Comment

e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

2. Limited Entry Fixed Gear Actions: Gear Endorsements, Cost Recovery, and Other Administrative Changes – Final Action - Jessi Waller

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternative including a Fishery Management Plan Amendment

Motion 2: Council adopt the recommendations for Limited Entry Fixed Gear Actions as presented in Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2025 as the final preferred alternatives and adopt the FMP language as presented in Agenda Item E.2, Supplemental Attachment 2.

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 2 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the following as the final preferred alternative:

- Gear Endorsements: Alternative 3 with suboption a. Create a single limited entry non-trawl endorsed permit. Vessels registered to a permit with this endorsement would be permitted to use any legal non-trawl groundfish gear, except entangling nets, to harvest their quota.
- Base Permit Designation: Alternative 1, Remove the base permit designation and associated regulations at 50 CFR 660.25(b)(3)(iii)(C).
- Removal of Start/End Time: Alternative 1, Remove the start and end times (i.e., hours of the day) in groundfish regulations for the dates on which the sablefish primary season opens (April 1) and closes (December 31).

- Cost Recovery: Alternative 1, suboption a: Develop a cost recovery program for the limited entry fixed gear tier program in which the vessel owner or authorized representative pays the cost recovery fee.

The Council elected to take no action on permit price reporting and therefore no permit price information for limited entry fixed gear-endorsed permit will be collected. Additionally, the Council adopted the proposed FMP amendment as shown in Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental Attachment 2, June 2025.

3. Inseason Management – Final Action - Jessi Waller

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2025

Motion 3: Council approve the recommended trip limit increases for limited entry and open access sablefish north and south of 36° N. latitude, as described in Agenda Item E.3.a., Supplemental GMT Report 2.

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

Motion 4: As recommended by the GAP in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, in response to the draft 2025 full assessment of quillback rockfish off California, I move the Council recommend that NMFS proceed with the following inseason management actions for California groundfish fisheries as soon as possible, contingent upon the outcome of the stock assessment review process producing a substantially similar abundance and annual catch limits as those in the draft:

Recreational:

1) Restore all-depth fishing in the open season for the Northern, Mendocino, San Francisco, and Central Groundfish Management Areas (GMAs) from April 1 through December 31.
2) Remove the recreational management line at Point Lopez (36° N. lat.) that created two sub-areas within the Central Groundfish Management Area.

Commercial

1) Non-trawl RCA Boundary Modifications: Restore the shoreward Non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area Boundary lines to those in place prior to the actions taken to protect quillback rockfish, specifically for the areas:
   a. 42° to 40° 10' N. lat.: 30 fathoms (fm)
   b. 40° 10' to 38° 57.5' N. lat.: 40 fm
   c. 38° 57.5' to 34° 27' N. lat.: 50 fm
2) Trip Limit Modifications: Restore Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG) and Open Access (OA) trip limits as follows:

a. Modify LEFG and OA nearshore rockfish complex trip limits from "Closed" to the following:

42° to 40° 10' N. lat.

- Black rockfish: 7,000 lbs./ 2 months
- Nearshore rockfish excluding black rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

South of 40° 10' N. lat.

- Shallow nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months
- Deeper nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

b. Modify LEFG and OA cabezon trip limits from "Closed" to unlimited between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.

c. Modify LEFG and OA lingcod trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.

d. Modify LEFG and OA other flatfish trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.

e. Modify LEFG and OA shelf rockfish complex, excluding bronzespotted rockfish, trip limits between 40° 10' and 34° 27' N. lat. to the following:

LEFG

- 8,000 lbs. per 2 months, of which no more than 500 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish.

OA

- 4,000 lbs. per 2 months, of which no more than 300 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council recommended trip limit increases for limited entry fixed gear LEFG and OA sablefish north and south of 36° N. lat., as described in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2 and shown below in Table 1.

Table 1. Council recommended LEFG and OA sablefish trip limits for north and south of 36° N. lat.

Fishery	Area	Recommended Trip Limit
LEFG	North of 36° N. Lat.	5,500 lbs./week not to exceed 11,000 lbs./2 months

	South of 36° N. Lat	3,000 lbs./week
OA	North of 36° N. Lat.	4,000 lbs./week not to exceed 8,000 lbs./2 months
	South of 36° N. Lat	2,500 lbs./week not to exceed 7,500 lbs./2 month

In response to the draft 2025 full assessment of quillback rockfish off California (pre-STAR Panel review), the Council recommended that NMFS proceed with the inseason management actions listed below for California groundfish fisheries as soon as possible, contingent upon the outcome of the California quillback rockfish stock assessment review and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) recommendations. The Council also requested the SSC meet before the September Council meeting to review the California quillback rockfish assessment and provide recommendations, after the Groundfish Subcommittee of the SSC had completed their review.

Recreational
Restore all-depth fishing in the open season for the Northern, Mendocino, San Francisco, and Central Groundfish Management Areas from April 1 through December 31.

Remove the recreational management line at Point Lopez (36° N. lat.) that created two sub-areas within the Central Groundfish Management Area.

Commercial

Non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) Boundary Modifications: Restore the shoreward Non-trawl RCA Boundary lines to those in place prior to the actions taken to protect quillback rockfish, specifically for the areas:

- 42° to 40° 10′ N. lat.: 30 fathoms (fm)
- 40° 10′ to 38° 57.5′ N. lat.: 40 fm
- 38° 57.5′ to 34° 27′ N. lat.: 50 fm

Trip Limit Modifications:

Restore LEFG and OA trip limits as follows: Modify LEFG and OA nearshore rockfish complex trip limits from "Closed" to the following:

Between 42° to 40° 10′ N. lat.

- Black rockfish: 7,000 lbs./ 2 months
- Nearshore rockfish excluding black rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

South of 40° 10′ N. lat.

- Shallow nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months
- Deeper nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

1. Modify LEFG and OA cabezon trip limits from "Closed" to unlimited between 42° to 40° 10′ N. lat. and south of 40° 10′ N. lat.
2. Modify LEFG and OA lingcod trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10′ N. lat. and south of 40° 10′ N. lat.
3. Modify LEFG and OA other flatfish trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10′ N. lat. and south of 40° 10′ N. lat.
4. Modify LEFG and OA shelf rockfish complex, excluding bronzespotted rockfish, trip limits between 40° 10′ and 34° 27′ N. lat. to the following:

LEFG

- 8,000 lbs. per 2 months, of which no more than 500 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish.

Open Access

- 4,000 lbs. 2 months, of which no more than 300 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish

The Council also requested the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, in conjunction with the NMFS West Coast Region, to add 2026 catch projections to the 2027-28 catch-only assessment updates currently being completed for petrale sole, shortspine thornyhead, and canary rockfish. The Council recommended that, if possible, Council staff and NMFS develop ad hoc acceptable biological catch control rules for SSC and Council consideration at the September 2025 meeting.

4. Adopt Stock Assessments - Marlene Bellman - CANCELLED

5. Intersector Allocation Review – Final Action - Jessi Waller

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt the Intersector Allocation Review

Motion 6: Council adopt the Intersector Allocation Review Document, Agenda Item E.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1, June 2025.

Lynn Mattes/Aja Szumylo (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the Intersector Allocation Review (Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1, June 2025) as final. The next review of the formal allocation is expected to start in 2031 (see Council Operating Procedure 27).

6. Phase 2 Stock Definitions — Final Action - Todd Phillips, Katrina Bernaus

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives Where Possible; Adopt Preliminary Preferred Alternatives Where Appropriate

Motion 7: Council adopt as the Final Preferred Alternative (FPA), maintaining the following species, with already defined stocks, in the Groundfish FMP:

Species
Chilipepper
Canary rockfish
Dover sole
English sole
Lingcod
Pacific spiny dogfish
Petrale sole
Redbanded rockfish
Rex sole
Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish
Sablefish
Shortspine thornyhead
Squarespot rockfish
Vermilion rockfish (OR/WA)
Vermilion/Sunset rockfish (CA)
Widow rockfish
Yelloweye rockfish
Yellowtail rockfish

And, I move to maintain the following species in the Groundfish FMP, adopting as FPA stock definitions **bolded** in the below table:

Stock	Option(s)	Stock(s)	Proposed Stock Definition
Species considered under Option 1 only			
Arrowtooth flounder	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**Coastwide**
Aurora rockfish			
Bank rockfish			
Big skate			
Blackgill rockfish			
Flathead sole			
Greenstriped rockfish			
Longnose skate			
Longspine thornyhead			
Pacific cod			
Pacific hake			
Pacific ocean perch			
Pacific sanddab			
Redstripe rockfish			
Sharpchin rockfish			
Shortraker rockfish			
Silvergray rockfish			
Splitnose rockfish			
Yellowmouth rockfish			
California scorpionfish	Option 1 (PPA)	Single Stock	**California only**
Starry rockfish			
Species considered under Options 1 & 2			
Bocaccio rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single stock**	**Coastwide**
	Option 2	Two Stocks	North of 40° 10’ N lat. South of 40° 10’ N lat.
Cowcod	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**California only**
	Option 2	Two Stocks	North of 34° 27’ N lat. South of 34° 27’ N lat.
Greenspotted rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**Coastwide**
	Option 2	Two Stocks	North of 34° 27’ N lat. South of 34° 27’ N lat**.**
Species considered under Options 1, 2, & 3			
Darkblotched rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**Coastwide**

	Option 2 Option 3	Two Stocks Three Stocks	North of 42° N lat. South of 42° N lat. California Oregon Washington

And forward rosethorn and stripetail rockfish for a 10-factor analysis as described in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2, as recommended by the GAP (Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2025).
Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 7 carried unanimously)

Motion 8: Council adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that the below stocks are in need of conservation and management (Alternative 1) and should remain in the FMP based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2 with the stock definition options in the table below:

Species	**Opt. 1 1 stock**	**Opt. 2 2 stocks**	**Opt. 3 3 stocks**	**Proposed Stock Delineations**
Black rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**
Blue/Deacon rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**
Cabezon (WA)	**X**			**Washington only**
Copper rockfish (OR/WA)	**X**			**Washington and Oregon**
Kelp greenling (WA)	**X**			**Washington only**
Quillback rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Motion 8 carried, Ms. Kent abstained)

Motion 9: Council adopt as PPA Alternative 2, identify the following species as not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2, June 2026, and should be removed from the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan:

Shallow Nearshore Bin		
Black rockfish (CA)	Blue rockfish (CA)	Black and yellow rockfish
China rockfish	Gopher rockfish	Grass rockfish
Kelp rockfish	Cabezon (OR/CA)	Kelp greenling (OR/CA)
Deeper Nearshore Bin		
Brown rockfish	Copper rockfish (CA)	Olive rockfish
Quillback rockfish (CA)	Treefish	
Shallow Shelf Bin		
Calico rockfish	Freckled rockfish	Half-banded rockfish
Pygmy rockfish	Swordspine rockfish	Honeycomb rockfish

Deep Shelf Bin		
Chameleon rockfish	Harlequin rockfish	Pink rockfish
Pinkrose rockfish		
No Mortality Bin		
Light dusky rockfish	Dwarf red rockfish	
Leopard Shark Bin		

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall

Amendment 1: delete "Quillback rockfish (CA) from the deeper nearshore bin.
Marc Gorelnik/Corey Ridings (Amendment 1 carried, Ms. Kent abstained)

(Motion 9, as amended, carried; Ms. Ridings voted no; Ms. Kent abstained)

Motion 10: Council adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) Alternative 3, identifying the below species as not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ but should remain in the FMP designated as EC species based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2:

Rockfish Species	Flatfish Species
Bronzespotted rockfish	Butter sole
Flag rockfish	Curlfin sole
Greenblotched rockfish	Rock sole
Rosy rockfish	Sand sole
Speckled rockfish	Starry flounder
Tiger rockfish	
Mexican Rockfish	

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Motion 10 carried unanimously)

Motion 11: Council adopt language in the FMP as shown in Agenda Item E.6, Revised Attachment 3, requesting Staff make any modifications necessary to comport to the Council's FPA.
Lynn Mattes/Caroline McKnight (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

Motion 12: Council to adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that quillback rockfish (CA) is in need of conservation and management (Alternative 1) and should remain in the FMP.
Marc Gorelnik/Butch Smith (Motion 12 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 13: Council to adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that quillback rockfish (CA) is in need of conservation and management and should remain in the FMP.
Marc Gorelnik/Butch Smith (Motion 13 carried, Ms. Kent abstained)

Staff Summary: The first task was for the Council to consider adopting a final preferred alternative (FPA) to identify 47 groundfish species (from a total of 86 species) as in need of conservation and management and to adopt stock definitions for species not yet defined.

The second task was for the Council to consider adopting a preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) and, as appropriate, stock definition(s) for the remaining 39 groundfish species. These species were analyzed under the 10 Factors at Section 600.305(c) to inform the Council in their decision-making regarding if the species should be considered as in need of conservation and management in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and retained in the Fishery Management Plan (FMP, Alternative 1), or not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ and hence removed from the FMP (Alternative 2), or designated as an ecosystem component (EC) species in Chapter 3 of the FMP (Alternative 3). For any species adopted under Alternative 1 as PPA, a stock definition Option was required to be adopted as well.

Final Preferred Alternative Species

The Council adopted Alternative 1 for 44 species as their FPA, designating them as in need of conservation and management in the EEZ. The Council adopted their PPA stock definition of Option 1, single stock, single area for 25 species. The spatial definition of this single stock Option varies by species, as adopted by the Council; 3 species were adopted as California-only stocks, while the remaining 22 were defined as a single coastwide stock. Stocks defined under either Amendment 31 or Amendment 35 were not reconsidered under this action. These recommendations are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Species adopted under Alternative 1 and their stock units. Species with an "*" indicate they were defined under Amendment 31 or Amendment 35; their stock units are provided for reference.

Species	**Stock Definition**		**Species**	**Stock Definition**
Arrowtooth flounder	Coastwide		Pacific ocean perch	Coastwide
Aurora rockfish	Coastwide		Pacific sanddab	Coastwide
Bank rockfish	Coastwide		Pacific spiny dogfish*	Coastwide
Big skate	Coastwide		Petrale sole*	Coastwide
Blackgill rockfish	Coastwide		Redbanded rockfish*	Coastwide

Species	Stock Definition		Species	Stock Definition
Bocaccio rockfish	Coastwide		Redstripe rockfish	Coastwide
California scorpionfish	CA-only		Rex sole*	Coastwide
Canary rockfish*	Coastwide		Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish*	Coastwide
Chilipepper*	Coastwide		Sablefish*	Coastwide
Cowcod	CA-only		Sharpchin rockfish	Coastwide
Darkblotched rockfish	Coastwide		Shortraker rockfish	Coastwide
Dover sole*	Coastwide		Shortspine thornyhead*	Coastwide
English sole*	Coastwide		Silvergray rockfish	Coastwide
Flathead sole	Coastwide		Splitnose rockfish	Coastwide
Greenspotted rockfish	Coastwide		Squarespot rockfish*	Coastwide
Greenstriped rockfish	Coastwide		Starry rockfish	CA-only
Lingcod*	N/S of 4010 N. Lat.		Vermilion rockfish*	OR/WA

Species	Stock Definition		Species	Stock Definition
Longnose skate	Coastwide		Vermilion/Sunset rockfish*	CA-only
Longspine thornyhead	Coastwide		Widow rockfish*	Coastwide
Pacific cod	Coastwide		Yelloweye rockfish*	Coastwide
Pacific hake	Coastwide		Yellowmouth	Coastwide

The Council agreed with the Staff recommendation that harlequin rockfish be included for consideration under Alternatives 2 & 3, and it was hence considered for adoption of a PPA. The Council also recommended that rosethorn and stripetail rockfishes be further analyzed under the 10 factors at 600.305(c) to be considered under Alternatives 2 & 3 going forward.

Preliminary Preferred Alternative Species

The Council considered 39 species for the PPA portion of this Action. As described above, an additional species, harlequin rockfish, was added for consideration in the PPA portion of this action, bringing the total number of species to 40. The Council adopted Alternative 1 for six species. Option 1, a single stock, single area was adopted for three species and Option 2 was adopted for three species with geographic specifications as described (Table 2). These species would remain in the FMP and have their stock(s) defined, per the Options available under Alternative 1.

Table 2. Species adopted under Alternative 1 as PPA and their PPA stock definitions. An "*" indicates the species was defined under Amendment 31.

Species	PPA Stock Delineations
Black rockfish*	An Oregon stock and a Washington stock
Blue/Deacon rockfish	An Oregon stock and a Washington stock

Cabezon	Washington only stock
Copper rockfish *	Washington and Oregon stock
Kelp greenling	Washington only stock
Quillback rockfish *	Washington stock, Oregon stock, and California stock

The Council adopted Alternative 2 for 26 species as PPA (Table 3). Alternative 2 indicates these species are not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ and would be removed from the FMP. Stocks of certain species would be removed from the FMP off specific states, whereas certain stocks of the same species may be retained in the FMP (see Table 2) which are indicated in Tables 2 & 3 in parentheses.

Table 3. Species adopted under Alternative 2. For species with state abbreviations in parentheses, the species would be removed from the FMP off those states only, but stocks of the same species may remain in the FMP off other states, as detailed in Table 2.

Black and yellow rockfish	Half-banded rockfish
Black rockfish (CA)	Harlequin rockfish
Blue rockfish (CA)	Honeycomb rockfish
Brown rockfish	Kelp greenling (OR/CA)
Cabezon (OR/CA)	Kelp rockfish
Calico rockfish	Leopard shark
Chameleon rockfish	Light dusky rockfish

China rockfish	Olive rockfish
Copper rockfish (CA)	Pink rockfish
Dwarf red rockfish	Pinkrose rockfish
Freckled rockfish	Pygmy rockfish
Gopher rockfish	Swordspine rockfish
Grass rockfish	Treefish

The Council adopted Alternative 3 for 12 species as PPA (Table 4). Alternative 3 indicates these species are not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ and would be designated as EC species in Chapter 3 of the FMP.

Table 4. Species adopted under Alternative 3.

Species	
Bronzespotted rockfish	Butter sole
Flag rockfish	Curlfin sole
Greenblotched rockfish	Rock sole
Rosy rockfish	Sand sole
Speckled rockfish	Starry flounder

Tiger rockfish	
Mexican Rockfish	

The Council provided staff with additional guidance to further analyze the 40 species for which they adopted PPA before considering adoption of an FPA. Council staff will also prepare a full 10-Factor analysis of rosethorn and stripetail rockfishes to consider for adoption of an FPA.

7. **Harvest Specifications Flexibility – Scoping - Jessi Waller**

   a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**

   b. **Public Comment**

   c. **Council Action: Further Define Problem and Desires Outcomes, Provide Guidance on Range of Alternatives and Sequencing**

Motion 14: Council:

- Direct staff to develop a concise problem statement using the discussion of fleet impacts in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1;
- Establish the scope of the action to include the following measures, in priority order:
  1. ABC Carryover
  2. Phase-In ABC Control Rule
  3. Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Change ("Green Light")
  4. Off-the-Top Accounting Change
  5. Annual Specifications
- Task staff with opening a dialogue with the SSC on the scientific aspects of how their fishing level recommendations for preventing overfishing could be established for multi-year periods (e.g., rolling average of catch versus ABC). The purpose of considering overfishing risk over a multi-year period is to facilitate ABC carryover and similar ideas for "pooling" the risk created by the variability in catch experienced within many fishery sectors.

The desired outcome of this action is to mitigate the issues outlined in the problem statement, and provide access and stability for diverse groundfish participants and fishing communities.

Aja Szumylo/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council directed staff to develop a concise problem statement using the discussion of fleet impacts in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1.

The Council also established the scope for this action which includes (in priority order):

1. Carryover of Unutilized annual catch limit (ACL): Consider adjusting harvest specifications (acceptable biological catch [ABC]/ACL) in a subsequent year based on unutilized ACL in a prior year.
2. Phase-In ABC Control Rule: Develop a framework for a phase-in ABC control rule to stabilize fisheries by minimizing short-term disruptions from new stock assessments.
3. Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Change ("Green Light"): This item considers adding a framework to the FMP to allow for an increase in the harvest specifications (overfishing limit/ABC/ACL) for a species based on a new stock assessment for the second year of a biennium ("green light").
4. Off-the-Top Accounting Change: Consider accounting for off-the-top deductions (research, incidental OA, exempted fishing permits, tribal) in between the ABC and ACL rather than off the ACL (resulting in the fishery harvest guideline).
5. Change from Biennial to Annual Specifications: Consider moving the biennial specifications cycle into an annual specifications cycle.

Additionally, the Council tasked staff with beginning a dialogue with the SSC on preventing and evaluating overfishing on a multi-year time scale through ideas such as looking at average catch compared to multi-year ABCs/ACLs.

8. 2027-28 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures Planning - Todd Phillips, Marlene Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Initial Scoping, Adopt a Process and Schedule for Developing Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for 2027-28 Fisheries

Motion 15: Council adopt the schedule and plan for the 2027-28 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures process as outlined in Agenda Item E.8, Supplemental Revised Attachment 1, June 2025.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the process and planning document for the 2027-28 harvest specifications and management measure process (Agenda Item E.8, Supplemental Revised Attachment 1, June 2025).

The Council gave guidance to staff and the GMT to investigate aspects related to canary allocation, trip limits for individual species within the shelf rockfish stock complex north of 40° 10' N. lat., and in the California recreational fishery to remove recreational Rockfish Conservation Areas in favor of management via sub-bag limits only. This work is to be accomplished over the summer and presented to the Council at the September 2025 meeting to inform their decision-making in the harvest specifications and management measure process. These items were recommended by

the GAP (Agenda Item E.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2025) and GMT (Agenda Item E.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, June 2025).

F. Highly Migratory Species Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Kerry Griffin

a. Regulatory Activities - Ryan Wulff

b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

c. Public Comment

d. Council Action: Council Discussion and Guidance, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

2. International Management Activities - Kerry Griffin

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: The Council heard updates on international activities from Christa Svensson (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, WCPFC, Delegate) and Ryan Wulff. The Council endorsed the recommendations in F.2.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report 1 and made the following recommendations to NMFS, to carry forward in upcoming international negotiations.

Related to Pacific bluefin (PBF) management, NMFS and the U.S. Delegation to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) WCPFC-Northern Committee Joint Working Group on PBF should endorse and emphasize the following core principles:

- The West-East allocation of fishing impacts should be not less than 70:30.
- Long-term harvest strategy objectives should maintain and increase the spawning stock biomass, prevent overfishing, and significantly limit the catch of small fish (particularly age-0) in the Western Pacific Ocean that are critical for stock conservation.
- Recruitment uncertainty and any long-term harvest strategy must be paired with efforts to address the recruitment index and additional conservation measures (in the form of exceptional circumstances) that are responsive to evidence of low or declining recruitment trends. The improvements to the recruitment index and additional conservation measures should be in place as soon as possible, and no later than 2027.
- Recreational fishing should not be included within management measures or country quotas.

Regarding the selection of a harvest control rule (HCR) evaluated in the PBF management strategy evaluation, the Council recommends that NMFS and the U.S. Delegation:

- Consider HCRs 9 – 16, which include a 70:30 West/East allocation, as the basis for negotiations.
- Within HCRs 9 – 16, priority should be given to those that prioritize safety and stability in the short to medium term, specifically HCR 10, which provides an adequate buffer between the threshold (ThRP) and limit (LRP) and will incentivize action to maintain the stock at or above current levels of spawning stock biomass.
- Do not support HCRs 5, 6, 7,13, 14 or 15 that have high risks related to safety and significantly increase catch of Western and Central Pacific Ocean small fish.
- Develop additional HCR measures that reduce catch of small fish and specifically age-0 fish if the stock status breaches the ThRP and approaches the LRP.

Related to North Pacific Albacore Tuna, the Council recommends that no proposals should be submitted or adopted this year; but the U.S. should conduct additional stakeholder engagement and the U.S. should conduct bilateral conversations with Canada on a potential future regime. NMFS should support total allowable effort controls as opposed to total allowable catch on surface commercial fisheries and catch controls on others. In addition, NMFS should consider providing more clarity on:

- How "effort" will be defined for purposes of management,
- Assuring U.S. fishery participants that any Canadian fishing effort in the U.S. EEZ will be attributed to the U.S. when establishing our historic effort per the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty,
- What it could mean to fishery participants if a management response is triggered, and
- The potential management and operational implications of an exceptional circumstance.

Regarding South Pacific Albacore (SPA) tuna, the Council supports further development of a Joint Working Group (JWG) between the WCPFC and IATTC to address management of SPA as soon as possible. The U.S. should take the lead on formation of the JWG and the goals articulated in the JWG framework and should prioritize the interests of the West Coast highly migratory species (HMS) fleet while pursuing their articulated goals of a common approach to harvest strategy, alignment of catch and effort limits, improving monitoring, and data exchange through joint scientific research. In addition, NMFS should emphasize the importance that the JWG recognize the *de minimis* impact of the U.S.-based SPA surface fishery when considering any potential restrictions or management strategies.

Regarding circle hooks, although the recent IATTC circle hook workshop did not reach consensus, the Council recommends that the U.S. delegation should take a strong position on the need to make progress on circle hooks in 2025. Lack of progress on circle hooks is not acceptable and should be included in tropical tuna negotiations this year.

3. **Exempted Fishing Permits – Final Action - Kerry Griffin**

    a. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**

    b. **Public Comment**

    c. **Council Action: Adopt Preliminary or Final Exempted Fishing Permit Applications, As Appropriate**

Motion 5: Council forward the two new night set buoy gear EFP applications in Attachments 1 & 2 to NMFS for their review, and recommend to NMFS to extend the EFP in attachment 3. John Ugoretz/Corey Ridings (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council considered two exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications (F.3, Attachment 1 and Attachment 2) and one request to renew an existing EFP (F.3, Attachment 3). All three EFPs considered are for night deep-set buoy gear fishing. The Council recommended that all three be forwarded to NMFS for review and approval, with no need for further Council consideration.

4. **Highly Migratory Species Roadmap Development - Kerry Griffin**

    a. **Report of the Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (FIW) - Christa Svensson, Josh Madeira**

    b. **Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**

    c. **Public Comment**

    d. **Council Action: Adopt FIW Terms of Reference and Roadmap, Provide Guidance on Next Steps**

Staff Summary: The Council considered information and recommendations from its Ad Hoc Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (FIW), which is charged with developing elements of the HMS Roadmap. Topics included developing EFP performance metrics and process improvements, the draft FIW Terms of Reference (TOR), how the National Seafood Strategy pertains to the HMS Roadmap, and a proposed FIW workplan. Based on the recommendations in F.4.a, FIW Report 1 and Supplemental FIW Report 2, the Council:

- Adopted the FIW Terms of Reference described in FIW Report 1.
- Directed the FIW to develop near-term revisions to Council Operating Procedure 20 for consideration at the September Council meeting. The near-term revisions are to focus on designating the November and March Council meetings for consideration of HMS EFPs (instead of June and September), allowing EFP applicants to bring new EFP applications to either meeting, and giving the Council the flexibility to utilize a one-meeting process when warranted. The Council may also consider providing an opportunity for early evaluation of EFPs by the HMS Management Team, NMFS, and/or Council Staff, in advance of submitting EFP applications.

- Tasked the FIW with prioritizing the development of HMS EFP performance goals including acceptable bycatch and economic metrics to evaluate EFP performance and bringing these back for adoption at a future Council meeting.
- Adopted the FIW workplan outline described in Supplemental FIW Report 2, prioritizing production of an EFP application template and EFP application guidance.
- Adopted the recommended HMS Roadmap edits in F.4.a, FIW Report 1, with a clean version to be included in the November Briefing Book. The FIW may recommend future modifications as appropriate, for Council consideration. However, the Roadmap is considered sufficiently complete at this time, and the FIW will focus its work on EFP performance metrics, process improvements, and other deliverables related to its charge.

G. Habitat Issues

1. Current Habitat Issues - Kerry Griffin

a. Report of the Habitat Committee

b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

c. Public Comment

d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations

Staff Summary: None

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Informational Report 1: FY24 Annual Enforcement Report to PFMC
Informational Report 2a: Fishing Efforts in the 2002-2023 U.S. Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries
Informational Report 2b: Tables (Excel Download)
Informational Report 3a: Endangered Species Interactions with U.S. West Coast Federal Groundfish Fisheries, 2002-2023
Informational Report 3b: Tables (Excel Download)
Informational Report 4: Development and Use of California Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Data in Groundfish Stock Assessments

VOTING LOG

Motion 1: Council adopt a revised Agenda for the June Meeting as presented Agenda Item A.3, June 11-16, 2025 Council Meeting Agenda, with the modification of moving item D.2 from its current place in the agenda to between E.7 and E.8.
Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 2: Council adopt the recommendations for Limited Entry Fixed Gear Actions as presented in Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2025 as the final preferred

alternatives and adopt the FMP language as presented in Agenda Item E.2, Supplemental Attachment 2.

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 2 carried unanimously)

Motion 3: Council approve the recommended trip limit increases for limited entry and open access sablefish north and south of 36° N. latitude, as described in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2.

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

Motion 4: As recommended by the GAP in Agenda Item E.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, in response to the draft 2025 full assessment of quillback rockfish off California, I move the Council recommend that NMFS proceed with the following inseason management actions for California groundfish fisheries as soon as possible, contingent upon the outcome of the stock assessment review process producing a substantially similar abundance and annual catch limits as those in the draft:

Recreational:

1) Restore all-depth fishing in the open season for the Northern, Mendocino, San Francisco, and Central Groundfish Management Areas (GMAs) from April 1 through December 31.
2) Remove the recreational management line at Point Lopez (36° N. lat.) that created two sub-areas within the Central Groundfish Management Area.

Commercial

1) Non-trawl RCA Boundary Modifications: Restore the shoreward Non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area Boundary lines to those in place prior to the actions taken to protect quillback rockfish, specifically for the areas:
   d. 42° to 40° 10' N. lat.: 30 fathoms (fm)
   e. 40° 10' to 38° 57.5' N. lat.: 40 fm
   f. 38° 57.5' to 34° 27' N. lat.: 50 fm
2) Trip Limit Modifications: Restore Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG) and Open Access (OA) trip limits as follows:
   f. Modify LEFG and OA nearshore rockfish complex trip limits from "Closed" to the following:

   42° to 40° 10' N. lat.

   - Black rockfish: 7,000 lbs./ 2 months
   - Nearshore rockfish excluding black rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

   South of 40° 10' N. lat.

   - Shallow nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months
   - Deeper nearshore rockfish: 2,000 lbs./ 2 months, of which no more than 75 lbs. may be copper rockfish

   a. Modify LEFG and OA cabezon trip limits from "Closed" to unlimited between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.

b. Modify LEFG and OA lingcod trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.
c. Modify LEFG and OA other flatfish trip limits to remove the text "seaward of the Non-Trawl RCA; CLOSED inside the Non-Trawl RCA." between 42° to 40° 10' N. lat. and south of 40° 10' N. lat.
d. Modify LEFG and OA shelf rockfish complex, excluding bronzespotted rockfish, trip limits between 40° 10' and 34° 27' N. lat. to the following:

LEFG

- 8,000 lbs. per 2 months, of which no more than 500 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish.

OA

- 4,000 lbs. per 2 months, of which no more than 300 lbs. may be vermilion/sunset rockfish

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

Motion 5: Council forward the two new night set buoy gear EFP applications in Attachments 1 & 2 to NMFS for their review, and recommend to NMFS to extend the EFP in Attachment 3.
John Ugoretz/Corey Ridings (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

Motion 6: Council adopt the Intersector Allocation Review Document, Agenda Item E.5, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 1, June 2025.
Lynn Mattes/Aja Szumylo (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

Motion 7: Council adopt as the Final Preferred Alternative (FPA), maintaining the following species, with already defined stocks, in the Groundfish FMP:

Species
Chilipepper
Canary rockfish
Dover sole
English sole
Lingcod
Pacific spiny dogfish
Petrale sole
Redbanded rockfish
Rex sole
Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish
Sablefish
Shortspine thornyhead
Squarespot rockfish
Vermilion rockfish (OR/WA)

Vermilion/Sunset rockfish (CA)
Widow rockfish
Yelloweye rockfish
Yellowtail rockfish

And, I move to maintain the following species in the Groundfish FMP, adopting as FPA stock definitions **bolded** in the below table:

Stock	**Option(s)**	**Stock(s)**	**Proposed Stock Definition**
Species considered under Option 1 only			
Arrowtooth flounder	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**Coastwide**
Aurora rockfish			
Bank rockfish			
Big skate			
Blackgill rockfish			
Flathead sole			
Greenstriped rockfish			
Longnose skate			
Longspine thornyhead			
Pacific cod			
Pacific hake			
Pacific ocean perch			
Pacific sanddab			
Redstripe rockfish			
Sharpchin rockfish			
Shortraker rockfish			
Silvergray rockfish			
Splitnose rockfish			
Yellowmouth rockfish			
California scorpionfish	Option 1 (PPA)	Single Stock	**California only**
Starry rockfish			
Species considered under Options 1 & 2			
Bocaccio rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single stock**	**Coastwide**
	Option 2	Two Stocks	North of 40° 10’ N lat. South of 40° 10’ N lat.
Cowcod	**Option 1 (PPA)**	**Single Stock**	**California only**
	Option 2	Two Stocks	North of 34° 27’ N lat.

			South of 34° 27' N lat.
Greenspotted rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)** Option 2	**Single Stock** Two Stocks	**Coastwide** North of 34° 27' N lat. South of 34° 27' N lat**.**
Species considered under Options 1, 2, & 3			
Darkblotched rockfish	**Option 1 (PPA)** Option 2 Option 3	**Single Stock** Two Stocks Three Stocks	**Coastwide** North of 42° N lat. South of 42° N lat. California Oregon Washington

And forward rosethorn and stripetail rockfish for a 10-factor analysis as described in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2, as recommended by the GAP (Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, June 2025).
Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 7 carried unanimously)

Motion 8: Council adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that the below stocks are in need of conservation and management (Alternative 1) and should remain in the FMP based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2 with the stock definition options in the table below:

Species	**Opt. 1 1 stock**	**Opt. 2 2 stocks**	**Opt. 3 3 stocks**	**Proposed Stock Delineations**
Black rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**
Blue/Deacon rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**
Cabezon (WA)	**X**			**Washington only**
Copper rockfish (OR/WA)	**X**			**Washington and Oregon**
Kelp greenling (WA)	**X**			**Washington only**
Quillback rockfish (OR/WA)		**X**		**State-specific**

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Motion 8 carried, Ms. Kent abstained)

Motion 9: Council adopt as PPA Alternative 2, identify the following species as not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2, June 2026, and should be removed from the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan:

Shallow Nearshore Bin		
Black rockfish (CA)	Blue rockfish (CA)	Black and yellow rockfish

China rockfish	Gopher rockfish	Grass rockfish
Kelp rockfish	Cabezon (OR/CA)	Kelp greenling (OR/CA)
Deeper Nearshore Bin		
Brown rockfish	Copper rockfish (CA)	Olive rockfish
Treefish		
Shallow Shelf Bin		
Calico rockfish	Freckled rockfish	Half-banded rockfish
Pygmy rockfish	Swordspine rockfish	Honeycomb rockfish
Deep Shelf Bin		
Chameleon rockfish	Harlequin rockfish	Pink rockfish
Pinkrose rockfish		
No Mortality Bin		
Light dusky rockfish	Dwarf red rockfish	
Leopard Shark Bin		

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Motion 9, as amended, carried; Ms. Ridings voted no; Ms. Kent abstained)

Motion 10: Council adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) Alternative 3, identifying the below species as not in need of conservation and management in the EEZ but should remain in the FMP designated as EC species based on the 10-factor analysis in Agenda Item E.6, Supplemental Attachment 2:

Rockfish Species	**Flatfish Species**
Bronzespotted rockfish	Butter sole
Flag rockfish	Curlfin sole
Greenblotched rockfish	Rock sole
Rosy rockfish	Sand sole
Speckled rockfish	Starry flounder
Tiger rockfish	
Mexican Rockfish	

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Motion 10 carried unanimously)

Motion 11: Council adopt language in the FMP as shown in Agenda Item E.6, Revised Attachment 3, requesting Staff make any modifications necessary to comport to the Council's FPA.
Lynn Mattes/Caroline McKnight (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

Motion 12: Council to adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that quillback rockfish (CA) is in need of conservation and management (Alternative 1) and should remain in the FMP.
Marc Gorelnik/Butch Smith (Motion 12 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 13: Council to adopt as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) that quillback rockfish (CA) is in need of conservation and management and should remain in the FMP.

Marc Gorelnik/Butch Smith (Motion 13 carried, Ms. Kent abstained)

Motion 14: Council:

- Direct staff to develop a concise problem statement using the discussion of fleet impacts in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1;
- Establish the scope of the action to include the following measures, in priority order:
  1. ABC Carryover
  2. Phase-In ABC Control Rule
  3. Mid-Biennium Harvest Specifications Change ("Green Light")
  4. Off-the-Top Accounting Change
  5. Annual Specifications
- Task staff with opening a dialogue with the SSC on the scientific aspects of how their fishing level recommendations for preventing overfishing could be established for multi-year periods (e.g. rolling average of catch versus ABC). The purpose of considering overfishing risk over a multi-year period is to facilitate ABC carryover and similar ideas for "pooling" the risk created by the variability in catch experienced within many fishery sectors.

The desired outcome of this action is to mitigate the issues outlined in the problem statement, and provide access and stability for diverse groundfish participants and fishing communities.

Aja Szumylo/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

Motion 15: Council adopt the schedule and plan for the 2027-28 groundfish harvest specifications and management measures process as outlined in Agenda Item E.8, Supplemental Revised Attachment 1, June 2025.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

Motion 16: Council to adopt as final the Research and Data Needs as described in Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1.

Corey Ridings/Sharon Keifer (Motion 16 carried unanimously)

Motion 17: Council offer the following, unprioritized list of ongoing and upcoming regulatory actions that meet the EO goals as a preliminary list, to be finalized at the September meeting. The Council should prioritize actions that reduce regulatory burdens on the fleet while maintaining stock health and conservation objectives.

In progress (on YAG and previously recommended to NMFS for implementation; not in priority order)

IRA/Special Projects

- Decision-Making for Stronger Communities
- Flexible and Adaptive Management
- New Fishing Opportunities within Bycatch Allowances

Groundfish

- Cordell Banks
- LEFG Follow On
- Groundfish Specifications Flexibility
- Groundfish Stock Definitions
- Inseason Management

- Exempted fishing permits
- Biennial specifications cycle
- Whiting Treaty Implementation
- Independent evaluation of our stock assessment process (addressing items mentioned in Agenda Item E.7.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1)

CPS

- Sardine stock definitions including reviewing use of parameters (like Emsy, distribution) in the harvest control rules
- Exempted fishing permits
- Annual harvest specifications
- International Management (as needed)

Highly Migratory Species

- HMS Roadmap
- Exempted fishing permits
- International Management
- Biennial Harvest Specifications

Salmon

- Updating conservation objectives
- Inseason management
- Annual season setting process
- International Management (as needed)

Pacific Halibut

- Catch sharing plan and annual regulations for recreational and commercial fisheries
- Inseason management
- International Management (as needed)

Planned (from past prioritization efforts, or anticipated actions)

Groundfish

- Trawl Follow On Actions (particularly those that reduce cost to industry - cost recovery, EDC, observer coverage requirements)
- Midwater rockfish EFP into regulation

CPS

- Science and management priorities identified at the April 2025 Council meeting
- Near term inseason catch accounting for sardine

Cross FMP

- EFP streamlining across all FMPs with COPs
- Relevant elements from Council's recent process refinement efforts
- Marine planning to manage current and future impacts to fisheries (offshore wind, aquaculture, seabed mining, oil and gas)

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson (Motion 17, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 18: Council task staff to use the following guidance to explore additional opportunities to stabilize markets, improve access, enhance economic profitability, and prevent closures. In addition to the list below, staff should look to ideas from recent NOAA guidance documents (e.g., National Seafood Strategy), and events (e.g., Managing our Nation's Fisheries) for ideas. For items identified as national and international, task ED with coordination through the CCC.

Include an assessment of both staff workload and potential impact to industry according to the EO metrics.

Regional

- Cost reduction measures for industry. Examples include:
- VMS efficiencies (turn off VMS, declaration changes at sea)
- Cost recovery regulations at regional level
- Monitoring and reporting requirements
- Data collection improvement/expansion
- Evaluate ways to incorporate fisherman-collected data or data from citizen science into stock assessments, looking to approaches from other regions (e.g., South Atlantic Region Citizen Science Program)
- Data collection innovations already included in the Council's Research and Data Needs priority list (Agenda Item D.3, Attachment 1, June 2025)
- Evaluation of all regulations established more than two decades ago
- Evaluation of hatchery program production to see if science is matching initial program goals
- Evaluation of the Council's approach to scientific uncertainty and risk
- Evaluation of risk of overfishing
- P*sigma
- Evaluation of timing/frequency of stock evaluation processes (e.g., increasing frequency of catch-only projections)
- Evaluation of the Council's approach to management uncertainty
- Evaluation of management uncertainty buffers framework across FMPs
- Fishing level recommendations for preventing overfishing could be established for multi-year periods (e.g., rolling average of catch versus ABC)
- Additional measures to provide flexibility across fishing activities

National

- MSA evaluations
- Cost recovery provisions
- Revisions to National Standard Guidelines to support EO goals
- Create support of domestic infrastructure
- Port infrastructure
- Processing infrastructure
- Fleet recapitalization
- Programs (education, loans) to bring young fishermen into the fleet
- Market/industry support mechanisms
- Access to U.S.D.A. programs for food producers/farms for fishermen, such as grants, insurance and access to capital
- Stronger NOAA Fisheries marketing of primacy of U.S. fisheries management, and how that contributes to a superior product
- U.S. seafood commodity marketing support (similar organizations to Genuine Alaska Pollock Producers)
- Support for product diversification/business incubator products (like Hatch, Positively Groundfish)

International

- Leveling the playing field for our international products

Equitable tariffs and quotas
Foreign fisheries impact on U.S. production
Engagement with Seafood Trade Task Force
Improve nation-wide communication to U.S.D.C. Seafood Inspection Approved Establishments when there are seafood export changes.

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson (Motion 18 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 19: Council recommend to NMFS that it not prioritize review, development or issuance of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) outside of the Council process to the Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative to process whiting south of 42° N. latitude in response to Executive Order 14276: Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness. Prospective applicants should continue to use established on-ramps for Council consideration of new groundfish EFPs via either the groundfish workload and management measure prioritization process, the Preliminary EFP agenda item shown on the proposed November 2025 Agenda (Agenda Item C.6, Supplemental Attachments 4 and 6), or open public comment.

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 19 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 20: Council adopt the Advisory Body reports under this agenda item for refinement and application of criteria to the identified Council actions to determine their alignment with the EO and the prioritization thereof, as outlined in the situation summary for this agenda item and further Council action in September.

Corey Ridings/Rebecca Lent (Motion 20 carried unanimously)

Motion 21: Council adopt the recommendations presented in Agenda Item C.3.a, Supplemental Budget Committee Report 1.

Sharon Kiefer/Butch Smith (Motion 21 carried unanimously)

Motion 22: Council approve the Council meeting records for the 280th Session (March 2025) and the 281st Session (April 2025).

Sharon Kiefer/Rebecca Lent (Motion 22 carried unanimously)

Motion 23: Council appoint Mr. Pete Hassemer as Council Chair and Mr. Butch Smith as Council Vice Chair for the August 11, 2025 - August 10, 2026 term.

Aja Szumylo/Heather Hall (Motion 23 carried unanimously)

Motion 24 Council appoint Ms. Aja Szumylo as the Council's representative to the Joint Management Committee to the Pacific Hake/Whiting Treaty.

Heather Hall/Butch Smith (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

Motion 25: Council appoint Deputy Assistant Special Agent in Charge Eric Morgan as the primary National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Law Enforcement representative on the Enforcement Consultants. Mr. Brian Corrigan would be the designee.

Sharon Keifer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

Motion 26: Council appoint Ms. Megan Mackey to one of the National Marine Fisheries Service positions on the Groundfish Management Team.

Ryan Wulff/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

Motion 27: Council appoint the following individuals to the At-Large positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

- Dr. Selina Heppell
- Dr. Alberto Rovellini
- Dr. Francisco Werner

Sharon Kiefer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 27 carried, Ms. Lent abstained)

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on Monday, June 16, 2025 at 2:31 p.m.



December 8, 2025

Pete Hassemer
Council Chair

Date