



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Pete Hassemer, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 27, 2026

TO: Salmon Advisory Subpanel, Salmon Technical Team, Model Evaluation Workgroup, and Interested Persons

FROM: Angela Forristall, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: November 2026 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and the Advisory Bodies will meet in person and online for the [November meeting](#) November 13-18, 2026 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County 11999 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92840. The Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) will meet in person. The STT will meet on November 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on November 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or when business concludes. The SAS will meet on November 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and November 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or when business concludes. All meetings are open to the public and at least one opportunity for public comment has been scheduled each day.

The Council will consider several important salmon agenda items and related matters of interest at this meeting. Other topics of interest on the Council agenda include Pacific halibut, cross fishery management plan, and administrative matters.

The briefing book materials attached to this memorandum provide detailed information for these items on the Council's November 2026 agenda. The following agenda items summarized below may be of particular interest to the STT and SAS. Participants are encouraged to obtain additional briefing book materials via our website.

Salmon Management

F.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will provide a briefing to the Council on salmon-related topics, which could include any updates to Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing determinations or ESA petitions.

F.2 Final 2027 Preseason Management Schedule

Under this agenda item, the Council will review a proposed schedule and process for developing the 2027 ocean salmon fisheries management measures and the location and date of three salmon hearings to take place in March 2027.

The SAS should submit a report outlining their feedback on proposed hearing locations and dates.

F.3 Sacramento River fall Chinook Spawner Abundance at Maximum Sustainable Yield (S_{MSY}): Peer Review Results and Next Steps

The Chair of the Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC) peer review panel, Scott Rumsey, will provide a joint briefing to the STT and SAS on the peer review panel's (Panel's) final report and recommendations.

The Panel was tasked with reviewing the use of the Ricker stock-recruitment relationship for SRFC, the ratio method ($S_{MSY} = F_{MSY} \times S_{MP}$) for estimating S_{MSY} , four candidate recruitment datasets, potential alternative approaches, and the appropriate range of years for analysis. As described in the final report, the Panel does not recommend any of the evaluated recruitment datasets as a stand-alone dataset for estimating S_{MSY} at this time but regards the cohort reconstruction as the strongest long-term approach once the data series covers sufficient years and conditions.

The Council is currently scheduled to receive a scoping report on the SRFC management framework fishery management plan amendment in September 2027. It is anticipated that the Council will provide direction to staff on how the peer review panel report and recommendations should shape the development of the scoping report. Specifically, if the report be focused on potential interim approaches that could be implemented until the cohort-reconstruction data series gains sufficient coverage and contrast to be used to derive an S_{MSY} value.

The SAS and STT may provide reports to the Council highlighting any Panel conclusions or recommendations the Council may wish to consider when evaluating potential interim management strategies for SRFC or any reflections on the overall peer review process.

Pacific Halibut Management

H.1 2027 Commercial and Recreational Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations – Final Action

Under this agenda item, the Council is expected to adopt proposed changes to the 2027 Commercial and Recreational Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and annual regulations. In September 2026, the Council adopted, for public review, proposed modifications to sport fisheries in Washington and Oregon and a status quo season structure for the non-tribal directed commercial halibut fishery. The specific options adopted for public review are described in the [September 2026 Decision Summary Document](#).

The SAS should review the options and provide comments as appropriate.

Cross Fishery Management Plan

D.2 Marine Planning

The Council's Council Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee (MPC) will report on topics relevant to Council-managed fisheries and coastal fishing communities, including wave and tidal energy, deep-sea mineral mining, marine aquaculture, marine carbon dioxide removal, an update on West

Coast Oceans Alliance activities, as well as other state and tribal updates. A draft comment letter on high seas mineral mining activities is expected to be included as an attachment under this agenda item.

The SAS representatives on the MPC will update the SAS on the outcomes and discussions that took place at the most recent meeting.

Administrative

C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda & Workload Planning

The SAS and STT may submit reports relating to future meeting schedules and workload planning as appropriate.

California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) Roundtables

The NOAA CCIEA Team is seeking fishermen's and other stakeholders' on-the-water observations and experiences to help inform the 2026–2027 Ecosystem Status Report. Two in-person roundtables will be held in conjunction with the November Council meeting, on November 12 (in Royal A) and November 14 (in Madrid), from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. While the roundtables are not Council-sponsored, Council meeting participants are encouraged to attend and provide input. The two roundtables will follow the same format and are being scheduled at separate times in order to allow as many people to attend as possible. While either roundtable may be attended, SAS members are encouraged to attend on November 14 after the SAS has adjourned.

Please take the necessary time needed to review and familiarize yourself with briefing materials thoroughly before the meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council's salmon management process.

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Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.3 – Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item C – Administrative Matters
3. Agenda Item D – Cross Fishery Management Plan
4. Agenda Item F – Salmon Management
5. Agenda Item H – Pacific Halibut Management
6. Informational Reports
7. Proposed SAS Agenda
8. Proposed STT Agenda
9. Hotel information and Council Roster

PFMC
10/23/26