



Pacific Fishery Management Council

7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384
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Philip Anderson, Chair | Charles A. Tracy, Executive Director



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019
TO: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, and Interested Persons
FROM: Kit Dahl, Staff Officer
SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 11-18, 2019, at The Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) and the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will meet Thursday and Friday, September 12-13. The EAS will be in the Liberty Room and the EWG will be in the Delamar Room.

There are two agenda topics under the Ecosystem heading. I have also included the briefing materials for Agenda Item C.1, National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan; C.4, Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures; and C.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning. Summaries of these topics follow.

Agenda Item E.1 Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review

In September 2018 the Council initiated a review of the FEP. The initial focus of this update has been a revision of the FEP Vision (including purpose, goals, and objectives). The EWG submitted a report for the advanced briefing book that describes a proposed revision to FEP Chapters 1 and 2 including four alternative vision statements and two alternative lists of revised goals and objectives. At this meeting the Council is scheduled to adopt draft revised FEP language on the Vision for public review and provide guidance on further changes to the remainder of the FEP.

Agenda Item E.2 Climate and Communities Initiative

In November 2018, the Council decided to undertake a climate change scenario planning exercise as part of the Climate and Communities Initiative. In March 2019 the Council formed the Climate and Communities Core Team (CCCT) to coordinate this exercise. It includes representatives from the EAS and EWG, Council members, and staff from the NMFS Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers. The CCCT intends to submit a supplemental report summarizing work to date on the scenario planning exercise.

The Council also has contracted with Jonathan Star, a scenario planning expert, to facilitate the exercise. Mr. Star will be at the Council meeting September 11-13 to meet with advisory bodies and will brief the Council under this agenda item.

Agenda Item C.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is soliciting Council and public feedback at this meeting on its West Coast Geographic Draft Strategic Plan (Agenda Item C.1.a, NMFS Report 1). Mr. Scott Burkart will brief the ecosystem committees on the Draft Plan.

Agenda Item C.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures

The Council is scheduled to adopt changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 22 describing Council review and modification of essential fish habitat (EFH) provisions in fishery management plans (FMPs). Currently COP 22 is specific to the Groundfish FMP; these changes generalize the procedures to cover all four FMPs. Mr. Kerry Griffin will be available to discuss these changes.

Agenda Item C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

To help you keep abreast of topics at future Council meetings, I am including the materials for Agenda Item C.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning. You may wish to provide comments on what topics are proposed and at what meetings.

Paper copies of referenced briefing materials are enclosed. In addition, you may also obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/briefing-books/>. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website, as they become available after distribution of the advanced briefing book. Public comment is available only in electronic form through the Council's [e-portal](#).

KRD:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5: Council Agenda
2. Agenda Item E.1: Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review
3. Agenda Item E.2: Climate and Communities Initiative
4. Agenda Item C.1: National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan
5. Agenda Item C.4: Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
6. Agenda Item C.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
7. EAS and EWG Agendas
8. Informational Reports
9. Hotel-related Information
10. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019

TO: Enforcement Consultants

FROM: Jim Seger, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11-18, 2019, at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise, ID 83714, telephone: 208-343-1871.

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) will meet in the ***Emerald Room*** on ***Friday, September 13*** starting at ***3 p.m.*** and as necessary thereafter, through Tuesday, September 17).

Enclosed are materials for items on the EC Agenda and additional items that might be of interest to you. Your agenda allows you to add other items from the Council agenda, if you should decide there are other issues on which you would like to comment.

JLS:rdd

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5, Proposed Council Meeting Agenda
2. EC Agenda
3. GAP Agenda
4. GEMPAC/TAC Agenda
5. GMT Agenda
6. HC Agenda
7. HMSAS Agenda
8. HMSMT Agenda
9. LC Agenda
10. SAS Agenda
11. STT Agenda

(Halibut Management)

12. G.1 2020 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations
13. G.2 Commercial Directed Fishery Regulations for 2020

(Groundfish Management)

14. H.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
15. H.2 Workload and New Management Measure Update
16. H.3 Electronic Monitoring Program Guidelines and Data Storage Procedural Directive:
17. H.4 Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Salmon
18. H.8 Initial Harvest Specifications and Management Measure Actions for 2021-2022 Management
19. H.9 Final Action on Inseason Adjustments – Including Final Recommendations on Exempted Fishing Permits for 2020

(Highly Migratory Species Management)

20. I.3 Exempted Fishing Permits - Final Recommendations
21. I.4 Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Final Action

(Administrative Matters)

22. C.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan
23. C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

(General Information)

24. Informational Report 3 National Electronic Monitoring Workshop Series
25. Hotel-related Information
26. Council Roster



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019

TO: Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, Groundfish Management Team, and Groundfish Interested Persons

FROM: Mr. Todd Phillips, Groundfish Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11 – 18 at the Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd, Boise, ID 83714. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) meetings will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, September 13 in the Cinnabar and Ponderosa Rooms, respectively.

The Council is scheduled to consider several important groundfish agenda items and related matters of interest, including:

- Matters raised during the Open Comment Period;
 - National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan;
 - Current Habitat Issues;
 - Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-year Review;
 - Climate and Communities Initiative;
 - Legislative Matters;
 - Pacific Halibut: 2020 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations;
 - Pacific Halibut: Commercial Directed Fishery Regulations for 2020;
 - Groundfish: National Marine Fisheries Service Report;
 - Workload and New Management Measure Update;
 - Electronic Monitoring Program Guidelines and Data Storage Procedural Directive;
 - Endangered Species Act Mitigation Measures for Salmon;
 - Adopt Final Stock Assessments;
 - 2020 Harvest Specifications for Cowcod and Shortbelly Rockfish;
 - Phased In Approaches to Changing Harvest Limits – Scoping
 - Initial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for 2021-2022 Management
 - Final Action on Inseason Adjustments – Including Final Recommendations on Exempted Fishing Permits for 2020;
 - Methodology Review – Final Topic Selection;
 - Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures;
 - Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning.
-

Additionally, on Saturday, September 14, 2019, an evening question and answer session will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Ponderosa Room to discuss groundfish stock assessments that were completed in 2019. This ancillary meeting will provide opportunity to discuss the process and outcomes of these assessments for attendees.

As a reminder, the Council's web-based public comment [e-portal](#) will be the only way to submit comments to the advanced and/or supplemental Briefing Book.

This mailing includes the enclosures listed below. Please review these briefing materials in advance to facilitate an efficient meeting week. As always, all briefing materials are also available on the web at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/council-meetings/current-meeting/>.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council process and management of Pacific groundfish fisheries.

TMP:rdd

Enclosures include:

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item B – Open Comment Period
3. Agenda Item C – Administrative
4. Agenda Item D – Habitat
5. Agenda Item E – Ecosystem
6. Agenda Item G – Pacific Halibut Management
7. Agenda Item H – Groundfish Management
8. Enforcement Consultants Agenda
9. GAP Agenda
10. GMT Agenda
11. Habitat Committee Agenda
12. Ecosystem Workgroup Agenda
13. Ecosystem Advisory Subgroup Agenda
14. Scientific and Statistical Committee Agenda and Draft Minutes
15. Informational Reports
16. Hotel-related Information
17. Council Roster

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019
TO: Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel, Highly Migratory Species Management Team, and Interested Persons
FROM: Dr. Kit Dahl, Staff Officer for Highly Migratory Species
SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meets September 11-18, 2019, at The Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) and the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will meet Saturday through Monday, September 14-16. The HMSAS will be in the North Star Room and the HMSMT will be in the Liberty Room. The meetings begin at 8 a.m. each day. Four HMS topics are on the Council agenda. Summaries of these topics follow. I am also including briefing materials for two administrative items.

I.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region will report on recent regulatory activities. The Southwest Fisheries Science Center will report on HMS-related research activities.

I.2 Recommend International Management Activities

Council and NMFS staffs will report on the outcomes of regional fishery management organization (RFMO) meetings of interest to the Council that occurred between the June and September Council meetings. The Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC) to Advise the U.S. Commissioners to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) will meet October 10-11. The Council may review and comment on U.S. positions and PAC priorities for the upcoming Sixteenth Regular Session of the WCPFC.

I.3 Exempted Fishing Permits - Final Recommendations

In June 2019, the Council received an application from Nathan Perez and Thomas Carson to test using deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) at night and gave it preliminary approval. At this meeting the Council will make a final recommendation on the application.

I.4 Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Final Action

The Council is scheduled to take final action on its proposal to authorize a fishery targeting swordfish with deep-set buoy gear. NMFS has provided a preliminary draft environmental impact statement to inform the Council's decision. The main issue under consideration is a limited entry permit program for vessels fishing in the Southern California Bight. The Council also needs to adopt commensurate amendments to the Fishery Management Plan for West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species (HMS FMP). Draft amendment text is included in the briefing materials.

C.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures

The Council is scheduled to adopt changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 22 describing Council review and modification of essential fish habitat (EFH) provisions in fishery management plans (FMPs). Currently COP 22 is specific to the Groundfish FMP; these changes generalize the procedures to cover all four FMPs. Mr. Kerry Griffin briefed the HMSMT on this issue during its August 27 webinar and he will be available to brief the HMSAS at the Council meeting.

C.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

To help you keep abreast of topics at future Council meetings, I am including the materials for Agenda Item C.5, Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning. You may wish to provide comments on what topics are proposed and at what meetings.

Paper copies of referenced briefing materials are enclosed. You may obtain electronic copies of all the meeting materials on our website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/briefing-books/>. We also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advanced briefing book.

As always, thank you for your service to the Council process.

KRD:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item A.5: Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item I.1: NMFS Report
3. Agenda Item I.2: Recommend International Management Activities
4. Agenda Item I.3: Exempted Fishing Permits - Final Recommendations
5. Agenda Item I.4: Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Final Action
6. Agenda Item C.4: Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures
7. Agenda Item C.5: Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning
8. HMSAS and HMSMT Meeting Agendas
9. Informational Reports
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019

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

FROM: Robin Ehlke, Salmon and Halibut Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet September 13-18, 2019, at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho. The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) and the Salmon Technical Team (STT) will be meeting on Friday, September 13 at the Council meeting, and the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will not attend. The STT and MEW will also meet via webinar on August 29, 2019, to discuss pertinent topics on the Council agenda. The Chair of the MEW is invited to attend the September Council meeting.

The Council's September meeting agenda includes topics on salmon and halibut, as well as topics on ecosystem, groundfish, and administration matters that may be of interest.

There are four agenda items on the Council schedule related to salmon management. Salmon is on the Council agenda September 13-14. Agenda Item F.1 is the final topic selection for the 2019 salmon methodology review. Agenda Item F.2 covers the salmon rebuilding plans and includes final adoption of the three coho plans and a potential discussion on Sacramento River fall Chinook harvest model development. The risk assessment review for Southern Resident Killers Whales (SRKW) is under Agenda Item F.3, and Agenda Item F.4 is a review of the annual salmon management cycle.

At the April Council meeting, the Council recommended five topics for methodology review in 2019; however, additional topics may be added prior to the final adoption. Currently, there are five topics listed for methodology review: (1) Complete the documentation of the development of the new Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) base period including algorithms, and review and update the FRAM documentation and User Manual that is currently on the Council website; (2) Develop a framework for evaluating post-season metrics of model performance for FRAM; (3) Conduct the technical analysis needed to inform a change of the salmon management boundary line from latitude 40° 05' (Horse Mountain, California) five miles north to latitude 40° 10'; (4) Examine the data and models used to forecast impacts on Columbia

River summer Chinook to determine whether a change in methodology is warranted; and (5) Provide documentation of the abundance forecast approach used for Willapa Bay natural coho.

The three coho rebuilding plans were adopted as drafts for public review in April, and scheduled to be adopted as final under Agenda Item F.2. In addition, when the two Chinook plans were adopted as final at the April Council meeting, the Council asked the STT to provide a scoping report, as early as the September meeting if possible. The report outlines the estimated time, workload, and data needs associated with developing a Sacramento River Fall Chinook harvest model similar to the model used for Klamath River fall Chinook, and will also be covered under Agenda Item F.2.

Under Agenda Item F.3, the SRKW workgroup is scheduled to provide a draft risk assessment to the Council. The workgroup consists of tribal, Federal, and state entities and was developed in April 2019. Agenda Item F.4 is a review of the annual salmon management cycle. As you may recall in April 2019, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announced it would be unable to publish the 2019 salmon regulations by May 1, which resulted in some fisheries having a planned start date of May 6. This was due in part to the late timing of the April Council meeting. The review will outline the NMFS rule-making process and provide scenarios to help avoid delays in future years.

For Pacific Halibut Management topics (Agenda Item G.1), the Council is scheduled to adopt for consideration proposed changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for 2020, and proposed changes to annual fishery regulations for 2020. This topic typically focuses on recreational fisheries. Beginning in 2019, the non-Indian commercial directed halibut fishery will be part of the Council's two-meeting pre-season process, and will consider proposals for regulations in 2020 under agenda item G.2. The Council will consider the proposals at the upcoming September meeting, and is scheduled to take final action at the November Council meeting. Pacific Halibut is on the Council's agenda Saturday, September 14.

Ecosystem topics of interest include the 5-year review of the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (Agenda Item E.1) and an update on the Climate and Communities Initiative (Agenda Item E.2). Ecosystem topics are on the Council agenda Friday, September 13.

Groundfish topics related to salmon include Workload and New Management Measure Update (Agenda Item H.2) which will include the "ping rate" topic for salmon trollers, and Agenda Item H.4 will cover the Preliminary Preferred Alternative for Endangered Species Act Salmon Mitigation Measures.

In addition to the usual administrative matters including future workload and agenda planning (Agenda Item C.5), the Council will also discuss membership appointments and Council Operating Procedures (COP) including COP 22 (Agenda Item C.4) on Wednesday, September 18. Habitat Issues (Agenda Item D.1) is on the Council agenda Friday, September 13 and Legislative Matters are covered under Agenda Item C.2 on Monday, September 16. Also on Friday, September 13, under Agenda Item C.1, NMFS will provide their strategic plan for the West Coast Region and is interested in getting feedback from the Council and its advisory bodies. For reference, NMFS gave the Council a [presentation](#) on this topic in June (Agenda Item B.1.a, June 2019).

Electronic copies of all the meeting materials are posted on our website at <http://www.pcouncil.org/council-operations/briefing-books/>. We will also post supplemental briefing materials on our website as they become available after distribution of the advanced briefing book.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your commitment to PFMC.

RDE:ael

Enclosures:

1. Agenda Item C.1 - NMFS Strategic Plan WCR
2. Agenda Item C.2 – Legislative Matters
3. Agenda Items C.4, C.5 – Administrative Matters
4. Agenda Item D.1 – Habitat Issues
5. Agenda Items E.1, E.2 – Ecosystem-Based Management
6. Agenda Items F.1-F.4 – Salmon Management
7. Agenda Item G.1, G.2 – Pacific Halibut Management
8. Agenda Item H.2, H.4 – Groundfish Management
9. STT Agenda
10. SAS Agenda
11. SSC Agenda
12. HC Agenda
13. Informational Reports
14. Hotel-related Information

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 23, 2019

TO: Scientific and Statistical Committee

FROM: John DeVore, Staff Officer

SUBJECT: September 2019 Council Meeting Materials

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet September 11-18, 2019 at The Riverside Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise, Idaho. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet on Wednesday, September 11 starting at 10 a.m. in the Aspen Room, and Thursday September 12 and Friday, September 13 starting at 8 a.m. each of those days in the Aspen Room. Your meeting materials are enclosed.

Council Administrative Matters

The SSC will review the credentials of two nominees to Council management teams/workgroups and report their recommendations to the Council under the Council's closed session. Mr. Brian Hooper has been nominated to the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup to fill the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region seat vacated by Ms. Sarah Williams. Ms. Erica Crust has been nominated to the Groundfish Management Team to fill the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife seat vacated by Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus.

The SSC will review the draft NMFS West Coast Geographic Strategic Plan and provide their recommendations to the Council.

The SSC will also discuss future workload planning and may report to the Council on their plans under Agenda Item C.5.

Ecosystem-Based Management

The SSC will review analyses informing three focus topics: 1) albacore distribution and availability forecasts, 2) salmon stoplight indicators and forecasts, and 3) spatial indicators of bottom contact by trawl gear and fixed gear and will provide guidance to analysts and the Integrated Assessment Team on how these issues are analyzed and reported in the March 2019 California Current ecosystem report.

The SSC will review scenario planning for the Climate and Communities initiative and provide recommendations to the lead analysts on considerations for developing scenarios.

Salmon Management

The SSC will recommend candidate items for an October methodology review by the SSC's Salmon Subcommittee and the Salmon Technical Team.

The SSC will review the final drafts of the coho rebuilding plans and provide their comments and recommendations to the Council.

Groundfish Management

The SSC will review and consider endorsing new groundfish stock assessments, catch-only updates, and other assessment analyses as best scientific information available for management decision-making for fisheries in 2021 and beyond.

The SSC will provide scoping recommendations on new phase-in acceptable biological catch (ABC) harvest control rules (HCRs) being considered by the Council. The Council is requesting comment on the criteria for implementing these new HCRs, a time limit for the duration of the phase-in period (or frequency of their use), the types of analyses needed to assess the risk of overfishing, and the preferred timing of a Groundfish Fishery Management Plan amendment process that synchronizes with the 2021-22 biennial specifications decision-making process. The SSC will also review new draft National Standard 1 guidelines for evaluating and implementing carry-over and phase-in provisions within ABC control rules and will provide their comments and recommendations to the Council.

The SSC will recommend 2021 and 2022 overfishing limits (OFLs), stock category designations for newly-assessed stocks, and sigmas for newly-assessed stocks.

The SSC will review two new methodologies proposed to inform future stock assessments. Dr. Leif Rasmuson, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, will brief the SSC on a proposed visual and hydroacoustic survey for semi-pelagic rockfish in waters off Oregon. Dr. Jim Hastie, NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center, will brief the SSC on new data-moderate assessment approaches that incorporate length composition data with one or more relative abundance indices. The SSC will recommend to the Council if these proposed methodologies merit a formal review next year. They will also inform the Council if expertise outside the SSC will be needed for any methodology review topic they recommend.

Thank you all for your dedication to West Coast fishery management and the Council process. See you soon.

JDD:kma

Enclosures include:

Council and SSC Administrative Matters

1. Agenda Item A.5 – Council Meeting Agenda
2. Agenda Item C.1 – National Marine Fisheries Service Strategic Plan
3. Agenda Item C.4 – Membership Appointments; Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures; and Council Operating Procedures
4. Agenda Item C.5 – Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

Ecosystem-Based Management

5. Agenda Item E.2 – Climate and Communities Initiative

Salmon Management

6. Agenda Item F.1 – Methodology Review - Final Topic Selection

Groundfish Management

7. Agenda Item H.5 – Adopt Final Stock Assessments
8. Agenda Item H.7 – Phased-In Approach to Changing Harvest Limits – Scoping
9. Agenda Item H.8 – Initial Harvest Specifications and Management Measure Actions for 2021-2022 Management
10. Agenda Item H.10 – Methodology Review - Final Topic Selection

SSC Agenda, Draft SSC Minutes, Closed Session, Etc.

11. September 2019 SSC Agenda
12. Draft June 2019 SSC Minutes
13. Administrative Closed Session
14. Informational Reports
15. Hotel-Related Information
16. Council Roster