

COUNCIL INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON GROUND FISH AMENDMENT 24

This informal briefing by staff is intended to help Council members understand the various issues and objectives associated with the new management process for groundfish fisheries proposed under Amendment 24 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. This matter has a large time allotment on the agenda at this Council meeting, and has a number of conceptual complexities combined with scheduling and decision-making nuances. This special briefing is occurring on the first day of the Council meeting (Thursday, March 7), providing about two days time before Agenda Item H.4 comes to the Council floor. This provides time for Council member deliberation, advisory body statement preparation, discussion at State, Tribal, and Federal delegation meetings, and Council staff analysis of any assignments that may be forthcoming from the briefing.

The main focus of this briefing will be the attachments of Agenda Item H.4. Ample time will be provided for Council member questions focused on understanding the content, organization, and tasks for Agenda Item H.4 scheduled for Saturday and Sunday (March 9 and 10).

Since this is strictly an informational briefing, public comment under this agenda item will be limited to questions of clarification of the information presented. Those interested in providing comments intended to influence Council action should do so under Agenda Item I.4, not under this agenda item.

Council Task:

Consider briefing information, obtain clarity on any questions about Agenda Item H.4 substance or action, and request further analysis of particular issues, if appropriate.

Reference Materials:

See Agenda Item H.4.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview and Informational Briefing
- b. Questions of Clarification from Council Members
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Discussion

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