

Pacific Fishery Management Council

MEETING NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 5, 2015

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Pacific Fishery Management Council to Hold Meetings to Adopt Management Measures for Ocean Fisheries

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet March 6-12, 2015 in Vancouver, Washington to address issues related to salmon, Pacific halibut, highly migratory species, ecosystem based management, and habitat matters. The meeting of the Council and its advisory entities will be held at the Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 W. 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660; telephone 360 993-4500.

Key agenda items for the meeting include Council considerations to:

- Adopt a range of alternatives for the 2015 ocean salmon fisheries for public review.
- Adopt public review options for 2015 incidental catch recommendations for Pacific halibut in salmon troll and a final incidental catch recommendation for sablefish fisheries north of Pt. Chehalis.
- Prioritize potential fishery ecosystem plan initiatives and provide guidance on future process and schedule.
- Adopt amendment language for incorporating protection to unmanaged forage fish in Council fishery management plans.
- Adopt goals and objectives for a drift gillnet management and monitoring plan including hard caps, and provide guidance on further development of the management and monitoring plan.

Please refer to the attached detailed draft proposed agenda for a complete list of issues to be addressed. A schedule of advisory group meetings is provided on the last pages of the attached agenda. Copies of briefing materials prepared for the meeting can be found on our website www.pcouncil.org by February 24.

Meeting Arrangements and Public Comment Guidelines

All meetings are open to the public, except for a closed executive session scheduled for 8 AM on Sunday, March 8 to discuss litigation and personnel matters. For more information on the meetings, refer to the attached proposed detailed agenda for the March meeting. Information is also available on the Council website http://www.pcouncil.org or by calling the Council office at 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204 toll free.

The public is encouraged to comment, either verbally at the meeting or in writing. Timing of agenda items may change as the meeting progresses, and items not completed on the scheduled day will be carried over to later in the meeting, usually the next day.

Oral Public Comments

Oral public comments will be accepted during the meeting prior to action on each agenda item.

Written Public Comments

Written public comments are accepted by the Council via one of the methods described below. The public is encouraged to submit written comments as far in advance of the meeting as possible, either by mail, fax, or email addressed to pfmc.comments@noaa.gov. Electronic copies of written testimony is encouraged.

- Comments received by 11:59 p.m. February 12, 2015 will be included in the briefing books mailed to Council members prior to the meeting. Comments received after February 12 but by 11:59 p.m. March 2, 2015 will be distributed to Council members at the onset of the meeting.
- If you cannot meet this latter deadline and are going to testify at the meeting, you can provide written testimony for distribution at the meeting by one of the following methods. However, please note these need to be provided to Council staff well in advance of your testimony.
 - o Provide an electronic copy to be posted with other briefing materials, or
 - Provide 40 photocopies with the Agenda Item Topic Number in the upper right corner of the front page of each copy. Refer to the attached agenda for the topic numbers; i.e., Agenda Item B.1 refers to public comment under Open Comment Period.
- Electronic copies of public comment can be submitted to pfmc.comments@noaa.gov. Electronic copies facilitate posting to our website.
- This meeting is open to the public and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Carolyn Porter at 503-820-2280 or 866-806-7204 at least **five days prior** to the meeting date. The meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council will also be streamed live on the internet.
- The broadcasts begin at 9:00 AM Pacific Time (PT) Sunday, March 8, 2015-Thursday, March 12, 2015. Broadcasts end daily at 6:00 p.m. PT or when business for the day is complete. Only the audio portion and presentations displayed on the screen at the Council meeting will be broadcast. The audio portion is listen-only; you will be unable to speak to the Council via the broadcast. To access the meeting online please use the following link: http://www.gotomeeting.com/online/webinar/join-webinar and enter the March Webinar ID, 138-252-315 and your email address. The online attendance can be done using a computer, tablet, or smart phone, using the GoToMeeting application. It is recommended that you use a computer headset to listen to the meeting, but you may use your telephone for the audio portion only of the meeting. The audio portion may be attended using a telephone by dialing the toll number 1-480-297-0021; phone audio access code 326-426-740 (not a toll-free number).
- To receive this notice in the future via email, sign up for the "PFMC E-Mail Notification List" at http://www.pcouncil.org/currents/sign-up-for-newsletter-and-mailing-lists/.



228th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council
March 6-12, 2015
Hilton Vancouver Hotel
301 West Sixth Street,
Vancouver, Washington 98660
Telephone: 360-993-4500

Schedule of Ancillary Meetings begins on page 8.

Refer to the Schedule of Ancillary Meetings beginning on page 8 for a complete list of technical and administrative committees, advisory bodies, work groups, state delegations, and special sessions scheduled throughout the week of March 6 through March 12, 2015.

Proposed Detailed Agenda begins on the next page.

The following items are on the Pacific Council agenda. However, please note that the timing-including the day--of the agenda items may change on the basis of the time required for prior agenda items, and the order may change as required to effectively address the issues.

Friday - Saturday March 6-7	Sunday March 8	Monday March 9	Tuesday March 10	Wednesday March 11	Thursday March 12
A listing of times and locations for Advisory Body meetings begins on page 9.	Closed Session	Salmon	Salmon	Salmon	
	Call to Order Open Comment				Salmon
	Enforcement		Pacific Halibut	Highly Migratory Species	Administrative
	Habitat				
	Ecosystem		Highly Migratory Species		
		Ecosystem			
			Administrative		

Council Action descriptions to adopt imply consideration to adopt; adoption is not mandatory.



228th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council March 8-12, 2015

General Council Session Proposed Detailed Agenda

Sunday, March 8, 2015 8:00 AM Heritage Ballroom A-B

Closed Executive Session

This session is closed to all except Council members, their designees, and others designated by the Council Chair to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

A. Call to Order

A.1 Opening Remarks

A.2 Roll Call

Don McIsaac

A.3 Executive Director's Report

A.4 Agenda

Dorothy Lowman, Chair

Don McIsaac

Don McIsaac

Dorothy Lowman

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

B. Open Comment Period

B.1 Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Advisory Body and Management Entity Comments
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Discussion and Comments as Appropriate

C. Enforcement Issues

C.1 Annual U.S. Coast Guard Fishery Enforcement Report

a. Agenda Item Overview

- Jim Seger
- b. U.S. Coast Guard Annual West Coast Fishery Enforcement Report RDML Gromlich
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion

D. Habitat

D.1 Current Habitat Issues

a. Agenda Item Overview

Jennifer Gilden

b. Report of the Habitat Committee

- Joel Kawahara
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations

Sunday, March 8, 2014 (continued)

E. Ecosystem Management

E.1 California Current Ecosystem Report Including Integrated Ecosystem Assessment

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Action: Council Discussion

E.2 Review of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Prioritize Potential Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives and Provide Guidance on Future Process and Schedule

E.3 NMFS Climate Science Strategy Update

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

b. Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service

Jason Link

- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Action: Council Discussion

Monday, March 9, 2015

8:00 AM Heritage Ballroom A-B

A. Call to Order (reconvene)

Dorothy Lowman

A.5 Commencing Remarks

Don McIsaac

F. Salmon Management

F.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

b. Regulatory Activities

Bob Turner

c. Fisheries Science Center Activities

Pete Lawson?

- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- e. Public Comment
- f. Council Action: Council Discussion

F.2 Review of 2014 Fisheries and Summary of 2015 Stock Abundance Forecasts

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Review and Discuss Relevant Fishery Information, Act on Relevant Conservation Objectives or Status Determinations, and adopt 2015 Abundance Forecasts and Annual Catch Limits as Necessary

Monday, March 9, 2015 (continued)

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.3 Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2015 Salmon Management Alternatives

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

b. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission

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- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description

E. Ecosystem Management (continued)

E.4 Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection Final Action

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Preferred Alternative and Amendment Language for Incorporating Protection to Unmanaged Forage Fish in Council Fishery Management Plans

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

8:00 AM Heritage Ballroom A-B

A. Call to Order (reconvene)

Dorothy Lowman

Don McIsaac

A.6 Commencing Remarks

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.4 Council Recommendations for 2015 Management Alternative Analysis

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Direction to the Salmon Technical Team and Salmon Advisory Subpanel on Alternative Development and Analysis

G. Pacific Halibut Management

G.1 Report on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Meeting

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kelly Ames

b. IPHC Report

Bruce Leaman and Ian Stewart

c. Council Representative Report

Gway Kirchner

- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- e. Public Comment
- f. Council Action: Council Discussion

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 (continued)

G. Pacific Halibut Management (continued)

G.2 Incidental Catch Recommendations for the Salmon Troll and Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kelly Ames

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Make Recommendations for Inseason Changes to April 2015 Retention Limits in the Salmon Troll Fishery, as Necessary; Adopt Public Review Options for 2015 and April 2016 Salmon Troll Fishery; Adopt Final Retention Limits for 2015 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery

H. Highly Migratory Species Management

H.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

b. Regulatory Activities

Heidi Taylor

c. Science Center Activities

- John Stein and Cisco Werner
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- e. Public Comment
- f. Council Action: Council Discussion

H.2 Recommendations for International Management Activities Including US-Canada Albacore Treaty Area Fishery Update

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

b. Report on the WCPFC Meeting

Dorothy Lowman

c. Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service

Heidi Taylor

- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Consider Reports on International Activities and 2014 U.S.-Canada Albacore Fishery

I. Administrative Matters

I.1 Legislative Matters

a. Agenda Item Overview

Jennifer Gilden

b. Report of the Legislative Committee

- Dave Hanson
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action**: Consider the Report and Recommendations of the Legislative Committee

Wednesday, March 11, 2014

8:00 AM Heritage Ballroom A-B

A. Call to Order (reconvene)

Dorothy Lowman

A.7 Commencing Remarks

Don McIsaac

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 (continued)

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.5 Further Council Direction for 2015 Management Alternatives

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Action: Further Guidance and Direction

H. Highly Migratory Species Management (continued)

H.3 Final Exempted Fishing Permit Approval

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action**: Approve Final Recommendations for Exempted Fishing Permits in 2015-16 West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fisheries

H.4 Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan Including Final Action on Hard Caps

a. Agenda Item Overview

Kit Dahl

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action**: Approve Purpose and Need Statement, Including Goals and Objectives for a Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan; Provide Guidance on Further Development of the Management and Monitoring Plan; adopt Final Preferred Alternative for Hard Caps

Thursday, March 12, 2015

8:00 AM Heritage Ballroom A-B

A. Call to Order (reconvene)

Dorothy Lowman

A.8 Commencing Remarks

Don McIsaac

F. Salmon Management (continued)

F.6 Adoption of 2015 Management Alternatives for Public Review

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. Council Action: Adopt Management Alternatives for Public Review

F.7 Salmon Hearings Officers

a. Agenda Item Overview

Mike Burner

b. Council Action: Appoint Hearings Officers

Dorothy Lowman

I. Administrative Matters (continued)

I.2 National Marine Fisheries Service West Coast Region Strategic Plan Update

a. Agenda Item Overview

Chuck Tracy

- b. Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service
- Bob Turner
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Provide Comments on Completion of the NMFS WCR Strategic Plan

Thursday, March 12, 2015 (continued)

I. Administrative Matters (continued)

I.3 Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

- a. Council Member Review and Comments Dorothy Lowman
- b. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes

I.4 Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures

- a. Agenda Item Overview Chuck Tracy
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action**: Consider Appointments to Advisory Bodies and Changes to Council Operating Procedures

I.5 Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

a. Agenda Item Overview

Don McIsaac

- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action**: Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning

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SCHEDULE OF ANCILLARY MEETINGS

Day 1—Friday, March 6, 2015 Habitat Committee	Time 8:30 AM	Location Heritage F
Coastal Pelagic Species Subcommittee of the	0.30 AIVI	ricittage i
Scientific and Statistical Committee	10:00 AM	Heritage E
Day 2—Saturday, March 7, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	11:00 AM	Alder Room
Scientific and Statistical Committee	8:00 AM	Heritage E
Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery D
Legislative Committee	1:00 PM	Hemlock Room
Day 3—Sunday, March 8, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	7:00 AM	Alder Room
California State Delegation	7:00 AM	Discovery C
Oregon State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage D
Washington State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage F
Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery D
Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery C
Highly Migratory Species Management Team	8:00 AM	Discovery E
Scientific and Statistical Committee	8:00 AM	Heritage E
Salmon Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Heritage D
Salmon Technical Team	8:00 AM	Heritage C
Enforcement Consultants	3:00 pm	Hemlock Room
Chairman's Reception	6:00 pm	Discovery A/B
Tribal Policy Group	Ad hoc	Cedar Room
Tribal and Washington Technical Group	Ad hoc	Ash Room
Day 4—Monday, March 9, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	7:00 AM	Alder Room
California State Delegation	7:00 AM	Discovery C
Oregon State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage D
Washington State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage F
Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery C
Highly Migratory Species Management Team	8:00 AM	Sacramento Room
Salmon Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Heritage D
Salmon Technical Team	8:00 AM	Heritage C
Enforcement Consultants	3:00 pm	Hemlock Room
Tribal Policy Group	Ad hoc	Cedar Room
Tribal and Washington Technical Group	Ad hoc	Ash Room

Day 5—Tuesday, March 10, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	7:00 AM	Alder Room
California State Delegation	7:00 AM	Discovery C
Oregon State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage D
Washington State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage F
Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery C
Highly Migratory Species Management Team	8:00 AM	Sacramento Room
Salmon Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Heritage D
Salmon Technical Team	8:00 AM	Heritage C
Enforcement Consultants	3:00 pm	Hemlock Room
Tribal Policy Group	Ad hoc	Cedar Room
Tribal and Washington Technical Group	Ad hoc	Ash Room
Day 6—Wednesday, March 11, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	7:00 AM	Alder Room
California State Delegation	7:00 AM	Discovery C
Oregon State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage D
Washington State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage F
Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Discovery C
Highly Migratory Species Management Team	8:00 AM	Discovery F
Salmon Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Heritage D
Salmon Technical Team	8:00 AM	Heritage C
Enforcement Consultants	3:00 pm	Hemlock Room
Tribal Policy Group	Ad hoc	Cedar Room
Tribal and Washington Technical Group	Ad hoc	Ash Room
Day 7—Thursday, March 12, 2015	Time	Location
Council Secretariat	7:00 AM	Alder Room
California State Delegation	7:00 AM	Discovery C
Oregon State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage D
Washington State Delegation	7:00 AM	Heritage F
Salmon Advisory Subpanel	8:00 AM	Heritage D
Salmon Technical Team	8:00 AM	Heritage C
Enforcement Consultants	3:00 pm	Hemlock Room
Tribal Policy Group	Ad hoc	Cedar Room
Tribal and Washington Technical Group	Ad hoc	Ash Room

PFMC 2/5/2015 3:16 PM

PROPOSED PACIFIC COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA, MARCH 6-12, 2015 IN VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

Acronyms	Sun, Mar 8	Mon, Mar 9	Tue, Mar 10	Wed, Mar 11	Thu, Mar 12
COP: Council Operating	CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION	F. SALMON	F. SALMON	F. SALMON	F. SALMON
Procedures CPS: Coastal Pelagic Species EAS: Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel EC: Enforcement Consultants ED: Executive Director EFP: Exempted Fishing Permit FPA: Final Preferred Alternative HC: Habitat Committee HMS: Highly Migratory Species HMSAS/MT: HMS Advisory Subpanel /Mgmt Team IEA: Integrated Ecosystem Assessment IPHC: International Pacific Halibut Commission LC: Legislative Committee NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service PPA: Preliminary Preferred Alternative SAS/STT: Salmon Advisory Subpanel /Technical Team USCG: US Coast Guard Fri, Mar 6 10 am SSC CPS Subcommittee 8:30 am HC	Discuss Litigation & Personnel Matters (1 hr) A. CALL TO ORDER 9 AM 1-4. Opening Remarks, Roll Call, ED Report, Approve Agenda (30 min) B. OPEN COMMENT 1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items (30 min) C. ENFORCEMENT 1. Annual USCG Enforcement Rpt (1 hr) D. HABITAT 1. Current Habitat Issues (45 min) E. ECOSYSTEM 1. California Current Ecosystem and IEA Report (2 hr) 2. Review of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives (2 hr 30 min) 3. NMFS Climate Science Strategy Update (30 min)	1. NMFS Report (1 hr) 2. Review of 2014 Fisheries & Summary of 2015 Stock Abundance Forecasts (1 hr 30 min) 3. Identify Mgmt Objectives & Preliminary Definition of 2015 of Management Alternatives (3 hr 30 min) E. ECOSYSTEM 4. Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection FPA (2 hr 15 min)	4. Recommendations for 2015 Management Alternative Analysis (2 hr) G. PACIFIC HALIBUT 1. Report on the Annual IPHC Meeting (45 min) 2. Incidental Catch Limits: Options for Salmon Troll & Final for Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries (30 min) H. HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES 1. NMFS Report (1 hr) 2. Recommendations for International Management Activities including US-Canada Albacore Treaty Area Fishery Update (2 hr) I. ADMINISTRATIVE 1. Legislative Matters (1.5 hr)	5. Further Direction for 2015 Management Alternatives (1 hr) H. HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES 3. Final EFP Approval (3 hr) 4. Drift Gillnet Management Plan including Hard Caps FPA (4 hr) Time estimates are approximate; not reliable for planning attendance or participation.	6. Adopt 2015 Management Alternatives for Public Review (1 hr 30 min) 7. Appoint Salmon Hearing Officers (15 min) I. ADMINISTRATIVE 2. NMFS Strategic Plan Update (1 hr) 3. Approve Council Minutes (15 min) 4. Membership Appointments & COPs (15 min) 5. Future Meeting Agenda & Workload Planning (30 min)
Sat Mar 7	8.75 hr	8.25 hr	7.75 hr	8 hr	4 hr
11 am Secretariat 8 am SSC 8 am EAS	7 am State Delegations 7 am Secretariat 8 am SSC 8 am SAS & STT 8 am HMSAS & HMSMT	7 am State Delegations 7 am Secretariat 8 am SAS & STT 8 am HMSAS & HMSMT	7 am State Delegations 7 am Secretariat 8 am SAS & STT 8 am HMSAS & HMSMT	7 am State Delegations 7 am Secretariat 8 am SAS & STT 8 am HMSAS & HMSMT	7 am State Delegations 7 am Secretariat 8 am SAS & STT
1 pm LC	8 am EAS 3 pm EC 6 pm Chair's Reception	Ad Hoc EC	Ad Hoc EC	Ad Hoc EC	Ad Hoc EC