

FINAL COUNCIL MEETING RECORD
238th Session of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
March 8-13, 2017
Hilton Vancouver Washington
301 W. Sixth Street, Vancouver, WA 98660

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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** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting and are labeled by date and time (e.g., 04-11-15am1) and have been annotated as to the time on the recording for the start of each agenda line item to help facilitate review. The recordings 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. The agenda heading for each agenda item, and most listed documents, serve as internet links to the actual briefing book documents. Internet links in brackets (e.g., [[mp3: 11-11-14pm1 @01:21:15](#)]) refer to the audio recording and elapsed time on the recording at which the agenda item was initiated. Links to the audio recordings are annotated by agenda item and 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 [[mp3: 3-8-17am1](#)@ 0:00:10]

1. Opening Remarks – Herb Pollard, Chair

Mr. Herb Pollard, Council Chair, called the 238th meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 9:03 a.m. on March 8, 2017. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

2. Roll Call – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 3-8-17am1](#)@ 0:06:16]

Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Dr. Peter Dygert, designee Mr. Frank Lockhart, designee Ms. Heidi Taylor, designee
Alaska State Official:	Mr. Charles Swanton (nonvoting)
Washington State Official:	Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee Ms. Michele Culver, designee Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Rich Lincoln
Oregon State Official:	Dr. Caren Braby, designee Mr. Chris Kern, designee Ms. Maggie Sommer, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Dorothy Lowman
California State Official:	Ms. Briana Brady, designee Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee Mr. Brett Kormos, designee
California Obligatory:	Mr. David Crabbe
Idaho State Official:	Mr. Peter Hassemer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Herb Pollard, Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. Joseph Oatman Mr. David Sones, designee
At-Large:	Mr. Phil Anderson, Vice-Chair Mr. William L. “Buzz” Brizendine Mr. Jeff Feldner Mr. Marc Gorelnik
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission:	Dr. David Hanson, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee
U.S. Coast Guard:	RADM Mark Butt, nonvoting LCDR Gregg Casad, nonvoting designee LCDR Jason Brand, nonvoting designee
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:	Mr. Mike Clark, nonvoting designee

Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee
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3. Executive Director's Report – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 3-8-17am1@ 0:06:24](#)]

[Agenda Item A.3, Attachment 1](#): Council Coordination Committee Meeting, February 28-March 1, 2017 Draft Agenda

[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Attachment 2](#): Letter dated March 1, 2017 from the CCC to The Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States

[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Letter dated March 1, 2017 from the CCC to The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross Jr. Secretary of Commerce, regarding the role of the Regional Fishery Management Councils

[Agenda Item A.3, Supplemental Executive Director's Report](#): Report on the February 28-March 1, 2017 Council Coordination Committee Meeting

Mr. Chuck Tracy introduced Amy L'Manian, Administrative Specialist on Council Staff. He then discussed some suggested improvements to the public comment process and the meeting record process that were initiated at the staff retreat, and requested input from Council. Mr. Tracy discussed the interim CCC meeting that was held last month in Arlington, Virginia and comments were requested on the National Monument Letter as a Joint CCC letter, the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee meeting, budget updates, and the Administrative Officer meeting.

4. Agenda – Herb Pollard [[mp3: 3-8-17am1@ 0:34:35](#)]

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

Motion 1: Adopt [Agenda Item A.4, March 7-13, 2017 Council Meeting Agenda](#) as shown.

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

B. Open Comment Period

1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items - Mike Burner [[mp3: 3-8-17am1@ 0:35:27](#)]

a. Advisory Body and Management Entity Comments [[mp3: 3-8-17am1@ 0:39:22](#)]

[Agenda Item B.1.a, PFMC Report](#): Letter of Reply to Mr. Christopher Williams from Mr. Chuck Tracy Regarding Notification Procedures for Harvesting California King Crab, Including Original Request and Letter from NOAA NMFS West Coast Division

[Agenda Item B.1.a, NMFS Report](#): Rulemakings and Other Major Activities for Groundfish in 2017

[Agenda Item B.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Letter to Herb Pollard from NMFS re: EFP application to collect information on catch and bycatch in the Pacific Coast groundfish pelagic rockfish fishery in 2017

[Agenda Item B.1.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): Re: Intent to use gillnet gear to harvest California King Crab

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-8-17am2@ 0:04:50](#)]

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Public Comment 1](#): Email addressed to Dr. Kit Dahl from Ms. Leslie Dee Regarding Protections of Marine Life from Drift Gillnet Fisheries

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Public Comment 2](#): Email addressed to Dr. Kit Dahl from Mr. Roger Hollander Regarding Banning of Nylon Drift Gillnets

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Public Comment 3](#): Letter from Mr. Bob Fowler Regarding Morro Bay Community Quota Fund

[Agenda Item B.1.b, Public Comment 4](#): Email from Mr. John Law Regarding Transfer of Nearshore Fishery Permits

[Agenda Item B.1.b Supplemental Public Comment 5](#): California Groundfish Collective Annual Report for 2015

Dave Bitts, PCFSA

Barbara Emley, SFCFA

Bill James, PSLCFA presented [Agenda Item B.1.b, Supplemental Public Comment 6](#): Comments from Bill James regarding trawl issues

Lori Steele, Shems Jud, Brad Pettinger and Mike Okoniewski

Kevin Dunn, FV Iron Lady

Tom Rudolph, PEW Charitable Trusts

Joel Kawahara

Peter Flournoy

c. **Council Discussion as Appropriate** [[mp3: 3-8-17am2@1:04:38](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

C. Administrative Matters

1. [National Marine Sanctuaries Coordination Report](#) – Kerry Griffin [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:02:03](#)]

a. **Report of the National Marine Sanctuary Program** – Bill Durous [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:04:03](#)]

[Agenda Item C.1.a, National Marine Sanctuaries Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.1.a, Supplemental ONMS PowerPoint](#) (Durous)

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:36:50](#)]

[Agenda Item C.1.b, Supplemental HC Report](#)

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:38:46](#)]

Staff Summary: The West Coast Regional Office of the National Marine Sanctuary Program provided an update of recent and upcoming activities. The Council supported the program's recommendation of yearly updates, tentatively scheduled for the March meeting each year.

2. National Standard 1 Guidelines Carryover Provisions – John DeVore [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 0:00:36](#)]

Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1: Considerations and Focus Questions for the Carryover Provisions Envisioned in Revised National Standard 1 Guidelines

- a. **National Marine Fisheries Report – Frank Lockhart [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 0:27:11](#)]**
- b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 0:31:18](#)]**

Agenda Item C.2.a, Supplemental GMT Report

Agenda Item C.2.b, Supplemental GAP Report

- c. **Public Comment [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 0:49:03](#)]**

Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission

- d. **Council Action: Review Guidelines and Consider Potential Application in Council Fishery Management Plans, As Necessary [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 0:51:30](#)]**

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council received an overview of new carryover provisions that are permitted under revised National Standard 1 guidelines. The Council endorsed consideration of further scoping of possible fishery management plan (FMP) amendments that could incorporate these new carryover provisions. Specifically, the Council is soliciting feedback from the SSC, advisory bodies who focus on Highly Migratory Species and Coastal Pelagic Species management, as well as NOAA General Counsel on the potential applicability of incorporating these provisions in those FMPs. The Council was also briefed on the applicability of incorporating these provisions in the Groundfish FMP. More detailed scoping of a potential Groundfish FMP amendment is tentatively scheduled for the September Council meeting with a consideration for incorporating the analysis informing an FMP amendment in the 2019-2020 groundfish harvest specifications process. Further work on analyses in consideration of one or more FMP amendments (beyond initial scoping) is dependent on the acquisition of special project funding requested from NMFS.

3. Approval of Council Meeting Record – Herb Pollard [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:00:25](#)]

Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1: Draft Council Meeting Record: 237th Session of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (November 13-21, 2016)

- a. **Council Member Review and Comments**

None

- b. **Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Record [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:00:34](#)]**

Motion 23: Council to approve the draft November 2016 Council meeting record as shown in [Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1](#)

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

4. **Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures** – Mike Burner
[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:02:28]

Agenda Item C.4, Attachment 1: Draft revised COP 1 regarding supplemental public comment at Council meetings, Legislative Committee membership, and housekeeping updates

Agenda Item C.4, Supplemental Attachment 2: Draft COP 20 March 2017

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** **[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:10:18]**

Agenda Item C.4.a, Supplemental GMT Report

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies; Adopt Changes to Council Operating Procedures** **[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:11:19]**

Motion 24: Council appoint Ms. Abigail Harley to the National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region seat on the Groundfish Management Team.
Heidi Taylor/ David Sones (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 25:

I move the Council appoint Dr. Steve Haeseker to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service seats on the Salmon Technical Team and the Model Evaluation Workgroup.
Mike Clark/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously).

Motion 26:

I move the Council appoint Ms. Caroline McKnight to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup.
Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 27:

I move the Council appoint Mr. Michael Clark to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service seat on the Habitat Committee.
Phil Anderson/Kyle Adicks (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 28:

I move the Council adopt for public review for COP 1 and COP 20 with changes outlined in as shown in **C.4, Attachment 1** and **C.4, Supplemental Attachment 2**
David Crabbe/ Marci Yaremko (motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has updated its list of Council designees. Mr. Michael Clark has been added as the USFWS' first Council designee and Dr. Denise Hawkins as the second Council designee.

The Council reviewed and approved the following appointments:

- Ms. Abigail Harley was appointed to the National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region seat on the Groundfish Management Team, replacing Ms. Gretchen Hanshew.

- Dr. Steve Haeseker was appointed to the vacant USFWS seats on the Salmon Technical Team and the Model Evaluation Workgroup.
- Ms. Caroline Mcknight was appointed to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup, replacing Ms. Joanna Grebel.
- Mr. Michael Clark was appointed to the USFWS seat on the Habitat Committee, replacing Dr. Steve Haeseker.

Additionally, the NMFS Office of Law Enforcement has appointed DSAC Michael Killary as an Enforcement Consultant, replacing SAC Bill Giles.

Regarding Council Advisory Body vacancies, the Council directed staff to solicit nominations for the vacant California seat on the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel. Shortly after the March 2017 Council meeting, the Council will publish a notice requesting nominations with submissions due by the public comment deadline for the June Council meeting Briefing Book.

The Council approved revisions to two Council Operating Procedures for public review. Revisions to [Council Operating Procedure \(COP\) 1](#) include the addition of updated procedures for the submission of written supplemental public comments at Council meetings in support of oral testimony and the membership of the Legislative Committee. Revisions to [COP 20](#) propose to change the deadline for the submission of HMS Exempted Fishing Permit applications to the public comment deadline for the Council Briefing Book in advance of the meeting where they are scheduled to be reviewed. Comments on these COP revisions will be accepted through the April 2017 Council meeting where the Council is scheduled to consider the revisions for final adoption and implementation.

5. [Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning](#) – Chuck Tracy [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:18:53](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, April 6-11, 2017 in Sacramento, California

[Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 3](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): HMS Commercial Fishery Permit Eligibility

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 5](#): Initial Scoping of Incorporating New Carryover Provisions in West Coast Fishery Management Plans

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Pacific Council Workload Planning: Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance Summary (*Updated 03/12/2017; 16:26*)

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Draft Proposed Council Meeting Agenda, April 6-11, 2017 in Sacramento, California (*Updated 03/13/2017; 7:22 AM*)

[Agenda Item C.5, Supplemental Attachment 8](#): Groundfish Workload Priorities

a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 0:29:37](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental EFH/RCA Project Team Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item C.5.a, Supplemental EWG Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 1:21:03](#)]

[Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Heather Fathali , Cascadia Cross-Border Law presented [Agenda Item C.5.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint \(Fathali\)](#)

Tom Hearty

Peter Flournoy, American Fisherman's Research Foundation

Ben Enticknap, Oceana

Tara Brock & Tom Rudolph, PEW Charitable Trust

Cassie Burdyslaw, Turtle Island Restoration Network

c. Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on Future Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning [[mp3: 3-13-17am2@ 2:02:26](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

D. Habitat

1. [Current Habitat Issues](#) – Jennifer Gilden [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:41:47](#)]

a. [Report of the Habitat Committee](#) – Correigh Greene [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:43:08](#)]

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:55:37](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

c. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 0:56:30](#)]

[Agenda Item D.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Dave Hillemeier, Yurok Tribe

Dan Wolford, Golden Gate Fisherman's Association

d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Recommendations [[mp3: 3-8-17pm1@ 1:07:35](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council directed the Habitat Committee (HC) to draft a letter on Oroville Dam temperature control issues for the April briefing book, and to draft a second letter supporting the transfer of the ownership of the four lower Klamath dams to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation in preparation for removal of the four dams in 2020.

The Council also directed the HC to request a two-week comment extension from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Council comments on the Coast Seafood Renewal and Expansion project,

and, if such an extension is not granted, to use the Council's two previous letters on the project as a basis for a letter (with any required changes resulting from the revision of the project documents) to be sent directly by Council staff.

Finally, the Council asked the HC to collect more information on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed discharge rule changes for offshore processing vessels, and to report back in April.

E. Salmon Management

1. **National Marine Fisheries Service Report** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@0:00:05](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1, Attachment 1](#): December 21, 2016 letter from Barry Thom, NMFS Regional Administrator, to Herb Pollard, Council Chair, regarding the proposed changes to the Mitchell Act program

- a. **Regulatory Activities** – Peter Dygert [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@0:01:31](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.a Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Update on Mitchell Act Hatchery Funding Report (*Jones*)

- b. **Fisheries Science Center Activities** – NWFSC/SWFSC

- c. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@0:27:25](#)]

[Agenda Item E.1.c, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

- d. **Public Comment**

None

- e. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@0:29:14](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

2. **Review of 2016 Fisheries and Summary of 2017 Stock Abundance Forecasts** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@0:35:41](#)]

[Review of 2016 Ocean Salmon Fisheries](#) (*Electronic Only; Corrections were made on March 3, 2017 to Table III-7*)

[Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 1](#): Excerpts from Chapter 3 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan

[Preseason Report I](#): Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1 for 2017 Ocean Salmon Fishery Regulations (*Electronic Only; Corrected March 7, Queets coho OFL; p.54*)

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@0:37:24](#)]

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): Update on Sacramento River Winter Chinook

[Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

- c. Council Action – Review and Discuss Relevant Fishery Information, Act on Relevant Conservation Objectives or Status Determinations, and Adopt 2017 Abundance Forecasts and Annual Catch Limits as Necessary [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@ 1:34:45](#)]**

Motion 4 [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@ 1:36:22](#)]: Council adopt the stock abundance forecasts, ABCs, and ACLs in [Preseason Report 1](#) (dated March 7, 2017) as the best available science for use in 2017 salmon management as recommended by the SSC in [Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#).

Phil Anderson/Marc Gorelnik (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

3. [Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2017 Salmon Management Alternatives Including Test Fishery Alternatives](#) – Robin Ehlike [[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 0:00:02](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3, Attachment 1](#): Guidance for Alternative Development and Assessment

[Agenda Item E.3, Attachment 2](#): Emergency Changes to the Salmon FMP

[Agenda Item E.3, Attachment 3](#): FR 97-22094: Policy Guidelines for the Use of Emergency Rules

- a. Report of the Pacific Salmon Commission – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 0:07:01](#)]**
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 0:14:09](#)]**

[Agenda Item E.3.b, NMFS Report 1](#): February 10, 2017 letter from Barry Thom, NMFS Regional Administrator, to Honorable Lorraine Loomis, Chair of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, and Dr. Jim Unsworth, Director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, regarding the need for a timely 2017 fisheries management agreement developed through the North of Falcon process

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#): Letter Summarizing NOAA Fisheries' Consultation Standards and Guidance Regarding the Potential Effects of the 2017 Season on ESA-Listed Salmonid Species

[Agenda Item E.3.b, West Coast Genetic Stock Identification Collaboration Report](#): Genetic Stock Identification Study Proposal

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental CDFW Report](#): Recommendations for Winter-Run Conservation Measures in 2017 Ocean Fisheries

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental WDFW/Tribal Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental CRITFC PowerPoint](#) (Jim/Ellis)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Tribal Report](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental Tribal Report 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental SAS Report](#): SAS Proposed Initial Salmon Management Alternatives for 2017 Non-Indian Ocean Fisheries

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 2:02:25](#)]

[Agenda Item E.3.c, Public Comment](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.c, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#)

[Agenda Item E.3.c, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

David Helliwell, F/V Corregidor presented [Agenda Item E.3.c, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint](#) (Helliwell)

David Bitts, PCFFA

Gerald Reinholdt

John Koeppen

d. **Council Action: Adopt Council Recommendations for Initial Management Measure Alternatives for Salmon Technical Team Collation and Description**
[[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 2:23:22](#)]

Motion 5 [[mp3: 3-9-17pm2@ 2:42:19](#)]: Council to adopt the management objectives as shown in [Agenda Item E.3.b Supplemental WDFW/Tribal Report](#)

Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

4. **[Council Recommendations for 2017 Management Alternative Analysis](#)** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 3-10-17pm3@ 0:00:07](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-10-17pm3@ 0:02:20](#)]

[Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Collation of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2017 Ocean Fisheries, *March 10, 2017*

[Agenda Item E.4.a, Supplemental Tribal Report](#): Hoopa Valley Tribal Report

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-10-17pm3@ 0:15:01](#)]

Dave Bitts, PCFFA

c. **Council Action: Direction to the Salmon Technical Team and Salmon Advisory Subpanel on Alternative Development and Analysis** [[mp3: 3-10-17pm3@ 0:21:22](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

5. **[Further Council Direction for 2017 Management Alternatives](#)** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:41:41](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:44:03](#)]

[Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Collation of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2017 Ocean Fisheries, *March 11, 2017*

b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:53:17](#)]

Dave Bitts, PCFFA

- c. **Council Action: Further Guidance and Direction as Necessary** [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:56:03](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

6. **Adoption of 2017 Management Alternatives for Public Review** – Robin Ehlke [[mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:01:01](#)]

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:02:51](#)]

[Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#): Analysis of Preliminary Salmon Management Alternatives for 2017 Ocean Fisheries, *March 12, 2017*

[Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental Tribal Report](#) (CRITFC)

- b. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:20:18](#)]

Butch Smith, Jim Olson and Steve Watrous

- c. **Council Action: Adopt Ocean Salmon Management Alternatives for Public Review** [[mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:22:33](#)]

Motion 19 [[mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:32:20](#)]: For non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries in the area North of Cape Falcon, Council to adopt for public review the alternatives as presented in [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#) (March 12, 2017) with the following modifications:

- Alternative I
 - Adjust coho subarea quotas for recreational fisheries to the following numbers:
 - Neah Bay subarea – 6,120
 - La Push subarea – 1,430 for July-September, 100 for October 1-15
 - Westport subarea – 21,750
 - Columbia River subarea – 29,400
- Alternative II
 - For the recreational fishery in the La Push subarea, modify the marked coho subarea quota to 1,310 and the Chinook guideline to 2,700 Chinook.
- Alternative III
 - For the commercial troll fishery, May 12 – June 27, a landing and possession limit of 50 Chinook per vessel per open period applies in the area from the Queets River to Cape Falcon.
 - For the commercial troll fishery July-September, add to the TAC description “and no more than 2,000 of which may be caught in the area between Leadbetter Point and Cape Falcon.”
 - For the recreational fisheries in the Neah Bay and La Push subareas, modify the ending dates to September 10.

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 20: Council to adopt for public review all alternatives as described in to [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#) dated March 13, 2017, with the following changes for the area of Cape Falcon to OR/CA border:

- Commercial troll management alternatives, Table 1, page 4:
 - In Alternative II for the area from Cape Falcon to the Florence South Jetty: Change the open days from “April 15-June 6” to “April 15-May 26, June 1-6, and August 14-15”
 - In Alternative II for the area from the Florence South Jetty to Humbug Mt.: Change the open days from “April 15-June 6” to “April 15-May 26, and June 1-6”
- Recreational management alternatives, Table 2, page 15:
 - In Alternative I for the area from Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border: Strike the entire season and replace with: “Closed”
 - In Alternative II for the area from Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border: Strike the entire season and replace with:
 - All salmon except Chinook mark-selective coho fishery June 24 through the earlier of August 17 or a landed catch of 20,000 marked coho (quota applies to the entire area from Cape Falcon to the OR/CA Border).
 - Seven days per week. All salmon except Chinook. All retained coho must be marked with a healed adipose fin clip (C.1). Coho minimum size limit of 16 inches total length (B). See gear restrictions and definitions (C.2, C.3).

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 21: Council to adopt for STT collation and analysis and public review the salmon management measures for the 2017 commercial and recreational ocean fisheries in the area from the Oregon/California border to the U.S./Mexico border as presented in [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#), including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions.

With the following changes:

- Recreational Fishery – page 16
- Horse Mountain to Point Arena (Fort Bragg):
 - Alternative II: Add July 1-12.
- Table 5. Klamath River Recreational Fishery Share
 - Alternative I: Adjust the Klamath River recreational allocation such that the projected spawner reduction rate equals 8.1%.
 - Alternative II: Set the Klamath River recreational fishery allocation to 15.0% of the non-tribal harvest.
 - Alternative III: The Klamath River recreational fishery allocation will remain zero.

These changes are being made with the expectation that all relevant conservation objectives will adhered to.

Brett Kormos/Marc Gorelnik (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 22: For the 2017 Treaty Ocean Troll Salmon Season, Council adopt for the establishment of three alternatives for public review as they are presented in table 3 of the [supplemental STT report \(E.6.a\)](#) dated March 12, 2017 on pages 19-20.

Alternative I quota levels of **50,000** Chinook, and **40,000** coho

Alternative II quota levels of **40,000** Chinook, and **22,000** coho

Alternative III quota levels of **30,000** Chinook, and **12,500** coho

The salmon season will consist of a May/June chinook directed fishery and a July/August/September all-species fishery. The Chinook harvest will be split between the two periods with the following sub-quotas:

Alternative I: **25,000**; Alternative II: **20,000**; Alternative III: **15,000** for the May/June Chinook directed fishery and the remainder Chinook in each alternative for the July/August/September all species fishery.

I would also like to state for the record, that the Tribes and State are just beginning the North of Falcon planning process in which we will evaluate the total impacts of all proposed fisheries on Puget Sound and Columbia River stocks.

David Sones/Phil Anderson (motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted three alternative sets of management measures for the 2017 ocean commercial, recreational, and tribal salmon fisheries. Public hearings on the Alternatives have been scheduled in Westport, Washington and Coos Bay, Oregon for March 27 and Fort Bragg, California for March 28. The Council is scheduled to adopt final 2017 ocean salmon regulations at its April 6-11 meeting in Sacramento, California.

7. Salmon Hearings Officers – Robin Ehlke [mp3: 3-13-17am1@ 0:49:39]

Agenda Item E.7, Attachment 1: Schedule of Salmon Fishery Management Alternative Hearings

a. Council Action: Appoint Hearings Officers - Herb Pollard

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

F. Ecosystem Management

1. Annual State of the California Current Ecosystem Report – Kit Dahl [mp3: 3-8-17pm2@ 035:26]

a. Report of the IEA Team – Chris Harvey & Toby Garfield [mp3: 3-8-17pm2@ 039:16]

Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 1: California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team, California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) State of the California Current Report, 2017

Agenda Item F.1.a, NMFS Report 2: CCIEA Supplementary Materials

Agenda Item F.1.a, Supplemental CCIEA PowerPoint (Harvey/Garfield; *updated v. March 10, 2017 for readability*)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [mp3: 3-8-17pm2@ 01:34:14]

Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental EWG Report

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental EAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental HC Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.1.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@ 2:10:40](#)]

[Agenda Item F.1.c, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Corey Ridings, Ocean Conservancy

Steve Marx, PEW Charitable Trusts

d. **Council Action: Consider the California Current Ecosystem Report and Make Recommendations on Focal Topic Areas for Future Annual Reports** [[mp3: 3-8-17pm2@ 2:22:22](#)] & [[mp3: 3-9-17am1@ 0:03:24](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council provided the following guidance to the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) Team on focal topics and other elements to incorporate in future Annual Reports, recognizing that implementation will depend on available resources. The CCIEA Team *provided feedback* on addressing these topics.

- 1.A focus on indicators that could be used to anticipate regime shifts. *The CCIEA Team is currently conducting an analysis of such indicator(s); by the 2018 report they hope to determine if it is feasible with existing data.*
- 2.A focus on indicators related to the future status of salmon stocks, which could be developed in dialogue with the Council's Salmon Technical Team and Salmon Advisory Subpanel. *The CCIEA Team believes that focusing on salmon-related indicators is feasible, but developing such a suite that could be used to inform management decisions would take more than a year.*
- 3.A focus on indicators to assess the status of the forage base [and relating this to predator status]. *The CCIEA Team believes this would be possible to include in the 2018 report.*
- 4.Adding focal topics relating indicator(s) status to fishery management questions and including a highlighted narrative section.
- 5.Participation of the Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG), and possibly the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel, in the proposed joint meeting of the Scientific and Statistical Committee Ecosystem Subcommittee and CCIEA Team proposed for September 2017 to further discuss potential focal topics that could be taken up over the long term.

2. **[Sablefish Ecosystem Indicators](#)**– John DeVore [[mp3: 3-9-17am1@ 0:26:25](#)]

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-9-17am1@ 0:30:02](#)]

[Agenda Item F.2.a, NMFS Report](#): A Decade On: Re-evaluating Oceanographic Drivers of California Current Sablefish Recruitment

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Oceanographic drivers sablefish recruitment in the Northern California Current (Haltuch)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental EWG Report](#)

[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental EAS Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental HC Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Review Progress and Provide Guidance [[mp3: 3-9-17am1@1:07:56](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council received a progress report on an ongoing evaluation of oceanic drivers of sablefish recruitment that could potentially improve assessments of sablefish status and productivity. The Council provided the following guidance on this evaluation:

1. Investigate sablefish assessments throughout the stock's range to better understand the dynamics associated with stock decline.
2. Provide a Management Strategy Evaluation for Council consideration in September 2017.
3. Update the Regional Ocean Modelling Systems (ROMS) model with data from 2011-2014, as well as data prior to 1980.

The next review of this evaluation is tentatively scheduled for the September 2017 Council meeting in Boise, Idaho.

3. [Review of Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 0:00:06](#)]

[Agenda Item F.3, Supplemental Video](#): Pre-Meeting Video Briefing for Agenda Item F.3, Fishery Ecosystem Initiatives by Yvonne deReynier – 9:15 (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#): Ecosystem Initiatives Appendix to the Pacific Coast Fishery Ecosystem Plan

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 0:00:04](#)]

[Agenda Item F.3.a, EWG Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental EWG Report 2](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental EAS](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental HC Report](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental CPSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 0:50:06](#)]

[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)
[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 2](#) (*Electronic Only*)
[Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment 3](#)

Peter Flourney, AFRF

Phillip Levin, LENFEST Foundation presented [Agenda Item F.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint](#) (Levin)

Ben Enticknap, Oceana

Gway Kirchner, Nature Conservancy and Corey Ridings, Ocean Conservancy

Steve Marx, PEW Charitable Trusts

- c. **Council Action: 1) Identify New Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives to be added to Appendix A, 2) Provide Guidance on Other Updates to Appendix A, and 3) Determine Whether to Begin Work on an Initiative in the Coming Year including Process and Schedule** [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 1:38:20](#)]

Motion 2 [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 1:47:07](#)]: Council to include the idea of new initiative included in the FEP as described in [Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental EAS Report](#).

Caren Braby/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 3 [[mp3: 3-9-17am2@ 1:52:06](#)]: Council to modify the appendix of the FEP as described in Agenda Item F.3.a, EWG Report.

Caren Braby/Dorothy Lowman (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council directed the EWG to revise Appendix A to the Fishery Ecosystem Plan to include a new initiative addressing [optimum yield considerations](#), and to make the changes proposed in the [EWG Report](#).

The Council requested the EWG to scope the two initiatives outlined in their [report](#): A combined initiative on the socio-economic effects of fisheries management practices on fishing communities (A.2.7) and on human recruitment to the fisheries (A.2.6), and an initiative on the effects of near-term climate shift and long-term climate change on our fish, fisheries, and fishing communities (A.2.8). This scoping would identify specific objectives of the initiatives, inventory available information, and propose a timeline for completing either or both initiatives. Pending approval of funding for the initiative process, the EWG would report back at the September 2017 Council meeting. The Nature Conservancy offered to sponsor a workshop to help in the development of whatever initiative(s) the Council decides to pursue. The Council discussed the optimal timing of such a workshop and concluded that it would be most useful if it occurred after the September meeting.

G. Enforcement Issues

1. **[Annual U.S. Coast Guard Fishery Enforcement Report](#)** – Jim Seger [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@ 0:00:10](#)]

RADM Mark Butt presented Dr. Donald McIsaac the U. S. Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award.

- a. **U.S. Coast Guard Annual West Coast Fishery Enforcement Report** – RADM Mark Butt [[mp3: 3-9-17pm1@ 0:09:52](#)]

[Agenda Item G.1.a, USCG Report](#): U. S. Coast Guard District Eleven & District Thirteen, 2016 Report

[Agenda Item G.1.a, Supplemental USCG PowerPoint](#)

b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

None

c. Public Comment

None

d. Council Action: Consider the U.S. Coast Guard Report

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The United States Coast Guard (USCG) provided its annual enforcement report to the Council and honored retired Council Executive Director Dr. Donald McIsaac with the USCG Meritorious Public Service Award.

H. Pacific Halibut Management

1. Report on the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Meeting – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:00:42](#)]

Agenda Item H.1, Attachment 1: 2017 Area 2A Pacific Halibut Allocations

a. IPHC Report – Dave Wilson [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:06:08](#)]

Agenda Item H.1.a, IPHC Letters RE IBQ: Preliminary and Final Estimates of the Total Constant Exploitation Yield for Pacific Halibut in Area 2A

Agenda Item H.1.a, IPHC News Release: International Pacific Halibut Commission Announces 2017 Catch Limits and Seasons

Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental IPHC PowerPoint

b. Council IPHC Representative Report – Phil Anderson and Michele Culver [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:35:07](#)]

Agenda Item H.1.b, IPHC Representative Report: Report on the 2017 International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting

Agenda Item H.1.b, MSAB Representative Report: Update on the Management Strategy Evaluation Process for Pacific Halibut

c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities

None

d. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:42:53](#)]

Dave Croonquist, Puget Sound Anglers Coastal Conservation Association presented Agenda Item H.1.d, Supplemental Public Comment

e. Council Action: Consideration of the IPHC Meeting Reports [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:47:20](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council received a presentation from Dr. Dave Wilson, the Executive Director of the IPHC, containing an overview of the annual meeting, stock assessment, and plans for expanding the Pacific halibut stock assessment survey in northern Washington and northern

California. The 2017 Area 2A catch limit for Pacific halibut is 1.33 million pounds, which is 190,000 pounds greater than the 2016 limit.

The Council requested additional information on the spatial distribution of the Pacific halibut exploitable biomass in Area 2A. The IPHC has offered to provide survey data from Area 2A stratified by state boundaries as well as biomass estimates with estimates of uncertainty at smaller spatial scales than the IPHC regulatory area. The Council is scheduled to consider this information and discuss future CSP allocation changes at their June 2017 meeting in Spokane, Washington.

2. Incidental Catch Recommendation Options for the Salmon Troll and Final Recommendations for the Fixed Gear Sablefish Fisheries – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:54:25](#)]

[Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 1](#): Summary of Pacific Halibut Incidental Catch Management

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 0:58:43](#)]

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 1:11:46](#)]

Paul Clampitt, Fishing Vessel Owners Association

Robert Alverson, Fishing Vessel Owners Association

c. Council Action: Make Recommendations for Inseason Changes to April 2017 Retention Limits in the Salmon Troll Fishery, as Necessary; Adopt Public Review Options for 2017 and April 2018 Salmon Troll Fishery; Adopt Final Retention Limits for 2017 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 1:27:36](#)]

Motion 6 [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 1:30:06](#)]: Council to adopt for public review, the range of Pacific halibut landing restrictions for the salmon troll fishery from May 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 and April 1-30, 2018 as shown in [Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#) (March 2017).

Jeff Feldner/Maggie Sommer (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 7 [[mp3: 3-10-17am1@ 1:32:30](#)]: Council to adopt as final, for the fixed gear tier fishery north of Point Chehalis, halibut catch limit for the 2017 at two fish plus 140 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of dressed sablefish onboard (as described in [Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)).

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council recommended that the current incidental Pacific halibut catch regulations for the non-Indian salmon troll fishery remain unchanged for the period April 1-30, 2017. The current limit is no more than one halibut per three Chinook, except one halibut may be possessed or landed without meeting the ratio requirement and no more than 20 halibut may be landed per trip. The Council also adopted the following options for public review:

Alternative 1 (Status Quo): May 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 and April 1-30, 2018, license holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each three Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 20 halibut landed per trip.

Alternative 2: May 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 and April 1-30, 2018, license holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each two Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 30 halibut landed per trip.

Alternative 3: May 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 and April 1-30, 2018, license holders may land no more than one Pacific halibut per each two Chinook, except one Pacific halibut may be landed without meeting the ratio requirement, and no more than 35 halibut landed per trip.

Final Council action is scheduled on the aforementioned limits at the April 2017 Council meeting.

The Council also recommended the 2017 incidental catch restrictions in the fixed gear tier fishery north of Point Chehalis be set at 140 pounds of dressed weight halibut for every 1,000 pounds dressed weight of sablefish, plus 2 additional halibut in excess of the ratio.

I. Groundfish Management

1. [Salmon Endangered Species Act \(ESA\) Consultation Analysis](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-10-17am2@ 1:37:50](#)]

a. [Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities](#) [[mp3: 3-10-17pm1@ 0:00:53](#)] & [[mp3: 3-10-17pm2@ 0:00:26](#)]

[Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Alternatives for Salmon Bycatch Management in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries

[Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Salmon Bycatch in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Salmon Bycatch in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries: Scenario Analysis (Bishop)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental CDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental STT Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental GMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental SAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. [Public Comment](#) [[mp3: 3-10-17pm2@ 0:43:09](#)]

Joel Kawahara

Kevin Dunn, F/V Iron Lady
Brad Pettinger, Oregon Trawl Commission
Heather Mann, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative

c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on the Analysis [[mp3: 3-10-17pm2@ 1:04:32](#)]

Motion 8 [[mp3: 3-10-17pm2@ 1:15:32](#)]: Council to remove from future analysis the scenario that would authorize processing at sea South of 42.

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe (motion was substituted)

Motion 9 (as a substitute) [[mp3: 3-10-17pm2@ 1:28:38](#)]: Council to remove from future analysis the scenario that assumes whiting processing at sea is expanded South of 42.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried, Mr. Lockhart abstained).

Staff Summary: The Council reviewed the analysis of scenarios representing the ongoing prosecution of the groundfish fishery, associated Chinook salmon bycatch thresholds, and estimate Chinook bycatch ([Agenda Item I.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#)). To accurately represent the ongoing prosecution of the fishery, the Council directed that National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) remove the scenario that assumes whiting processing at sea is expanded South of 42 N. latitude from any revised analysis supporting Council action. The Council also directed additional descriptive material, such as whiting co-op coordination information and non-trawl fisheries descriptions be included.

The Council directed the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to assist NMFS in developing revised Chinook salmon bycatch estimates based on recommendations made by the [GMT](#).

2. [Reports and Recommendations from Groundfish Science Workshops and Methodology Reviews](#) – John DeVore [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 1:47:14](#)]

[Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 1](#): Report of the Groundfish Historical Catch Reconstruction Workshop

[Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 2](#): Report of the Groundfish Productivity Workshop of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 1:53:40](#)]

[Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Report](#): The Scientific and Statistical Committee's Groundfish Subcommittee Report on the Review of Assessment Methodologies Proposed for Use in 2017 Groundfish Assessments

[Agenda Item I.2.a, ODFW Report](#): Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Informational Report Regarding Speciation of Unspecified Rockfish Landings in Oregon for Inclusion in Stock Assessment Time Series of Removals

[Agenda Item I.2.a, GMT Report 1](#): Groundfish Management Team Informational Report on Sablefish and Lingcod Discard Mortality Rates

[Agenda Item I.2.a, GMT Report 2](#): Groundfish Management Team Report on Discard Mortality Rates Applicable to the Nearshore Fishery

[Agenda Item I.2.a, REVISED Supplemental SSC Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment

None

c. Council Action: Review Reports and Adopt Science Workshop and Methodology Review Recommendations, As Appropriate [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:11:32](#)]

Motion 14 [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:13:14](#)]: Council adopt the Groundfish Science Workshops and SSC recommendations regarding proposed methodologies as described in [Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#); and the GMT Recommendations in [Agenda Item I.2.a, GMT Report 2](#) (the first two GMT recommendations on page 10.

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln

Amendment 1 [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 2:29:12](#)]: amend the motion to strike “the first two GMT Recommendations on page 10” and insert “select Option 1 in Alternative 1”

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe (amendment was withdrawn with consent of the second)

Amendment 2: amend the motion to insert “except in Alternative 1, selection Option 1 – instead of the GMT recommended option 2.”

Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe (amendment carried unanimously)

Main Motion As amended carried unanimously

Staff Summary: The Council adopted two groundfish science workshop reports, which focused on groundfish [historical catch reconstructions](#) and issues related to modelling groundfish [stock productivity](#). The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) endorsed most of the recommendations in the workshop reports. The SSC also endorsed the groundfish assessment methodologies reviewed at a recent methodology review meeting, including one that changes the mean Beverton-Holt steepness value for rockfish from 0.78 to 0.72 (see [Agenda Item I.2.a, REVISED Supplemental SSC Report](#) for all the SSC recommendations under this agenda item). The Council also adopted the GMT recommendations concerning [sablefish and lingcod discard mortality rates](#) and recommendations concerning [discard mortality rates applied to the nearshore commercial fishery](#) with the following exception:

Adopt Option 1 under Alternative 1 in [GMT Report 2](#), which requests the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program add an additional depth strata as in Figure 4 of that report.

3. [Consideration of Inseason Adjustments, Including Carryover](#) – Kelly Ames [[mp3: 3-12-17am1@ 0:00:59](#)]

[Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1](#): Excerpt of the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program Regulations

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-12-17am1@ 0:06:44](#)]

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental NMFS PowerPoint](#): Trawl Gear Modifications EFP Chinook Bycatch Management (Hooper)

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental WDFW Report](#)

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#): Surplus Carryover

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 2](#): Inseason

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 3](#): Trawl Gear EFP

[Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-12-17am1@ 1:16:42](#)]

[Agenda Item I.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Dave Bitts, PCFFA

Lori Steele, West Coast Seafood Processors Association

c. Council Action: Adopt Recommendations for Adjustments, Including Carryover to 2017 Groundfish Fisheries, as Necessary [[mp3: 3-12-17am1@ 1:20:34](#)]

Motion 15 [[mp3: 3-12-17am1@ 1:26:29](#)]: Council adopt the recommendations as presented in [Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#), [GMT Report 2](#), and [GMT Report 3](#) and the [Supplemental NMFS Report](#) (PowerPoint presentation), to address a) Inseason adjustments, b) carryover quota pounds (including maximum carryover for sablefish north of 36 degrees, c) biological sampling requirement changes for bocaccio and canary rockfish, d) the proposed expansion of the IPHC survey and related take of yelloweye rockfish, e) the management measures proposed by the WDFW, and f) the modified adaptive changes to the groundfish EFP take of salmon bycatch.

Caren Braby/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council recommended that NMFS issue surplus carryover for all non-whiting individual fishing quota (IFQ) species where the annual catch limit (ACL) is less than the acceptable biological catch (ABC), including sablefish north of 36° N. latitude. Surplus carryover for petrale sole is not eligible under the current NMFS policy, given that the ACL is equal to the ABC. The Council recommended NMFS issue eligible carryover pounds up to the point where the ACL plus surplus carryover equals the ABC. The Council also recommended removing canary and bocaccio from the list of species that must be counted and weighed prior to leaving a vessel before catch from a shorebased IFQ trip has been offloaded.

The Council recommended implementing Federal conforming regulations for the [Washington recreational](#) fisheries, including reducing the rockfish daily bag limit from 10 to 7 rockfish per angler and the aggregated bottomfish daily bag limit from 12 to 9 per angler, which are designed to keep black rockfish mortality within the allowable limits. Further, regulations would remove the 22-inch minimum size limit for lingcod to encourage anglers to retain the first two lingcod caught, potentially reducing bycatch of yelloweye and black rockfish in some areas.

The Council also recommended NMFS include a Chinook salmon harvest guideline of 3,547, which would apply the entire midwater rockfish fishery including the trawl gear exempted fishing permit (EFP). This number represents the estimated total Chinook salmon taken by the midwater rockfish fishery, assuming the full take of the individual fishing quota (IFQ) allocation of canary, widow, and yellowtail rockfish ([Agenda Item F.5.a, Supplemental GMT Report, November 2016](#)). Additionally, the Council recommended the EFP stipulate that no more than 800 Chinook salmon can be taken before May 15 to keep impacts aligned with the current salmon biological opinion.

4. **Implementation of the 2017 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement** – John DeVore [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:01:18](#)]

[Agenda Item I.4, Supplemental Attachment 1](#): Executive Summary of the draft Status of the Pacific Hake (Whiting) Stock in U.S. and Canadian Waters in 2017

a. **Joint Management Committee Report** – Phil Anderson [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:05:09](#)]

b. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:22:51](#)]

[Agenda Item I.4.b, GMT Report](#): Groundfish Management Team Report on Implementation of the 2017 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement

[Agenda Item I.4.b, Supplemental GAP Report](#)

c. **Public Comment**

None

d. **Council Action: Consider Necessary Actions for Implementing the 2017 Pacific Whiting Fishery, Including Yield Set-Asides** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:24:41](#)]

Motion 16 [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:25:15](#)]: Council adopt the recommendations in the GMT Report (1,500 mt) for set-asides for research and the pink shrimp fishery. Caren Braby/Corey Niles (motion carried unanimously).

Staff Summary: The Council received a briefing on the 2017 Pacific whiting assessment and the recommended U.S. and Canada total allowable catch for 2017 Pacific whiting fisheries of 531,501 mt (392,673 mt U.S. share), which is 6.8 percent greater than 2016. The Council adopted a yield set-aside of 1,500 mt to accommodate the catch of Pacific whiting in 2017 West Coast research activities and the incidental bycatch of Pacific whiting in non-whiting fisheries (primarily the pink shrimp trawl fishery).

J. Highly Migratory Species Management

1. **National Marine Fisheries Service Report** – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-11-17am1@ 0:00:20](#)]

a. **Regulatory Activities** – Heidi Taylor [[mp3: 3-11-17am1@ 0:00:34](#)]

[Agenda Item J.1.a, NMFS Report 1](#): Highly Migratory Species Activities

[Agenda Item J.1.a, NMFS Report 2](#): Regulations to Implement Import Restrictions under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (*Electronic Only*)

a. **Science Center Activities** – James Carretta [[mp3: 3-11-17am1@ 0:18:54](#)]

[Agenda Item J.1.b, Southwest Fisheries Science Center Report](#): Regression Tree and Ratio Estimates of Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Seabird Bycatch in the California Drift Gillnet Fishery: 1990-2015 (*Electronic Only*)

[Agenda Item J.1.b, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): Use of machine-learning to estimate rare-event bycatch in the CA swordfish drift gillnet fishery (*Carretta*)

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

None

c. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-11-17am1@ 1:04:13](#)]

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans
Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

d. **Council Discussion** [[mp3: 3-11-17am1@ 1:10:21](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

2. **Update on Existing Deep Set-Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) – Kit Dahl** [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 0:00:02](#)]

[Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 1](#): Interim EFP Progress Report from Mr. Tim Ferguson

[Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 2](#): Pacific Fisheries Management Council Summary Report, 2015-2016 PIER deep-set buoy gear EFP

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 0:04:03](#)]

[Agenda Item J.2.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

b. **Public Comment**

None

c. **Council Action: Review Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Activity, Make Recommendations as Appropriate** [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 0:18:44](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: The Council clarified that in the future they would expect reports on EFPs at the June Council meeting, per Council Operating Procedure 20.

While the Council deferred to NMFS on the specifics of observer coverage for ongoing EFPs, it noted that each vessel and vessel operator should be subject to the requirement to complete 10 sets with 100 percent observer coverage before the observer coverage requirement can be reduced to a lower level.

3. **Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits – Kit Dahl** [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 0:36:58](#)]

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 1](#): Revised Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Linked Buoy Gear (Plegler Institute of Environmental Research)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 2](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Frederic Hepp)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 3](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Kent Jacobs)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 4](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Martin Kastlunger)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Attachment 5](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Phillip Harris)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 6](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Denny Corbin; F/V Ray Ban)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 7](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Roger Cullen)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 8](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (William Diller)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 9](#): Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Lorton/Haworth)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 10](#): Council Data Gathering Priorities

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental Attachment 11](#): ADDENDUM to Exempted Fishing Permit Application for Deep-Set Buoy Gear (Denny Corbin; F/V Ray Ban)

a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 0:45:20](#)]

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental EC Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 1:18:02](#)]

[Agenda Item J.3.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Kent Jacobs

Arthur Lorton

Chuguey Sepulveda

Phillip Harris

Martin Kastlunger

Jordyn Kastlunger

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Tara Brock, PEW Charitable Trusts

Robert Osborn

c. Council Action: 1) Review Proposed Criteria for Expedited Approval of Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted fishing Permit Application and Adopt for Immediate, Use, if appropriate, and 2) Consider Expedited Review Criteria and Make Recommendations to NMFS on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications to Test Deep-Set Buoy Gear [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 1:52:21](#)]

David Crabbe recused himself from any vote on the Denny Corbin EFP (as a vessel owner)

Motion 10 [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 2:12:48](#)]: Council approve the four items as shown on page one of [Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#) having to do with the expedited EFP process.

Buzz Brizendine/Herb Pollard (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 11 [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 2:19:21](#)]: Council to approve the recommendations that are summarized in [Supplemental HMSMT Report J.3.a](#), Table on page 7, with the recommendations of the Enforcement Consultants in [Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental EC Report](#).

Marci Yaremko/ Marc Gorelnik

Amendment 1 [[mp3: 3-11-17am2@ 2:28:39](#)]: Include as part of the motion “except for the following modifications: 1) Jacobs EFP approval is for standard DSBG gear only; 2) Harris EFP approval is specified based on 150 days of fishing.

Caren Braby/Jeff Feldner (Amendment carried, Mr. Crabbe recused himself)

Main Motion as amended carried, Mr. Crabbe recused himself.

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the [proposed criteria](#) described for consideration of Deep-Set Buoy Gear (DSBG) EFP applications for expedited, one-Council meeting review and approval.

Based on information in the [Supplemental HMSMT Report](#), the Council forwarded the following EFP applications to NMFS to consider permit issuance:

- [Pfleger Institute](#) of Environmental Research application for linked DSBG
- [Frederic Hepp](#) application for standard DSBG
- [Kent Jacobs](#) application conditioned on the use of standard DSBG rather than proposed modified weight system
- [Martin Kastlunger](#) application for standard DSBG with a 2-year permit duration
- [Phillip Harris](#) application based on his clarified intent of up to 150 days of fishing effort in the Southern California Bight
- [Denny Corbin](#) application for the standard DSBG component only
- [William Diller](#) application for standard DSBG

The Council gave preliminary approval to the [Roger Cullen](#) application for DSBG with a proposed modification in the type of line to be used. The Council requested a revised application be submitted at the June meeting based on the comments from the HMSMT.

The Council requested that the [Lorton/Haworth](#) application be resubmitted at the June meeting with additional detail on the proposed activity as outlined in the HMSMT Report.

The Council also directed that the following conditions be placed on issued EFPs, per the recommendation of its Enforcement Consultants Committee:

1. “Actively tending” definition: The fishing vessel must maintain a distance of no more than 3 nm from any piece of gear and maintain properly-configured gear in accordance with their EFP.
2. Each piece of DSBG and the terminal ends of linked DSBG must be marked with a radar reflector. Flags and buoys must be marked with the vessel’s official number.

4. [Amendment 4 to the Fishery Management Plan for West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species \(HMS-FMP\) – Kit Dahl](#) [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 0:00:07](#)]

[Agenda Item J.4, Attachment 1](#): Fishery Management Plan For U.S. West Coast Fisheries For Highly Migratory Species; Amendment 4: “Housekeeping” Changes (Draft For Council Review) (*Electronic Only*)

a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 0:07:07](#)]

[Agenda Item J.4.a, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.4.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 0:34:18](#)]

Peter Flournoy, American Fisherman's Research Foundation

c. Council Action: Adopt Proposed HMS-FMP Amendment 4 Language for Public Review and Provide Further Guidance [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 0:48:48](#)]

Motion 12 [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 01:22:37](#)]: Council to adopt recommendations described in the [HMSMT report](#), and for the Council to provide additional guidance to the HMSMT and AS in the consideration of the AS statement. Specifically, to:

1. Incorporate numeric estimates or proxies for SDCs into the SAFE.
 - a. In doing so, task the HMSMT to provide a list of items to be included in the SAFE Report for the June 2017 Council meeting.
2. Request the SSC to:
 - a. review the categories specified in the HMS FMP regarding the level of data being used in HMS assessments and how it relates to MSY estimation and report whether this information is still relevant, and
 - b. Provide recommendations on the best way forward for selecting best-fit MSY reference point proxies from those provided in international assessments for status determination criteria variables (including, F_{MSY} and B_{MSY}).
3. Align the biennial management cycle in the HMS FMP with NMFS' stock status determination process, as described in the Supplemental NMFS Report.
 - a. To do this, task the HMSMT and Council staff to make additional revisions to the HMS FMP prior to the June meeting.
4. Task the HMSMT and HMSAS with developing a list of species for which the Council might consider itself an "appropriate council" (per MSA section 304(i)) for making management recommendations related to stock status.
 - a. In carrying out these tasks, the HMSMT and AS should take stock assessment areas into consideration with respect to landings from the U.S. West Coast.
5. Task the HMSMT and AS to have a joint meeting before the June meeting for the purpose of discussing the AS's concerns with proposed revisions to the HMS FMP under Amendment 4.

Heidi Taylor/Rich Lincoln (Motion was withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 13 [[mp3: 3-11-17pm1@ 1:42:34](#)]: Council to adopt recommendations described in the HMSMT report except for number 6, and for the Council to provide additional guidance to the HMSMT and AS in the consideration of the AS statement. Specifically, to:

1. Incorporate numeric estimates or proxies for SDCs into the SAFE.
 - a. In doing so, task the HMSMT to provide a list of items to be included in the SAFE Report for the June 2017 Council meeting.
2. Request the SSC,
 - a. review the categories specified in the HMS FMP regarding the level of data being used in HMS assessments and how it relates to MSY estimation and report whether this information is still relevant, and
 - b. Provide recommendations on the best way forward for selecting best-fit MSY reference point proxies from those provided in international assessments for status determination criteria variables (including, F_{MSY} and B_{MSY}).

3. Align the biennial management cycle in the HMS FMP with NMFS' stock status determination process, as described in the Supplemental NMFS Report.
 - a. To do this, task the HMSMT and Council staff to make additional revisions to the HMS FMP prior to the June meeting.
4. Task the HMSMT and HMSAS with developing a list of species for which the Council might consider itself an "appropriate council" (per MSA section 304(i)) for making management recommendations related to stock status.
 - a. In carrying out these tasks, the HMSMT and AS should take stock assessment areas into consideration with respect to landings from the U.S. West Coast.
5. Task the HMSMT and AS to have a joint meeting before the June meeting for the purpose of discussing the AS's concerns with proposed revisions to the HMS FMP under Amendment 4.
6. Bring this information back to the Council at the June meeting to consider adoption of proposed HMS FMP Amendment 4 Language for Public Review.

Heidi Taylor/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council decided to defer adopting Amendment 4 text for public review until the June Council meeting. In the interim, it directed its advisory bodies to take up the following tasks and report back in June:

1. The HMSMT will provide a list of items to be included in the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report related to specifying biological reference points.
2. The SSC will review the categories specified in the HMS FMP regarding the level of data being used in HMS assessments and how it relates to maximum sustainable yield (MSY) estimation. The SSC will report whether this information is still relevant, and provide recommendations for selecting best-fit MSY reference point proxies (including, F_{MSY} and B_{MSY}) as a basis for determining status determination criteria.
3. The HMSMT and Council staff will revise proposed language in Amendment 4 to align the biennial management cycle in the HMS FMP with [NMFS' stock status determination process](#).
4. The HMSMT and HMSAS will develop a list of species for which the Council might consider itself an "appropriate Council" (per MSA section 304(i)) for making management recommendations related to stock status. In carrying out this task, the HMSMT and HMSAS should take into account U.S. West Coast fishery landings within stock assessment areas.
5. The HMSMT and HMSAS will meet before the June Council meeting to discuss HMSAS concerns with [proposed HMS FMP Amendment 4 revisions](#).

5. [Recommendations for International Management Activities](#) – Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:28:25](#)]

[Agenda Item J.5, Attachment 1](#): Letter from Mr. Michael Tosatto to Mr. Herb Pollard Describing Outcomes of Thirteenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

[Agenda Item J.5, Attachment 2](#): Conservation and Management Measure 2016-04 To Establish A Multi-Annual Rebuilding Plan For Pacific Bluefin Tuna

[Agenda Item J.5, Supplemental Attachment 3](#): Resolution adopted at the 91st Meeting (Extraordinary) of the IATTC; 14 February 2017

[Agenda Item J.5, Supplemental Attachment 4](#): First Announcement and Agenda – ISC Pacific Bluefin Tuna International Stakeholders Meeting, April 25-27, 2017 (Mita Kaigisho)

- a. **Report on the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Report – Dorothy Lowman** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:36:54](#)]
- b. **Report of the National Marine Fisheries – Heidi Taylor** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 0:46:16](#)]

[Agenda Item J.5.b, Supplemental NMFS Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.5.b, Supplemental SWFSC PowerPoint](#): NMFS Report on SWFSC HMS Activities (DiNardo)

- c. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 1:27:24](#)]

[Agenda Item J.5.c, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.5.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

- d. **Public Comment** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 1:36:27](#)]

Theresa Labriola, Wild Oceans

Doug Fricke

John Hall, California Pelagic Fisheries Association

- e. **Council Action: Consider Reports on International Activities and Provide Recommendation, As Appropriate** [[mp3: 3-12-17am2@ 1:45:38](#)]

Motion: None

Staff Summary: None

6. [Fishery Management Plan Amendment 5: Final Action Authorizing Federal Drift Gillnet Permit](#)– Kit Dahl [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 0:00:05](#)]

[Agenda Item J.6, Attachment 1](#): Joint Report Between the NMFS And CDFW on the Federalization of Drift Gillnet (DGN) Permits (Originally, Agenda Item I.5.a, Supplemental NMFS/CDFW Report, November 2016)

[Agenda Item J.6, Attachment 2](#): Amendment 5 to the Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast Fisheries for HMS

- a. **Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities** [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 0:07:24](#)]

[Agenda Item J.6.a, NMFS Report](#): NMFS Report on Federal Drift Gillnet Permitting

[Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental CA Lt. Governor Report](#): Letter to Chuck Bonham, CDFW, from California Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom re: PFMC vote to cede California’s DGN fishery to Federal oversight

[Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental Congressional Letter](#): Letter to PFMC from The Honorable Jared Huffman, Member of Congress, 2nd District California Legislature, expressing opposition to the PFMC taking final action on authorizing the federal DGN permit

[Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#)

[Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental HMSAS Report](#)

b. Public Comment [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 0:30:34](#)]

[Agenda Item J.6.b, Supplemental Public Comment](#)

Ben Enticknap, Oceana

Arthur Lorton

Cassie Burdyslaw, Turtle Island Restoration Network

Peter Flournoy, American Fisherman's Research Foundation

Jonathan Gonzalez

Gary Burke, CFSB

c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative for Authorizing a Federal Limited Entry Permit for the California Large Mesh Drift Gillnet Fishery and Associated FMP Language [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 0:59:11](#)]

Motion 17 [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 1:24:05](#)]: Council Adopt alternative 1 as a final preferred alternative for authorizing a Federal Limited Entry Permit for the California Large Mesh Drift Gillnet Fishery and adopt the associated FMP language as outlined in the appendix of [Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental HMSMT report.](#)

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried, Ms. Yaremko abstained)

Motion 18 (as a substitute) [[mp3: 3-12-17pm1@ 1:42:20](#)] Council delay the decision until June to allow additional opportunity for discussion and information sharing.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Niles (Motion failed, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Niles and Ms. Yaremko voted yes)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted Alternative 1 as its final preferred alternative for authorizing a Federal limited entry permit for the California large mesh drift gillnet fishery. In doing so, the Council adopted the associated FMP amendment language provided in the appendix of the [Supplemental HMSMT Report](#). Under Alternative 1, as soon as possible after Council final action, only fishermen authorized to fish with large mesh drift gillnet (DGN) gear under state law would be entitled to a DGN limited entry permit issued by NMFS. Fishermen who hold valid state DGN permits on the date of Final Rule publication would be eligible for the Federal DGN limited entry permit. These permits could only be transferred once every three years.

Federal DGN limited entry permits will be issued to an individual, and a vessel must be specified on the permit. These permits will be issued annually for the fishing year starting April 1 and ending March 31 of the following year. Permits thus expire on March 31 of each year and after initial issuance (expected in 2018), the permit renewal deadline will be April 30 of the fishing year. A DGN permit that has expired will not be renewed unless the permit owner requests reissuance by July 31 (three months after the renewal application deadline) and NMFS determines that failure to renew was proximately caused by illness, injury, or death of the permit owner. If the permit expires, it will be forfeited and NMFS will not reissue the permit to anyone. These renewal deadlines (April 30 and July 31) differ from the current state permit renewal deadlines.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

None

VOTING LOG

Motion 1: Adopt [Agenda Item A.4, March 7-13, 2017 Council Meeting Agenda](#) as shown.
David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 2: Council to include the idea of new initiative included in the FEP as described in [Agenda Item F.3.a, Supplemental EAS Report](#).
Caren Braby/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 3: Council to modify the appendix of the FEP as described in [Agenda Item F.3.a, EWG Report](#).
Caren Braby/Dorothy Lowman (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 4: Council to adopt the stock abundance forecasts, ABCs, and ACLs in [Preseason Report 1 \(dated March 7, 2017\)](#) as the best available science for use in 2017 salmon management as recommended by the SSC in [Agenda Item E.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report](#).
Phil Anderson/Marc Gorelnik (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 5: Council to adopt the management objectives as shown in [Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental WDFW/Tribal Report](#).
Kyle Adicks/Joe Oatman (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 6: Council to adopt for public review, the range of Pacific halibut landing restrictions for the salmon troll fishery from May 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 and April 1-30, 2018 as shown in [Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental SAS Report \(March 2017\)](#).
Jeff Feldner/Maggie Sommer (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 7: Council to adopt as final, for the fixed gear tier fishery north of Point Chehalis, halibut catch limit for the 2017 at two fish plus 140 pounds of halibut per 1,000 pounds of dressed sablefish onboard (as described in [Agenda Item H.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report](#)).
Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 8: Council to remove from future analysis the scenario that would authorize processing at sea South of 42.
Marci Yaremko/David Crabbe (motion was substituted)

Motion 9 (as a substitute): Council to remove from future analysis the scenario that assumes whiting processing at sea is expanded South of 42.
Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried, Mr. Lockhart abstained).

Motion 10: Council approve the four items as shown on page one of [Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#) having to do with the expedited EFP process.
Buzz Brizendine/Herb Pollard (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 11 (as amended by Braby/Feldner): Council to approve the recommendations that are summarized in [J.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#) Table on page 7, with the recommendations of the Enforcement Consultants in [Agenda Item J.3.a, Supplemental EC](#)

[Report](#) except for the following modifications: 1) Jacobs EFP approval is for standard DSBG gear only; 2) Harris EFP approval is specified based on 150 days of fishing.

Marci Yaremko/ Marc Gorelnik (Motion as amended carried, Mr. Crabbe recused himself.)

Motion 12: Council to adopt recommendations described in [Agenda Item J.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#), and for the Council to provide additional guidance to the HMSMT and AS in the consideration of the AS statement. Specifically, to:

6. Incorporate numeric estimates or proxies for SDCs into the SAFE.
 - a. In doing so, task the HMSMT to provide a list of items to be included in the SAFE Report for the June 2017 Council meeting.
7. Request the SSC to:
 - a. review the categories specified in the HMS FMP regarding the level of data being used in HMS assessments and how it relates to MSY estimation and report whether this information is still relevant, and
 - b. Provide recommendations on the best way forward for selecting best-fit MSY reference point proxies from those provided in international assessments for status determination criteria variables (including, F_{MSY} and B_{MSY}).
8. Align the biennial management cycle in the HMS FMP with NMFS' stock status determination process, as described in the [Supplemental NMFS Report](#).
 - a. To do this, task the HMSMT and Council staff to make additional revisions to the HMS FMP prior to the June meeting.
9. Task the HMSMT and HMSAS with developing a list of species for which the Council might consider itself an "appropriate council" (per MSA section 304(i)) for making management recommendations related to stock status.
 - a. In carrying out these tasks, the HMSMT and AS should take stock assessment areas into consideration with respect to landings from the U.S. West Coast.
10. Task the HMSMT and AS to have a joint meeting before the June meeting for the purpose of discussing the AS's concerns with proposed revisions to the HMS FMP under Amendment 4.

Heidi Taylor/Rich Lincoln (Motion was withdrawn with consent of the second)

Motion 13: Council to adopt recommendations described in [Agenda Item J.4.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#) except for number 6, and for the Council to provide additional guidance to the HMSMT and AS in the consideration of the AS statement. Specifically, to:

1. Incorporate numeric estimates or proxies for SDCs into the SAFE.
 - a. In doing so, task the HMSMT to provide a list of items to be included in the SAFE Report for the June 2017 Council meeting.
2. Request the SSC,
 - a. review the categories specified in the HMS FMP regarding the level of data being used in HMS assessments and how it relates to MSY estimation and report whether this information is still relevant, and
 - b. Provide recommendations on the best way forward for selecting best-fit MSY reference point proxies from those provided in international assessments for status determination criteria variables (including, F_{MSY} and B_{MSY}).
3. Align the biennial management cycle in the HMS FMP with NMFS' stock status determination process, as described in the [Supplemental NMFS Report](#).

- a. To do this, task the HMSMT and Council staff to make additional revisions to the HMS FMP prior to the June meeting.
 4. Task the HMSMT and HMSAS with developing a list of species for which the Council might consider itself an “appropriate council” (per MSA section 304(i)) for making management recommendations related to stock status.
 - a. In carrying out these tasks, the HMSMT and AS should take stock assessment areas into consideration with respect to landings from the U.S. West Coast.
 5. Task the HMSMT and AS to have a joint meeting before the June meeting for the purpose of discussing the AS’s concerns with proposed revisions to the HMS FMP under Amendment 4.
 6. Bring this information back to the Council at the June meeting to consider adoption of proposed HMS FMP Amendment 4 Language for Public Review.
- Heidi Taylor/Rich Lincoln (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 14 (as amended by Yaremko/Crabbe): Council to adopt the Groundfish Science Workshops and SSC recommendations regarding proposed methodologies as described in [Agenda Item I.2.a, REVISED Supplemental SSC Report](#); and the GMT Recommendations in [Agenda Item I.2.a, GMT Report 2](#) (the first two GMT recommendations on page 10) - Except in Alternative 1, Select Option 1 – instead of GMT recommended Option 2).

Michele Culver/Rich Lincoln (Motion as amended carried unanimously).

Motion 15: Council adopt the recommendations as presented in Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental [GMT Report 1](#), [GMT Report 2](#), and [GMT Report 3](#)) and the Supplemental NFMS Report ([NFMS PowerPoint](#) presentation), to address a) Inseason adjustments, b) carryover quota pounds (including maximum carryover for sablefish north of 36 degrees, c) biological sampling requirement changes for bocaccio and canary rockfish, d) the proposed expansion of the IPHC survey and related take of yelloweye rockfish, e) the management measures proposed by the [Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental WDFW Report](#), and f) the modified adaptive changes to the groundfish EFP take of salmon bycatch.

Caren Braby/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 16: Council adopt the recommendations in the [Agenda Item I.4.b, GMT Report](#) (1,500 mt) for set-asides for research and the pink shrimp fishery.

Caren Braby/Corey Niles (motion carried unanimously).

Motion 17: Council adopt alternative 1 as a final preferred alternative for authorizing a Federal Limited Entry Permit for the California Large Mesh Drift Gillnet Fishery and adopt the associated FMP language as outlined in the appendix of [Agenda Item J.6.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report](#).

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried, Ms. Yaremko abstained)

Motion 18 (as a substitute): Council delay the decision until June to allow additional opportunity for discussion and information sharing.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Niles (Motion failed, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Niles and Ms. Yaremko voted yes)

Motion 19: For non-Indian commercial and recreational fisheries in the area North of Cape Falcon, Council to adopt for public review the alternatives as presented in [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#) (March 12, 2017) with the following modifications:

- Alternative I
 - Adjust coho subarea quotas for recreational fisheries to the following numbers:
 - Neah Bay subarea – 6,120
 - La Push subarea – 1,430 for July-September, 100 for October 1-15
 - Wesport subarea – 21,750
 - Columbia River subarea – 29,400
- Alternative II
 - For the recreational fishery in the La Push subarea, modify the marked coho subarea quota to 1,310 and the Chinook guideline to 2,700 Chinook.
- Alternative III
 - For the commercial troll fishery, May 12 – June 27, a landing and possession limit of 50 Chinook per vessel per open period applies in the area from the Queets River to Cape Falcon.
 - For the commercial troll fishery July-September, add to the TAC description “and no more than 2,000 of which may be caught in the area between Leadbetter Point and Cape Falcon.”
 - For the recreational fisheries in the Neah Bay and La Push sub areas, modify the ending dates to September 10.

Kyle Adicks/Phil Anderson (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 20: Council to adopt for public review all alternatives as described in to [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#) dated March 13, 2017, with the following changes for the area of Cape Falcon to OR/CA border:

- Commercial troll management alternatives, Table 1, page 4:
 - In Alternative II for the area from Cape Falcon to the Florence South Jetty: Change the open days from “April 15-June 6” to “April 15-May 26, June 1-6, and August 14-15”
 - In Alternative II for the area from the Florence South Jetty to Humbug Mt.: Change the open days from “April 15-June 6” to “April 15-May 26, and June 1-6”
- Recreational management alternatives, Table 2, page 15:
 - In Alternative I for the area from Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border: Strike the entire season and replace with: “Closed”
 - In Alternative II for the area from Humbug Mt. to OR/CA Border: Strike the entire season and replace with:
 - All salmon except Chinook mark-selective coho fishery June 24 through the earlier of August 17 or a landed catch of 20,000 marked coho (quota applies to the entire area from Cape Falcon to the OR/CA Border).
 - Seven days per week. All salmon except Chinook. All retained coho must be marked with a healed adipose fin clip (C.1). Coho minimum size limit of 16 inches total length (B). See gear restrictions and definitions (C.2, C.3).

Chris Kern/Jeff Feldner (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 21: Council to adopt for STT collation and analysis and public review the salmon management measures for the 2017 commercial and recreational ocean fisheries in the area from the Oregon/California border to the U.S./Mexico border as presented in [Agenda Item E.6.a, Supplemental STT Report](#), including the commercial and recreational requirements, definitions, restrictions, or exceptions.

With the following changes:

- Recreational Fishery – page 16
- Horse Mountain to Point Arena (Fort Bragg):
 - Alternative II: Add July 1-12.
- Table 5. Klamath River Recreational Fishery Share
 - Alternative I: Adjust the Klamath River recreational allocation such that the projected spawner reduction rate equals 8.1%.
 - Alternative II: Set the Klamath River recreational fishery allocation to 15.0% of the non-tribal harvest.
 - Alternative III: The Klamath River recreational fishery allocation will remain zero.

These changes are being made with the expectation that all relevant conservation objectives will adhered to.

Brett Kormos/Marc Gorelnik (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 22: For the 2017 Treaty Ocean Troll Salmon Season, Council adopt for the establishment of three alternatives for public review as they are presented in table 3 of the [supplemental STT report \(E.6.a\)](#) dated March 12, 2017 on pages 19-20.

Alternative I quota levels of **50,000** Chinook, and **40,000** coho

Alternative II quota levels of **40,000** Chinook, and **22,000** coho

Alternative III quota levels of **30,000** Chinook, and **12,500** coho

The salmon season will consist of a May/June chinook directed fishery and a July/August/September all-species fishery. The Chinook harvest will be split between the two periods with the following sub-quotas:

Alternative I: **25,000**; Alternative II: **20,000**; Alternative III: **15,000** for the May/June Chinook directed fishery and the remainder Chinook in each alternative for the July/August/September all species fishery.

I would also like to state for the record, that the Tribes and State are just beginning the North of Falcon planning process in which we will evaluate the total impacts of all proposed fisheries on Puget Sound and Columbia River stocks.

David Sones/Phil Anderson (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 23: Council to approve the draft November 2016 Council meeting record as shown in [Agenda Item C.3, Attachment 1](#).

David Crabbe/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 24: Council appoint Ms. Abigail Harley to the National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region seat on the Groundfish Management Team.

Heidi Taylor/ David Sones (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 25:

I move the Council appoint Dr. Steve Haeseker to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service seats on the Salmon Technical Team and the Model Evaluation Workgroup.

Mike Clark/Buzz Brizendine (Motion carried unanimously).

Motion 26:

I move the Council appoint Ms. Caroline McKnight to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife seat on the Groundfish Endangered Species Workgroup.

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion carried unanimously)

Motion 27:

I move the Council appoint Mr. Michael Clark to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service seat on the Habitat Committee.

Phil Anderson/Kyle Adicks (motion carried unanimously)

Motion 28:

I move the Council adopt for public review for COP 1 and COP 20 with changes outlined in as shown in [C.4, Attachment 1](#) and [C.4, Supplemental Attachment 2](#).

David Crabbe/ Marci Yaremko (motion carried unanimously)

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on Monday, March 13, 2017 at 12:17 p.m.



Herb Pollard
Council Chair

June 11, 2017

Date