

COUNCIL MEETING RECORD
279th Session of the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
November 13-18, 2024
Hilton Orange County / Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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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 and Summary Transcripts** – These recordings contain the testimony, presentations, discussions, and actions occurring at the meeting. For additional reference, verbatim transcripts of Council Actions are available on the Council website. The recordings and transcripts 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. Links to the audio recordings 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

1. Opening Remarks – Brad Pettinger, Chair

Mr. Brad Pettinger, Council Chair, called the 279th meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to order at 1:00 p.m. on November 14, 2024. A closed session was held before this open session to discuss litigation and personnel matters. An additional closed session was held Saturday, November 16 after regular Council business was completed.

2. Roll Call – Merrick Burden

Council Members present during the meeting week:

National Marine Fisheries Service:	Ms. Jennifer Quan
	Mr. Ryan Wulff, designee
	Ms. Susan Bishop, designee
	Ms. Keeley Kent, designee
	Mr. Josh Lindsay, designee
Alaska State Official:	Ms. Dani Evenson, nonvoting designee
Washington State Official:	Mr. Kyle Adicks, designee
	Ms. Heather Hall, designee
	Mr. Corey Niles, designee
Washington Obligatory:	Mr. Butch Smith
Oregon State Official:	Mr. Mike Harrington, designee
	Mr. John North, designee
	Mr. Justin Ainsworth, designee
	Ms. Lynn Mattes, designee
Oregon Obligatory:	Ms. Christa Svensson
California State Official:	Ms. Marci Yaremko, designee
	Mr. John Ugoretz, designee
	Ms. Briana Brady, designee
	Ms. Caroline McKnight, designee
California Obligatory:	Ms. Corey Ridings
Idaho State Official:	Ms. Sharon Keifer, designee
Idaho Obligatory:	Mr. Pete Hassemer, Vice Chair
Tribal Official:	Mr. David Sones
At-Large:	Mr. Marc Gorelnik
	Dr. Rebecca Lent
	Mr. Brad Pettinger, Chair
	Ms. Aja Szumylo
U.S. Coast Guard:	LT Karrie Jeffries, nonvoting designee
	LT Skye Williamsz, nonvoting designee
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:	Mr. Mike Clark, nonvoting designee
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission:	Mr. Chris Oliver, Parliamentarian, nonvoting designee

Absent from the Meeting:

U.S. State Department:	Mr. David Hogan, nonvoting designee
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3. Agenda – Brad Pettinger

a. Council Action: Approve Agenda

Motion 1: Adopt Agenda Item A.3, November 13-18, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda.
Dani Evenson/Butch Smith

Amendment 1: include “with the addition of an additional closed session on Saturday, November 16”

Marc Gorelnik/Lynn Mattes (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 1, as amended, carried unanimously

4. Executive Director’s Report – Merrick Burden

B. Open Comment Period

1. Comments on Non-Agenda Items - Merrick Burden

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

C. Administrative Matters

1. Council Coordination Committee Report - Merrick Burden

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Staff Summary: None

2. Fiscal Matters - Patricia Hearing

a. Report of the Budget Committee

b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

c. Public Comment

d. Council Action: Consider Budget Committee Report and Recommendations

Motion 18: Council adopt the recommendations of the Budget Committee as presented in Agenda Item C.2.a, Report of the Budget Committee.

Sharon Kiefer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: None

3. Legislative Matters - Merrick Burden

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

Staff Summary: None

4. Approve Council Meeting Record - Merrick Burden

- a. Council Action: Approve Previous Council Meeting Record**

Motion 19: Council approve the September 2024 meeting record.

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 19 carried unanimously)

5. Membership Appointments and Council Operating Procedures – Including Final 2025-27 Advisory Body Appointments - Kelly Ames

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Consider Appointments to Council Committees and Advisory Bodies including Final 2025-27 Advisory Body Appointments; Consider Changes to Council Operating Procedures**

Motion 25: Council appoint **Ms. Katlyn Lockart** to one of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife positions on the Groundfish Management Team.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

Motion 26: Council appoint **Dr. Tim Copeland** to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game position on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

Motion 27: Council appoint **Dr. Will Satterthwaite** to one of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

Ryan Wulff/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 27 carried unanimously)

Motion 28: Council appoint **Ms. Stephanie Thurner** to the Tribal position on the Salmon Technical Team.

David Sones/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 28 carried unanimously)

Motion 29: Council make the following appointments to the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel:

California Commercial Fisheries (3 Positions)

Mr. Matt Everingham

Mr. Neil Guglielmo

Mr. Nick Jurlin

Oregon Commercial Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Kapp

Washington Commercial/Processor (1 Position)

Mr. Brian Blake

Processor (3 Positions, California, Washington, or Oregon)

Mr. Ryan Augello

Mr. Mark Fina

Mr. Mike Okoniewski

California Sport/Charter Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Steve Crooke

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Dr. Brian Hoover

Marc Gorelnik/David Sones (Motion 29 carried unanimously)

Motion 30: Council make the following appointments to the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel

California (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Richard (Dick) Ogg

Dr. Andrew Thurber

Oregon (2 At-Large Positions)

Ms. Theresa Labriola

Washington (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Scott Hough

Mr. Markus Min

At-Large (3)

Ms. Deb Wilson-Vandenberg

Ms. Michele Conrad

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 Oregon At-Large position and 1 At-Large position.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 30 carried unanimously)

Motion 31: Council make the following appointments to the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel:

Fixed Gear Fisheries (3 At-Large)

Mr. Robert D. Alverson

Mr. Georgon (Poggy) Lapham

Mr. Gerry Richter

Bottom Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Travis Hunter

Mid-Water Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Jeff Lackey

At-Large Trawl Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. Kevin Dunn

Open Access Fisheries North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Harrison Ibach

Open Access Fisheries South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Daniel Platt

Processors (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Steve Becic

Ms. Susan Chambers

At-Sea Processor (1 Position)

Ms. Sarah Nayani

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Paul A Mirante

California North of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Tim Klassen

California South of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Merit McCrea

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Phil Anderson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Stephen Godin

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. David Kasheta

Mr. Louis Zimm

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Mr. Shems Jud

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 At-Large Trawl position, 1 Oregon Charter position, and 1 Tribal position.

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson (Motion 31 carried, Dr. Lent abstained)

Motion 32: Council make the following appointments to the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel:

Commercial Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Clayton T. Wraith, Esq

Commercial Purse Seine Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Mike Conroy

Commercial Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Gary Burke

Commercial Deep-Set Buoy Gear (1 position)

Mr. Markus Medak

Commercial Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 At-Large Position)

Mr. Erik A. Johnson

Processor North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Lyf Gildersleeve

Processor South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. David Rudie

Southern Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Mike Thompson

Private Sport Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 Position)

Mr. Tom Mattusch

Private Sport Fisheries South of Point Conception (1 Position)

Mr. Todd Mansur

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Mr. Josh Madeira

Public At-Large (1 Position)

Ms. Pamela Tom

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 Commercial Fisheries South of Point Conception position and 1 Northern Charter Boat Operator position.

Christa Svensson/Lynn Mattes (Motion 32 carried unanimously)

Motion 33: Council make the following appointments to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel:

Washington Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Johnson

Oregon Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Alto

California Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. George Bradshaw

Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Bryce Divine

Processor (2 Positions)

Mr. Gerald Reinholdt

Mr. Jeremy Streig

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Steven Sohlstrom

Oregon Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Michael Sorensen

California Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. John Atkinson

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Dave Johnson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Allen Christie

Idaho Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Donald Vernon

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. Kevin Godes

Mr. James Yarnall

Tribal Fisheries - Washington Coast (1 Position)

Mr. Brian W. Svec

Tribal Representative - California (1 Position)

Mr. Keith Parker

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Ms. Megan Waters

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 33 carried unanimously)

Motion 34: Council make the following appointments to the Scientific and Statistical Committee:

Scientists (9 At-Large Positions)

Dr. Christopher Free
Dr. Michael Hinton
Dr. Dan Holland
Dr. Tommy Moore
Dr. André E. Punt
Dr. Matthew Reimer
Dr. Jason Schaffler

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 2 At-Large positions, highlighting the Council's interest in candidates with stock assessment and social science expertise.

Corey Ridings/David Sones (Motion 34 carried unanimously)

Motion 35: Council make the following appointments to the Habitat Committee:

Northwest or Columbia River Tribal Representative (1 Position)

Ms. Kate Valdez

Klamath Tribal Representative (1 Position)

Mr. Justin Alvarez

Commercial Fishing Industry (1 Position)

Ms. Sarah Bates

Sport Fishing Industry (1 Position)

Mr. Gary Maganaris

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Dr. W. Waldo Wakefield

At-Large (2 Positions)

Dr. Caren Barcelo

Dr. Scott Heppell

Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 35 carried unanimously)

Motion 36: Council approve formation of an ad hoc committee charged with preparing comments for Council consideration on the proposed revisions to the National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9 as outlined in [Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2, November 2024](#). The make-up of the workgroup should include the following positions, based on Attachment 2 and Advisory Body Reports, noting the addition of EAS positions.

Group	Positions
CPSAS	2
EAS (new)	2
GAP	4
HMSAS	1
SAS	1
SSC	3
Conservation	3
Tribal	3
IDFG	1
CDFW	1
ODFW	1
WDFW	1

Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer

Amendment 1: Change the “1” in the HMS seat to “2”

Christa Svensson/Rebecca Lent (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 36, as amended, carried unanimously

Motion 37: Council form an Ad-Hoc HMS Roadmap - Fisheries Innovation Workgroup, as follows:

1. Membership: Two HMSMT members, three HMSAS members, a NMFS WCR representative, two Council members, and up to two other members at the discretion of the Council Chair.
2. Charge: The workgroup is tasked with developing and refining Council procedures which help facilitate the more rapid creation of new HMS gears and achieve the goals of the HMS Roadmap. The work should include:
Modification of the Council Operating Procedure 20 (HMS EFP process)
 - Improvement of HMS EFP guidance
 - Development of HMS EFP performance goals, including acceptable bycatch, and metrics to evaluate EFP performance
 - Consideration of the National Seafood Strategy as it pertains to HMS fisheries
 - Review of the draft HMS Roadmap, as appropriate
 - Discussion of relevant innovative fishery tools or measures needed to support a robust HMS fishery

Marci Yaremko/Christa Svensson (Motion 37 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary:

Council Advisory Body Appointments

Chair Pettinger appointed Mr. Butch Smith to the Council’s Legislative Committee. The Council also made the following appointments:

- Ms. Katlyn Lockhart to one of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife positions on the Groundfish Management Team.
- Dr. Tim Copeland to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game position on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.
- Dr. Will Satterthwaite to one of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.
- Ms. Stephanie Thurner to the Tribal position on the Salmon Technical Team.

Council Advisory Body Appointments for the 2025-27 Term

The Council appointed the following individuals to serve on Advisory Bodies starting January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel

California Commercial Fisheries (3 Positions)

Mr. Matt Everingham

Mr. Neil Guglielmo

Mr. Nick Jurlin

Oregon Commercial Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Kapp

Washington Commercial/Processor (1 Position)

Mr. Brian Blake

Processor (3 Positions, California, Washington, or Oregon)

Mr. Ryan Augello

Mr. Mark Fina

Mr. Mike Okoniewski

California Sport/Charter Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Steve Crooke

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Dr. Brian Hoover

Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel

California (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Richard (Dick) Ogg

Dr. Andrew Thurber

Oregon (2 At-Large Positions)

Ms. Theresa Labriola

Washington (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Scott Hough

Mr. Markus Min

At-Large (3)

Ms. Deb Wilson-Vandenberg

Ms. Michele Conrad

The Council will re-advertise for 1 Oregon At-Large position and 1 At-Large position.

Groundfish Advisory Subpanel

Fixed Gear Fisheries (3 At-Large)

Mr. Robert D. Alverson

Mr. Georgon (Poggy) Lapham
Mr. Gerry Richter

Bottom Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Travis Hunter

Mid-Water Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Jeff Lackey

At-Large Trawl Fisheries (2 Positions)
Mr. Kevin Dunn

Open Access Fisheries North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)
Mr. Harrison Ibach

Open Access Fisheries South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)
Mr. Daniel Platt

Processors (2 At-Large Positions)
Mr. Steve Becic
Ms. Susan Chambers

At-Sea Processor (1 Position)
Ms. Sarah Nayani

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)
Mr. Paul A Mirante

California North of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)
Mr. Tim Klassen

California South of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)
Mr. Merit McCrea

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Phil Anderson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Stephen Godin

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)
Mr. David Kasheta
Mr. Louis Zimm

Conservation Group (1 Position)
Mr. Shems Jud

The Council will re-advertise for 1 At-Large Trawl position, 1 Oregon Charter position, and 1 Tribal position.

Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel

Commercial Troll Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Clayton T. Wraith, Esq

Commercial Purse Seine Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Mike Conroy

Commercial Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)
Mr. Gary Burke

Commercial Deep-Set Buoy Gear (1 position)
Mr. Markus Medak

Commercial Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 At-Large Position)
Mr. Erik A. Johnson

Processor North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)
Mr. Lyf Gildersleeve

Processor South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)
Mr. David Rudie

Southern Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)
Mr. Mike Thompson

Private Sport Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 Position)
Mr. Tom Mattusch

Private Sport Fisheries South of Point Conception (1 Position)
Mr. Todd Mansur

Conservation Group (1 Position)
Mr. Josh Madeira

Public At-Large (1 Position)
Ms. Pamela Tom

The Council will re-advertise for 1 Commercial Fisheries South of Point Conception position and 1 Northern Charter Boat Operator position.

Salmon Advisory Subpanel

Washington Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Johnson

Oregon Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Alto

California Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. George Bradshaw

Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Bryce Divine

Processor (2 Positions)

Mr. Gerald Reinholdt

Mr. Jeremy Streig

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Steven Sohlstrom

Oregon Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Michael Sorensen

California Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. John Atkinson

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Dave Johnson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Allen Christie

Idaho Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Donald Vernon

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. Kevin Godes

Mr. James Yarnall

Tribal Fisheries – Washington Coast (1 Position)

Mr. Brian W. Svec

Tribal Representative – California (1 Position)

Mr. Keith Parker

Conservation Group (1 Position)
Ms. Megan Waters

Scientific and Statistical Committee

Scientists (9 At-Large Positions)

Dr. Christopher Free
Dr. Michael Hinton
Dr. Dan Holland
Dr. Tommy Moore
Dr. André E. Punt
Dr. Matthew Reimer
Dr. Jason Schaffler

The Council will re-advertise for 2 At-Large positions, highlighting the Council's interest in candidates with stock assessment and social science expertise.

Habitat Committee

Northwest or Columbia River Tribal Representative (1 Position)
Ms. Kate Valdez

Klamath Tribal Representative (1 Position)
Mr. Justin Alvarez

Commercial Fishing Industry (1 Position)
Ms. Sarah Bates

Sport Fishing Industry (1 Position)
Mr. Gary Maganaris

Conservation Group (1 Position)
Dr. W. Waldo Wakefield

At-Large (2 Positions)
Dr. Caren Barcelo
Dr. Scott Heppell

Ad Hoc Committees

The Council approved the formation of a new Ad Hoc Committee in anticipation of the issuance of a proposed rule on modifications to National Standard Guidelines which ensure fair and equitable allocation of fishery resources (National Standard 4), consider the economic impact of management decisions on fishing communities (National Standard 8), and minimize bycatch and bycatch mortality (National Standard 9). The new committee will be responsible for reviewing the proposed modifications and developing a draft comment letter for Council consideration. The

committee will be composed of the following seats, and the Council Chair will appoint individual members:

Advisory Body	Number
CPSAS	2
EAS	2
GAP	4
HMSAS	2
SAS	1
SSC	3
Conservation	3
Tribal	3
IDFG	1
CDFW	1
ODFW	1
WDFW	1

The Council approved formation of the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Roadmap – Fisheries Innovation Workgroup Ad Hoc committee charged with developing and refining Council procedures which help facilitate the more rapid creation of new HMS gears and achieve the goals of the HMS Roadmap, which is under development. The committee’s work will include modification of Council Operating Procedure 20 – HMS Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) process, improvement of HMS EFP guidance, development of HMS EFP performance goals (including acceptable bycatch and metrics to evaluate EFP performance), consideration of the National Seafood Strategy as it pertains to HMS fisheries, review of the draft HMS Roadmap, as appropriate, and discussion of relevant innovative fishery tools or measures needed to support a robust HMS fishery.

The new committee will be comprised of two HMS Management Team members, three HMS Advisory Subpanel members, a NMFS West Coast Region representative, two Council members, and up to two other members at the discretion of the Council Chair.

6. Future Council Meeting Agenda and Workload Planning - Merrick Burden

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

Staff Summary: None

D. Cross Fishery Management Plan

1. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 2024 Accomplishments and 2025 Priorities - Kelly Ames

- a. NMFS Report - NMFS Leadership Team**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**
- d. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. Marine Planning - Kerry Griffin

- a. Report of the Marine Planning Committee - Mike Conroy**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**

d. Council Action: Consider Marine Planning Issues and Committee Report, Provide Guidance as Appropriate

Staff Summary: The Council received updates on offshore wind energy planning and development on the U.S. West Coast, including a Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) that will provide a framework for analyzing impacts related to the five offshore wind leases off Morro Bay and Humboldt Bay, California. BOEM will still need to complete individual EISs when the Construction and Operation Plan is submitted for each of the leases.

In addition, NOAA issued a draft PEIS for the Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in the Southern California Bight. The Marine Planning Committee (MPC) is holding an online [meeting](#) December 5 to receive briefings on both PEISs and will work with the Habitat Committee on developing comment letters, under the Council's Quick Response procedure.

The Council received a summary of the MPC's cumulative impacts framework and directed the MPC to continue developing it and provide an update at the March 2025 meeting (see [MPC Supplemental Report 2](#)).

In addition, the Council received state and tribal updates, and a presentation on a NOAA report produced for BOEM, entitled [Socioeconomic Characterization of West Coast Fisheries in Relation to Offshore Wind Energy Development](#). [MPC Report 1](#) contains additional details on these topics.

3. Research and Data Needs - Marlene Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Top Science and Management Challenges

Motion 12: Council adopt the below list as the top science and management challenges (not in priority order), with descriptions of each challenge as specified in [Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, November 2024](#):

- Data collection
- Stock assessment methodologies
- Life history and stock structure
- Evaluating fishery impacts
- Ecosystem dynamics
- Harvest policy
- Economics and Social science
- Habitat science and spatial management

The proposed framework should encourage engagement between the Scientific and Statistical Committee and other advisory bodies when identifying and prioritizing research and data needs.

Additionally, active monitoring and updating of the status (e.g., active, completed, no action) of the research progress and the overall database is required and should be undertaken more frequently than the Council 5-year review cycle.

Lynn Mattes/Corey Ridings (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the following top science and management challenges (not in priority order), with descriptions as specified in [Agenda Item D.3, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#), to guide the next steps in the research and data needs review cycle:

- Data collection
- Stock assessment methodologies
- Life history and stock structure
- Evaluating fishery impacts
- Ecosystem dynamics
- Harvest policy
- Economic and social science
- Habitat science and spatial management

Advisory bodies provided feedback on associated key topics for examples within these broad challenge categories. The Council provided guidance that the framework for conducting this review cycle ([Agenda Item D.3, Attachment 2](#)) should encourage engagement between the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and other advisory bodies when identifying and prioritizing research and data needs. Additionally, the Council directed that active monitoring and updating of the status (e.g., active, completed, no action) of the research progress and the overall database is required and should be undertaken more frequently than the Council 5-year review cycle.

4. Council Operations and Priorities - Kelly Ames

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Consider Staff Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps, as Necessary**

Staff Summary: None

E. Habitat Issues

1. Current Habitat Issues - Kerry Griffin

- a. Report of the Habitat Committee - Correigh Greene**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**

d. Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations

Staff Summary: The Council received a briefing on [Habitat Committee Report 1](#) and directed the Habitat Committee to work with the MPC on developing comment letters on the two DEISs described in the Marine Planning summary, above. The Council also directed the Habitat Committee to provide a report on the invasive golden mussels at the March Council meeting.

F. Salmon Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Angela Forristall

- a. Regulatory Activities - Susan Bishop**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**
- d. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. Final Methodology Review Results and Proposed Council Operating Procedure (COP) 15 Updates - Angela Forristall

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Adopt Final Methodology Results for 2025 and Beyond, as Needed; Adopt Proposed Updates to COP 15 for Public Review**

Motion 2: Council approve the use of the following methodologies:

1. The Updated FMSY Proxy and SMSY/SMP Ratio, as shown in F.2, Attachment 2. As recommended by the SSC and STT, use the updated FMSY proxy value of 0.58 for Sacramento River Fall Chinook for management beginning in 2025.
2. Cohort Reconstruction for Sacramento River Fall Chinook salmon and Comparison with the Sacramento Index (SI), as shown in F.2, Attachment 1. Recognizing that full implementation will take time and coordination
 - as recommended by the STT (F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 1), use the post-season exploitation rates derived from the cohort reconstruction, as available, for stock status determinations beginning in 2025.
 - as recommended by the SSC (F.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1) and STT (F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 1), include harvest information impacts on SRFC from North of Falcon Fisheries as soon as reasonably possible, which will likely be no earlier than 2026.
 - as a matter of policy, beginning with the 2025 pre-season management process, the Council may apply the components of this new methodology all or in part, as

appropriate, and as they become available.
Marci Yaremko/Sharon Kiefer

Amendment 1: add the words “through 2028” at the end of section 1.
Marc Gorelnik/John North (Amendment 1 withdrawn with consent of the second)

Amendment 2: add the words “with a review in 2028” at the end of section 1.
Marc Gorelnik/Sharon Kiefer (Amendment 2 carried unanimously)
Motion 2, as amended, carried unanimously

Motion 3: Council schedule a review of proposed amendments to COP 15 at the June 2025 Council meeting, considering initial revisions proposed in F.2, Attachment 3, and considering the recommended edits offered by the STT in F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 2.
Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: Two topics that were reviewed by the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and Scientific and Statistical Committee Salmon Sub-Committee (SSC-SSC) at the 2024 Salmon Methodology Review were discussed. Information supporting the Council decisions are found in [Attachment 1](#) and [Attachment 2](#) under this agenda item.

1. Consider an updated F_{MSY} and S_{MSY}/S_{MP} ratio for Sacramento River fall Chinook (SRFC).

The Council adopted the updated F_{MSY} proxy value of 0.58 for SRFC for use beginning with the 2025 ocean salmon fisheries preseason planning process. The current proxy value is 0.78 and was developed in 2011 and based on an average of F_{MSY} estimates from 20 stocks distributed across the U.S. West Coast. The updated proxy is the mean of estimates for Klamath River fall Chinook and Rogue River fall Chinook, which were determined to be the most representative of SRFC. Due to the ongoing work to update the Klamath River fall Chinook reference points, the Council specified that a review of the newly adopted F_{MSY} proxy should occur in 2028.

2. Consider a Cohort Reconstruction for SRFC Salmon and Comparison with the Sacramento Index (SI).

The Council approved the use of the cohort reconstruction, recognizing that full implementation will take time and coordination. The Council specified the post-season exploitation rates derived from the cohort reconstruction, as available, should be used for stock status determinations beginning in 2025 and harvest information impacts on SRFC from North of Falcon fisheries should be included as soon as reasonably possible, but acknowledged this will likely be no earlier than 2026. The Council stated that, as a matter of policy, beginning with the 2025 pre-season management process, the Council may apply the components of this new methodology all or in part, as appropriate and as they become available.

The Council also reviewed proposed changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 15 provided in [Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3](#) and supplementary reports from the STT ([Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental STT Report 2](#)) and SSC ([Agenda Item F.2, Supplemental SSC Report 2](#)). COP 15 outlines the process for the annual Salmon Methodology Review, and the proposed changes were

intended to clarify the annual process and contributions each group brings to this joint process. The Council requested another review of the proposed modifications at their June 2025 meeting, taking into consideration the feedback in the STT's November 2024 report and any additional report provided by the SSC in June 2025.

3. Queets Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan – Final - Angela Forristall

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative for Queets Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan

Motion 4: Council adopt the Queets Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan Analysis as presented in Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1 as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and adopt Recommendation 2 Alternative I (status quo) as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Butch Smith (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the Queets spring/summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan Analysis as presented in [Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#) as final, adopted Recommendation 1, that the stock will be considered rebuilt when the 3-year geometric mean of natural-area adult escapement meets or exceeds S_{MSY} (the default rebuilt criterion in the Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP)), and adopted Recommendation 2, *Alternative I/Status Quo* as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Modeled changes in harvest scenarios presented in the rebuilding plan showed little to no improvement in potential rebuilding time if all Council-managed fisheries are closed, suggesting that a reduction in fisheries would not improve the status of the stock in the foreseeable future. This suggests that the poor environmental conditions played the largest role in the 'overfished' status.

4. Final 2025 Preseason Management Schedule - Angela Forristall

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final 2025 Preseason Management Schedule

Staff Summary: The Council agreed to hold the Council-hosted 2025 salmon public hearings in person for Washington and California, and online for Oregon. The hearings are tentatively scheduled for March 24, 2025 in Westport, Washington and online for Oregon and March 25, 2025 in Santa Rosa, California.

The Council also discussed reporting errors that have been identified for reference point for Southern Oregon coastal Chinook and Grays Harbor fall Chinook ([Agenda Item F.4.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)). Reference points for these stocks were updated in 2014 through a methodology review, but annual salmon documents have not consistently included these updates, and the Salmon Fishery Management Plan has not been amended to include all the updates. There are no implications for the Southern Oregon coastal Chinook error, however had the Grays Harbor fall Chinook maximum fishing mortality rate been updated in the annual salmon management documents, there would have been four instances (2016, 2021, 2022, 2024) where this stock would have been identified by the STT as having met the criteria for being subject to overfishing.

Almost all fisheries impacting Greys Harbor fall Chinook are already closed, and preliminary information indicates that in 2025 the stock will not be subject to overfishing. The National Marine Fisheries Service has determined no management action is required by the Council in 2024, and the STT will conduct a thorough review of the Review and all preseason reports during the 2025 planning cycle to ensure that all reference points reflect the correct values.

5. Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup Progress Report and Recommendations - Angela Forristall

a. Workgroup Report - Michael O'Farrell

b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

c. Public Comment

d. Council Action: Consider Workgroup Report and Adopt Recommendations, As Appropriate

Staff Summary: At this meeting, the Klamath River Fall Chinook Workgroup (KRWG) provided a report on potential alternative interim management frameworks for the Council to consider for use in 2025 and beyond as the stock responds to changing environmental conditions following removal of Klamath River dams. The Council directed the KRWG to further develop a matrix-based approach and to consider including a mix of environmental variables as inputs. The matrix-based approach would facilitate the determination of an exploitation rate buffer based on a score derived from an array of specified metrics.

The Council also directed the KRWG to explore approaches that would provide protection to fish returning to the upper Klamath river while not impacting Tribal harvest opportunities on the Trinity river and to develop a more detailed workplan for what developing a sub-basin management approach would look like.

The Council discussed that the current harvest control rule with a buffer, the approach used in 2024, is the only approach ready for use when planning the 2025 ocean salmon fisheries. The Council will specify what the buffer should be at the March 2025 meeting. The Council is next scheduled to hear from the KRWG in June 2025.

- 6. Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup Progress Report and Recommendations - Angela Forristall**
 - a. Workgroup Report - Will Satterthwaite**
 - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
 - c. Public Comment**
 - d. Council Action: Consider Workgroup Report and Adopt Recommendations, As Appropriate**

Staff Summary: At this meeting, the Council heard an update from the Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup (SRWG) and commended the SRWG on the progress to date on the work items specified in the Terms of Reference. The Council provided guidance to the SRWG, specifically that the SRWG should:

- use the F_{MSY} value adopted under Agenda Item F.2 Salmon Methodology Review to derive an updated S_{MSY} value per the formula described in [Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2](#),
- develop options for an updated conservation objective based on total escapement (natural and hatchery areas combined) and based on an S_{MSY} based on natural-area spawners, and
- work towards modifying the current harvest control rule to account for potential updates to the S_{MSY} and in terms of an updated conservation objective.

The Council is next scheduled to hear from the SRWG in June 2025.

G. Pacific Halibut Management

- 1. 2025 Catch Sharing Plan and Annual Regulations – Final - Angela Forristall**
 - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
 - b. Public Comment**
 - c. Council Action: Adopt Final 2025 Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations**

Motion 5: Council adopt the season structure and changes to the Catch Sharing Plan for 2025 as recommended in Agenda Item G.1.a, WDFW Report 1, ODFW Report 1, and Supplemental CDFW Report 1.

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

Motion 6: Council adopt the following season structure for the commercial non-tribal directed halibut fishery in 2025:

The 2025 season will consist of a series of three-day openings each beginning at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday ending at 6:00 pm on the Thursday of that week. The first opening would be on the fourth Tuesday in June, the second opening would be two weeks after the first opener and the third opening would aim to be two weeks after the second opener but no later than three weeks after the second opener. Subsequent openings would occur as soon as possible. Notice of the dates for the first three openers would be announced in the Federal Register prior to the start of the season.

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the 2025 Area 2A Pacific halibut fisheries season structures for the 2025 non-Tribal directed commercial Pacific halibut (DC halibut) fishery and Washington, Oregon, and California sport fisheries.

For the DC halibut fishery, the Council adopted the following season structure for the commercial non-tribal directed halibut fishery in 2025:

- The 2025 season will consist of a series of three-day openings each beginning at 8 a.m. Tuesday ending at 6 p.m. on the Thursday of that week.
- The first opening would be on the fourth Tuesday in June, the second opening would be two weeks after the first opener and the third opening would aim to be two weeks but not later than three weeks after the second opener.
- Subsequent openings would occur as soon as possible. Notice of the dates for the first three openers would be announced in the *Federal Register* prior to the start of the season.

The Council-adopted changes to the Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for the 2025 sport season structures were consistent with those recommended by each state and are described in [Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report 1](#), [Oregon Department of Wildlife Report 1](#), and [California Department of Fish and Wildlife Supplemental Report 1](#) under this agenda item.

Washington Sport

1. Puget Sound Subarea (Marine Areas (MAs) 5-10)

○ Status Quo:

- If the 2025 2A fishery constant exploitable yield (FCEY) is at least 1.3 million pounds, the season may be open up to seven days per week in April, May, and June. April 3 through June 30, seven days per week
- If the 2025 2A FCEY is less than 1.3 million pounds, the season may be open up to five days per week in April, May, and June. April 3 five days per week through June 30, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday.
- If quota remains, open up to seven days per week in August and September.

2. North Coast Subarea (Marine Areas 3 and 4)

○ Option 1:

- If the 2025 2A FCEY is at least 1.3 million pounds, the season may be open up to three days per week (Thursday, Friday, Saturday), except Memorial Day weekend which may be open Friday and Sunday.
 - May 1 through May 17, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and
 - Friday, May 23, Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25 (Memorial Day weekend) and
 - May 29, 30, 31.

- June 1 through June 29, four days per week, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.
- If the 2025 2A FCEY is less than 1.3 million pounds, the season may be open two days per week in May (Thursday and Saturday) except Memorial Day weekend which may be open Friday and Sunday.
 - May 1 through May 17 two days per week, Thursday and Saturday, and Friday, May 23 and Sunday May 25 (Memorial Day weekend), and
 - May 29 and 31.
 - June 1 through June 29, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.
- If quota remains, open up to seven days per week in August and September.

3. South Coast Subarea (Marine Area 2)

○ Option 1:

- During May the fishery may be open up to three days per week (Thursday, Sunday and Tuesday) and if sufficient quota remains, then open up to eight days in June.
 - May 1 through May 22, three days per week, Thursday, Sunday, and Tuesday, and
 - Sunday May 25, Tuesday, May 27 and Thursday, May 29, and
 - June 12 through 29 three days per week, Thursday, Sunday, and Tuesday (equals eight days).
- If quota remains, open up to seven days per week in August and September.

4. Columbia River Subarea (Marine Area 1)

○ Option 2:

- If the 2025 2A FCEY is at least 1.3 million pounds, open:
 - May 1 through May 30, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday.
 - June 1 – 29, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday as fixed dates, with two days per week, Monday and Tuesday, as back-up dates to be opened if at least 55 percent of the subarea quota remains as of May 25, 2025.
 - The fishery would not open on Monday, June 23 or Tuesday, June 24 (as back-up dates) to reduce interaction with the DC halibut fishery.
- If the 2025 2A FCEY is less than 1.3 million pounds, open
 - May 1 through May 30, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday; and
 - June 1 – 29, three days per week, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday.

- If quota remains, open up to seven days per week in August and September.
- The nearshore fishery will be open Monday through Wednesday following the opening of the all-depth fishery, until the nearshore allocation is taken or September 30, whichever is earlier. On days when the all-depth halibut fishery is closed, taking, retaining, possessing, or landing halibut on groundfish trips is only allowed in the nearshore area.

2. Oregon Sport

a. Central Oregon Coast Subarea

- Option 1: If Regulatory Area 2A FCEY is 1,200,000 lbs. or greater, allocate 10,000 pounds of sub-quota to the Central Oregon Coast nearshore fishery and shift the remaining sub-quota to the Central Oregon Coast subarea all-depth seasons.
- Option 2: Remove language from the CSP limiting the Central Oregon Coast subarea all-depth seasons to a two or three-day opener per week.
- Option 3: Start the Central Oregon Coast subarea summer all-depth fishery on August 1 instead of the first Thursday in August.
- Option 4: If the entire Central Oregon Coast subarea quota is below 50,000 pounds prior to August 1, the summer all-depth season will be open every other week.
- Option 5: If the entire Central Oregon Coast subarea quota is 30,000 pounds or greater following Labor Day Weekend, the summer all-depth season will be open every week.

b. Columbia River Subarea

- Replace Tuesdays and Fridays as the all-depth fishing days in this subarea.

3. California Sport

- a. Add language to the CSP that would allow the transfer of any unused quota between the two California subareas, consistent with what is done in Washington and Oregon and modify language in the South of Point Arena subarea to more accurately reflect the intent of the subarea.

2. Commercial Fishery Regulation Changes: Vessel Monitoring Systems, Seabird Avoidance, and Catch Reporting – Final - Angela Forristall

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives

Motion 7: Council adopt the following as the final preferred alternative, in priority order, for waters North of 42 degrees N. lat.:

- Action 1: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Alternative 1, with the following components:
 - Component 1A - Applicable waters. Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in the EEZ;
 - Component 2A - VMS ping rate requirement. Require a VMS Ping Rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
 - Component 3B - VMS status requirement. VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when participating in the Directed Commercial (DC) halibut fishery.
- Action 2: Seabird Avoidance Measures, the council adopt Alternative 1 (PPA), with the following component:
 - Component 1A - Applies to applicable vessels when fishing in the EEZ.
 - Until implementation, request NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamerlines by directed commercial halibut fishery vessels.
- Action 3: Catch Reporting on Fish Tickets
 - No Action

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 7 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 8: Council adopt the following as the final preferred alternative, in priority order, for waters South of 42 degrees N. lat.:

- Action 1: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Alternative 1, with the following components:
 - Component 1B – Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A.
 - Component 2A - VMS ping rate requirement. Require a VMS Ping Rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
 - Component 3B - VMS status requirement. VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when fishing when participating in the Directed Commercial (DC) halibut fishery.
- Action 2: Seabird Avoidance Measures, the Council adopt Alternative 1 (PPA), with the following component:
 - Component 1B – Applies to applicable vessels when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A.
 - Until implemented, request NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamer lines by directed commercial halibut fishery vessels.
- Action 3: Catch Reporting on Fish Tickets
 - Alternative 2 - Require that fish receiving tickets for landings of halibut from any commercial vessels landing halibut to include both weight (pounds) and number (count) of halibut landed.

Amendment 1: delete “(PPA)” from action 2 in the bullet list in the main motion.

Lynn Mattes/Heather Hall (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Amendment 2: the Council strike Action 3, catch reporting on fish tickets from the final preferred alternative.

Sharon Kiefer/Lynn Mattes (Amendment 2 carried unanimously)

Motion 8, as amended, carried; Mr. Lindsay abstained

Staff Summary: The Council selected their final preferred alternatives for three Actions that would modify management measures for the non-Tribal directed commercial Pacific halibut (DC halibut) fishery and recording requirements for the commercial catch of Pacific halibut.

For waters north of 42° N. latitude (Oregon and Washington), the Council adopted the final preferred alternatives, in priority order for implementation:

- **Action 1:**
 - Require all vessels participating in the DC halibut fishery to carry and operate a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) type-approved Vessel Monitoring System (VMS; Alternative 1), with the following components:
 - Component 1A – Applicable waters:
 - Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ);
 - Component 2A: VMS ping rate requirement :
 - Require a VMS ping rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
 - Component 3B – VMS status requirement:
 - VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when participating in the DC halibut fishery.
- **Action 2:**
 - Require vessels participating in the DC halibut fishery and using bottom longline gear to use streamer lines (follow seabird avoidance measures) (Alternative 1), with the following component:
 - Component 1A – Applicable Waters: Streamer lines must be used when fishing in the EEZ.
 - Until implementation, the Council requests NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamer lines by DC halibut fishery vessels.
- **Action 3:**
 - Catch Reporting on Fish Tickets, No Action/Status Quo

For waters south of 42° N. latitude (California), the Council adopted the final preferred alternatives, in priority order for implementation:

- **Action 1:** Require all vessels participating in the DC halibut fishery to carry and operate a NMFS type-approved VMS (Alternative 1), with the following components:
 - Component 1B – Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A (state and Federal waters);
 - Component 2A – VMS ping rate requirement. Require a VMS ping rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
 - Component 3B – VMS status requirement. VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when fishing when participating in the DC halibut fishery.

- **Action 2:** Require vessels participating in the DC halibut fishery and using bottom longline gear to use streamer lines (follow seabird avoidance measures) (Alternative 1), with the following component:
 - Component 1B – Applicable waters: Streamer lines must be used when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A (state and Federal waters).
 - Until implemented, requests NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamer lines by DC halibut fishery vessels.

The Council identified action on Actions 1 and 2 is necessary to ensure the intended benefits of closed area regulations and essential fish habitat are fully realized and to reduce the likelihood of seabird bycatch. It will also ease enforcement in Federal waters (the EEZ) by aligning regulations already in place for vessels participating in the DC halibut fishery and simultaneously fishing for groundfish.

The Council selected no action on Action 3 for waters North of 42° N. latitude since all the necessary information needed to manage and monitor catch of Pacific halibut in the DC halibut fishery and incidental catch in the salmon troll and primary sablefish fishery north of Point Chehalis is already collected for this area.

H. Highly Migratory Species Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Kit Dahl

- a. Regulatory Activities - Ryan Wulff**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**
- d. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. International Management Activities Including Bluefin Tuna Trip Limits - Kit Dahl

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions at Upcoming Meetings and Recommendations on Domestic Management Measures Needed to Address International Agreements**

Motion 9: The Council recommend NMFS implement Pacific bluefin trip limits for the 2025-2026 biennial cycle as outlined in the HMSMT's H.2.a, Supplemental Report 1 Appendix and supported by the HMSAS' H.2.a, Supplemental Report 1, which includes a seasonal component and additional 25 mt annual buffer.

John Ugoretz/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council recommended that NMFS implement the following domestic management measures to comply with the U.S. 2025-2026 biennial Pacific bluefin catch limit of 1,822 mt (with no more than 1,285 mt in any one year) agreed to by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

For 2025:

- *From January through June:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once total catch is within 400 mt of the annual limit.
- *From July through September:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once catch is within 300 mt of the annual limit.
 - The trip limit reduces to 5 mt once total catch is within 175 mt of the annual limit.
- *From October through December:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once catch is within 200 mt of the annual limit.

For 2026:

- The annual catch limit is 537 mt, plus any under-harvest from 2025, up to a maximum of 1,285 mt. The initial trip limit is 60 mt.
- *From January through June:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once total catch is within 400 mt of either the annual limit or the biennial limit.
 - The trip limit reduces to 5 mt once total catch is within 225 mt of either the annual limit or the biennial limit.
- *From July through September:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once catch is within 300 mt of either the annual limit or the biennial limit.
 - The trip limit reduces to 5 mt once total catch is within 175 mt of either the annual limit or the biennial limit.
- *From October through December:*
 - The trip limit reduces to 40 mt once catch is within 200 mt of either the annual limit or the biennial limit.

In addition to these domestic measures, the Council made the following recommendations for U.S. positions at the 2024 Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Regular Session:

- Take into account the [recommendations](#) adopted by the Permanent Advisory Committee at its October 21-23 meeting.
- If the WCPFC adopts measures on South Pacific albacore, maintain positions that will support stability and access for West Coast troll vessels participating in that fishery.
- Seek formation of a WCPFC-IATTC South Pacific Albacore Joint Working Group consistent with the [U.S. Discussion Paper](#).

- Seek adoption of the U.S. [Proposed Amendments to Conservation and Management Measure for the North Pacific Striped Marlin \(CMM 2010-01\)](#) using the alternative catch reduction scenarios as a starting point for negotiations.
- Seek adoption of the U.S. and Korea joint [Proposed Amendments to Conservation and Management Measure for Protection of Cetaceans from Purse Seine and Longline Fishing Operations \(CMM 2011-03\)](#).

The Council also endorsed funding support for Council and advisory body members to participate in the February 5-7, 2025 [First Joint IATTC-NC Intersessional Working Group Meeting on Pacific Bluefin Management](#). The Chair, in consultation with the Executive Director, will determine who will receive this travel support.

Finally, the Council urged the State Department to schedule negotiations with Canada as soon as possible on a fishing regime for 2025 (and subsequent years if possible) pursuant to the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty. Timely agreement will help U.S. fishermen make business decisions such as contracting foreign crew and where to fish.

3. Biennial Harvest Specifications and Management Measures – Final - Kit Dahl

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Available Stock Status Determination Criteria; Consider the Need to Develop Annual Catch Limits or Other Harvest Objectives and/or Management Measures

Motion 10: Council adopt the Umsy and Dmsy proxies as suitable Fmsy and Bmsy proxies for completing status determinations for the North Pacific shortfin mako shark stock.

Christa Svensson/John Ugoretz (Motion 10 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the reference points, status determination criteria, and status determinations for stocks managed under the HMS FMP that were put forward by NMFS. This includes those for shortfin mako shark, which the Council requested its SSC review prior to adoption.

The Council took no action on a proposal to increase the incidental HMS landing limit (specified at [50 CFR 660.711\(a\)\(1\)](#)) for the small mesh drift gillnet fishery (which is not managed under the HMS FMP), because no data were found indicating the limit was resulting in regulatory discards. The Council may revisit this proposal at a future date if information supporting a change comes to light.

4. Highly Migratory Species Roadmap Workshop Report and Next Steps - Kit Dahl

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Report and Provide Guidance on Next Steps

Motion 11: Council adopt the final HMS Roadmap Workshop report found in the Briefing Book H.4, Attachment 1.

John Ugoretz/Christa Svensson (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the [Report of the HMS Roadmap Workshop](#) held June 6-7, 2024.

The Council agreed to form an ad hoc committee to further work on the HMS Roadmap. The Council took action to form this committee under Agenda Item C.5 including its composition and charge.

I. Groundfish Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Todd Phillips

- a. Regulatory Activities - Keeley Kent**
- b. Fisheries Science Center Activities - Craig Russell**
- c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- d. Public Comment**
- e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. Trawl Catch Share Program and Intersector Allocation Reviews: Hearing Officers and Locations - Jessi Waller

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Provide Guidance on Hearing Schedule and Appoint Hearing Officers**

Motion 13: Council hold three in person hearings for the Trawl Catch Share Review in Astoria and Newport, OR and the San Francisco Bay area as recommended by the GAP in [Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, November 2024](#) and two online hearings one during the day and one during an evening. Try to have at least one in-person (at a minimum, the Astoria meeting) and one online hearing in April. The other hearings could be spread out into the spring and summer.

Appoint the following hearing officers:

Astoria: Aja Szumylo

Newport: Christa Svensson

San Francisco Bay area: Corey Ridings

Online: Lynn Mattes

Heather Hall/Caroline McKnight (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council will hold three in-person and two online hearings (one in the day, one in the evening) for the upcoming Trawl Catch Share program review. The three in-person hearings will be held in Astoria and Newport, Oregon and the San Francisco area of California. One in-person and one online meeting will try to be held in April, with the others occurring later in the spring and summer. The hearings will not cover the intersector allocation review.

Hearing officers are as follows:

Astoria: Aja Szumylo

Newport: Christa Svenson

San Francisco area: Corey Ridings

Online hearings: Lynn Mattes

Council staff will notify the Council and the public of the dates and locations of the hearings in 2025.

3. Methodology Review: Final Fishery Impact Model Review Topics and Stock Assessment Methodologies - Marlene Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Identify Final Topics for Fishery Impact Model Review and Adopt Final Stock Assessment Methodologies

Motion 14: Council adopt the SSC recommendations on Fourier Transformed Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-NIRS) ageing method for 2025 and beyond, as described in [Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, November 2024](#).

Lynn Mattes/Corey Niles (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: *Methodology Review: Final Fishery Impact Model Review Topics*
The Council did not adopt any final fishery impact model topics for groundfish methodology review in 2025.

Methodology Review: Stock Assessment Methodologies

The Council adopted the SSC recommendations on Fourier Transformed Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-NIRS) ageing method for 2025 and beyond, as described in [Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#). These included the following key recommendations:

- FT-NIRS age estimates should not be included in groundfish update assessments in 2025 because benchmark assessments provide more opportunity to evaluate the use of FT-NIRS ages.
- The 2025 assessment of sablefish should include a relatively small number of FT-NIRS ages, with sensitivity of assessment results provided to assess the effects of inclusion of these data.
- The 2025 assessment of rougheye/blackspotted rockfish should not include FT-NIRS ages owing to the low agreement between FT-NIRS and traditional age estimates.

- FT-NIRS ages could be considered for inclusion in the 2025 assessment for chilipepper rockfish if appropriate FT-NIRS models can be developed.
- The pre-assessment workshops should include a presentation or update of FT-NIRS model diagnostics and results for any stock for which FT-NIRS ages may be included in an assessment.
- Fish length or weight should not be used as covariates in models used to develop FT-NIRS age estimates owing to the potential for “double use” of length and weight data in the assessments.

It was also noted that while use of FT-NIRS is likely to increase the number of age estimates available for assessments, information from traditional ages is still needed to calibrate the model and refine the FT-NIRS algorithms due to changes in environmental conditions.

4. Stock Definitions for Species Assessed in 2025 and 2027 – Final - Marlene Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Preferred Alternatives

Motion 15: Council adopt as final preferred alternative, the stock definitions in Table 1 for groundfish species to be assessed in 2025 or proposed to be assessed in 2027, and adopt the revised Fishery Management Plan language as shown in [Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 2, November 2024](#).

Table 1. Final Preferred Alternatives (FPA) for priority groundfish species stock definition. North=N. South=S.

Priority Species	Alternative	Stock Area Delineation
Chilipepper rockfish	1	Coastwide
English sole	1	Coastwide
Redbanded rockfish	1	Coastwide
Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish	1	Coastwide
Widow rockfish	1	Coastwide
Yellowtail rockfish	3	N of 40° 10' N lat. stock and S of 40° 10' N lat. stock
Yelloweye rockfish	1	Coastwide

Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted a final preferred alternative (FPA) for groundfish stock definitions as noted in the table below for species to be assessed in 2025 or proposed to be assessed in 2027. The selected FPA were those selected and analyzed as the preliminary preferred alternative as well. The Council adopted the associated language revisions found in [Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 2](#) to amend the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan according to the adopted FPA groundfish stock definitions.

Priority Species	Final Alternative	Preferred	Stock Area Delineation
Chilipepper rockfish	1		Coastwide
English sole	1		Coastwide
Redbanded rockfish	1		Coastwide
Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish	1		Coastwide
Widow rockfish	1		Coastwide
Yellowtail rockfish	3		North of 40° 10' N. latitude; South of 40° 10' N. latitude
Yelloweye rockfish	1		Coastwide

5. Cordell Bank Conservation Area Revisions - Jessi Waller

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Purpose and Need, Range of Alternatives, and Preliminary Preferred Alternative, if Possible

Motion 16: Council adopt the following Purpose and Need from Agenda Item I.5, Attachment 1, November 2024 as follows:

The purpose of this action is to provide fishing access to previously closed areas surrounding Cordell Bank while protecting sensitive habitats. The Cordell Bank GCA was initially implemented to reduce catch of several overfished groundfish stocks, which are all now rebuilt or rebuilding ahead of schedule. This action is needed to reduce unnecessary regulatory complexity.

And adopt the Range of Alternatives and select Alternative 1 as the preliminary preferred alternative from Agenda Item I.5, Attachment 1, November 2024.

Caroline McKnight/Marc Gorelnik

Amendment 1: add the following bolded text to the proposed purpose and need statement for the Cordell Bank Conservation Area revisions;

“The purpose of this action is to provide fishing access to previously closed areas surrounding Cordell Bank while protecting sensitive habitats. The Cordell Bank GCA [Groundfish Conservation Area] was initially implemented to reduce catch of several overfished groundfish stocks, which are all now rebuilt or rebuilding ahead of schedule. This action is needed to **remove unnecessary regulations and to reduce regulatory complexity.**”

Rebecca Lent/Sharon Kiefer (Amendment 1 carried unanimously)

Motion 16, as amended, carried unanimously

Staff Summary: The Council adopted a purpose and need for this action as follows: “The purpose of the action is to provide fishing access to previously closed areas surrounding Cordell Bank while protecting sensitive habitats. The Cordell Bank Groundfish Conservation Area was initially implemented to reduce catch of several overfished groundfish stocks, which are all now rebuilt or rebuilding ahead of schedule. This action is needed to remove unnecessary regulations and to reduce regulatory complexity.”

Outside of No Action, one other alternative was included in the range of alternatives and was adopted as the preliminary preferred alternative (PPA). The PPA would remove the Cordell Bank Groundfish Conservation Area and implement a new Groundfish Exclusion Area prohibiting all groundfish fishing over the current Cordell Bank 50-fm Isobath Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Area which prohibits all bottom contact gear. The Council is proposed to take final action in March 2025.

6. Inseason Adjustments and Technical Corrections for 2025-2026 — Final Action - Todd Phillips

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2024 and 2025, including Pacific Whiting Off the Top Bycatch Deductions; Technical Corrections to the 2025-2026 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures, as Appropriate

Motion 17: Council adopt the following inseason adjustments, as recommended by the GAP (Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1) and GMT (Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1):

1. Set the 2025 Pacific whiting set-aside for research and the pink shrimp fishery at 750 mt.
2. Increase the Open Access trip limit for shelf rockfish in the area between 40° 10' N. lat. and 42° N to 1600 lbs./2months as shown in Option 1, Table 4 of Agenda Item I.6.a Supplemental GMT Report 1.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council considered adopting inseason adjustments to groundfish fisheries for the remainder of 2024 and the beginning of 2025, off-the-top deductions for Pacific whiting in

research and pink shrimp fisheries, and technical corrections to the 2025-26 harvest specifications. The Council adopted the recommendations in the GAP report ([Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)) and GMT report ([Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)), as described below.

Inseason Adjustments:

The Council did not recommend any inseason changes for the remainder of 2024, though recommended to increase the Open Access trip limit for shelf rockfish in the area between 40° 10' N. lat. and 42° N to 1600 lbs./2months as detailed in Option 1, Table 4 of [Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#) to be implemented as soon as possible in 2025.

Pacific Whiting Off-the-Top Deductions:

The Council adopted a 750 mt off the top deduction for Pacific whiting to account for mortality in research and pink shrimp fisheries for 2025.

Technical Corrections for 2025 –2026 Harvest Specifications:

No technical corrections were brought forward for the Council to consider.

J. Coastal Pelagic Species Management

1. National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Katrina Bernaus

- a. Regulatory Activities - Josh Lindsay**
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- c. Public Comment**
- d. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate**

Staff Summary: None

2. Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan Fishery Management Plan Amendment (FMP) – Final - Jessi Waller/Katrina Bernaus

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies**
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Council Action: Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative for a Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan, including an FMP Amendment**

Motion 20: Council adopt Alternative 5-1 as the final preferred alternative, T_{target} of 17 years, and FMP Amendment text as outlined in Agenda Item J.2.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1, November 2024.

Briana Brady/John North (Motion 22 introduced as a substitute)

Motion 21: Accept Motion 22 as a substitute for Motion 20. (Motion 21 carried as a roll call vote. Mr. Gorelnik, Mr. North and Ms. Brady voted no, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 22 (As a substitute to Motion 20): Council adopt Alternative 6 as the final preferred alternative, T_{target} of 17 years as described in revised draft Pacific Sardine rebuilding plan (J.2, Attachment 1).

Corey Ridings/Christa Svensson (Motion 22 motion carried; Mr. Gorelnik, Mr. North and Ms. Brady voted no, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 23: Council approve the FMP Amendment language as presented in Supplemental Revised Attachment 2.

Aja Szumylo/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 23 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted Alternative 6 as their final preferred alternative and a T_{target} of 17 years for the Pacific sardine rebuilding plan, as outlined in [Agenda Item J.2, Attachment 1, Revised Draft Pacific Sardine Rebuilding Plan](#).

Alternative 6 sets the following annual catch limits (ACLs) to support rebuilding of the northern subpopulation of the Pacific sardine stock:

- When stock age 1+ biomass $\leq 50,000$ mt; ACL = 2,200 mt or the ABC, whichever is lower
- When stock age 1+ biomass $> 50,000$ mt; ACL = 5 percent of the stock age 1+ biomass

The Council also supported the proposed changes to the FMP text as outlined in [Agenda Item J.2, Supplemental REVISED Attachment 2](#), incorporating the final preferred alternative and T_{target} adopted by the Council.

3. Stock Assessment Prioritization - Jessi Waller/Katrina Bernaus

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. Council Action: Adopt Stock Assessment Priorities for 2026-27 and Provide Other Guidance, as Appropriate

Motion 24: Council adopt the survey methodology review and stock assessment schedule for 2026-2027 in Agenda J.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, November 2024.

Briana Brady/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

Staff Summary: The Council adopted the following stock assessment and survey priorities for coastal pelagic species for 2026-2027:

2026: Review of the Integrated West Coast Pelagics Survey

2027: Pacific sardine benchmark assessment
Pacific mackerel update assessment.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

[Informational Report 1](#): NOAA Designate 3rd Largest National Marine Sanctuary
[Informational Report 2](#): CFWA EFP 2025-2026 Bio Sampling Fishing
[Informational Report 3](#): Krug Obituary
[Informational Report 4](#): Flexible Status Determination Criteria Examples and their Application
White Paper
[Informational Report 5](#): NMFS West Coast Recreational Fisheries Roundtable
[Informational Report 6](#): CHNMS Final Rule letter
[Informational Report 7](#): Gonzalez in Memoriam
[Informational Report 8](#): NPFC Update
[Supplemental Informational Report 9](#): Information for the 2025 Groundfish Stock Assessment
Cycle
[Supplemental Information Report 10](#): National Seafood Strategy Implementation Plan

VOTING LOG

Motion 1: Adopt [Agenda Item A.3, November 13-18, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda](#) with the addition of an additional closed session on Saturday, November 16.

Dani Evenson/Butch Smith (Motion 1, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 2: Council approve the use of the following methodologies:

1. The Updated FMSY Proxy and SMSY/SMP Ratio, as shown in [F.2, Attachment 2](#). As recommended by the SSC and STT, use the updated FMSY proxy value of 0.58 for Sacramento River Fall Chinook for management beginning in 2025 with a review in 2028.
2. Cohort Reconstruction for Sacramento River Fall Chinook salmon and Comparison with the Sacramento Index (SI), as shown in [F.2, Attachment 1](#). Recognizing that full implementation will take time and coordination
 - as recommended by the STT ([F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)), use the post-season exploitation rates derived from the cohort reconstruction, as available, for stock status determinations beginning in 2025.
 - as recommended by the SSC ([F.2.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)) and STT ([F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 1](#)), include harvest information impacts on SRFC from North of Falcon Fisheries as soon as reasonably possible, which will likely be no earlier than 2026.
 - as a matter of policy, beginning with the 2025 pre-season management process, the Council may apply the components of this new methodology all or in part, as appropriate, and as they become available.

Marci Yaremko/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 2, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 3: Council schedule a review of proposed amendments to COP 15 at the June 2025 Council meeting, considering initial revisions proposed in [F.2, Attachment 3](#), and considering the recommended edits offered by the STT in [F.2.a, Supplemental STT Report 2](#).

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 3 carried unanimously)

Motion 4: Council adopt the Queets Spring/Summer Chinook Rebuilding Plan Analysis as presented in [Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1](#) as final, adopt Recommendation 1 confirming the default rebuilt criterion from the Fishery Management Plan, and adopt Recommendation 2

Alternative I (status quo) as the preferred management strategy alternative for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Kyle Adicks/Butch Smith (Motion 4 carried unanimously)

Motion 5: Council adopt the season structure and changes to the Catch Sharing Plan for 2025 as recommended in [Agenda Item G.1.a, WDFW Report 1](#), [ODFW Report 1](#), and [Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#).

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 5 carried unanimously)

Motion 6: Council adopt the following season structure for the commercial non-tribal directed halibut fishery in 2025:

The 2025 season will consist of a series of three-day openings each beginning at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday ending at 6:00 pm on the Thursday of that week. The first opening would be on the fourth Tuesday in June, the second opening would be two weeks after the first opener and the third opening would aim to be two weeks after the second opener but no later than three weeks after the second opener. Subsequent openings would occur as soon as possible. Notice of the dates for the first three openers would be announced in the Federal Register prior to the start of the season.

Heather Hall/Lynn Mattes (Motion 6 carried unanimously)

Motion 7: Council adopt the following as the final preferred alternative, in priority order, for waters North of 42 degrees N. lat.:

- Action 1: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Alternative 1, with the following components:
 - Component 1A - Applicable waters. Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in the EEZ;
 - Component 2A - VMS ping rate requirement. Require a VMS Ping Rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
 - Component 3B - VMS status requirement. VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when participating in the Directed Commercial (DC) halibut fishery.
- Action 2: Seabird Avoidance Measures, the council adopt Alternative 1 (PPA), with the following component:
 - Component 1A - Applies to applicable vessels when fishing in the EEZ.
 - Until implementation, request NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamerlines by directed commercial halibut fishery vessels
- Action 3: Catch Reporting on Fish Tickets
 - No Action

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 7 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 8: Council adopt the following as the final preferred alternative, in priority order, for waters South of 42 degrees N. lat.:

- Action 1: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Alternative 1, with the following components:
 - Component 1B – Require VMS on applicable vessels when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A

- Component 2A - VMS ping rate requirement. Require a VMS Ping Rate of four times per hour (i.e. once every 15 minutes); and
- Component 3B - VMS status requirement. VMS must be turned on and transmitting location data when fishing when participating in the Directed Commercial (DC) halibut fishery.
- Action 2: Seabird Avoidance Measures, the Council adopt Alternative 1, with the following component:
 - Component 1B – Applies to applicable vessels when fishing in convention waters of IPHC Area 2A.
 - Until implemented, request NMFS do outreach promoting voluntary usage of streamer lines by directed commercial halibut fishery vessels.

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 8, as amended, carried; Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 9: The Council recommend NMFS implement Pacific bluefin trip limits for the 2025-2026 biennial cycle as outlined in the HMSMT's [H.2.a, Supplemental Report 1](#) Appendix and supported by the HMSAS' [H.2.a, Supplemental Report 1](#), which includes a seasonal component and additional 25 mt annual buffer.

John Ugoretz/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 9 carried unanimously)

Motion 10: Council adopt the Umsy and Dmsy proxies as suitable Fmsy and Bmsy proxies for completing status determinations for the North Pacific shortfin mako shark stock.

Christa Svensson/John Ugoretz (Motion 10 carried unanimously)

Motion 11: Council adopt the final HMS Roadmap Workshop report found in the Briefing Book [H.4, Attachment 1](#).

John Ugoretz/Christa Svensson (Motion 11 carried unanimously)

Motion 12: Council adopt the below list as the top science and management challenges (not in priority order), with descriptions of each challenge as specified in [Agenda Item D.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, November 2024](#):

- Data collection
- Stock assessment methodologies
- Life history and stock structure
- Evaluating fishery impacts
- Ecosystem dynamics
- Harvest policy
- Economics and Social science
- Habitat science and spatial management

The proposed framework should encourage engagement between the Scientific and Statistical Committee and other advisory bodies when identifying and prioritizing research and data needs.

Additionally, active monitoring and updating of the status (e.g., active, completed, no action) of the research progress and the overall database is required and should be undertaken more frequently than the Council 5-year review cycle.

Lynn Mattes/Corey Ridings (Motion 12 carried unanimously)

Motion 13: Council hold three in person hearings for the Trawl Catch Share Review in Astoria and Newport, OR and the San Francisco Bay area as recommended by the GAP in [Agenda Item I.2.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, November 2024](#) and two online hearings one during the day and one during an evening. Try to have at least one in-person (at a minimum, the Astoria meeting) and one online hearing in April. The other hearings could be spread out into the spring and summer.

Appoint the following hearing officers:

Astoria: Aja Szumylo

Newport: Christa Svensson

San Francisco Bay area: Corey Ridings

Online: Lynn Mattes

Heather Hall/Caroline McKnight (Motion 13 carried unanimously)

Motion 14: Council adopt the SSC recommendations on Fourier Transformed Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-NIRS) ageing method for 2025 and beyond, as described in [Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1, November 2024](#).

Lynn Mattes/Corey Niles (Motion 14 carried unanimously)

Motion 15: Council adopt as final preferred alternative, the stock definitions in Table 1 for groundfish species to be assessed in 2025 or proposed to be assessed in 2027, and adopt the revised Fishery Management Plan language as shown in [Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 2, November 2024](#).

Table 1. Final Preferred Alternatives (FPA) for priority groundfish species stock definition.
North=N. South=S.

Priority Species	Alternative	Stock Area Delineation
Chilipepper rockfish	1	Coastwide
English sole	1	Coastwide
Redbanded rockfish	1	Coastwide
Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish	1	Coastwide
Widow rockfish	1	Coastwide
Yellowtail rockfish	3	N of 40° 10' N lat. stock and S of 40° 10' N lat. stock
Yelloweye rockfish	1	Coastwide

Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 15 carried unanimously)

Motion 16: Council adopt the following Purpose and Need from Agenda Item I.5, Attachment 1, November 2024 as follows:

The purpose of this action is to provide fishing access to previously closed areas surrounding Cordell Bank while protecting sensitive habitats. The Cordell Bank GCA was initially implemented to reduce catch of several overfished groundfish stocks, which are all now rebuilt or rebuilding ahead of schedule. This action is needed to remove unnecessary regulations and to reduce regulatory complexity.

And adopt the Range of Alternatives and select Alternative 1 as the preliminary preferred alternative from [Agenda Item I.5, Attachment 1](#), November 2024.
Caroline McKnight/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 16, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 17: Council adopt the following inseason adjustments, as recommended by the GAP ([Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1](#)) and GMT ([Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#)):

1. Set the 2025 Pacific whiting set-aside for research and the pink shrimp fishery at 750 mt.
2. Increase the Open Access trip limit for shelf rockfish in the area between 40° 10' N. lat. and 42° N to 1600 lbs./2months as shown in Option 1, Table 4 of [Agenda Item I.6.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1](#).

Marci Yaremko/Corey Ridings (Motion 17 carried unanimously)

Motion 18: Council adopt the recommendations of the Budget Committee as presented in [Agenda Item C.2.a, Report of the Budget Committee](#).

Sharon Kiefer/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 18 carried unanimously)

Motion 19: Council approve the [September 2024 meeting record](#).

Christa Svensson/Corey Ridings (Motion 19 carried unanimously)

Motion 20: Council adopt Alternative 5-1 as the final preferred alternative, T_{target} of 17 years, and FMP Amendment text as outlined in [Agenda Item J.2.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1](#), November 2024.

Briana Brady/John North (Motion 21 accepted as a substitute; Mr. Gorelnik, Mr. North and Ms. Brady voted no, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 21: Accept Motion 22 as a substitute for Motion 20 (Motion 21 carried as a roll call vote; Mr. Gorelnik, Mr. North and Ms. Brady voted no, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 22 (As a substitute to Motion 20): Council adopt Alternative 6 as the final preferred alternative, T_{target} of 17 years as described in revised draft Pacific Sardine rebuilding plan ([J.2, Attachment 1](#)).

Corey Ridings/Christa Svensson (Motion 22 motion carried; Mr. Gorelnik, Mr. North and Ms. Brady voted no, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 23: Council approve the FMP Amendment language as presented in [Supplemental Revised Attachment 2](#).

Aja Szumylo/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 23 carried, Mr. Lindsay abstained)

Motion 24: Council adopt the survey methodology review and stock assessment schedule for 2026-2027 in [Agenda J.3.a, Supplemental SSC Report 1](#), November 2024.

Briana Brady/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 24 carried unanimously)

Motion 25: Council appoint **Ms. Katlyn Lockart** to one of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife positions on the Groundfish Management Team.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 25 carried unanimously)

Motion 26: Council appoint **Dr. Tim Copeland** to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game position on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 26 carried unanimously)

Motion 27: Council appoint **Dr. Will Satterthwaite** to one of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center positions on the Scientific and Statistical Committee.

Ryan Wulff/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 27 carried unanimously)

Motion 28: Council appoint **Ms. Stephanie Thurner** to the Tribal position on the Salmon Technical Team.

David Sones/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 28 carried unanimously)

Motion 29: Council make the following appointments to the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel:

California Commercial Fisheries (3 Positions)

Mr. Matt Everingham

Mr. Neil Guglielmo

Mr. Nick Jurlin

Oregon Commercial Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Kapp

Washington Commercial/Processor (1 Position)

Mr. Brian Blake

Processor (3 Positions, California, Washington, or Oregon)

Mr. Ryan Augello

Mr. Mark Fina

Mr. Mike Okoniewski

California Sport/Charter Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Steve Crooke

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Dr. Brian Hoover

Marc Gorelnik/David Sones (Motion 29 carried unanimously)

Motion 30: Council make the following appointments to the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel

California (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Richard (Dick) Ogg

Dr. Andrew Thurber

Oregon (2 At-Large Positions)

Ms. Theresa Labriola

Washington (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Scott Hough

Mr. Markus Min

At-Large (3)

Ms. Deb Wilson-Vandenberg

Ms. Michele Conrad

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 Oregon At-Large position and 1 At-Large position.

Lynn Mattes/Christa Svensson (Motion 30 carried unanimously)

Motion 31: Council make the following appointments to the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel:

Fixed Gear Fisheries (3 At-Large)

Mr. Robert D. Alverson

Mr. Georgon (Poggy) Lapham

Mr. Gerry Richter

Bottom Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Travis Hunter

Mid-Water Trawl Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Jeff Lackey

At-Large Trawl Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. Kevin Dunn

Open Access Fisheries North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Harrison Ibach

Open Access Fisheries South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Daniel Platt

Processors (2 At-Large Positions)

Mr. Steve Becic

Ms. Susan Chambers

At-Sea Processor (1 Position)

Ms. Sarah Nayani

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Paul A Mirante

California North of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Tim Klassen

California South of Point Conception Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Merit McCrea

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Phil Anderson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Stephen Godin

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. David Kasheta

Mr. Louis Zimm

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Mr. Shems Jud

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 At-Large Trawl position, 1 Oregon Charter position, and 1 Tribal position.

Aja Szumylo/Christa Svensson (Motion 31 carried, Dr. Lent abstained)

Motion 32: Council make the following appointments to the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel:

Commercial Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Clayton T. Wraith, Esq

Commercial Purse Seine Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Mike Conroy

Commercial Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Gary Burke

Commercial Deep-Set Buoy Gear (1 position)

Mr. Markus Medak

Commercial Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 At-Large Position)

Mr. Erik A. Johnson

Processor North of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. Lyf Gildersleeve

Processor South of Cape Mendocino (1 Position)

Mr. David Rudie

Southern Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Mike Thompson

Private Sport Fisheries North of Point Conception (1 Position)

Mr. Tom Mattusch

Private Sport Fisheries South of Point Conception (1 Position)

Mr. Todd Mansur

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Mr. Josh Madeira

Public At-Large (1 Position)

Ms. Pamela Tom

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 1 Commercial Fisheries South of Point Conception position and 1 Northern Charter Boat Operator position.

Christa Svensson/Lynn Mattes (Motion 32 carried unanimously)

Motion 33: Council make the following appointments to the Salmon Advisory Subpanel:

Washington Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Ryan Johnson

Oregon Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Alto

California Troll Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. George Bradshaw

Gillnet Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Bryce Divine

Processor (2 Positions)

Mr. Gerald Reinholdt

Mr. Jeremy Streig

Washington Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Steven Sohlstrom

Oregon Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. Michael Sorensen

California Charter Boat Operator (1 Position)

Mr. John Atkinson

Washington Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Dave Johnson

Oregon Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. John Allen Christie

Idaho Sport Fisheries (1 Position)

Mr. Donald Vernon

California Sport Fisheries (2 Positions)

Mr. Kevin Godes

Mr. James Yarnall

Tribal Fisheries - Washington Coast (1 Position)

Mr. Brian W. Svec

Tribal Representative - California (1 Position)

Mr. Keith Parker

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Ms. Megan Waters

Marci Yaremko/Marc Gorelnik (Motion 33 carried unanimously)

Motion 34: Council make the following appointments to the Scientific and Statistical Committee:
Scientists (9 At-Large Positions)

Dr. Christopher Free

Dr. Michael Hinton

Dr. Dan Holland

Dr. Tommy Moore

Dr. André E. Punt

Dr. Matthew Reimer

Dr. Jason Schaffler

Additionally, I request the Executive Director re-advertise for 2 At-Large positions, highlighting the Council's interest in candidates with stock assessment and social science expertise.

Corey Ridings/David Sones (Motion 34 carried unanimously)

Motion 35: Council make the following appointments to the Habitat Committee:
Northwest or Columbia River Tribal Representative (1 Position)

Ms. Kate Valdez

Klamath Tribal Representative (1 Position)

Mr. Justin Alvarez

Commercial Fishing Industry (1 Position)

Ms. Sarah Bates

Sport Fishing Industry (1 Position)

Mr. Gary Maganaris

Conservation Group (1 Position)

Dr. W. Waldo Wakefield

At-Large (2 Positions)

Dr. Caren Barcelo

Dr. Scott Heppell

Sharon Kiefer/Pete Hassemer (Motion 35 carried unanimously)

Motion 36: Council approve formation of an ad hoc committee charged with preparing comments for Council consideration on the proposed revisions to the National Standard Guidelines 4, 8, and 9 as outlined in [Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2, November 2024](#). The make-up of the workgroup should include the following positions, based on Attachment 2 and Advisory Body Reports, noting the addition of EAS positions.

Group	Positions
CPSAS	2
EAS (new)	2
GAP	4
HMSAS	2
SAS	1
SSC	3
Conservation	3
Tribal	3
IDFG	1
CDFW	1
ODFW	1
WDFW	1

Lynn Mattes/Sharon Kiefer (Motion 36, as amended, carried unanimously)

Motion 37: Council form an Ad-Hoc HMS Roadmap - Fisheries Innovation Workgroup, as follows:

1. Membership: Two HMSMT members, three HMSAS members, a NMFS WCR representative, two Council members, and up to two other members at the discretion of the Council Chair.
2. Charge: The workgroup is tasked with developing and refining Council procedures which help facilitate the more rapid creation of new HMS gears and achieve the goals of the HMS Roadmap. The work should include:
Modification of the Council Operating Procedure 20 (HMS EFP process)
 - Improvement of HMS EFP guidance
 - Development of HMS EFP performance goals, including acceptable bycatch, and metrics to evaluate EFP performance
 - Consideration of the National Seafood Strategy as it pertains to HMS fisheries
 - Review of the draft HMS Roadmap, as appropriate
 - Discussion of relevant innovative fishery tools or measures needed to support a robust HMS fishery

Marci Yaremko/Christa Svensson (Motion 37 carried unanimously)

ADJOURN

The Council meeting adjourned on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 5:20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Pettinger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

March 28, 2025

Brad Pettinger
Council Chair

Date