
UPDATE ON STAFF PAPER: COUNCIL PROCESS AND IDEAS FOR CHANGE

OCTOBER 2022



IDEAS PRIORITIZED IN APRIL

Staff paper in February 2022 laid out several ideas

In April, Council prioritized 5:

- Changes to the AP/SSC nomination process
- Frequency of Council B reports (agency reports)
- Internet capacity in remote communities / Council priorities
- Harvest specifications timing
- Annual meeting schedule changes



RECAP OF JUNE UPDATE

- AP/SSC nomination process
 - Council called for AP/SSC nominations in June; included SSC input on expertise needed in call
 - Council appreciates SSC help with recruiting new members, although final decision rests with Council
 - Provide additional support to new AP members
- B reports
 - allow oral reports as needed, written sufficient if reporting on non-time sensitive or routine information
- Remote testimony vs meeting in remote communities
 - Broadcasting SSC/AP/Council meetings, and allowing both in-person and remote testimony continues to be a priority



TIMING OF HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS (1/2)

- Harvest specifications: **No timing changes proposed this year.**
- Instead, incremental efforts underway to address concerns about author, Plan Team, and SSC workload
 - Plan Team recordings available to SSC reviewers
 - Track changes between Plan Team and SSC drafts
 - Emphasis on fast turnaround of minutes and SAFE reports
 - SSC and Plan Team leadership meet to streamline SSC presentation
 - Crab Plan Team will only ask for two models in assessment
 - Groundfish Plan Team is working on internal templates and procedures, and stock prioritization discussions may affect
 - SSC leadership committed to prioritizing recommendations
 - SSC leadership can provide clarification between meetings



TIMING OF HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS (2/2)

- Harvest specifications timing conversations to continue:
 - Crab: possibility of moving snow crab, NSRKC to December
 - Groundfish: see how planned efficiencies work out, also stock prioritization discussions (Council agenda item D1)



ANNUAL MEETING CYCLE CHANGES/ DROP FEBRUARY MEETING

- Committed to meeting in February 2023 and February 2024 in Seattle
- Still evaluating questions:
 - How would dropping February affect dates of remaining meetings (including avoiding overlap with PFMC, IPHC)
 - Should we keep the 5th meeting as a virtual meeting
 - Which remaining meeting should occur in Pacific northwest
- Staff will consult Finance Committee in April next year, and also report back to Council on possibilities

