



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**Office of the General Counsel**  
**P.O. Box 21109**  
**Juneau, AK 99802-1109**  
**907-205-3891**

May 23, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR: Council Members  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council

FROM: Demian A. Schane  
Chief, Alaska Section  
NOAA Office of General Counsel

**Demian A. Schane** Date: 2025.05.23  
09:22:48 -08'00'

SUBJECT: Recusal Determinations for the June 2025 Council Meeting

NOAA General Counsel, Alaska Section has reviewed the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's June 2025 draft agenda for recusal issues.

Under 50 C.F.R. § 600.225(b)(9)(ii), none of the agenda items for the meeting constitutes a "particular matter primarily of individual concern," and none of the Council members is recused from participating on any agenda item under that regulation.

Under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235, none of the following agenda items constitutes a "Council decision" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a); therefore, a recusal determination is not required for any of them:

- C1 Observer Program annual report for 2024;
- C2 BSAI crab specifications; and
- C4 Crab arbitration (initial review).

Under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235, the following agenda item constitutes a "Council decision"; therefore, the recusal regulations at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235 apply:

- C3 Pelagic trawl gear definition (initial review/final action).

For this agenda item, we have determined that none of the appointed Council Members (Members Drobica, Goen, Kimball, Moller, Ritchie, Tsukada, and Vanderhoeven) is required to be recused from voting because, based on the financial reports that are on file with the Council, either (1) none of the Council members has a financial interest in the fishery that would be affected by the Council decision or, (2) if a Council member has such a financial interest in the fishery, the Council decision would not have a significant and predictable effect on that interest. See 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(c).

According to the regulations at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(g), any Council member may file a written request to NOAA General Counsel for a review of this determination. Requests for review should be e-mailed to Kristen Gustafson, Deputy General Counsel, NOAA Office of the General Counsel at



Kristen.L.Gustafson@noaa.gov. A request for review must be received by Ms. Gustafson by June 2, 2025. Please see the regulations at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(g) for more information on requests for review.