



# E Staff Tasking

June 2024 Council Meeting

## Action Memo

Council Staff: David Witherell, Diana Evans

- Action Required:
1. Review Committees, Plan Teams, and upcoming meetings
  2. Call for AP and SSC nominations for 2025
  3. Reflect on Climate Scenario Workshop
  4. Provide direction on tasking priorities, scheduling

## BACKGROUND

### Committees and Plan Teams Membership and Upcoming Meetings

#### Membership

Posted on the eAgenda is the [updated Council advisory bodies list](#) reflecting changes since April 2024. At this meeting, the Council is also scheduled to call for nominations for 2025 Advisory Panel and SSC members. All members of the SSC are up for reappointment, and 9 members of the Advisory Panel. Should the Council put out a call for nominations, staff will set up a portal through the Council eAgenda to accept nominations through October 31, 2024. The Council will discuss AP and SSC appointments in December 2024.

#### Status of future advisory group meetings

The following Committee and Plan Team meetings are currently anticipated:

Advisory Group	Dates and location	Draft agenda topics ( <i>may change</i> )
BSAI Crab Plan Team	Sep 9-13, 2024 Seattle, WA and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBRKC, Tanner crab, Snow crab, SMBKC specifications</li> <li>• Review proposed models for NSRKC, AIGKC</li> </ul>
Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC)	September 2024 Anchorage, AK / Seattle, WA and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review observer availability discussion paper</li> <li>• Review NFWF EM proposals</li> </ul>
Partial Coverage Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC)	September 2024 Anchorage, AK / Seattle, WA and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review draft 2025 ADP</li> </ul>
Legislative Committee	September 2024 (T) Virtual (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review draft national fisheries legislation, and how it would affect Council</li> </ul>
IFQ Committee (T)	September 2024 (T) Virtual (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review IFQ Program Review Report</li> <li>• Develop Terms of Reference</li> </ul>

Advisory Group	Dates and location	Draft agenda topics ( <i>may change</i> )
Joint BSAI/GOA Groundfish Plan Teams	Sep 17-20, 2024 Seattle, WA and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary survey results</li> <li>• Proposed specifications for groundfish</li> <li>• New models for November assessments</li> <li>• Halibut DMRs, ESR climate update</li> <li>• GOA rockfish spatial management paper</li> </ul>
Charter Halibut Management Committee	October 2024 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive final 2023 harvest estimates / preliminary harvest estimates for 2024</li> <li>• Recommend charter management measures for analysis</li> </ul>
BSAI Crab Plan Team	Nov 5, 2024 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSRKC specifications</li> </ul>
Bering Sea FEP Climate Change Taskforce (CCTF)	Early Nov 2024 (T) In person (TBD – ANC or JNU) and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap workplan, process, progress, and outcomes</li> <li>• Develop recommendations for moving forward and for a Council climate workplan</li> <li>• Draft a final report</li> </ul>
Joint BSAI/GOA Groundfish Plan Teams	Nov 12-15, 2024 Seattle, WA and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Ecosystem Status Reports (ESRs)</li> <li>• Stock assessment review and final specifications for groundfish</li> </ul>
Charter Halibut Management Committee	December 2024 Anchorage, AK and virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend 2025 charter management measures</li> </ul>

## Recap of Climate Scenario Workshop

Katie Latanich, Council staff, will provide a short summary of the Climate Scenario Workshop that took place on June 5-6th in Kodiak. This will also be an opportunity to hear any additional reflections from Council members or the public on the workshop. A [workshop feedback form](#) has been linked on the eAgenda, and workshop participants are welcome to contribute any additional reflections on the workshop through the end of June. The workshop discussions, and any additional reflections received through the end of the month, will be captured in the workshop report available in September. The Council will review the report and discuss next steps at the October Council meeting.

## Tasking and Scheduling

Posted on the eAgenda is an updated version of the 3-meeting outlook. **Please note that the Council is currently hiring to replace fishery analyst vacancies, and depending on the speed and outcome of those potential hires, we may need to adjust the timing of Council work as a result of staff capacity constraints.**

The eAgenda also includes updated versions of the Council staff responsibilities, and the groundfish workplan, as background.

### SSC agenda time

Council and SSC leadership are discussing how to prioritize agenda items for SSC review, going forward. The SSC does not have sufficient time to address all the issues on which the Council would typically receive SSC advice; SSC time is always a constraint in the fall with harvest specifications, but has been more widespread of late. While we are looking at a range of ways to be more strategic with the SSC's time, we also need to change our expectations that all of the typical agenda items will be able to benefit from SSC review. In the North Pacific, we have tended to rely on our SSC to take on a much broader peer

review role than is required under the MSA. Recognizing that at most, we have 15 days of SSC review time per year, how can we ensure we are prioritizing agenda items where SSC advice can provide the most value?

Staff will continue to work with SSC and Council leadership to consider how to articulate priorities, and will report back.

#### Future meetings

A preliminary **October 2024** agenda is posted to the eAgenda for your review. Please note that these preliminary drafts are for the purpose of discussion and feedback, and will be revised after this meeting.

We will be holding a **special February 2025 meeting**, in-person in Anchorage at the Egan Center, exclusively to review the second Initial Review Draft of the Chum Bycatch EIS. Based on our preliminary planning, the SSC will meet from February 3-5, and is the only group that may also take up other agenda items. The AP will meet from February 4-7, and the Council will meet from February 7-10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Public Comment**

Written public comments that have been submitted to the Council are available on the eAgenda.