March 14, 2022 Meeting
Discussion of Staff Paper from Feb 2022:
Reflections on the Council Process and Ideas for Change
Reviewed by Council in February 2022

Council tasked their Executive Committee and SSC and AP leadership to review the paper and provide recommendations

- Held public meeting in March; report posted

Intent is to review once more with SSC, AP, and Council at April meeting, and receive public input

Council will then direct staff whether to initiate deeper dive on any of these ideas for a future meeting.
Staff paper identifies 14 ideas for Council process change, (in no particular order), relating to:

- Council meeting schedule/agenda timing, and
- Council advisory bodies

Ideas in staff paper are independent of accessibility and engagement changes already being implemented by Council, and would be considered in that framework

Recommendation: initially prioritize 5 ideas for further exploration

Committee commented on all 14 ideas in their report
5. Reevaluate the timing of the crab and groundfish harvest specifications, in light of fishery needs and stock prioritization

- Difficulties with crab specs and opening fisheries on October 15
- SSC and AFSC author concerns with groundfish timing
- BUT timing factors very complex – need broad internal review

Committee:

- Hopeful that prioritizing this issue will also help address SSC workload (idea 13)
- Any changes should maintain robust quality of scientific info in the specifications process
COMMITTEE PRIORITIES: IDEAS 1 AND 2

1. Reduce the number of annual Council meetings from 5 to 4, and drop the February meeting
   - Dec to Feb shortest time for work between meetings (holiday leave)
   *Committee:
     - Consider impacts on recurring February issues (especially for SSC), overlapping meeting dates incl PFMC, and when to schedule a meeting in the Pacific Northwest
     - Consider tradeoffs of 4-meeting schedule with meeting length

2. Create a schedule that makes 1-2 meetings per year virtual, and the remaining meetings in person
   - Cost savings for public and Council; equal access
   *Committee:
     - Perhaps not scheduled if also do Idea 1; explore which agenda items lend themselves well to virtual vs in-person
9. Changes to the nomination/reappointment process for the AP – timing, qualifications, term length
   - Move AP nomination process earlier (deadline mid October)?
   - Change AP membership criteria? Term length?

Committee:
   - Benefits of more time for Council to consider candidates
   - Examine tradeoffs of a 1-year vs 3-year initial appointment, mentorship

12. Changes to the nomination/reappointment process for the SSC – timing, recruitment, soliciting SSC input.
   - Move SSC nomination process earlier (deadline mid October)?
   - Consider SSC recruitment process, process for getting SSC input

Committee:
   - Evaluate timing factors for when SSC members know about interest in reappointment and who will be Chair, as inputs to communicating on what expertise is needed
   - Recruitment ideas from other Councils?
COUNCIL ACTION

- Looking for Council to provide input on which, if any, ideas merit a deeper exploration by staff
- SSC and AP received this presentation; may provide further comments in their minutes
  - Council may want to defer any action to Staff Tasking