North Pacific Fishery Management Council



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E Staff Tasking

February 2022 Council Meeting

Action Memo

Council Staff: David Witherell, Diana Evans

Action Required: 1. Review Committees and Plan Teams

2. Provide direction on tasking priorities and scheduling

BACKGROUND

Committees and Plan Teams

Membership

Attached is the updated Council committee list reflecting changes since December 2021.

Meeting status

The following Committee and Plan Team meetings are currently anticipated for the first part of the year. All meetings will allow for remote participation, but some may also have an in-person component (see the individual meeting eAgendas closer to the meeting date for more information).

- Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee (PNCIAC) March 2, 2022
- Partial Coverage Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (PCFMAC) March 3, 2022
- Scallop Plan Team February 16, 2022
- Ecosystem Committee sometime during week of March 28th, 2022
- **BSFEP Climate Change Taskforce (CCTF)** March 15-17, 2022
- BSAI Crab Plan Team May 16-20, 2022
- Trawl EM Committee May 2022 (TBD)
- Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC) May 2022 (TBD)
- Ecosystem Committee sometime during weeks of May 23rd or May 31st, 2022

Tasking and Scheduling

Posted on the eAgenda are updated versions of tasking documents for background material: the 3-meeting outlook and Council staff responsibilities.

Draft April 2022 agenda

A preliminary April 2022 agenda is posted to the eAgenda for your review. Please note that this draft is for the purpose of discussion and feedback, and it will be revised after this meeting. At the April meeting, the AP and Council will consider scallop specifications, final action on RQE and IFQ amendments. Additionally, the Council will review a discussion paper on BBRKC boundaries, and several updates from the BS Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team, the FEP taskforces, and from the ACLIM project.

At the time of writing, the April meeting is still intended as in-person/hybrid. As we have described at previous meetings, in this mode we would broadcast the AP, SSC, and Council, and provide opportunity for both in-person and remote testimony. Members would be required to participate in-person¹, but there would be some provision for remote presentations if necessary. In late February/early March, the Council will take account of prevailing conditions, and either affirm the decision to hold the meeting in-person, or announce a change to an online-only mode. The meeting is scheduled for April 4-12, 2022; if it becomes virtual, the AP and SSC will meet during the week of April 4-8, and the Council will meet during the week of April 11-15.

Planning for upcoming meetings

As requested in December, staff have prepared a document reflecting on the Council process and ideas for change, particularly in two respects: the Council meeting schedule/agenda timing, and Council advisory bodies. It is our intent to provide some background information and reflections to guide a public consideration of how existing Council procedures might be adjusted. If, after receiving input, the Council is interested in further exploring any of these changes, we anticipate these would be further developed for Council decision at a future meeting. The inclusion of ideas in the paper should not be interpreted as a staff recommendation; we are trying to start a conversation and solicit ideas.

Public Comment

Several written public comments have been submitted to the Council, and are available on the eAgenda.

¹ with the possible exception of the SSC