
E STAFF TASKING

DIANA EVANS, OCTOBER 2021



COMMITTEES / UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Meetings currently anticipated:
 - **Charter Halibut Management Committee** – Oct 26-27, 2021, and Dec 6, 2021
 - **BSFEP Local Knowledge/Traditional Knowledge/Subsistence (LTKTS) Taskforce** – Nov 8th and 10th, 2021
 - **BSAI and GOA Groundfish Plan Teams** – Nov 15-19, 2021
 - **BSAI Crab Plan Team** – Jan 10-14, 2022
 - **Ecosystem Committee** – Jan 25, 2022 (T)
 - **PCFMAC** – January 2022 (T)
 - **BSFEP Climate Change Taskforce (CCTF)** – January 2022 (T)
- Target date for a second Council Ecosystem Workshop
 - In conjunction with Oct 2022 Council meeting – week of Oct 3-7, 2022



COMMITTEES / 2022 APPOINTMENTS

- In newsletter, we will announce request for nominations for 2022 appointments:
 - Advisory Panel <https://www.npfmc.org/wp-content/PDFdocuments/membership/AP/APmatrix2021.pdf>
 - 9 appointments expire in December 2021. One seat was a 1-year term only, and one seat is held until Dec by an interim appointee, however the term has 2 years remaining.
 - For 3-year term expirations: 5 current AP members are eligible for reappointment, 2 members termed out
 - AP members who are eligible for reappointment will be asked by email whether they are interested in continuing. You will not need to resubmit nomination materials.
 - SSC (1-year appointments)



OECM UPDATE

- CCC established an all-Councils subcommittee on area-based management to provide input to agency on EO 14008, *Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful*
 - David Witherell is NPFMC representative
 - Update to CCC in October, report planned for spring 2022
- Posted update includes a DRAFT summary table of fishery closures in the North Pacific EEZ (includes Arctic)
 - 540 marine conservation areas off Alaska; 238 are fishery area closures in EEZ
 - 65% of EEZ closed to bottom trawling year-round
 - 15% of EEZ closed to all bottom-tending gears year-round
- In April 2021, Council tasked a discussion paper reviewing marine managed areas off Alaska, relative to IUCN OECM criteria; will be scheduled after CCC work concludes



TASKING AND SCHEDULING

- Normal tasking documents posted
 - Action memo
 - 3 meeting-outlook
 - Council staff - who does what

- Caution on analytical staff capacity / timelines in immediate future



DECEMBER 2021 DRAFT AGENDA

Preliminary December 2021 agenda posted for your review

- **Standard December issues:**
 - BSAI Groundfish specs
 - GOA Groundfish specs
 - Charter Halibut 2022 management measures
- **Final Action:** BSAI Halibut ABM
 - *Note, public comment period on Draft EIS open through October 25th*
- **Tentative:** Final action on IFQ omnibus package



2022 MEETING PLANNING: SEEKING INPUT

- Council planning in-person meeting for **February 2022 – Seattle, WA**
 - **New remote accessibility options:** broadcast SSC/AP meetings, remote testimony, remote presenter capability
 - Question: allow remote member participation? (audio/ppt only) *Note, AP typically follows the Council's chosen protocol*
 - **COVID accommodations:** larger meeting space; will follow hotel/city guidance for masking/vaccination requirements
 - **Scheduling differences:** AP normal Tuesday start, but Council will start after SSC ends; Committee meetings mostly virtual in advance
- Beyond February 2022
 - Expect continued adaptation to protocols including remote accessibility as we figure out what works
 - Of particular concern, broadband capacity/internet needs will be critical
 - Virtual dates established for all 2022 Council meetings, if needed



PUBLIC COMMENT

- Several written comments submitted
- Among them, requests for emergency action.
 - Council, and ultimately the agency, will consider these requests, and whether they a) resolve conservation or management problems in the fishery, and b) whether their rapid implementation is urgent enough to forego the normal rulemaking process.



QUESTIONS?

Feedback always appreciated on how virtual meetings are working, ideas for improvement, etc.

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