



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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In Reply Refer to:
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Report # B-6: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Report to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, April 2022.

The following information is a summary of the major updates from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that the Service is involved in related to the affairs of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (Council).

I. Regional Director Update

The Service Director Martha Williams recently announced the selection of Sara Boario to serve as the Regional Director for the Service's Alaska Region. Sara comes to this role with nearly 20 years of public service experience in Alaska, including 16 as a leader in conservation and public lands stewardship. Since 2014, Sara has served as Assistant Regional Director for External Affairs and recently as acting Deputy Regional Director. In these positions, she has been a senior advisor on the Region's highest profile policy challenges and provided critical leadership on efforts to strengthen and heal relationships with Indigenous peoples, elevate the voices of young Alaskans in international Arctic discussions, and connect with urban partners. She has also pioneered new ways to connect the public with the Service's work and mission through creative virtual programs. Sara was raised in Alaska and has called Yakutat, Wrangell, Sand Point, Fairbanks, and Anchorage home. She began her new role March 14 and looks forward working with the rest of the Service team while engaging with the Council, Alaska Native Tribes, and stakeholders in the coming months. Sara will serve as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Representative to the Council. For further information, contact Assistant Regional Director, Fisheries and Ecological Services and Council Alternate Pete Fasbender, at peter_fasbender@fws.gov or 612-242-4212.

II. Migratory Bird Management

The Service is in the process of proposing a rule to address the incidental take of seabirds in U.S. fisheries. The proposed rule is currently undergoing development and an internal review process. The rule will include permit exceptions, general permits, and specific permits to address seabird bycatch. We anticipate the draft rule being published summer 2022 where it will then be open for public comments. Additional information on the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Incidental Take are provided in at the following webpages:

- <https://fws.gov/law/migratory-bird-treaty-act-1918>; and,
- <https://fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>

For further information, contact Migratory Bird Management program Chief Eric Taylor, at eric_taylor@fws.gov or 907-786-3865.