

Dated: August 19, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081799C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory entities will hold public meetings.

DATES: The Council and its advisory entities will meet September 13-17, 1999. The Council meeting will begin on Monday, September 13, at 9 a.m., reconvening each day through Friday. All meetings are open to the public, except a closed session will be held from 8 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 16 to address litigation and personnel matters. The Council will meet as late as necessary each day to complete its scheduled business.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Doubletree Hotel - Columbia River, 1401 North Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR; telephone: (503) 283-2111.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lawrence D. Six, Executive Director; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following items are on the Council agenda, but not necessarily in this order:

- A. Call to Order
 1. Opening Remarks, Introductions, Roll Call
 2. Approve Agenda
 3. Approve April and June Meeting Minutes
- B. Strategic Planning for the Groundfish Fishery
- C. Coastal Pelagic Species Management
 1. Status Report on Implementation of Limited Entry
 2. Plan Amendment
 3. Annual Management Cycle
 - D. Pacific Halibut Management

1. Status of 1999 Fisheries
2. Status of Bycatch Estimate and Testing of Bycatch Reduction Devices
3. Proposed Changes to the Catch Sharing Plan and Regulations
 - E. Habitat Issues
 - F. Salmon Management
 1. Sequence of Events and Status of Fisheries
 2. State Reports on Selective Fisheries
 3. Status of Plan Amendment 14
 4. Test Fishery Protocol
 - G. Groundfish Management
 1. Staff Overview of Groundfish Agenda, Including Priorities and Schedules
 2. Status of Federal Regulations, NMFS Activities and Applications for Exempted Fishing Permits
 3. Fishery Management Plan Amendment for Stock Rebuilding and Specific Rebuilding Programs for Lingcod, Bocaccio, and Pacific Ocean Perch
 4. Preliminary Harvest Levels and Other Specifications for 2000
 5. Status Reports
 6. Measures Required by the American Fisheries Act
 7. Plan Amendment to Address Bycatch
 8. Observer Program
 9. Proposed Management Measures for 2000
 10. Status of Fisheries and Inseason Adjustments
 11. Rockfish Allocation
 12. Groundfish Priorities and Schedules
 - H. Marine Reserves - Council Direction to Committee
 - I. Highly Migratory Species Management
 1. Report of the Multilateral High-Level Conference
 2. Coordination with Western Pacific and North Pacific Councils
 3. Review of Issue Paper and Schedule of Scoping Sessions
 - J. Administrative and Other Matters
 1. Report of the Budget Committee
 2. Status of Legislation
 3. Report of the Council Chairs' Meeting
 4. Appointments to Advisory Groups
 5. Draft Agenda for November 1999
 6. Election of Officers

Advisory Meetings

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will convene on Sunday, September 12, at 11 a.m. and on Monday, September 13, at 8 a.m. to address groundfish issues on the Council agenda. They will continue to meet as necessary through September 17 to address groundfish issues on the Council agenda.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene on Monday,

September 13, at 8 a.m., on Tuesday, September 14, at 8 a.m., and on Wednesday, September 15 at 8 a.m. to address scientific issues on the Council agenda.

The Habitat Steering Group (HSG) meets at 9 a.m. on Monday, September 13, to address issues and actions affecting habitat of fish species managed by the Council.

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) will convene on Monday, September 13, at 10 a.m. and will convene at 8 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday to address groundfish management items on the Council.

The GMT/GAP/HSG will meet Monday 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to develop a workplan to address fishing gear impacts and essential fish habitat.

The Ad-Hoc Salmon Mortality Committee will meet on Monday, September 13, at 7 a.m. to discuss estimation of hook-and-release mortality for ocean salmon fisheries.

The Ad-Hoc Marine Reserve Committee will meet Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to continue development of recommendations to the Council.

The Budget Committee meets on Wednesday, September 15 after the Council recesses for that day to review the status of the 1999 Council budget and recommend a budget for 2000.

The Enforcement Consultants meet at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14, to address enforcement issues relating to Council agenda items.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John S. Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 19, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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