



## E Staff Tasking

April 2025 Council Meeting

### Action Memo

Council Staff: David Witherell, Diana Evans

Action Required: 1. Review Committees, Plan Teams, and upcoming meetings  
2. Provide direction on tasking priorities, scheduling

### BACKGROUND

#### Committees and Plan Teams Membership and Upcoming Meetings

##### Membership

Posted on the eAgenda is the updated Council committee list reflecting changes since December 2024. The Chair appointed PNCIAC members in January, in order to allow the Committee to meet and provide recommendations to the Board of Fish at their March meeting.

In December, the Council called for nominations for vacancies on the **Charter Halibut Management Committee**, the **IFQ Committee**, and the **FMAC and PCFMAC**. The Council Chair may decide whether to make appointments during this agenda item.

##### Status of future advisory group meetings

The following Committee and Plan Team meetings are currently anticipated:

Advisory Group	Dates and location	Draft agenda topics ( <i>may change</i> )
BSAI Crab Plan Team	May 14-16, 2025 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aleutian Island golden king crab SAFE chapter</li><li>ESP and risk table discussions</li><li>proposed model runs for fall assessments, and other modeling updates</li><li>survey and BSFRF updates</li></ul>
Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee	May 12, 2025 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>review of the 2024 Observer Annual report</li><li>NMFS updates, including budget</li></ul>
Enforcement Committee	end May, 2025 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recommendations on pelagic gear definition analysis</li></ul>

##### Scallop Plan Team Report, March 2025

The Scallop Plan Team met virtually Tuesday, March 4, 2025, in Kodiak, AK, to review updates on fishery and socioeconomic performance, the 2025 dredge survey plan, and the status of assessment development ([SPT Meeting eAgenda](#)). Total mortality (285,981 lb) was well below the OFL, and therefore overfishing did not occur in 2024/25. A size-structured GMACS model framework for the Kodiak Shelikof district was presented. Next steps will include exploration of misspecifications and data

from other districts. The 2024 ADF&G dredge survey was cancelled due to vessel mechanical issues and staff availability. The 2025 survey will occur in April in the same areas previously planned for 2024.

Per [Scallop FMP Amendment 18](#), and based on SSC and SPT recommendation, the SAFE report is now produced on a biennial cycle that began in 2024. Therefore the meeting this year serves only as an update, and the next SAFE report will be produced in 2026.

#### Finance Committee Report, March 2025

The Finance Committee met in Executive Session on March 27, 2025, and a short report will be posted to the eAgenda.

#### Committee Terms of Reference for Council approval

At the Council's request, all of the Council Committees have been either reviewing or developing a Terms of Reference. The **IFQ Committee** developed a draft Terms of Reference during their December meeting, and the **Enforcement Committee** reviewed theirs in March. The two documents are posted to the Council's eAgenda for your approval.

Additionally, the Council also indicated its interest in reconstituting the standing **Ecosystem Committee** as a more broadly focused Ecosystem and Climate Committee (ECC), with new membership and terms of reference based on the Council's current work and emerging needs. This discussion is in response to the Council's December 2024 discussion of the final report of the Climate Change Task Force, and subsequent motion to adopt a climate resilience work plan. One of the recommendations in the CCTF's report was the development of a dedicated review body to help review and provide a policy-based perspective on climate-related information in the Council process. A short discussion memo on this topic, as well as a draft Terms of Reference, is attached to the eAgenda.

## **TASKING AND SCHEDULING**

Posted on the eAgenda is an updated version of the 3-meeting outlook. The eAgenda also includes updated versions of the Council staff responsibilities, and the groundfish workplan, as background.

#### June 2025 Council meeting – Newport, OR

In June, the Council will meet in Newport, Oregon. Because the travel logistics for getting to Newport are a little more complicated than for other meetings, all Council, AP, and SSC members should have made their travel arrangements for the meeting by this time. Please note that the AP meet from Monday through Thursday in June, rather than the usual Tuesday through Friday, in June. A preliminary agenda is posted under staff tasking, which will be finalized following this meeting.

#### Future meetings

At this point, and budget-permitting, the Council is still tentatively scheduled to hold in-person meetings in October and December 2025, at the Egan Center in Anchorage, AK, pending future discussions by the Executive/Finance Committee.

## **Proposals and Public Comment**

Written public comments that have been submitted to the Council are available on the eAgenda.

#### Cook Inlet Tribal Salmon Fishery Proposal

In February 2024, the Council indicated its support for NMFS to explore the possibility of a Cook Inlet tribal salmon fishery. As presented under the NMFS Management B2 report, there have been initial discussions with the Tikahtnu Inter-Tribal Fish Commission on their proposal, which NMFS and the Commission will present during staff tasking for Council consideration regarding next steps.