



Council Operations Update – May 13, 2020

At the June Council meeting webinar (June 8-10), the staff will provide a status report on analytical projects the Staff Tasking agenda item. Staff has continued to work on these projects while teleworking based on the schedule set forth in the 3-meeting outlook from January.

At this point, it is not clear whether or not we will have an in-person meeting or webinar for the October meeting. Regardless, there are a number of analytical issues originally scheduled for October, as well as a backlog of other issues not addressed in April or June. The Council may wish to work through all of these issues at the October meeting, push some issues forward to the December meeting, and/or add additional special meetings to pick up the remaining issues. I anticipate that the Council will discuss the priorities and procedures for addressing these issues at the June meeting.

Major issues for October could potentially include, but are not limited to:

- Cook Inlet Salmon FMP Initial Review (required)
- BSAI Crab Catch Specifications (required)
- BSAI and GOA Groundfish Proposed Specifications (required)
- Squid and Sculpin product types Final Action
- BSAI Pacific cod pot CP Initial Review
- GOA sablefish pots 3-year review
- IFQ access opportunities expanded discussion paper
- BSAI Pacific cod trawl CV LAPP Preliminary/Initial Review
- Halibut Abundance Based Management Discussion Paper/DEIS
- Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology Initial Review
- Small sablefish release Initial Review
- BSAI Crab PSC limit reductions Preliminary/Initial Review
- Observer Annual Report, FMAC and EM Trawl Committee reports, 2021 ADP
- Various other items including BS Fishery Ecosystem Plan team and taskforce reports, Social Science Plan Team reports, Community Engagement Committee report, RQE funding mechanism discussion paper, and research priorities.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Witherell".

David Witherell,
Executive Director