

Administrative/Budget Committee: Action Guide & Next Steps for Tab G

Agenda Item IV: Discuss Proposed Reorganization of Standing and Statistical Committees (SSCs)

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps: The SSCs are due for reappointment in June 2024. Prior to the appointment process, the Council is being asked to consider re-organizing the Standing and Special SSCs. The Council typically convenes the Ecosystem, Reef Fish, and Socioeconomic SSCs almost every time the Standing SSC meets. Integrating these disciplines into the Standing SSC and increasing the membership number to 21 would provide the SSC with consistent multi-disciplinary expertise. The recommendation includes maintaining the Coral, Mackerel, Red Drum, Shrimp, and Spiny Lobster Special SSC's, and to continue convening them when necessary with the Standing SSC.

If the Council agrees with these changes, the Ecosystem Technical Committee section of the Statement of Organization Practices and Procedures (SOPPs) would also be amended. The proposed modifications to the SOPPs are indicated in track changes in **Tab G, No. 4**. The Committee is asked to review and consider a motion to adopt the proposed verbiage or some iteration thereof.

Agenda Item V: Review and Discuss Ad Hoc and Standing Advisory Panels

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps: At the beginning of each year, the Council reviews any Ad Hoc Advisory Panels and assesses if their charge has been met and if these advisory panels are expected to meet that year. The Council currently has two Ad Hoc Advisory Panels. The Ad Hoc Charter For-hire Data Collection AP was just formed and has met in January 2024 and an additional fall meeting is planned. The Ad Hoc Red Snapper/Grouper Tilefish IFQ was formed in January 2018 and has met three times. Staff envisions convening this AP in August and October of 2024 and proposes to update the charge of the Ad Hoc Red Snapper/Grouper Tilefish IFQ AP during the Reef Fish Committee under other business.

The three-year term cycles for the Reef Fish and Shrimp APs are currently up for review. Staff is planning to re-advertise for the Reef Fish and Shrimp APs unless directed otherwise by the Committee. If the Committee decides to advertise for new AP members, the Council will review applicants and make preliminary selections at the April 2024 Council meeting. Then, at the June 2024 Council meeting, the Council will review the fishing violations background check results of selected individuals and make their final AP selections.

Agenda Item VI: Review and Discuss Proposed 2024 Activities (Tab G, No. 6a) and Budget (Tab G, No. 6b)

Timeline Status: Informational and Feedback

Council Input and Next Steps: A draft of the 2024 activities (**Tab G, No. 6a**) and proposed budget (**Tab G, No. 6b**), based on estimated funding have been developed by Council staff. The Committee should ask questions and provide feedback regarding the proposed activities and cost projections.

No motion is needed at this time to approve the 2024 budget because the Council has not received any 2024 funding. The cost projections are based on known cost increases and anticipated level funding. Staff will bring the final funded budget back to the Council later in 2024 for review and approval.

Agenda Item VII: Review Update to 2020-2024 Administrative Award Anticipated Carryover

Timeline Status: Informational

Council Input and Next Steps: Staff will review the current position of funding and expenditures for the 2020-2024 administrative award to date (**Tab G, No. 7**). The Committee is asked to continue further discussion on these topics later in the year after the 2024 position is clarified and more information is known about the Inflation Reduction Act funding and activities for climate ready fisheries.

Agenda Item VIII: Review and Approve Proposal Activities for Phase II Inflation Reduction Act Funding for the Regional Management Councils

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps: As discussed at the October 2023 Council meeting, the process of applying for the Inflation Reduction Act funding for climate ready initiatives has evolved into a Phase I and Phase II process and is still in progress. The Council has applied for the Phase I funding of \$375,000 to support the primary staff position. The remaining funds will be awarded on a competitive basis, divided among the Regional Fishery Management Councils. A framework of activities was submitted with the initial grant application. Staff will present the proposed project narrative activities and budget for Phase II of the funding request in **Tab G, No. 8**. The Committee should provide feedback and recommendations to staff as the proposal must be uploaded on Wednesday January 31st prior to full Council.

Agenda Item IX: Review and Finalize the Steering Committee Makeup for the Recreational Initiative

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps: The recreational initiative was approved by the Council in October 2023. The Committee will receive a presentation on the role and responsibilities of the Steering Committee for the Recreational Initiative and review a draft of the information feedback loop between the Steering Committee, Consultant, and Council. The Committee should provide any changes to the makeup of the Steering Committee via a motion. The Committee chair should request Council members volunteer for the two proposed positions on the Steering Committee for Council Chair announcement at the end of the meeting on Thursday, during full Council.