



# **2022 REPORT TO CONGRESS**

## **ON THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS AND SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS' FINANCIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND RECUSAL REQUIREMENTS**

**AND**

## **ON THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS MEMBERSHIP APPORTIONMENT**

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*Developed pursuant to Section 302(b)(2)(B) and Section 302(j)(9) of the Magnuson-Stevens  
Fishery Conservation and Management Act*

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## **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report combines the reporting requirements of Section 302(b)(2)(B) and Section 302(j)(9) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) into a single comprehensive report on the activities of the Regional Fishery Management Councils and their Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSCs). This report: (1) assesses the efforts and actions taken by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) and the Councils in 2022 to implement the disclosure of financial interest and recusal requirements of the MSA and (2) assesses the annual apportionment of Council membership.

Section 302(j)(9) of the MSA requires the Secretary to submit an annual report to Congress on actions taken by the Secretary and the Councils to implement the disclosure of financial interest and recusal requirements of the MSA, including identifying any conflict-of-interest problems with respect to the Councils and SSCs, and recommendations for addressing any such problems.

Section 302(b)(2)(B) requires the Secretary to report annually to Congress on actions taken to achieve, to the extent practicable, a “fair and balanced apportionment, on a rotating or other basis, of the active participants (or their representatives) in the commercial and recreational fisheries under the jurisdiction of [each Regional Fishery Management] Council.”

The MSA established eight Councils: New England (NEFMC), Mid-Atlantic (MAFMC), South Atlantic (SAFMC), Gulf of Mexico (GMFMC), Caribbean (CFMC), Pacific (PFMC), North Pacific (NPFMC), and Western Pacific (WPFMC). Councils prepare and submit to the Secretary, fishery management plans (FMPs) and necessary amendments for fisheries under Council authority that require conservation and management consistent with the MSA and other applicable law.

The voting members of each Council include the principal state official (or the official’s designee) with marine fishery management responsibility and expertise in each constituent state, who is designated by the governor; the Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries for the geographic area concerned (or the Regional Administrator’s designee); and members required to be appointed by the Secretary in accordance with Sections 302(b)(2) and (b)(5) of the MSA. Non-voting members include representation from the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of State, and the three interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions.

Each Council is required to establish and appoint members to a SSC to provide ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions. This includes recommendations for acceptable biological catch, preventing overfishing, maximum sustainable yield, and achieving rebuilding targets along with reports on stock status and health, bycatch, habitat status, social and economic impacts of management measures, and the sustainability of fishing practices. Members of the SSCs are federal and state employees, academics, or independent experts with scientific or technical credentials and experience.

## II. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND RECUSALS

Council nominees, Council members, and members of SSCs must file a Statement of Financial Interests to fulfill the requirements of the MSA. This financial information must be disclosed on the NOAA Form 88-195, Statement of Financial Interests. It is unlawful for a Council member to knowingly and willfully fail to disclose, or to falsely disclose, any financial interest as required by the MSA, or to knowingly vote on a Council decision in violation of the MSA. See 50 CFR 600.325(i).

Section 302(j)(2) of the MSA requires “affected individuals”<sup>1</sup> (defined in Section 302(j)(1) of the MSA) to disclose any financial interest held by the individual, the spouse, minor child, or business partner of that individual; and any organization (other than the Council) in which that individual is serving as an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee in any harvesting, processing, lobbying, advocacy, or marketing activity that is being, or will be, undertaken within any fishery over which a Council has jurisdiction, or with respect to an individual or organization with a financial interest in such activity. “Financial interests” include stock, equity, or other ownership interests, or employment with any entity that engages in or that provides services to someone engaged in any harvesting, processing, lobbying, advocacy, or marketing activity. See 50 CFR 600.235(a) for defining financial interest.

An individual who is nominated by the governor of a state for appointment as a voting member of a Council—and before appointment by the Secretary—must file a Statement of Financial Interests form with the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries by April 15 or, if nominated after March 15, one month after nomination by the governor. An affected individual who is a voting member of a Council, appointed by the Secretary in accordance with Section 302(b)(2) or (b)(5), must file a Statement of Financial Interests with the Executive Director of the Council within 45 days of taking office, and must file an update with the Executive Director of the Council within 30 days of the time any such financial interest is acquired or substantially changed, and by February 1 of each year regardless of whether any information has changed.

Affected individuals must disclose any financial interests on NOAA Form 88-195, Statement of Financial Interests. This form is currently available at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/partners/financial-disclosure-statements>.

Guidance on reporting and filing procedures for complying with financial disclosure requirements can be found on that same webpage and at 50 CFR 600.235. The Executive Director of the Council provides copies of all Statements of Financial Interests to the NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator, the regional attorney who advises the Council, and the NOAA Fisheries Office of Sustainable Fisheries. Statements of Financial Interests are posted on the Council website, made available for public inspection at the Council offices during reasonable hours, and kept on file by each Council and by the NOAA Fisheries Regional Office for use in reviewing determinations of whether a Council decision would have a significant and predictable effect on a financial interest under Section 302(j)(7).

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<sup>1</sup> The term “affected individual” means an individual who is nominated for appointment or is appointed a voting member of a Council. “Affected individual” is also defined in NOAA regulations at 50 CFR 600.235.

In accordance with Section 302(g)(1) of the MSA, an individual who is appointed to an SSC must file a Statement of Financial Interests with the Regional Administrator. The Regional Administrator shall maintain, on file, the Financial Interest Forms of all SSC members for at least five years after the expiration of that individual's term on the SSC. Councils may also keep a copy on file for their own purposes.

### Voting Requirements and Financial Conflicts of Interest

An affected individual required to disclose a financial interest under 302(j)(2) of the MSA shall not vote on a Council decision that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on a financial interest disclosed on his or her Statement of Financial Interests. In accordance with Section 302(j)(7) of the MSA, a Council decision shall be considered to have a significant and predictable effect on a financial interest if there is a close causal link between the decision and an "expected and substantially disproportionate benefit" to the member's financial interest. In accordance with regulations at 50 CFR 600.235(c)(3), an "expected and substantially disproportionate benefit" means "a quantifiable positive or negative impact with regard to a matter likely to affect a fishery or sector of the fishery in which the affected individual has a significant interest," as indicated by:

- (a) a greater than 10 percent interest in the total harvest or the sector of the fishery under consideration by the Council;
- (b) a greater than 10 percent interest in the marketing or processing of the total harvest or the sector of the fishery under consideration by the Council; or
- (c) full or partial ownership of more than 10 percent of the vessels using the same gear type within the fishery, or the sector of the fishery, under consideration by the Council.

Although an affected individual may not vote, they may participate in Council deliberations relating to the decision after notifying the Council of the voting recusal and identifying the financial interest that would be affected.

At the request of an affected individual, or at the initiative of an appropriate designated official,<sup>2</sup> the designated official shall make a determination for the record as to whether a Council decision would have a "significant and predictable effect"<sup>3</sup> on a financial interest. Within 10 days,<sup>4</sup> any Council member may submit a written request to the Secretary to review any determination made. The review of the determination must be completed within 30 days. Any affected individual who does not vote on a Council decision in accordance with Section 302(j)(7) may state for the record how they would have voted.

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<sup>2</sup> Designated official is a person with expertise in federal conflict-of-interest requirements who is designated by the Secretary, in consultation with the Council, to attend Council meetings and make determinations under paragraph 302(7)(B) of the MSA. In practice, this has been the NOAA regional attorney who advises the Council.

<sup>3</sup> 50 CFR 600.235(f)

<sup>4</sup> 50 CFR 600.235(g)(1)

Though considered an affected individual, a member of an SSC is not subject to the voting restrictions under the MSA. It is expected that SSC members maintain a high standard of conduct consistent with Department of Commerce ethics rules and Council procedures. Questions regarding conflict of interest requirements for SSC members should be addressed to the NOAA Office of General Council (NOAA GC) regional attorney who advises the Council in question.

## **A. ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND RECUSALS**

### **A.1 ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE SECRETARY AND THE COUNCILS**

On September 11, 2020, NOAA Fisheries published a final rule (85 FR 56177) on Regional Fishery Management Council Members' Financial Disclosures and Voting Recusals in the *Federal Register*. This rule outlined changes to the regulations to better address disclosure of financial interests by, and voting recusal of, Council members appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The rule provides guidance in three specific areas: (1) to ensure consistency and transparency in the calculation of a Council member's financial interests; (2) to determine whether a close causal link exists between a Council decision and a benefit to a Council member's financial interest; and (3) to establish regional procedures for preparing and issuing recusal determinations. The final rule on Regional Fishery Management Council Members' Financial Disclosures and Voting Recusals is available at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/final-rule-clarify-guidance-council-members-financial-disclosures-and-voting-recusals>.

NOAA Fisheries completed updates to the relevant policy and procedural directives to align with the final rule on Regional Fishery Management Council Members' Financial Disclosures and Voting Recusals. The purpose of these documents is to strengthen the policy guidance on the review of financial disclosures by appointed members of the Councils. These documents clarify the responsibilities of NOAA Fisheries, NOAA GC, Regional NOAA GC Sections, and Councils relating to Council member financial disclosures, which are within those responsibilities established in implementing regulations (see 50 CFR 600.235). The current NOAA Fisheries policy directive (01-116) on Fishery Management Council Financial Disclosure and procedural directive (01-116-01) on Procedures for Review of Fishery Management Council Financial Disclosures can be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/laws-and-policies/fisheries-management-policy-directives>.

In response to requests for greater transparency and predictability, NOAA Fisheries, in conjunction with the Councils, will publish and make available to the public Regional Recusal Determination Procedure Handbooks, which will explain the process and procedure typically followed in preparing and issuing recusal determinations in each Region. The Regional Recusal Determination Procedure Handbooks are to be developed over two years following the effective date of the updated policy and procedural directive and available for Councils review by October 2023.



The Statement of Financial Interests form was approved by the Office of Management and Budget for extension through March 2023. NOAA Fisheries updated the Statement of Financial Interests form with the new extension date and published a revised version of this form that corrects technical issues identified by the Councils at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/partners/financial-disclosure-statements>.

As required annually, each Council Executive Director requested annual Statement of Financial Interests forms from voting Council members appointed by the Secretary and all SSC members, and forwarded all completed forms to the NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator to meet the requirements of 50 CFR 600.235. NOAA Fisheries continues to ensure that all Statements of Financial Interests completed by voting Council members appointed by the Secretary are posted on Council websites, and that copies are forwarded to appropriate NOAA Fisheries offices and NOAA GC. The Councils continue to make Statement of Financial Interests forms for voting Council members appointed by the Secretary available for public viewing at Council offices and at Council meetings at reasonable hours. NOAA Fisheries and the Councils also continue to ensure Statements of Financial Interests are completed by SSC members and provided to NOAA Fisheries to be kept on file.

Both NOAA Fisheries and the Councils want to ensure that members are well aware of their responsibilities for financial disclosure and recusal, and the benefits of those disclosures allowing them to participate in Council activities. NOAA GC regularly communicates the existing policies and procedures to NOAA Fisheries employees, Council members, and Council staff by conducting an annual briefing of financial disclosure requirements. Additionally, these requirements are addressed at the training of all new Council members, as required by the MSA.

#### **A.2 REGIONAL INFORMATION ON MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF 302(J)(9)**

**(1) Documentation of any time a voting Council member recuses themselves from a vote, the reason given, and any other relevant circumstances, per 50 CFR 600.235(d):**

None reported in 2022.

**(2) Documentation of any Council member requests for determination for the need for a recusal by that Council member, and the results of that determination, per 50 CFR 600.235(f)(1):**

None reported in 2022.

**(3) Documentation of any determination by a designated official on the basis of the knowledge of the designated official or of written and signed information received before or during a Council meeting, and the results of that determination, per 50 CFR 600.235(f)(2)(i)-(ii):**

**NEFMC:** On February 22, 2022, NOAA GC, Northeast Section, in response to a request from a member of the public, prepared a determination that Council member Elizabeth Etrie did not have a general conflict of interest related to decision for the Northeast multispecies fishery.

**NPFMC:** For each of the Council's five meetings during 2022, the Alaska Section of NOAA GC prepared a recusal analysis. For the February 2022 Council meeting, the Alaska Section determined that one Council action constituted a "Council decision" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a), but determined that none of the appointed Council members were required to be recused from voting under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235.

For the April 2022 Council meeting, the Alaska Section determined that two Council actions constituted "Council decision[s]" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a), but determined that none of the appointed Council members were required to be recused from voting on those actions under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235.

For the June 2022 Council meeting, the Alaska Section determined that two Council actions constituted "Council decision[s]" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a). For one action, the Alaska Section determined that one Council member (Cora Campbell) was required to be recused from voting because the Council's decision would have a significant and predictable effect on that member's financial interests as disclosed in the report the member filed under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(b). Ms. Campbell had a conflict of interest related to the Council's final deliberations on proposed changes to the Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program. The conflict of interest was due to Ms. Campbell's employment with Silver Bay Seafoods, which processed more than 10 percent of the total shoreside processor landings in the Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program in the prior year. The Alaska Section prepared a memorandum to support this recusal determination. For the second action, an emergency finding, the Alaska Section determined that none of the appointed Council members were required to be recused from voting on those actions under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235.

For the October 2002 Council meeting, the Alaska Section determined that two Council actions constituted "Council decision[s]" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a), but determined that none of the appointed Council members were required to be recused from voting on those actions under 50 C.F.R. § 600.235.

For the December 2022 Council meeting, none of the Council actions constituted a "Council decision" as that term is defined at 50 C.F.R. § 600.235(a).

**WPFMC:** NOAA Office of General Counsel Pacific Islands Section determined that no Council member was recused from voting on any properly noticed final action at the 190th (March), 191st (June), 192nd (Sept), and 193rd (Dec) Council meetings held in 2022.

**(4) Documentation that the designated official received reliable and probative information during a Council meeting relevant to a determination concerning recusal, per 50 CFR 600.235(f)(3):**

None reported in 2022.

**(5) Documentation of any requests for review of a determination and the results of that review per 50 CFR 600.235(g):**

None reported in 2022.

**(6) Any circumstances where a Council member's NOAA Form 88-195, Statement of Financial Interests, was found to be in error, the circumstances relevant to the error, and its resolution per 50 CFR 600.235(b):**

None reported in 2022.

**(7) Any instances of Council member resignations or removal due to concerns about disclosure of financial interests or recusal and circumstances relevant to each occurrence, per 50 CFR 600.235(i):**

None reported in 2022.

**(8) Any similar instances to the above regarding SSC members:**

**GMFMC:** Because several SSC members were principal investigators on the Great Red Snapper Count (GRSC), there was concern about when SSC members should vote on work they helped to develop. The process to integrate this unprecedented study in 2021 into management required careful planning and coordination among the Council, the SSC, and NOAA Fisheries to ensure that appropriate protocols were developed and followed for this process. Given the novelty of how the GRSC was used to assess red snapper, this could have led to some confusion among meeting participants or public observers about SSC voting practices. To clarify this for future meetings, the Council developed and adopted best practices and voting guidelines for the SSC.

Throughout 2022, the GMFMC SSC bodies have followed the best practices and voting guidelines approved by the Council in 2021. Under this guidance, when the SSC is acting as the peer review body for a stock assessment or other study, an SSC member abstains from motions and voting on the issue of Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA) if they have served as the analytical lead, or principal or co-principal investigator or had any direct participation as a member of the analytical team. Such an SSC member is free to participate in the discussion, answer questions, and provide pertinent expertise and feedback to the SSC, but not vote on a BSIA recommendation. After a BSIA recommendation has been reached, the SSC member is at liberty to motion and vote on remaining management advice (e.g., catch limits, appropriateness of allocation calculations, decision tools developed to inform management action). The full guidance document can be found on the Council Website: [https://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/GMFMCs-SSC-Voting-Best-Practices-and-Procedures\\_08\\_2021.pdf](https://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/GMFMCs-SSC-Voting-Best-Practices-and-Procedures_08_2021.pdf)

**CFMC:** In 2022, there were no recusals related to the financial interests of SSC members. For each meeting, a number of SSC members acknowledged associations with specific agenda items under SSC review. These associations are detailed in the final reports prepared by the SSC for each meeting.

**PFMC:** There were 10 recusals by SSC members of the Pacific Council in 2022. In each case, the SSC member contributed to an analysis or methodology being reviewed. No recusals were related to financial interest.

### **III. MEMBERSHIP APPORTIONMENT**

#### **B. FAIR AND BALANCED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the MSA requires that members of each Council appointed by the Secretary must be individuals who are “knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources of the geographical area concerned.” Pursuant to Section 302(b)(2)(B), the Secretary, to the extent practicable, shall “ensure a fair and balanced apportionment...in the commercial and recreational fisheries under the jurisdiction of the Council.”

The consideration of balance and fairness between commercial and recreational fishing sectors is a required element in the Secretary’s appointment of Council members. Equally important are the stewardship responsibilities of Councils and the appointment of individuals who can work collectively with other members to achieve the conservation standards under the MSA. Successful nominees, therefore, are those who are qualified in accordance with the provisions at 50 CFR 600.215 and who will best contribute to the stewardship of marine fishery resources. Generally, the most qualified nominees are those who:

- (1) Have achieved a level of leadership in promoting stewardship of the marine fishery resources under the jurisdiction of the Councils to which they would be appointed; and
- (2) Participate in, or represent commercial fishermen participating in, one or more commercial fisheries under the Councils’ jurisdictions (including aquaculture); or
- (3) Participate in, or represent recreational fishermen participating in, one or more recreational fisheries under the Councils’ jurisdictions; or
- (4) Are otherwise experienced and/or knowledgeable in leadership of organizations whose members participate in a fishery or in management and conservation of natural resources, or are representatives of consumers, teachers, journalists, writers, consultants, lawyers, or marine fishery researchers.

Before evaluating each Council with respect to fairness and balance, the Secretary must first have a standard for such judgments. Voting members should be individuals with prescribed qualifications related to commercial or to recreational fishing within the Council’s area of

jurisdiction, or individuals with qualifications in one of the “other” related fishing interest categories, who are personally committed to meeting the Council’s trusteeship responsibilities for living marine resources. The qualifications for appointment are derived from Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the MSA and are also included in regulations contained at 50 CFR 600.215.

For the purposes of this report, three general fishing interest sectors are discussed: the commercial fishing sector, the recreational fishing sector, and the “other” sector. The “other” sector consists of appointed members with knowledge of and experience in biological, economic, or social sciences; environmental or ecological matters; consumer affairs; and associated fields. Nominees are often categorized as participating in one of the three general fishing interest sectors by the nominating state governors. Members of federally-recognized fishing tribes may fall into any of the three sector categories. Often nominees have experience in a variety of fishing sectors and it becomes challenging to choose a primary sector. If governors do not specify a nominee’s primary interest sector, NOAA Fisheries will specify the sector, using best judgment and based on: (1) supporting background information provided by the nominating governor; (2) background information provided by the nominee, reflecting the nominee’s demonstrated principal participation; and (3) other supplemental information provided.

### **C. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPORTIONMENT**

Council members are appointed from among qualified individuals nominated by the governors in each Council’s jurisdiction and, in the case of tribal representation on the Pacific Fishery Management Council, from among representatives nominated by the appropriate tribal governments. Appointed members serve 3-year terms and can be reappointed to serve three consecutive terms. A major factor in meeting the requirement to balance membership is the role of the governors in nominating at least three qualified individuals who are knowledgeable regarding conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources. The process works best when governors provide the Secretary with a variety of highly qualified nominees who meet the requirements of the MSA.

For governor-nominated seats, the Secretary will select an appointee for an obligatory seat (state-specific) from the list of qualified nominees submitted by the governor of that state or territory. In filling at-large seats (regional), the Secretary will select an appointee from the list of all qualified candidates submitted by regional state and territorial governors.

In 2022, the Secretary announced the appointment or reappointment of 20 voting obligatory and at-large Council members. Table D1 shows the current totals in the distribution of Secretary appointed Council voting members by sector for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Because of the limited number of Council seats, not all sectors and localities can be represented on each Council at once. In addition, the Secretary’s appointments are constrained by the nominations submitted by the governors. Within these parameters, the Secretary aims to select appointees who possess the breadth of knowledge and experience to provide balance on each Council, and who pursue their Council roles as stewards and trustees of living marine resources. To the extent practicable, the appointments also seek to rotate membership, thereby distributing participation among all sectors affected by Council actions. The distribution of representation on

each Council is also adjusted, where possible, to achieve a balance of interest among sectors or to provide needed experience to address changing priorities. Where sector or gear components are not represented on a Council, membership on the various Council advisory panels and committees is also crucial to providing those sectors with representation during Council deliberations, as well as with a voice on specific issues of interest.

Advancing racial equity and supporting underserved communities within the work of the federal government is a high priority as outlined in Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*. Further, federal agencies are directed to “make achieving environmental justice part of their missions” under Executive Order 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*. NOAA Fisheries greatly values diversity, inclusion, and equity in our business practices and our broad organizational culture, which includes the Councils as key management partners. Appointed Council members play an important role in advancing racial equity, supporting underserved communities, as defined in Executive Order 13985, and achieving environmental justice in fisheries management. Input from a broad spectrum of viewpoints also contributes to strong decision making at the Councils. As such, Council members should be representative of the diverse public they serve and able to incorporate diverse perspectives. Governors and tribal leaders are encouraged to nominate individuals whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to achieving greater diversity in Council membership to support decision-making representative of the diverse fishing communities the Councils serve. This includes considering qualified women, people of color, tribal members, subsistence users, and individuals representative of historically underserved communities, who are currently underrepresented members on the Councils. NOAA Fisheries does not collect information on race and ethnicity of Council members, and therefore cannot report on this data. Women make up 22 percent (16 of 72) members appointed by the Secretary to serve on the Councils.

#### **D. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES**

Table D1 provides a 3-year breakdown of Council members by fishing sector. Table D2 lists the 22 Council members whose terms will expire on August 10, 2023, by obligatory or at-large appointment. Table D3 sorts the 22 Council members whose terms will expire on August 10, 2023, into the three general fishing sector categories. The MSA prohibits the reappointment of Council members to a fourth consecutive term. Of the 22 members whose terms expire in 2023, seven have served three consecutive terms and thus will be ineligible for reappointment.

<b>Table D1. Appointed Council Members Sorted Numerically by Fishing Sector Interests (2020-2022)</b>					
<b>Council</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Recreational</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>NEFMC</b>	2020	6	2	4	12
	2021	5**	3	4	12
	2022	6	3	3	12
<b>MAFMC</b>	2020	5	4	4	13
	2021	5	5	3	13
	2022	5	5	3	13
<b>SAFMC</b>	2020	4	3	1	8
	2021	4	3	1	8
	2022	3	4	1	8
<b>GMFMC</b>	2020	3	4	4	11
	2021	3	4	4	11
	2022	2	5	4	11
<b>CFMC</b>	2020	2	2	0	4
	2021	2	2	0	4
	2022	2	2	0	4
<b>PFMC</b>	2020	3	5	1	9
	2021	3	3	3	9
	2022	3	3	3	9
<b>NPFMC</b>	2020	6	1	0	7
	2021	6	1	0	7
	2022	6	1	0	7
<b>WPFMC</b>	2020	4	2	2	8
	2021	2	4	2	8
	2022	1	4	3	8
<b>ALL COUNCILS</b>	2020	33	23	16	72
	2021	30**	25	17	72
	2022	28	27	17	72

\*“Other” sector includes those individuals knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management of fisheries resources in the jurisdiction of the Council. The PFMC tribal representative is counted as a member of the “other” sector in this summary table.

\*\*The sector balance in 2021 and 2022 reflects a change in Kristin Brawn’s (NEFMC) sector from “other” to commercial. This change was requested by the State of Maine to better reflect her experience.

<b>Table D2. Council Member Terms Expiring August 10, 2023 Grouped by Obligatory Or At-Large Appointment</b>					
<b>OBLIGATORY MEMBERS</b>	<b>APPT. DATE</b>	<b>CONSEC. TERMS SERVED</b>	<b>AT-LARGE MEMBERS</b>	<b>APPT. DATE</b>	<b>CONSEC. TERMS SERVED</b>
<b><u>New England</u></b> <i>There are no expiring Obligatory Seats in 2023.</i>			A. Tracy - ME - (O) E. Etrie - MA - (C)* J. Pappalardo - MA - (C) D. Salerno - NH - (C)	2020 2014 2015** 2020	1 3 2 1
<b><u>Mid-Atlantic</u></b> E. Gwin - MD - (C) F. Hemilright - NC - (C)* P. Risi - NY - (R) M. Duval - PA - (O)			D. Farnham - NY - (C)	2017 2012** 2020 2020	2 3 1 1
<b><u>South Atlantic</u></b> <i>There are no expiring Obligatory Seats in 2023.</i>			W. Brewer - FL - (R)* K. Marhefka - SC - (C)	2014 2020	3 1
<b><u>Gulf of Mexico</u></b> <i>There are no expiring Obligatory Seats in 2023.</i>			R. Shipp - AL - (O) P. Dyskow - FL - (R) G. Stunz - TX - (O)*	2017 2017 2014	2 2 3
<b><u>Caribbean</u></b> M. Hanke - PR - (R)*			<i>There are no expiring At-Large Seats in 2023.</i>		
<b><u>Pacific</u></b> A. Smith - WA - (R)			B. Pettinger - OR - (C)	2014 2020	3 1
<b><u>North Pacific</u></b> S. Kinneen - AK - (C)* K. Down - WA - (C)			<i>There are no At-Large Seats on the North Pacific Council.</i>		
<b><u>Western Pacific</u></b> J. Gourley - CNMI - (O)*			R. Dang - HI - (C) F. Rice - CNMI - (R)	2014 2014	3 3
<b>9 Obligatory Members</b>			<b>13 At-Large Members</b>		

C = Commercial Sector R = Recreational Sector O = Other Sector

\*These members have served three consecutive terms; therefore, they are ineligible by law for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

\*\*Year appointed includes out-of-cycle appointments. These Council members were first appointed to serve out the term of a former member. According to the MSA an out-of-cycle appointment does not count in the total of consecutive terms served



**Table D3. Council Member Terms Expiring August 10, 2023, Grouped by General Fishing Sector Categories**

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	<b>RECREATIONAL</b>	<b>OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL SEATS</b>
<b>New England</b>	E. Etrie - MA J. Pappalardo - MA D. Salerno - NH		A. Tracy - ME	<b>4</b>
<b>Mid-Atlantic</b>	F. Hemilright - NC E. Gwin - MD D. Farnham - NY	P. Risi - NY	M. Duval - PA	<b>5</b>
<b>South Atlantic</b>	K. Marhefka - SC	W. Brewer - FL		<b>2</b>
<b>Gulf of Mexico</b>		P. Dyskow - FL	G. Stunz - TX R. Shipp - AL	<b>3</b>
<b>Caribbean</b>		M. Hanke - PR		<b>1</b>
<b>Pacific</b>	B. Pettinger - OR	A. Smith - WA		<b>2</b>
<b>North Pacific</b>	S. Kinneen - AK K. Down - WA			<b>2</b>
<b>Western Pacific</b>	R. Dang - HI	F. Rice - CNMI	J. Gourley - CNMI	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>22</b>

## E. SECRETARY’S 2022 APPOINTMENTS AND REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following section updates Council appointment rosters, specifies apportionment totals for Council members, discusses fishery management plans (FMPs) and current issues and challenges being addressed by each Council, and makes Secretarial recommendations for future nomination and appointment considerations, including balance of representation from commercial (C), recreational (R), and “other” (O) sectors. Secretarial recommendations are included in letters sent to the constituent state governors requesting nominees for outgoing Council members’ obligatory (O) and at-large (A) appointments, consistent with regulations at 50 CFR 600.215. The governors are required to submit their nominees by March 15 of each year.

### E1. NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC)

As a result of the 2022 Council appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NEFMC is six commercial, three recreational, and three “other.” The at-large seats on the NEFMC are held by Maine (two), New Hampshire (one), Massachusetts (three), and Rhode Island (one). The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The 2022 appointees are as follows:

#### **New Member/Fishing Sector**

Peter Whelan/R

Eric Hansen/C

Richard Bellavance/R

#### **Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Mark Godfroy/R

Michael Sissenwine/O

Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NEFMC:

<b>2022 NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (12 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	ALEXANDER, MARK	CT	2024	O
O	SMITH, GEOFFREY	ME	2024	O
O	PIERDINOCK, MICHAEL	MA	2024	R
O	WHELAN, PETER	NH	2025	R
O	REID, ERIC E.	RI	2024	C
A	TRACY, ALAN	ME	2023	O
A	BRAWN, KRISTIN*	ME	2024	C
A	HANSEN, ERIC	MA	2025	C
A	ETRIE, ELIZABETH	MA	2023	C
A	PAPPALARDO, JOHN	MA	2023	C
A	SALERNO, DANIEL	NH	2023	C
A	BELLAVANCE, RICHARD J.	RI	2025	R

*\*Kristin Brawn’s official sector designation changed from O to C at the request of the State of Maine.*

## **NEFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Elizabeth Etrie - commercial sector - at-large seat (Massachusetts)
2. John Pappalardo - commercial sector - at-large seat (Massachusetts)
3. Daniel Salerno- commercial sector - at-large seat (New Hampshire)
4. Alan Tracy - other sector - at-large seat (Maine)

## **NEFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the eight members whose terms do not expire in 2023, three are from the commercial sector, three are from the recreational sector, and two are from the “other” sector. Members from the commercial harvesting sector have experience in the groundfish, scallop, herring, spiny dogfish, skate, whiting, and monkfish fisheries. The recreational fishing sector members have experience in the recreational for-hire fisheries for groundfish species managed by the Council as well as other marine recreational fisheries in the Northeast. The “other” sector members have experience in marine science research, law, and maritime history.

Of the four seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, three are from the commercial sector and one is from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from all three sectors, including private recreational, to ensure balance on the Council. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **NEFMC DISCUSSION**

The NEFMC is responsible for six FMPs: Northeast Multispecies; Atlantic Sea Scallop; Atlantic Herring; Deep-Sea Red Crab; Northeast Skate Complex; and Atlantic Salmon. In addition, the NEFMC and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council are jointly responsible for two FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP and the MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP.

The stocks within the NEFMC's geographical area that are managed by the Council are primarily associated with commercial fisheries. While species managed by the NEFMC are primarily commercial, the multispecies (groundfish) fishery has an important recreational component (party/charter and private vessels). The Atlantic salmon fishery is considered recreational, although possession of Atlantic salmon is prohibited in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under the Atlantic Salmon FMP, and there is no commercial or recreational fishery for Atlantic salmon in the EEZ. Among other pressing issues, and in collaboration with the other East Coast Councils (MAFMC and SAFMC) as well as the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the NEFMC is finalizing a years-long process on climate change scenario planning in 2023.

## E2. MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the MAFMC is five commercial, five recreational, and three “other.” The at-large seats on the MAFMC are held by New York (two), New Jersey (one), Maryland (one), Virginia (one), and North Carolina (one). The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The 2022 appointees are as follows:

### **New Member/Fishing Sector**

Paul W. Townsend/C  
 Scott Lenox/R  
 Peter Hughes/C  
 Kenneth Neill/O

### **Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Reappointment  
 Reappointment  
 Reappointment  
 Kate Wilke/O

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the MAFMC:

<b>2022 MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (13 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	TOWNSEND, PAUL W.	DE	2025	C
O	GWIN, EARL	MD	2023	C
O	HEMILRIGHT, FRANCIS D.	NC	2023	C
O	NOWALSKY, ADAM	NJ	2024	R
O	RISI, PAUL	NY	2023	R
O	DUVAL, MICHELLE	PA	2023	O
O	FELLER, SKIP	VA	2024	R
A	LENOX, SCOTT	MD	2025	R
A	WINSLOW, SARA	NC	2024	O
A	HUGHES, PETER B.	NJ	2025	C
A	FARNHAM, DANNY	NY	2023	C
A	SCHLICHTER, THOMAS	NY	2024	R
A	NEILL, KENNETH	VA	2025	O

### **MAFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Earl Gwin - commercial sector - obligatory seat (Maryland)
2. Francis D. Hemilright - commercial sector - obligatory seat (North Carolina)
3. Paul Risi - recreational sector - obligatory seat (New York)
4. Michelle Duval - other sector - obligatory seat (Pennsylvania)
5. Danny Farnham - commercial sector - at-large seat (New York)

## **MAFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the eight members whose terms do not expire in 2023, two are from the commercial sector, four are from the recreational sector, and two are from the “other” sector. The commercial sector members’ experiences include harvesting, processing, and seafood marketing, while the recreational members are private anglers or charter boat owners. The “other” sector members have experience in consulting, state government management, and research.

The five seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, include three members from the commercial sector, one from the recreational sector, and one from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from the commercial or “other” sector to ensure balance on the Council. This includes individuals with knowledge and experience in marine habitats and ecosystem approaches to management. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **MAFMC DISCUSSION**

The MAFMC is exclusively responsible for five FMPs: Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass; Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog; Tilefish; and Bluefish. In addition, the MAFMC and the NEFMC are jointly responsible for two other FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP and the NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP. Some of these fisheries are primarily commercial (e.g., surfclam, ocean quahog, tilefish, spiny dogfish, monkfish, squid, Atlantic mackerel, and butterfish), while others have significant recreational components (bluefish, summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass).

Among other pressing issues, and in collaboration with the other East Coast Councils (NEFMC and SAFMC) as well as the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the MAFMC is finalizing a years-long process on climate change scenario planning in 2023.

### E3. SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the SAFMC is three commercial, four recreational, and one “other.” North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida each hold one at-large seat on the SAFMC. The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The 2022 appointees are as follows:

**New Member/Fishing Sector**

Robert Griner/C  
Gary Borland/R

**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Reappointment  
Christopher Conklin/C

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the SAFMC:

<b>2022 SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (8 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	THOMPSON, LAURILEE	FL	2024	C
O	HELMEY, JUDY	GA	2024	R
O	GRINER, ROBERT T.	NC	2025	C
O	BORLAND, GARY	SC	2025	R
A	BREWER, WILLIAM	FL	2023	R
A	WOODWARD, ARNOLD G.	GA	2024	O
A	ROLLER, THOMAS	NC	2024	R
A	MARHEFKA, KERRY	SC	2023	C

**SAFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. William Brewer - recreational sector - at-large seat (Florida)
2. Kerry Marhefka - commercial sector - at-large seat (South Carolina)

## **SAFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the six members whose terms do not expire in 2023, two are from the commercial sector, three are from the recreational sector, and one is from the “other” sector. The commercial members’ experience includes harvesting, while the recreational members have experience in law and international fisheries.

The two seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, include one member from the commercial sector and one from the recreational sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from any of the three sectors, particularly the commercial sector, to ensure balance on the Council. Governors are also encouraged to submit nominees from the “other” sector, including individuals with knowledge and experience in marine habitats and ecosystem approaches to management. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **SAFMC DISCUSSION**

The SAFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the South Atlantic EEZ: shrimp (penaeid and rock); coral, coral reef, and live/hard bottom habitats; golden crab; dolphin/wahoo; pelagic Sargassum habitat; and the snapper-grouper species complex. The SAFMC and the GMFMC have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic species in the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. Most fisheries managed by the SAFMC are targeted by both the commercial and recreational sectors.

#### E4. GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the GMFMC is two commercial, five recreational, and four “other.” The at-large seats on the GMFMC are held by Florida (two), Alabama (one), Mississippi (one), Louisiana (one), and Texas (one). The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The appointees are as follows:

##### **New Member/Fishing Sector**

Michael McDermott/R  
Troy Williamson/R  
Thomas K. Frazer/O

##### **Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Leann Bosarge/C  
Reappointment  
Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the GMFMC:

<b>2022 GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (11 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	BOGGS, SUSAN E.	AL	2024	R
O	GILL, ROBERT	FL	2024	C
O	DUGAS, JONATHAN J.	LA	2024	R
O	MCDERMOTT, MICHAEL	MS	2025	R
O	WILLIAMSON, TROY	TX	2025	R
A	SHIPP, ROBERT	AL	2023	O
A	DYSKOW, PHILLIP	FL	2023	R
A	FRAZER, THOMAS K.	FL	2025	O
A	BROUSSARD, BILLY	LA	2024	C
A	DIAZ, DALE A.	MS	2024	O
A	STUNZ, GREGORY W.	TX	2023	O

##### **GMFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Robert Shipp - other sector - at-large seat (Alabama)
2. Phillip Dyskow - recreational sector - at-large seat (Florida)
3. Gregory Stunz - other sector - at-large seat (Texas)



## **GMFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the eight members whose terms do not expire in 2023, two are from the commercial sector, four are from the recreational sector, and two are from the “other” sector. The commercial members’ experience includes seafood dealer wholesale and commercial harvest of blue crabs. The recreational members include three private anglers and an individual involved in the charter sector. The two “other” sector members have experience in marine fisheries research as well as management of state fishery resources.

Of the three seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, one is from the recreational sector and two are from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from any of the three sectors, but with particular emphasis on the commercial sector, to ensure balance on the Council. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **GMFMC DISCUSSION**

The GMFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ: reef fish, shrimp, coral and coral reefs, and red drum. The GMFMC and the SAFMC have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic species in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Region. Many fisheries managed by the GMFMC are targeted by both the commercial and recreational sectors. Within the recreational sector, there are strong private angler and for-hire components. Two reef fish species are considered overfished and undergoing overfishing—greater amberjack and gag. The GMFMC approved a rebuilding plan for greater amberjack and NOAA Fisheries is currently developing a rulemaking to put this plan in effect.

Additionally, NOAA Fisheries implemented an emergency rule to reduce overfishing until the rebuilding plan is put in place. For gag, the GMFMC is developing a plan amendment with the goal of approving it so regulations to end overfishing and rebuild the stock can be implemented by January 2024. An interim rule is currently being developed to reduce overfishing in 2023. The GMFMC is also working on a generic amendment to update Essential Fish Habitats (EFH) in the Gulf for all managed stocks as well as working with the SAFMC to implement electronic logbook reporting for the commercial sector.

## **E5. CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)**

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the CFMC is two commercial, two recreational, and zero “other.” Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) each hold one at-large seat on the CFMC. The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The appointee is as follows:

**New Member/Fishing Sector**  
James Kreglo/C

**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**  
Louis A. Blanchard/C

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the CFMC:

<b>2022 CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (4 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	FARCHETTE, CARLOS F.	USVI	2024	R
O	HANKE, MARCOS R.	PR	2023	R
A	RAMIREZ PEREZ, VANESSA	PR	2024	C
A	KREGLO, JAMES	USVI	2025	C

### **CFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following member’s term will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Marcos Hanke - recreational sector - obligatory seat (Puerto Rico)

## **CFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the three members whose terms do not expire in 2023, two are from the commercial fishing sector and one is from the recreational fishing sector. The commercial members' experience includes seafood harvesting, administration of fish houses, and management of commercial fishers organizations, while the recreational members' experience includes participation in the charter industry, private angling, and law enforcement.

The seat that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, is from the recreational sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from any of the three sectors, particularly the recreational or “other” sector to ensure balance on the Council. This includes individuals with knowledge and experience of marine habitats and ecosystem approaches to management as well as active participants in local fisheries management. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **CFMC DISCUSSION**

Recently, the Council has replaced four U.S. Caribbean-wide species-based FMPs with three new island-based FMPs. By developing island-based FMPs, NOAA Fisheries and the CFMC expect to better account for the existing differences among the U.S. Caribbean islands with respect to culture, markets, fishing gear used, seafood preferences, and ecological impacts. The Council is also currently developing a draft Fishery Ecosystem Plan that would provide a framework for Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) and would serve as a source document to guide future management actions pursued under each of the island-based FMPs, as needed. The CFMC approved an amendment to the island-based FMPs that would update catch levels for spiny lobster for the three islands, when implemented. The CFMC has also approved an amendment that would modify buoy gear. Other CFMC priorities include evaluating the performance of seasonally closed areas and species closures currently in place, and supporting research focused on the socio-economy of the U.S. Caribbean fishermen.

## E6. PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PFMC)

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is three commercial, three recreational, and three “other”, of which one is a tribal representative. The at-large seats on the PFMC are held by California (two), Oregon (one), and Washington (one). The geographical balance of at-large seats remains unchanged from 2021. The appointees are as follows:

### **New Member/Fishing Sector**

Peter Hassemer/R

Marc Gorelnik/R

### **Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Reappointment

Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the PFMC:

<b>2022 PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (9 Members)</b>				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	RIDINGS, COREY C.	CA	2024	O
O	HASSEMER, PETER F.	ID	2025	R
O	SVENSSON, CHRISTA M.	OR	2024	C
O	SMITH, ALDRICH	WA	2023	R
O	OATMAN, JOSEPH Y.	NEZ PERCE TRIBE	2024	O
A	DOOLEY, ROBERT E.	CA	2024	C
A	GORELNİK, MARC M.	CA	2025	R
A	PETTINGER, BRADLEY	OR	2023	C
A	ANDERSON, PHILIP M.	WA	2024	O

### **PFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Aldrich Smith - recreational sector - obligatory seat (Washington)
2. Bradley Pettinger - commercial sector - at-large seat (Oregon)

## **PFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the seven members whose terms do not expire in 2023, two are from the commercial fishing sector, two are from the recreational fishing sector, and three are from the “other” sector. The commercial members’ experience includes harvesting, particularly the groundfish bottom trawl sector, and knowledge of the seafood industry. The recreational representatives include a charter vessel owner and private anglers. The "other" sector members' experience includes government and conservation non-profit work on ecosystem-based management. The current PFMC tribal member represents the Nez Perce Tribe.

Of the two seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, one is from the commercial sector and one is from the recreational sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from any of the three sectors, but with particular emphasis on the recreational sector and commercial sectors, to maintain balance on the Council. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **PFMC DISCUSSION**

The PFMC has prepared FMPs for: Pacific Coast groundfish, Pacific Coast salmon, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species. The PFMC has also adopted a Fishery Ecosystem Plan and an Ecosystem Initiatives Appendix to help integrate ecosystem considerations into its fishery management decisions. The PFMC has responsibility for recommending allocations of Pacific halibut among treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial and recreational fishermen in Area 2A under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act.

**E7. NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)**

As a result of the 2022 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NPFMC is six commercial, one recreational, and zero “other.” There are no at-large seats on the NPFMC. The appointees are as follows:

**New Member/Fishing Sector**  
 Angela Drobnica/C  
 Nicole Kimball/C

**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**  
 Cora Campbell/C  
 Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the PFMC:

<b>2022 NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL</b> (7 Members)				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	JENSEN, JOHN E.	AK	2024	C
O	DROBNICA, ANGELA	AK	2025	C
O	KIMBALL, NICOLE	AK	2025	C
O	KINNEEN, SIMON	AK	2023	C
O	MEZIROW, ANDREW D.	AK	2024	R
O	VANDERHOEVEN, ANNE M.	WA	2024	C
O	DOWN, KENNETH	WA	2023	C

**NPFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. Simon Kinneen - commercial sector - obligatory seat (Alaska)
2. Kenneth Down - commercial sector - obligatory seat (Washington)

## **NPFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the five members whose terms do not expire in 2023, four are from the commercial fishing sector and one is from the recreational fishing sector. The commercial sector members have experience in processing and harvesting, including groundfish and crab fisheries, while the recreational member's experience is in charter fishing, public education, and outreach.

The two seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, are from the commercial sector. Although commercial fisheries are particularly important in this region, Governors are also encouraged to nominate individuals from the recreational and "other" sectors to ensure balance on the Council. This includes tribal members and individuals with knowledge and experience in marine habitats and ecosystem approaches to management. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership, particularly individuals who represent Alaska native tribal interests.

## **NPFMC DISCUSSION**

The NPFMC has six FMPs for: Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska, Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI), Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off the Coast of Alaska, Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab, the Scallop Fishery off Alaska, and Fishery Resources of the Arctic Management Area. Current priorities for the Council include efforts to improve outreach and communication, bycatch management, and building management systems that are more resilient to climate change.

## **E8. WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)**

As a result of the 2022 Council appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the WPFMC is one commercial, four recreational, and three “other.” The at-large seats on the WPFMC are held by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (one), Guam (one), and Hawaii (two). The 2022 geographical balance of the at-large seats on the WPFMC changed when a nominee from Hawaii was appointed to an at-large seat previously held by American Samoa. The 2022 appointees are as follows:

### **New Member/Fishing Sector**

Shaelene Kamakaala/O  
Judith Guthertz/R  
William Sword/R

### **Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**

Howard T. Dunham/C  
Monique K. Amani/R  
Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the WPFMC:

<b>2022 WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL</b> (8 Members)				
<b>Obligatory/ At-Large</b>	<b>Appointed Members</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Appt Ends</b>	<b>Sector</b>
O	DUENAS II, MANUEL	GU	2024	R
O	SWORD, WILLIAM	AS	2025	R
O	GOURLEY, JOHN E.	CNMI	2023	O
O	RAMSEY, MATTHEW	HI	2024	O
A	GUTHERTZ, JUDITH	GU	2025	R
A	DANG, ROGER	HI	2023	C
A	RICE, FREDRICK M.	CNMI	2023	R
A	KAMAKAALA, SHAELENE	HI	2025	O

### **WPFMC EXPIRING TERMS**

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2023:

1. John Gourley – other sector – obligatory seat (CNMI)
2. Roger Dang – commercial sector – at-large seat (Hawaii)
3. Frederick Rice – recreational sector – at-large seat (CNMI)



## **WPFMC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Of the five appointed members whose terms do not expire in 2023, three are from the recreational fishing sector and two are from the “other” sector. The commercial member's experience is in pelagic longline. The recreational members represent charter fishing and seafood purchasing. The "other" sector member has experience with conservation non-profit work and in environmental consulting.

Of the three seats that will become vacant on August 10, 2023, one is from the commercial sector, one is from the recreational sector, and one is from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from the commercial sector in order to ensure balance on the Council. In addition, Governors should consider nominees whose backgrounds, perspectives, and skills would contribute to increasing diversity in Council membership.

## **WPFMC DISCUSSION**

The WPFMC manages domestic fisheries in the Pacific Islands Region (the U.S. western Pacific), and adjacent high seas, under five fishery ecosystem plans (FEPs): Pelagic, Hawaiian Archipelago, American Samoa Archipelago, Mariana Archipelago, and the Pacific Remote Island Areas. Commercial fishing for tuna, swordfish, and other pelagic species are the region’s largest fisheries in terms of landings and value. The non-pelagic species such as bottomfish and coral reef ecosystem resources are important to Pacific Island communities, which are considered underserved communities, for non-commercial, recreational, subsistence, and cultural purposes. The smaller-scale, island-associated fisheries such as bottomfish are data-poor, and improving data collection and monitoring are high priority issues for these fisheries to support science-based decision-making and achieve equity and environmental justice. Most of the region’s fisheries do not have a clear distinction for commercial and recreational sectors. Many fishermen participate in a fishery for home consumption but may sell some catch for cost recovery, while also sharing part of the catch with family or community members.

International management of highly migratory species has substantial impacts on the domestic management of pelagic fisheries, and U.S. tuna fisheries are being increasingly disadvantaged at the international level as they compete against foreign fisheries that are heavily subsidized and subject to less rigorous environmental regulations. Additionally, the strong environmental protections the United States has imposed upon our domestic fleets (e.g., closing the majority of U.S. EEZ waters in the Pacific through Marine National Monument, protected species regulations, etc.) are not being adopted at the international level. Improving competitiveness for U.S. longline fisheries under this Council’s jurisdiction through higher catch limits and access to fishing grounds both within the U.S. EEZ and on the high seas is a high priority. Continued improvements to conservation measures in both domestic and international pelagic fisheries to reduce impacts to protected species also remain a high priority for this region.

## **APPENDIX A. – STATISTICAL FISHERIES DATA**

This report provides, in this appendix, the following statistical information about the status of fisheries managed under each Council. It also identifies the number of Council members participating in those fisheries. The most recent data were compiled to show the volume of fisheries production and the related effort in each fishery managed under an FMP. This appendix provides statistical data required by Section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Unless otherwise indicated, the data are for the fisheries listed by FMP. Beginning from the leftmost column, the listed data are:

- (1) FMPs developed by each Council.
- (2) Type of fishery managed under each plan, i.e., commercial or recreational, or mixed (see below).
- (3) Species/species groups making up each fishery.
- (4) Weight of each species or species group in a fishery landed in 2021 (or as otherwise indicated) showing both the landings for commercial and recreational fishermen, if recreational information is available.
- (5) Number of fishermen participating in the listed fisheries, if available; otherwise, the number of U.S. vessels either permitted or estimated to be operating in the fishery.
- (6) Gear and processing methods used in each fishery.
- (7) Range and seasonality of the fishery.
- (8) Number of current Council members who are commercial or recreational sector participants in each fishery; or their representatives.

### **LEGEND FOR TYPE FISHERIES**

C - Commercial fishery: 80 percent or more of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

c - Mainly commercial fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

x - Mixed fishery: 60 percent or less of the reported landings are by each group of commercial and recreational fishermen.

r - Mainly recreational fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

R - Recreational fishery: 80 percent or more of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

**A-i. NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC)**

FMP	Type	Fishery/Species	2021 Landings (metric tons)	2021 Vessels (permits)	Allowable Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021	
								Comm	Rec
<b>Northeast Multi-Species</b> [NAFO landings have been removed]	C	Commercial		2,302	trawl, dredge, longline, gillnet, hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted	7	2
		Atlantic cod	509						
		Haddock	6,410						
		Pollock	2,968						
		Hakes	5,982						
		Ocean perch (redfish)	5,648						
		Yellowtail flounder	292						
		American plaice	629						
		Winter flounder	450						
		Witch flounder	811						
		Windowpane flounder	6						
	Atlantic halibut	32							
	Ocean pout	0							
	R	Recreational		812	hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted, filleted	7	2
Cod		339							
Pollock		234							
Winter flounder		51							
<b>Atlantic Sea Scallops</b>	C	Atlantic sea scallops	19,653	761	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	hand shucking and freezing	2	0
<b>Atlantic Salmon</b>	R	Atlantic salmon	NA	None	None	None	None	0	0
<b>Deep-sea Red Crab</b>	C	Deep-sea red crab	1,565	1,357	Traps, trawl	FMP area/year round	whole, partially processed at sea	0	0
<b>Atlantic Herring</b>	C	Atlantic herring	5,087	1,810	Mid-water trawl; purse seines; weirs; otter trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/canned shoreside/ fresh bait	2	0
<b>Monkfish</b>	C	Monkfish	3,687	2,073	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fresh	7	0
<b>Northeast Skate Complex</b>	C	Skates	6,353	1,966	Trawls, gillnets, dredge, longline	FMP area/year round	fresh bait, frozen, partially processed at sea	7	0

Commercial & recreational fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's databases as of November 2022.

**A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)**

FMP	Type	Fishery/Species	2021 Landings (metric tons)	2021 Vessels (permits)	Allowable Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021	
								Comm	Rec
<b>Atlantic Mackerel, Squid &amp; Butterfish</b>	C	Commercial		1,887	otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/year round	frozen, whole	1	2
		Atlantic mackerel	5,538						
		Squid, Longfin	10,556	Combined 1,801	Trawl, trap		at-sea & ashore, some mackerel filets		
		Squid, Ilex	30,714						
	Butterfish	1,547	Recreational						
	R	Atlantic mackerel				1,932	828		
<b>Atlantic Surf Clam &amp; Ocean Quahogs</b>	C	Atlantic surfclams	16,279	648	Dredge	FMP area/year round (ITQ mgmt.)	shucked shoreside	1	0
		Ocean quahogs	12,522	647					
<b>Summer Flounder (fluke)</b>	x	Commercial	4,751	735	hook & line, otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/year round	filets ashore; fresh & frozen	3	5
		Recreational	3,092	953					
<b>Scup</b>	x	Commercial	5,935	614					
		Recreational	7,540	820					
<b>Black Sea Bass</b>	x	Commercial	2,141	672					
		Recreational	5,461	947					
<b>Tilefish</b>	C	Golden Tilefish	669	(combine) 1,835	longline, hook & line	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	3	1
		Blueline Tilefish	52						
<b>Atlantic Bluefish</b>	x	Commercial	985	2,223	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	FMP area/year round	filets fresh/frozen	3	5
		Recreational	3,987	947					
<b>Spiny Dogfish</b>	C	Commercial	4,673	2,248	gillnet; trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	5	1

Commercial & recreational fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's databases as of November 2022.

A-iii SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)										
FMP	Type	Fishery/Species	2021 Landings (metric tons)	2021 Vessels Permits Federal or Florida (FL)	Allowable Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021		
								Comm	Rec	
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	65	11	traps	FMP area/ year-round	Fresh			
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	X	Commercial 2			651	rod and reel, bandit gear, longline, handline	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and Goliath grouper year-round 2	at sea, gutted	3	4
		Groupers	220							
		Wreckfish	Confidential							
		Snappers	965							
		Other species	874	Recreational 2,5			handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area	n/a 3	
		Groupers	89	2,183 (for-hire)						
		Snappers	988							
		Other Species	881							
Penaeid Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial	10,052	538 (penaeid) 243 (rock 6)	trawls	FMP area/ year-round	shore-side processing			
		Recreational 5	n/a 3	n/a 3	n/a 3		n/a 3			
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral 4	31,130: 5,191 Fed & 25,939 State	18	hand harvest	south FL/ year-round	Fresh			
		Recreational 4	n/a 4	n/a 4	n/a 4	n/a 4	n/a 3			
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster [Jointly managed with GMFMC]										
Coastal Migratory Pelagics [Jointly managed with GMFMC]								3	4	

1. Number of vessels with active permits for 2021.
2. Commercial and recreational sector for shallow water groupers closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for red porgy closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for greater amberjack closed during April. Fishing is prohibited year-round in Oculina HAPC.
3. Not applicable (No recreational fishery in the EEZ).
4. Octocoral landings in number of units and number of persons harvesting octocoral provided by the State of Florida. Federal permits are not required for octocoral harvest, and there is no recreational harvest.
5. Recreational landings include Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) and Headboat survey data.
6. Permit count is for both the rock shrimp permit and the rock shrimp Carolinas zone permit summed.

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) datasets produced by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL, and from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the SEFSC ACL datasets and include MRIP and headboat landings data. NOAA Fisheries Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2021

A-iv. GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)										
FMP	Type	Species	2021 Landings (Metric Tons)	2021 Vessels Permits Federal Or Florida (FI)	Allowable Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants In 2021		
								Comm	Rec	
Red Drum Fishery Of The Gulf Of Mexico	R	Commercial	17	n/a 6	n/a 6	EEZ Closed n/a 6	n/a 6	2	5	
		Recreational 6,12	2,540 5	n/a 6	n/a 6					
Reef Fish Fishery Of The Gulf Of Mexico	X	Commercial		842 (reef fish)	longline, handline, bandit gear, rod and reel, buoy gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area/ year round 9	At-sea, gutted, shore-side processing	2	5	
		Grouper	2,042							
		Red Snapper	3,127							
		Other snapper	641							
		Other species 7	219	615 (grouper-tilefish) 9						
		Recreational 12		1310 (for-hire)	spear, powerhead, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, cast net	FMP area/year round 4,10				
		Grouper	1,031							
		Red Snapper 4	2,876							
Other snappers	1,656									
Other species 7	597									
Shrimp Fishery Of The Gulf Of Mexico	C	Commercial	50,872	1,418	trawl, butterfly net, skimmer, cast net, trawl	FMP area/ year round; annual TX closure; seasonal FL closure	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1		
		Recreational 6	n/a 6	n/a 6		FMP area/year round				
Spiny Lobster Fishery Of The Gulf Of Mexico & South Atlantic [Shared W/ SAFMC]	C	Commercial 11	1,554	210 commercial 229 tailing	trap, pot, dip net, bully net, hoop net, trawl, snare, hand harvest	Florida/ Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1		
		Recreational 2,11	727 2	n/a3	dip net, bully net, pot, trap, snare, hand harvest	FL / 2-day sport- season in July, Aug-Apr				
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources Of The Gulf Of Mexico & South Atlantic [Shared W/SAFMC]	X	Commercial		1,452	gillnets, longline, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, purse net	Gulf & South Atlantic: Year round, commercial closures when quotas are reached	At-sea, gutted, shore-side processing	2	5	
		King mackerel	2,266							
		Spanish mackerel	2,194	2,338						
		Recreational 11,12		(1,321 Gulf for-hire) (2,255 south Atlantic for-hire)	bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear					
		King mackerel	1,260							
Spanish mackerel	1,645									

Number of vessels with active permits for 2021.

1. Data from the state of Florida.
2. Not Available (no federal permit or reporting requirements, except for-hire vessels).
3. Recreational fishery for red snapper in 2021 had state specific seasons for the private sector and had a(add open season date) season for the federally permitted for-hire vessels.
4. State landings only.
5. Not applicable (fishery closed in federal waters) or landings not recorded in recreational landing survey.
6. Includes greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, almaco jack, banded rudderfish, gray triggerfish, tilefishes, and hogfish.
7. Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ) Program shareholders at the end of 2020.
8. Grouper-tilefish IFQ Program shareholders at the end of 2020.
9. Bottom fishing is prohibited year-round on Madison and Swanson sites and Steamboat Lumps; the Edges is closed to all fishing January through April. Recreational fishery for red grouper, black grouper, yellowfin grouper, scamp, and yellowmouth grouper is closed February 1 to March 31 beyond the 20-fathom break. Recreational fishery for gag is closed from January 1st to June 30th.
10. Data from 2019-2020 fishing season.
11. Recreational landings include MRIP, Headboat survey, Louisiana survey (LA), and Texas Parks and Wildlife survey (TPWD) data.

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the ACL datasets produced by the SEFSC, Miami, FL, and from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the SEFSC ACL datasets and include MRIP, headboat, LA, and TPWD landings data. NMFS Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information.

A-v. CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)										
FMP	Type	Species	2021 Landings (Metric Tons)	2021 Vessels Permits	Allowable Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants In 2021		
								Comm	Rec	
Spiny Lobster	x	Commercial	61 (USVI) <sup>1</sup>	n/a	trap/pot, dip net gillnet, snare	year-round	fresh, landed whole			
		Recreational	n/a <sup>3,4</sup>		dip net, trap, pot		n/a			
Reef Fish (snappers, groupers, other reef species)	x	Commercial	135 (USVI) <sup>1</sup>	n/a	longline, hook and line, trap, pot,	area closures <sup>5</sup> , seasonal closures for numerous snappers and groupers; prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau and Goliath groupers	gutted at-sea, shore-side processing	2	2	
		Recreational	n/a <sup>3,4</sup>		dip net, handline, rod and reel, slurp gun, spear		n/a			
Coral Reef	x	Commercial			dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest	year-round	live, fresh			
		Stony Corals	0	n/a						
		Gorgonians	0	n/a						
		Live Rock	0	n/a						
		Other Invertebrates	<1	n/a						
		Recreational			dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest		n/a			
		All corals	n/a <sup>3,4</sup>	n/a						
Queen Conch	x	Commercial	14 (USVI) <sup>1</sup>	n/a	hand harvest (no hooks)	closed year round (no harvest) in EEZ except east of St. Croix (portion of Lang Bank) where it is closed seasonally each year July through September	live, landed whole in shell, shore-side processing			
		Recreational	n/a <sup>3,4</sup>	n/a	hand harvest (no hooks)		n/a			

2021 landings are completed and available at this time however these landings are only for the United States Virgin Islands. Therefore no Puerto Rico commercial and recreational landings are available at this time.

1. Not applicable (no permits required).
2. Recreational landings are only available for Puerto Rico and are collected by the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). However, MRIP stopped in 2017 and was not run in Puerto Rico in 2021. Therefore, there are no data on recreational landings in Puerto Rico in 2021.
3. Not available. Recreational landings in USVI are not collected. Also, recreational landings surveys do not collect information on lobster, conch, and coral.
4. Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gill nets, and trammel nets is prohibited year-round at Grammanik Bank and at various mutton snapper and red hind spawning aggregation sites. Fishing for any species is prohibited year-round within Hind Bank Marine Conservation District.

Sources: Puerto Rican and USVI Commercial landings were obtained from the SEFSC, Miami. Puerto Rico commercial landings are from the Accumulated Landings System at the SEFSC, Miami, FL.

**A-vi. PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PFMC)**

FMP	Type	Species	2021 Landings (salmon in # of fish, others in metric tons)	2021 Vessel Permits & Angler Trips	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021	
								Comm	Rec
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California <sup>2</sup>	X	Commercial			Troll; hook and line,	WA, OR & CA variable dates by area	headed & gutted; fillets; fresh & frozen		
		Chinook salmon	246,268	CA Troll 1,026					
		Coho salmon	32,010	OR Troll 875					
		Pink salmon	0	WA Troll 153					
		Recreational							
		Chinook salmon	79,506	252,692 Angler Trips					
		Coho salmon	143,765						
Pink salmon	1,228								
Pacific Coast Groundfish <sup>3</sup>	X	Commercial			trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen		
		Pacific whiting	265,778	Limited Entry Permits on 283 vessels  Open Access: approximately 600 vessels landed					
		Flatfish	7,557						
		Rockfish	17,985						
		Sablefish	3,693						
		Other groundfish	1,543						
		Recreational							
Groundfish	Estimated 2,775	Estimated 827,647 Boat Based Trips targeting groundfish							
Coastal Pelagic Species <sup>3</sup>	C	Pacific sardine	1,769	Federal Limited Entry south of Point Arena - 65	purse seine	CA – year round  OR and WA -summer	human consumption bait meal and oil		
		Pacific mackerel	1,132						
		Jack mackerel	2,645						
		Market squid	48,695	State Limited					
		Northern Anchovy	2,937	Entry north of Point Arena 44 (26 OR, 16 WA)					
Highly Migratory Species <sup>3</sup>	C	Northern albacore	3,443	1,530 Federal Permits	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh, frozen, canned Human consumption		
		Other tunas	231						
		Swordfish	75						
		Sharks	44						

1. X = Both commercial and recreational, C = Commercial only
2. Data extracted from the [Review of 2021 Ocean Salmon Fisheries](#) (February 2022; Pacific Fishery Management Council)
3. Data extracted from the PacFin (commercial) and RecFIN data systems (recreational)



**A-vii. NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)**

FMP	Type	Species	2021 Landings (Metric Tons) <sup>1</sup>	2021 Vessel Permits <sup>2</sup>	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021	
								Comm	Rec
<b>Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)</b>	C	Pollock	101,160	871 Federal Fishing permits  1,124 LLP permits	trawl; pot; hook & line; jig	area/time closures adjusted in season. LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
		Pacific cod	19,176						
		Flatfish	12,991						
		Rockfish	36,880						
		Sablefish	16,501						
		Atka mackerel	939						
		Misc. species	5,144						
<b>Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)</b>	C	Pollock	1,378,105	474 Federal fishing permits 506 LLP permits	trawl; pot; hook & line; jig	area/time closures adjusted in season. LLP permits have gear and area endorsements.	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
		Pacific cod	135,715						
		Flatfish	169,218						
		Rockfish	43,704						
		Sablefish	5,748						
		Atka mackerel	61,354						
		Misc. species	20,420						
<b>Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the BSAI</b>	C	King Crab	2,180	452 Quota Share holders for IFQ Crab  347 LLP permits	Pot	Deferred to State; generally, November and winter months; LLP permits have fishery endorsements for minor crab species.	cooked; refrigerated; frozen	3	
		Red king crab	103						
		Golden king crab	2,720						
		St. Matt.Blue King Crab	Closed						
		C. opilio (snow) - Tanner	3,600						
		C. bairdi - Tanner	780						
<b>Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska and adjacent state waters</b>	C	Chinook salmon	825	846 permits fished	Trolls	Deferred to State; generally West area is closed; southeast area time area limits.	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked	1	
		Coho salmon	2,040						
		Pink salmon	146						
		Sockeye salmon	10						
		Chum salmon	2,010						
<b>Scallop Fishery off Alaska</b>	C	Weathervane	136	9 LLP permits	Dredges	Deferred to State; Time and area openings are adjusted in season	hand shucked and frozen or iced		

In addition to these five FMPs, the NPFMC also is responsible for developing regulations governing Pacific halibut fisheries in and off of Alaska under authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). These regulations, which are in addition to and not in conflict with regulations adopted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, primarily allocate halibut fishing privileges among U.S. fishermen. Although the NPFMC develops halibut management regulations according to principles of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, no halibut FMP exists because the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not apply to management of the Pacific halibut fisheries. In 2021, the commercial fishing season for halibut in and off Alaska ran from March 6 through December 7. The total commercial catch of halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs through December 7, 2021 was 8,140 mt, net weight, about 91.6 percent of the available quota. At that date, about 751 mt of Pacific halibut remained. For Pacific halibut, 2,273 persons held IFQ Quota Share as of December 2021.

- 2019 salmon catch data are from the State of Alaska. These data represent only the southeast AK hand and power troll fisheries that are governed by the Salmon FMP and managed as one fishery, inside and outside State waters by the State of Alaska. The catch data for the BSAI crab fisheries are from the 2022 Final Crab Stock Assessment and Fisheries Evaluation report for Fishing Year 2021/2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022), NMFS, Alaska scallop fishery catch data for the 2021/2022 season (July 1, 2021 to February 2022) are from the State of Alaska. All other catch data are from the Alaska Region, NMFS, and reflect catch reports through December 31, 2021. NMFS catch data include retained and discarded catch amounts. Miscellaneous groundfish species include skates, sharks, and octopus.
- Data represents persons or vessels permitted to harvest fish, not the number of individuals actually involved in the operation of vessels, catching and processing fish. Participation in all FMP fisheries is governed by some form of limited access system. License Limitation Programs (LLP), initially effective in 2000, apply to all fisheries except crab fisheries brought under a new IFQ system in 2005, salmon (which is governed by the State of Alaska limited entry system), demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Gulf of Alaska, IFQ sablefish, and IFQ and CDQ halibut fisheries. In 2005, a new IFQ program replaced the LLP license requirement for most BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries. A total of 495 distinct persons were initially issued one or more types of harvesting quota share for eight crab fisheries (managed as nine fisheries starting July 1, 2007); in the 2021/2022 crab year all IFQ crab was assigned to cooperatives; 99 distinct Hired Masters fished IFQ for 10 active permit holders (counting cooperatives, not members). Some LLP crab licenses were re-issued to authorize fishing not managed under the IFQ system. Of the approximate total 2,199 current LLP permits, most (1,852) authorized fishing for groundfish in the BSAI or GOA or both, and 347 still authorized fishing for BSAI crab species not under crab rationalization management; the remaining 9 were for scallop harvest. Also, a total of 814 persons held QS to harvest sablefish as of December 2021, with fixed gear in the GOA and BSAI under the IFQ Program. The salmon permit data are from the State of Alaska and represent the number of individual permits fished in 2021.
- Troll gear is the gear authorized to be used in the EEZ under the salmon FMP, however, other gear types such as gill nets and purse seines are authorized in other areas of the State to harvest salmon

A-viii. WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)										
FMP	Type	Species	2021 Landings (Metric Tons) <sup>1</sup>	2021 Vessel Permits <sup>2</sup>	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants in 2021		
								Comm	Rec	
Hawaiian Archipelago (including Midway Atoll)	x	Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Management Unit Species (MUS)	102(C) 67(R) <sup>4</sup>	Est. 1197 (C and R)	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round, except: a. Main Hawaiian Islands upon reaching annual catch limit b. Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (closed) c. Hancock Seamounts (closed)	fresh fish market		1	
		Crustacean MUS Kona crab	1.7	17 Kona Crab	loop net	FEP Area/year round, except: a. NWHI (closed) b. MHI: (closed 5/1 – 8/31)	flash frozen and live market			
		deep-water shrimp	#	3 shrimp (Crustacean Area 2 Permit)	trap					
		Precious coral MUS	0	0	manned submersible, remote vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round, except NWHI where fishery is closed.	shaped / polished			
Marianas Archipelago (CNMI & Guam)	x	Bottomfish MUS	34 (CNMI) 25 (Guam)	9 (CNMI) 0 (Guam)	handline, rod and reel, hand	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish market	0	2	
American Samoa	x	Bottomfish MUS	1	No permits required	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round, except for area closure within 12 nm of Rose Atoll	fresh fish market	0	0	
Pacific Remote Island Areas (Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, and Wake and Palmyra Atolls)	x	Bottomfish MUS	0	0	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round, except for area closures within 12 nm of land	fresh fish market			
		Crustacean MUS (Spiny and slipper lobster, and deep-water shrimp)	0	0	Traps, hand	FEP Area/year round, except for area closures within 12 nm of land	flash frozen and live market			
		Precious coral MUS (all species combined)	0	0	manned submersible, remote vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round, except for area closures within 12 nm of land	shaped/ polished			
Pelagic	C	Commercial			longline, troll/handline, squid	FEP Area/year round, except for area closures around the Hawaii, Mariana and American Samoa Archipelagos	fresh fish market  whole frozen for cannery	1	1	
		Tunas (albacore, bigeye, yellowfin, skipjack, bluefin)	12,436	190 (longline active)						
		Swordfish	695							
		Other billfish	960							
		Mahi mahi	369							
		Wahoo	561							
		Squid	0	0 (squid)						
	Other (incl. sharks and other tunas)	656								
	R	Recreational								
Estimated Recreational (all species)	2,965 <sup>4</sup>	n/a								

FEP landings obtained from the 2021 WPFMC Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Reports (available at <http://www.wpcouncil.org/annual-reports/>)

1. Vessel information obtained from WPFMC from NMFS Pacific Islands Region Sustainable Fisheries Permits Program data, except for Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish, which is from the State of Hawaii bottomfish vessel registration.
2. Where noted, recreational (R) fisheries landing information obtained from NMFS Office of Science and Technology at <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/recreational/queries/index.html> (accessed on November 22, 2022)
3. # Too few vessels to aggregate and disclose landings information per MSA confidentiality requirements.