



WESTERN  
PACIFIC  
REGIONAL  
FISHERY  
MANAGEMENT  
COUNCIL

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
*Version: February 15, 2024*

**198<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council**

March 15, 2024 Standing Committee  
*By Web Conference*

March 18-20, 2024 Council Plenary  
Hibiscus Ballroom  
Ala Moana Hotel  
Honolulu, HI

*To access the Webex (audio & visual) click link below:*

<http://tinyurl.com/198CouncilMtg>

*Event number: 2634 374 8310*

*Event password: CM198mtg (26198685 from phones)*

| <b>198<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA SUMMARY</b> |                                |  |                                   |
|--|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b><i>Friday, March 15</i></b>                         | <b><i>Monday, March 18</i></b> | <b><i>Tuesday, March 19</i></b>            | <b><i>Wednesday, March 20</i></b> |
| Executive &<br>Budget Standing<br>Committee<br>Meeting | Agency Reports                 | Council/Advisory Body<br>Breakout Sessions | Action Items                      |
|  | Island Reports                 | IRA Breakouts                              | Program Planning                  |
|  | Program Items                  | EEJ Breakout                               | Pelagic and<br>International      |
|  | Fishers Forum                  | Joint Meeting of the AP,<br>FIAC and NCFAC | Administrative Matters            |

### *Notice to Public*

Please note the actual order and timing of agenda items may vary somewhat from the proposed agenda. For example, items not completed on the scheduled day will be carried over to the next day. Items may be moved to an earlier or later time than shown on this Proposed Agenda or rescheduled for a different time during the week. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, fishery management regulatory actions not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion. However, such issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting, unless they are emergency in nature.

**To present oral testimony or comments at this meeting:** For those participating remotely by Webex, request for public comment and identification of the agenda item on which you wish to speak must be sent through the “chat” function in Webex to the “Host” prior to the start of the public comment session. For those participating at a web conference host site, fill out a comment card and indicate the agenda item on which you wish to speak. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes. Please identify yourself and whom you represent at the beginning of your testimony. Public comment on non-agenda items will be taken on Monday, March 18, 2024, from 5:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (HST).

**Written comments on final action items should be received at the Council office by 5 p.m. (HST), Thursday, March 14, 2024.** Written comments may be submitted by e-mail to [info@wpcouncil.org](mailto:info@wpcouncil.org), faxed to (808) 522-8226 or mailed to the Council office at 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813. Written public comments on all other agenda items may be submitted for the record by email throughout the duration of the meeting.

Financial interest statements for the appointed Council members are available for inspection at the Council Office at the meeting.



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## Council Committee Meetings

*All times are in Hawaii Standard Time (HST)*

March 15, 2024

By Web Conference (Webex)

Executive & Budget Standing Committee 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 pm

<https://wprfmc.webex.com/wprfmc/j.php?MTID=m3ffc6e5fdee4c95550b706e20d7d632b>

*Event number: 2630 064 6130*

*Event password: EBSC0315mtg (32720319 from phones)*

## 198<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

*All times are in Hawaii Standard Time (HST)*

Hibiscus Ballroom

Ala Moana Hotel

Honolulu, HI

<http://tinyurl.com/198CouncilMtg>

*Event number: 2634 374 8310*

*Event password: CM198mtg (26198685 from phones)*

March 18-20, 2024

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Council Meeting  | Monday, March 18, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.   |
| Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items   | 5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.                      |
| Fishers Forum (Ala Moana Hotel)  | 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.                      |
| Council/Advisory Body Breakout Sessions<br>(breakout sessions in-person only)  | Tuesday, March 19, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.   |
| Joint Meeting of the Advisory Panel (AP),<br>Fishing Industry Advisory Committee (FIAC) and<br>Non-Commercial Fisheries Advisory Committee (NCFAC) | 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.                      |
| Council Meeting  | Wednesday, March 20, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. |



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## Draft Agenda 198<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Hibiscus Ballroom  
Ala Moana Hotel  
Honolulu, HI

To access the Webex (audio & visual) click link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/198CouncilMtg>

Event number: 2634 374 8310

Event password: CM198mtg (26198685 from phones)

**Monday, March 18, 2024**  
**10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. HST**

|          |          |  |
|----------|----------|--|
| 10:00 AM | <b>1</b> | Welcome and Introductions                |
| 10:20 AM | <b>2</b> | Approval of the 198th CM Agenda          |
| 10:25 AM | <b>3</b> | Approval of the 197th CM Meeting Minutes |
| 10:30 AM | <b>4</b> | Executive Director's Report              |

### **5 Agency Reports**

|          |       |   |
|----------|-------|---|
|          | 5.A   | National Marine Fisheries Service                         |
| 10:45 AM | 5.A.1 | <i>Pacific Islands Regional Office</i>                    |
| 11:00 AM | 5.A.2 | <i>Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i>           |
| 11:15 AM | 5.B   | NOAA Office of General Counsel Pacific Islands Section    |
|          | 5.C   | Marine Fishery Advisory Committee                         |
|          | 5.D   | Enforcement   |
| 11:25 AM | 5.D.1 | <i>US Coast Guard</i>                                     |
| 11:35 AM | 5.D.2 | <i>NOAA Office of Law Enforcement</i>                     |
| 11:55 AM | 5.D.3 | <i>NOAA Office of General Counsel Enforcement Section</i> |
| 11:55 AM | 5.E   | US State Department                                       |
| 12:05 PM | 5.F   | US Fish and Wildlife Service                              |
| 12:15 PM | 5.G   | Public Comment  |
| 12:25 PM | 5.H   | Council Discussion and Action                             |

**Lunch Break 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.**

## **6 Council Member Island Reports**

|         |     |                               |
|---------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 2:00 PM | 6.A | American Samoa                |
| 2:10 PM | 6.B | CNMI                          |
| 2:20 PM | 6.C | Guam                          |
| 2:30 PM | 6.D | Hawaii                        |
| 2:40 PM | 6.E | Public Comment                |
| 2:45 PM | 6.F | Council Discussion and Action |

***Break 2:45 – 3:00 PM***

## **7 Program Reports**

|         |       |  |
|---------|-------|--|
|         | 7.A   | Advisory Panel Action Plans  |
| 3:00 PM | 7.A.1 | <i>American Samoa Advisory Panel</i>   |
| 3:10 PM | 7.A.2 | <i>Guam Advisory Panel</i>   |
| 3:20 PM | 7.A.3 | <i>CNMI Advisory Panel</i>   |
| 3:30 PM | 7.A.4 | <i>Hawaii Advisory Panel</i>   |
| 3:40 PM | 7.B   | 2023 Fishermen Observations  |
|         | 7.C   | Equity and Environmental Justice   |
| 3:50 PM | 7.C.1 | <i>National EEJ Policy and Plan</i>  |
| 4:00 PM | 7.C.2 | <i>Regional Implementation EEJ Plan</i>  |
| 4:10 PM | 7.C.3 | <i>NASEM Report on Assessing Equity in Distribution of Fisheries Management Benefits</i> |
| 4:20 PM | 7.C.4 | <i>Council EEJ and CCC Plans</i>   |
|         | 7.D   | Program Planning and Multi-Year Priorities   |
| 4:30 PM | 7.D.1 | <i>MSRA Research Priorities 2025-2029</i>  |
| 4:40 PM | 7.D.2 | <i>Program Plan and Budget</i>   |
|         | 7.D.3 | <i>SSC 3-year Plan</i>   |
| 4:50 PM | 7.E   | Inflation Reduction Act Proposal   |
| 5:00 PM | 7.F   | Regional IRA Modernize Management Proposals  |
| 5:05 PM | 7.G   | Public Comment   |
| 5:10 PM | 7.H   | Council Discussion and Action  |

***5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.***  
**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

***Fishers Forum***  
***Fish ID 101: Know Your Catch***  
***6:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.***

# 198<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. HST

8:30AM 8 Report from NMFS Deputy Assistant Administrator  
for Regulatory Program

## JOINT COUNCIL & ADVISORY BODY (AP/FIAC/NCFAC) BREAKOUT SESSIONS

(Hibiscus Ballroom/Carnation/Plumeria/Pakalana-Anthurium)

### 9 Breakout Session 1 – IRA Priority Areas (In-person only)

9:00 AM 9.A Breakout Sessions (in-person only)

9.A.1 Scenario Planning

9.A.2 Regulatory Review

9.A.3 Protected Species

9.A.4 Community Consultation

*Break 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.*

### 10 Breakout Session 2 – IRA Continued - Rotate Groups (1.5 Hrs)

10:45 AM 10.A Breakout Sessions (in-person only)

10.A.1 Scenario Planning

10.A.2 Regulatory Review

10.A.3 Protected Species

10.A.4 Community Consultation

*Lunch Break 12:15 – 1:45 p.m.*

1:45 PM 10.B Report out on IRA Breakout Groups (Plenary – Hibiscus Ballroom)

### 11 Breakout Session 3 – EEJ: Implement; Fund; Empower; Advocate

2:15 PM 11.A Breakout Sessions (in-person only)

11.A.1 American Samoa – Plumeria

11.A.2 CNMI – Pakalana/Anthurium

11.A.3 Guam – Carnation

11.A.4 Hawaii - Hibiscus

*Break 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

4:00 PM 11.B Report out on EEJ Breakout Groups (Plenary – Hibiscus Ballroom)

## Joint Meeting of the AP, FIAC and NCFAC

Hibiscus Ballroom

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. HST

4:30PM 1 IRA Discussion

5:00 PM 2 EEJ Priorities Discussion

5:30 PM 3 Other Business

5:40 PM 4 Public Comment

5:50 PM 5 Recommendations

**198<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**  
**8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. HST**

**12 Action Items**

|         |        |  |
|---------|--------|--|
| 8:30AM  | 12.A   | Main Hawaiian Island Deep 7 Bottomfish                                 |
|         | 12.A.1 | 2024 MHI Deep 7 Western Pacific Stock Assessment Review (WPSAR) Report |
|         | 12.A.2 | 2024 MHI Deep 7 Stock Assessment                                       |
| 9:00AM  | 12.B   | Guam Bottomfish  |
|         | 12.B.1 | 2024 Guam WPSAR Report   |
|         | 12.B.2 | 2024 Guam Bottomfish Update Stock Assessment                           |
| 9:30AM  | 12.C   | Terms of Reference for Guam Bottomfish Data WPSAR                      |
|         | 12.D   | Advisory Group Report and Recommendations                              |
| 10:15AM | 12.D.1 | Scientific & Statistical Committee                                     |
| 10:20AM | 12.E   | Public Comment   |
| 10:25AM | 12.F   | Council Discussion and Action  |

**Break 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

**13 Program Planning**

|         |        |   |
|---------|--------|---|
| 10:45AM | 13.A   | Marine Resource Education Program           |
| 11:00AM | 13.B   | NMFS Data Confidentiality Proposed Rule     |
| 11:15AM | 13.C   | Status of PRIA and NWHI Sanctuary Proposals |
| 11:30AM | 13.D   | Hawaii Small-boat Fisheries Project Update  |
|         | 13.E   | Breakout Group Reports                      |
| 11:45AM | 13.E.1 | IRA Priorities and Projects                 |
| 11:50AM | 13.E.2 | EEJ Planning                                |
|         | 13.F   | Advisory Group Report and Recommendations   |
| 12:05PM | 13.F.1 | Joint Advisory Panel, FIAC, NCFAC           |
| 12:10PM | 13.F.2 | Scientific & Statistical Committee          |
| 12:15PM | 13.G   | Public Comment                              |
| 12:20PM | 13.H   | Council Discussion and Action               |

**Lunch Break 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

**14 Pelagic and International**

|         |        |   |
|---------|--------|---|
|         | 14.A   | 2023 Longline Fishery Performance and Economic Snapshot Reports                                 |
| 1:30 PM | 14.A.1 | Hawaii Longline Fishery Report  |
| 1:50 PM | 14.A.2 | American Samoa Longline Fishery Report  |
| 2:15 PM | 14.B   | Report on Multi-Year Specification Framework for Territorial Bigeye Catch and Allocation Limits |
| 2:45 PM | 14.C   | 12 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of SPRFMO  |
| 3:00 PM | 14.D   | Upcoming IATTC Management Issues  |

|         |               |   |
|---------|---------------|---|
|         | 14.E          | Advisory Group Report and Recommendations     |
| 3:10 PM | <i>14.E.1</i> | <i>Scientific &amp; Statistical Committee</i> |
| 3:20 PM | 14.F          | Public Comment                                |
| 3:30 PM | 14.G          | Council Discussion and Action                 |

***Break 3:40 – 4:00 p.m.***

**15 Administrative Matters**

|         |      |  |
|---------|------|--|
| 4:00 PM | 15.A | Financial Reports                              |
| 4:10 PM | 15.B | Administrative Reports                         |
| 4:20 PM | 15.C | Council Family Changes                         |
| 4:25 PM | 15.D | Meetings and Workshops                         |
| 4:30 PM | 15.E | 2025-2028 Program Plan                         |
| 4:40 PM | 15.F | Executive and Budget Standing Committee Report |
| 4:50 PM | 15.G | Public Comment                                 |
| 5:00 PM | 15.H | Council Discussion and Action                  |

**16 Other Business**

**-PAU-**