

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR MARCH 23, 2017

7B. PACIFIC HERRING FMP**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Receive DFW update on the planning process to develop a fishery management plan (FMP) for Pacific herring.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

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| • DFW update on FMP contract | Mar 21, 2016; MRC, Los Alamitos |
| • DFW update on FMP progress | Jul 21, 2016; MRC, Petaluma |
| • DFW update on FMP progress | Nov 15, 2016; MRC, Los Alamitos |
| • Today receive update on FMP process | Mar 23, 2017; MRC, San Clemente |

Background

This is a standing agenda item to receive DFW updates on development of an FMP for Pacific herring, a critically important forage species in California and along the West Coast. The commercial roe herring fishery is managed through annual FGC regulations to establish fishing quotas, pursuant to Section 163, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, based on herring spawning population size estimates from DFW surveys.

FGC and DFW identified Pacific herring as a priority fishery for developing an FMP, as mandated in the Marine Life Management Act. For over two years, a collaborative working group of herring fleet leaders, staff from conservation non-governmental organizations, and DFW staff, has developed a vision and concept for an FMP, and provides MRC with regular updates on progress.

Today DFW will provide an update on the herring FMP process.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits (N/A)****Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**