

## COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR MARCH 23, 2017

**8A. FISHERIES BYCATCH WORKGROUP****Today's Item****Information** **Direction** 

Receive an update on the progress of the Fisheries Bycatch Workgroup (BWG).

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

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|----------------------------------|--|
| • BWG meeting                    | May 18, 2016; BWG, Santa Barbara       |
| • Update on BWG                  | Jul 21, 2016; MRC, Petaluma            |
| • BWG teleconference meeting     | Sep 7, 2016; BWG, teleconference       |
| • Overview of next steps         | Nov 15, 2016; MRC, Los Alamitos        |
| • BWG teleconference meeting     | Mar 17, 2017; BWG, teleconference      |
| • <b>Today's progress update</b> | <b>Mar 23, 2016; MRC, San Clemente</b> |

**Background**

BWG was organized to review guidance within the *Marine Life Management Act Master Plan for Fisheries* related to fisheries bycatch in California's fisheries, and to develop recommendations. Since its formation, BWG has held one in-person meeting, where it formed several work teams, and one teleconference to clarify the work plan and discuss draft products developed by work teams.

A second BWG meeting scheduled for Sep 30, 2016 had to be cancelled due to staff illness and injury the week of the meeting. However, a revised draft work plan that incorporates comments submitted to staff by individual members was prepared for BWG review. A teleconference is scheduled for Mar 17, 2017 to discuss the revised draft work plan, product development timeline, and future meeting dates.

Today staff will provide an update on the Mar 17, 2017 teleconference outcomes, potential final work plan draft, and general timeline for MRC input.

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