

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR JULY 20, 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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • BWG meeting | May 4, 2017; BWG, teleconference |
| • BWG meeting | Jun 1, 2017; BWG, Los Alamitos |
| • BWG meeting | Jun 29, 2017; BWG, teleconference |
| • Today's update on progress | Jul 20, 2017; MRC, Santa Rosa |
| • Next BWG meeting | Aug 1, 2017; BWG, location TBD |

Background

BWG was organized by MRC in 2016 to develop recommendations for a more systematic approach to bycatch management in California fisheries under the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA); this includes a review of bycatch guidance within the MLMA master plan for fisheries (Master Plan), and recommending changes to clarify and expand guidance within an amended Master Plan, currently under development.

Today, FGC staff will provide an update on recent BWG meetings, and highlight progress of BWG subgroups in developing draft products for BWG review and, ultimately, for consideration by FGC within the amended Master Plan. In addition, staff will update MRC on recent coordination efforts between BWG, DFW, and FGC staff on steps and timelines designed to align BWG efforts and deliverables with the DFW timelines established for completing and delivering a draft amended Master Plan to MRC and FGC.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

FGC staff: Support DFW recommendation; provide input on BWG timeline and process for providing deliverables for the draft amended Master Plan, to align with DFW efforts and deadlines.

DFW: Support BWG work on a draft "bycatch concepts document" for DFW to integrate into the draft amended Master Plan prior to its delivery to MRC in Nov and FGC in Dec.

Exhibits (N/A)**Committee Direction/Recommendation**

The Marine Resources Committee recommends that the Fisheries Bycatch Workgroup complete a revised draft "bycatch concepts document" and provide it to DFW to integrate into the draft amended Master Plan prior to its delivery for MRC consideration in November and commission consideration in December.