

## Staff Summary for February 14-15, 2024

**29A. Tribal Committee (TC)****Today's Item**Information Action 

Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing. Consider approving draft agenda topics for the next committee meeting on April 16, 2024.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

Previous TC meeting

December 12, 2024; TC

**Today consider approving agenda topics and consider revisions to topics and timing**

**February 14-15, 2024**

Next TC meeting

April 16, 2024; TC

**Background**

The TC works under Commission direction to set and accomplish its work.

***Committee Work Plan***

Topics that have been referred from the Commission to TC are displayed within a work plan for scheduling and tracking (Exhibit 1). The updated work plan reflects direction provided at the December 2024 Commission meeting.

***Tribal Subsistence Harvest Definition Workgroup***

In December 2021, the Commission approved the formation of an ad-hoc workgroup to identify opportunities to develop an actionable definition of Native American subsistence activities that is distinct from “commercial” or “recreational.” Composed of self-selected representatives from tribes, tribal communities, interested agencies, and invited specialists, the workgroup met three times between June and December 2022 with facilitation provided by the Commission’s tribal advisor and liaison with other staff. Staff provided updates on the workgroup’s efforts at TC and Commission meetings.

At the Commission’s December 2022 meeting, Committee Chair Hostler-Carmesin proposed bringing the tribal subsistence harvest definition workgroup into the context of public TC meetings starting in 2023. Based on Commission discussion and public input, there was not agreement among tribes nor the Commission on the proposal, and further discussion of changes to the workgroup was continued to the February 2023 meeting.

At its February meeting, the Commission discussed the departure of its tribal advisor and liaison, and implications for continuing the workgroup without the staff capacity from that position. The Commission agreed to suspend workgroup activities until the position is filled. While the position has not yet been filled, in December 2023 the Tribal Committee discussed how the tribal subsistence workgroup might function when the advisor begins in 2024. TC recommended and the Commission approved that when the workgroup resumes it be composed of either tribal leaders or representatives of tribes who have been officially designated by tribal leadership. The workgroup would meet with tribes and Commission staff only, and then report out to TC at each

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TC meeting so the committee and stakeholders were aware of the progress being made, ultimately developing a recommendation for consideration by the full commission.

### **Next Committee Meeting**

The next TC meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2024 in the San Jose area. In addition to standing agenda items (annual tribal planning meeting, updates on species management plans, committee cross-pollination, staff and other agency updates, Commission rulemakings, and future agenda topics), three discussion topics are proposed:

1. *Co-management roundtable discussion*: Discuss co-management with tribal representatives who can share their co-management interests and experiences.
2. *Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms*: Share and discuss outcomes from the December 2023 TC and Commission discussions about how the workgroup will advance its efforts in the near future.
3. *Commission justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) plan*: Discuss progress on development of the JEDI plan as part of the staff updates.
4. *Marine protected areas (MPAs) decadal management review*: Under Department and Commission updates, receive an update on MPA regulation change petitions received by the Commission in response to the first decadal management review and as part of the adaptive management process.

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

### **Recommendation**

**Commission staff:** Approve the proposed April 16, 2024 TC agenda topics and approve the updated TC work plan, including any changes identified during today's meeting.

### **Exhibits**

1. [TC work plan, dated February 5, 2024](#)

### **Motion**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission approves the agenda topics for the April 16, 2024 Tribal Committee meeting and approves changes to the Tribal Committee work plan and as discussed today.

# California Fish and Game Commission Tribal Committee (TC) Work Plan

*Updated February 9, 2023*

Topic / Goal	Type / Lead	Apr 2022	Dec 2023	Apr 2024
CFGFC justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan	CFGFC Project	X	X	X
Commission Tribal Consultation Policy (begin discussions when tribal advisor and liaison is hired)	CFGFC Policy			
Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms	TC Project	X	X	X
Co-management roundtable discussion	TC Project	X	X	X
Coastal fishing communities policy	MRC Project	X	X/R	
Sheep, deer, antelope, trout, abalone, kelp/seaweed: Updates and guidance (timing as appropriate)	CDFW	X	X	X
Annual tribal planning meeting			X	X
California Natural Resources Agency			X	
OPC – MPA Statewide Leadership Team; Tribal Marine Stewards Network	OPC	X	X	
CDFW – Possible items include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Marine protected areas decadal management review</li> <li>– Drought/wildfire impacts and state response</li> <li>– Climate adaptation, mitigation, science</li> <li>– Statewide kelp and abalone recovery efforts</li> <li>– Proposition 64 (cannabis) implementation</li> <li>– Other items as identified by CDFW</li> </ul>	CDFW	X	X X  X	X
Cross-pollination with MRC and WRC: Identify tribal concerns and common themes with MRC and WRC	CFGFC Committees	X	X	X
Coastal Fishing Communities Project updates	MRC Project	X		X
CFGFC regulatory and non-regulatory updates	CFGFC staff	X	X	X

**Key:** X = Discussion scheduled      X/R = Recommendation developed and moved to CFGFC  
 CFGFC = California Fish and Game Commission      MRC = CFGFC's Marine Resources Committee  
 CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife      WRC = CFGFC's Wildlife Resources Committee  
 OPC = California Ocean Protection Council