

Staff Summary for June 19-20, 2024

30A. 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 to be held Tuesday, August 13, 2024.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Previous TC meeting December 12, 2023; TC
- Canceled TC meeting April 13, 2024; TC
- **Today consider approving TC meeting agenda topics** **June 19-20, 2024**
- Next TC meeting August 13, 2024: TC

Background

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

Committee Work Plan

Topics that have been referred by the Commission to TC are displayed in a work plan for scheduling and tracking (Exhibit 1). Proposed changes to the work plan are identified in blue underline or strikethrough text; changes include:

1. April 2024 TC meeting: Remove from the work plan as the meeting was cancelled.
2. Commission Tribal Consultation Policy: Remove the new tribal advisor and liaison parenthetical reference, as that person will be announced shortly.
3. Commission Coastal Fishing Communities Policy: Added "implementation" to the title since the policy has now been adopted by the Commission and the focus is on overall implementation.
4. December 2024 TC meeting: Added the meeting following the next meeting, and included proposed topics for the December meeting.

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting is scheduled for August 13 in Fortuna, with webinar and teleconference options.

In addition to standing agenda items (annual tribal planning meeting, updates on species management plans, committee cross-pollination, staff and other agency updates, JEDI (justice, equity, diversity and inclusion) planning Commission rulemakings, and future agenda topics), four 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

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workgroup will advance its efforts in the near future with the onboarding of a new tribal advisor and liaison.

3. *Marine protected areas (MPAs) decadal management review*: 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; in particular, discuss results of the petition binning process and any recommendations from the Commission Marine Resources Committee.
4. *Recreational take of barred sand bass*: Discuss Department evaluation and any Commission Marine Resources Committee recommendations regarding potential regulatory options to address management concerns.

Committee Co-Chairs

Commissioner Jacque Hostler-Carmesin has been the TC chair or co-chair for over ten years. When Commissioner Darius Anderson joined the Commission in February 2024, he was appointed to the TC as co-chair; in May, Commissioner Anderson, citing the need to focus on previous time commitments, stepped down as co-chair.

The previous co-chair for TC was President Pete Silva, until he left the Commission in February 2022; since then, rather than a formal TC co-chair, other commissioners have joined TC meetings as “visiting” commissioners, to both support the work of the committee and to better understand topics being discussed by TC with participating tribal and tribal community representatives and members.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve the TC work plan as reflected in Exhibit 1, including any changes identified during today’s meeting; approve the draft agenda topics for the August 13, 2024 TC meeting; and consider whether to appoint a new TC co-chair or have “visiting” commissioners for each meeting.

Exhibits

1. [TC work plan, updated June 7, 2024](#)
2. [Department blog post, *Seeking Your Feedback to Help Manage California’s Marine Protected Area Network*, posted May 31, 2024 \(for background purposes only\)](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the changes to the Tribal Committee work plan and approves the agenda topics for the August 13, 2024 Tribal Committee meeting, as discussed today.

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

Updated June 7, 2024

Proposed additions and deletions to topics/timing are shown in blue underline or ~~strike-out~~ font, respectively.

Topic / Goal	Type / Lead	Dec 2023	<u>Apr</u> 2024	Aug 2024	<u>Dec</u> 2024
CFGC justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan	CFGC Project	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
Commission Tribal Consultation Policy (begin discussions when tribal advisor and liaison is hired)	CFGC Policy			X	<u>X</u>
Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms	TC Project	X	X		
Co-management roundtable discussion	TC Project	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
Coastal fishing communities policy <u>implementation</u>	MRC Project	X/R		X	
Sheep, deer, antelope, trout, abalone, kelp/seaweed: Updates and guidance (timing as appropriate)	CDFW	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
Annual tribal planning meeting	CFGC Project	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
California Natural Resources Agency	CNRA	X		X	
OPC – MPA Statewide Leadership Team; Tribal Marine Stewards Network	OPC	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
CDFW – Possible items include: - Marine protected areas (<u>MPA</u>) decadal management review, <u>MPA petitions</u> - Drought/wildfire impacts and state response - Climate adaptation, mitigation, science - Statewide kelp and abalone recovery efforts - Proposition 64 (cannabis) implementation - Other items as identified by CDFW	CDFW	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
Cross-pollination with MRC and WRC: Identify tribal concerns and common themes with MRC and WRC	CFGC Committees	X	X	X	<u>X</u>
Coastal Fishing Communities Project updates	MRC Project		X	X	
CFGC regulatory and non-regulatory updates	CFGC staff	X	X	X	<u>X</u>

Key: X = Discussion scheduled X/R = Recommendation developed and moved to CFGC

CFGC = California Fish and Game Commission

MRC = CFGC's Marine Resources Committee

WRC = CFGC's Wildlife Resources Committee

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CNRA = California Natural Resources Agency

OPC = California Ocean Protection Council

Seeking Your Feedback to Help Manage California's Marine Protected Area Network

May 31, 2024

At its February 2024 meeting, the California Fish and Game Commission (CFGF) referred 20 petitions with over 80 unique requests to amend marine protected area regulations to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for review, evaluation, and recommendation.

The CFGF has approved a [3-phase approach](#) to evaluate the petitions. CDFW has completed Phase 1 of the 3-phase approach and will present the [draft proposed binning \(sorting\) of petitions](#) to the CFGF at the Marine Resources Committee meeting on July 17, 2024 for further discussion.

The CFGF has requested public feedback on the [draft proposed binning of petitions](#). All petitions have been sorted into either Bin 1 (petitions ready to be evaluated in the near-term. Placement in Bin 1 does not guarantee the petition will be approved) or Bin 2 (petitions that require additional policy guidance, information, and/or resources before evaluation).

Feedback on petition binning may be sent directly to the CFGF to inform the discussions scheduled for the July 17 Marine Resources Committee meeting. **For written comments to be included in the meeting materials, the CFGF must receive them by July 5.** [Instructions for how to submit written comments](#) and a [schedule of upcoming CFGF meetings](#) can be found on the CFGF website.

The draft Phase 1 document that outlines the proposed binning of petitions includes background information on binning criteria, tables that outline proposed Bin 1 and Bin 2 petitions, and justifications for why petitions are categorized into each bin.

It is anticipated the Marine Resources Committee will make a recommendation on the draft proposed binning for the CFGF's consideration at their August meeting. Following the CFGF's approval of petition binning, CDFW will move forward with the evaluation of Bin 1 petitions for subsequent discussion and consideration by the Marine Resources Committee and the CFGF.

post by Sara Worden, CDFW Environmental Scientist



Top left. Diver with MPA banner in Blue Cavern Onshore State Marine Conservation Area. CDFW Photo.

Top right. California MPA Network Map.

Bottom. Kelp forest and rockfish. Photo by S. Lonhart, NOAA.