

## Staff Summary for June 11-12, 2025

**10A. Tribal Committee (TC)****Today's Item**Information ☐Action ☒

Receive summary and consider approving recommendations from the May 7, 2025 Committee meeting. Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| • Previous TC meeting  | May 7, 2025; TC         |
| • <b>Today, consider approving TC recommendations and next meeting agenda topics</b> | <b>June 11-12, 2025</b> |
| • Next TC meeting  | August 12, 2025; TC     |

**Background**

TC works under Commission direction to set and accomplish its work plan. Today, the Commission will receive a report on the previous TC meeting, provide direction for any referred topics and revisions to TC work plan topics and timing, and consider approving the next TC meeting agenda topics.

***Previous Committee Meeting***

TC met via teleconference on May 7 with Chair Hostler-Carmesin in Trinidad and Commission and Department staff in Sacramento, with Zoom and phone options for other agency partners and the public. Official meeting minutes are posted on the [Commission's YouTube page](#), with a link also available on the Commission's meetings page at [fgc.ca.gov/meetings](http://fgc.ca.gov/meetings).

On May 7, TC received updates on standing meeting agenda items, including species management plans, committee cross-pollination, staff and other agency actions, Commission rulemakings, and future agenda topics. In addition, TC discussed five items:

- *Co-management roundtable*: Several participants shared co-management initiatives and projects planned or underway in collaboration with public agencies and California tribes, and touched on the subject of co-management in relation to formal government-to-government consultation.
- *California Natural Resources Agency draft tribal consultation policy*: Received an update on the California Natural Resources Agency revised draft tribal consultation policy and associated draft tribal consultation best practices guide that are currently available for public comment and tribal consultation, and how they relate to the Commission's *Tribal Consultation Policy*. Discussion centered around identifying who are the decision-makers in consultations, greater consistency across agencies, and using the correct format for the topics being discussed, to ensure effective processes.
- *Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms*: Renewed discussions about a tribal subsistence definition and how such a definition could potentially be useful to tribes, tribal communities, and natural resources agencies. The State Water Resources Control Board definition of tribal subsistence fishing was shared as an example, as well as the federal definition of subsistence for tribes in Alaska

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pursuant to Title VIII of the Alaska National Interests Land Conservation Act. Discussions on this subject will continue at TC meetings.

- *Commission Policy on Naming Installations*: Discussed revised proposed amendments to the Commission *Naming Installations Policy*, proposed to be retitled “naming protected areas” policy. Discussion was supportive of the policy changes, with suggestions to ensure there is adequate tribal consultation, the appropriate tribes are identified, to work with the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names housed within the California Natural Resources Agency, and to think carefully about procedurally how to navigate instances where multiple tribes weigh in on a potential name.
- Annual tribal planning meeting: Discussed the timing, format and agenda for the next annual tribal planning meeting, with a suggestion that it be centered around state agencies providing information and answering questions about natural resource or co-management funding opportunities that are or will be available through the state, especially given the losses of federal funding opportunities. Suggestion was to perhaps hold a half-day summit-like meeting in the fall, maybe the second week of September, around the 15th, and avoiding the week of Native American Day at the end of the month.

### ***Committee Recommendations***

TC recommended that the Commission support changes to the *Naming Installations Policy*, with noted implementation caveats, and potentially schedule a half-day annual tribal planning meeting focused on state funding for natural resource or co-management opportunities.

### ***Committee Work Plan***

Topics referred by the Commission to TC are displayed in a work plan for scheduling and tracking. The updated work plan is provided as Exhibit 1, which includes updates to proposed timing of topics. Staff does not recommend any further changes to the work plan.

### ***Next Committee Meeting***

The next committee meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2025 in Sacramento, with public remote participation options via webinar and phone. Standing meeting agenda items include the annual tribal planning meeting, updates on species management plans, committee cross-pollination, staff and other agency updates, Commission rulemakings, and future agenda topics.

In addition to standing agenda items, the TC work plan identifies four discussion topics for the next TC meeting: the Commission *Tribal Consultation Policy*, a co-management roundtable, a potential tribal subsistence definition, and the Commission justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan.

### **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; and approve agenda topics for the August 12, 2025 TC meeting.

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**Committee:** Approve the TC recommendations and agenda topics for the August 12, 2025 TC meeting.

### Exhibits

1. [TC work plan, updated June 10, 2025](#)

### Motion

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission approves the TC recommendations, changes to the work plan, and topics for the August 12, 2025 Tribal Committee meeting, as discussed today.

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

*Updated June 10, 2025*

*Note: Proposed changes to topics/timing are shown in blue underline or ~~strike-out~~ font*

Topic / Goal	Type / Lead	<u>Apr May 2025</u>	Aug 2025	Dec 2025
CFGC justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan	CFGC Project	X	X	<u>X</u>
Commission Tribal Consultation Policy	CFGC Policy	X	X	
Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms	TC Project	X	X	<u>X</u>
Co-management roundtable discussion	TC Project	X	X	<u>X</u>
Santa Barbara Sea Ranch state water bottom lease application for aquaculture purposes	CFGC	<del>X</del>		
San Andreas Shellfish Company state water bottom lease application for aquaculture purposes	CFGC			
Review of all Commission policies: <i>Naming Installations Policy</i>	CFGC Project	X		
Coastal Fishing Communities Policy implementation	MRC Project			
Annual tribal planning meeting	CFGC Project	X	X	<u>X</u>
California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)	CNRA			
California Ocean Protection Council (OPC)	OPC	X	X	<u>X</u>
CDFW – Possible items include:	CDFW			<u>X</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Marine protected area petitions</li> <li>- Species management plans (sheep, deer, elk, antelope, bear, trout, etc.)</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> </ul>		X X	X X	
Cross-pollination with MRC and WRC: Identify tribal concerns and common themes with MRC and WRC	CFGC Committees	X	X	<u>X</u>
Coastal Fishing Communities Project updates	MRC Project			
CFGC regulatory and non-regulatory updates	CFGC staff	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 Marine Resources Committee*

*CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife*

*WRC = CFGC Wildlife Resources Committee*