

Staff Summary for April 15-16, 2026

7A. Tribal Committee (TC)**Today's Item**Information Action

Receive summary and consider approving recommendations from the April 14, 2026 Committee meeting. Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Previous TC meeting April 14, 2026; TC
- **Today, consider approving any TC recommendations** **April 15-16, 2026**
- Next TC meeting August 11, 2026; 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, and provide direction for any referred topics and revisions to TC work plan topics and timing.

Previous Committee Meeting

TC met in Sacramento on April 14, with Zoom and phone options for agency partners and members of the public. Official meeting minutes will be posted on the [Commission's YouTube page](#); a link will also be available on the Commission's meetings page at fgc.ca.gov/meetings.

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. One item—*Commission Tribal Consultation Policy*—was held over for discussion at the August TC meeting. Four topics were discussed by TC:

1. *Co-Management Roundtable*. Discussed tribal co-management initiatives and projects planned or underway in collaboration with public agencies and California tribes. Tribal representatives were invited to share their co-management interests and experiences.
2. *Kelp Restoration and Management*. Received an update from the Department on efforts to develop a kelp restoration and management plan.
3. *Commission Tribal Consultation Policy*. Received and discussed presentations from tribes for the five tribally led and co-led MPA petitions, and considered a TC recommendation regarding Department completion of evaluations and recommendations for the petitions.
4. *Tribal Subsistence Definition*. Received a presentation and discussed an update from the tribal subsistence definition workgroup.

Committee Work Plan

Topics referred by the Commission to TC are displayed within a work plan to assist with scheduling and tracking (Exhibit 1). Any further proposed changes to the work plan will be presented verbally during today's meeting. Given the loss of the Commission's tribal advisor

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and liaison position, staff does not recommend adding any new topics to the work plan at this time.

Committee Recommendations

Recommendations from TC will be presented verbally during today's meeting.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve TC recommendations and any changes to the work plan discussed today.

Committee: Approve the TC recommendations from the April 14, 2026 TC meeting.

Exhibits

1. [TC work plan, updated April 11, 2026](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the Tribal Committee recommendations from the April 11, 2026 Tribal Committee meeting, and approves changes to the work plan as discussed today.

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

Updated April 11, 2026

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

Topic / Goal	Type / Lead	Dec 2025	Apr 2026	<u>Aug</u> 2026
CFGC justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan	CFGC Project	X	X	X
Commission Tribal Consultation Policy	CFGC Policy	X	X	X
Tribal subsistence definition and related management mechanisms	TC Project	X	X	X
Co-management roundtable discussion	TC Project	X	X	X
Tribally led or co-led marine protected area (MPA) petition evaluations	CFGC	X	X	
San Andreas Shellfish Company state water bottom lease application for aquaculture purposes	CFGC			
Coastal Fishing Communities Policy implementation	MRC Project			
Annual tribal planning meeting	CFGC Project	X	X	
California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)	CNRA			
California Ocean Protection Council (OPC)	OPC	X	X	X
CDFW – Possible items include:	CDFW			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine protected area petitions - Species management plans - Drought/wildfire impacts and state response - Climate adaptation, mitigation, science - Statewide kelp and abalone recovery efforts - Proposition 64 (cannabis) implementation 		X	X	X
Cross-pollination with MRC and WRC: Identify tribal concerns and common themes with MRC and WRC	CFGC Committees	X	X	X
Coastal Fishing Communities Project updates	MRC Project			
CFGC regulatory and non-regulatory updates	CFGC staff	X	X	X

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

CFGC = California Fish and Game Commission

MRC = CFGC Marine Resources Committee

WRC = CFGC Wildlife Resources Committee

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife