

Staff Summary for August 12-13, 2026

22C. Administrative Items – Future Meetings and New Business**Today's Item**Information ☐Action ☒

Review logistics and approve draft agenda items for the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting (October 13-16). Consider any changes to previously approved meeting dates or locations, and introduce any new business for inclusion on a future meeting agenda.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Approved adding Tuesday 10/13 and Friday 10/16 to the October 2026 meeting June 17-18, 2026
- **Today, discuss and consider approving draft agenda items and order of days for the October 13-16, 2026 meeting, and holding meetings in Sacramento through June 2027 August 12-13, 2026**

Background

The next regular Commission meeting is scheduled for October 13-16, 2026, with the following meeting on December 15-16. Due to budget limitations, Commission meetings are currently scheduled to be held in Sacramento through the end of this calendar year, with Zoom and phone options offered for the public for all Commission and committee meetings. Budget limitations will continue through this fiscal year.

October 13-16, 2026

The Commission identified its October 2026 meeting as the target for taking action on 15 pending marine protected area (MPA) petitions under review. Because additional time is needed to consider all comments, evaluations and recommendations associated with the MPA petitions, the Commission approved adding two additional days — October 13 and 16 — to the meeting, with two of the four days dedicated to MPA petition deliberations.

As is typical for a Commission meeting, one day of the October meeting is dedicated to marine-related agenda items and another to wildlife- and inland fisheries-related agenda items, with administrative items distributed across the two days. For members of the public and the Commission's marine-focused stakeholders, it will be most efficient to have the marine day adjacent to the MPA days, with the wildlife day on either the first or last day of the meeting.

Potential agenda items for the October meeting are provided in Exhibit 1 for consideration and potential Commission approval. To determine the precise distribution and flow of MPA petition discussions and actions over the two scheduled days, it will be helpful for staff to actively work with a designated commissioner to develop and assess various strategies.

December 15-16, 2026

Earlier this year, the Commission approved moving the December 2026 meeting from Wednesday and Thursday, December 16-17, to Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15-16. In addition, the Tribal Committee meeting was moved to Monday, December 14.

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

Commission staff: To keep marine-related meetings dates together for the October Commission meeting, schedule MPA petition discussions over the final two meeting days (October 15-16) based on commissioner availability, move the marine-related items to the second day (October 14), and move wildlife- and inland fisheries-related items to the first day (October 13). Assign a commissioner to work with staff on the structure and flow of agenda items for the two MPA days.

Exhibits

1. [Potential agenda items for the October 13-16, 2026 Commission meeting](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves (1) the draft agenda items for the October 13-16, 2026 Commission meeting as amended during this meeting (2) the order of wildlife and inland fisheries, marine and MPA days for the October meeting, and (3) holding Commission and committee meetings in Sacramento through the end of the fiscal year (June 2027).

California Fish and Game Commission
Potential Agenda Items for the October 2026 Commission Meeting
July 31, 2026

The next regularly scheduled Commission business meeting is scheduled for October 13-16, 2026 in Sacramento, with Zoom and phone options for public participation. At its June 2026 meeting, the Commission added two additional meeting days to provide sufficient time for discussion and potential action on Bin 2 marine protected area (MPA) petitions, including review of MPA petition evaluation materials received at the August 2026 meeting (Agenda Item 7), which include:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) evaluations and recommendations of the five tribally led or co-led MPA petitions;
- Department and California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) initial assessment of question 14 (equitable access) and question 16 (Commission Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Policy) of the 2025 MPA petition evaluation framework); and
- OPC policy evaluation and recommendations.

This document identifies potential agenda items for the October meeting, including documents expected to be received from staff and the Department. Topics are organized by date consistent with staff recommendations under Agenda Item 22C (this meeting): wildlife and inland fisheries items on day 1, marine-related items on day 2, and MPA petition-related items on days 3 and 4 (pending Commission approval).

Tuesday, October 13: Wildlife- and Inland Fisheries-Related and Administrative Items

1. General public comment for items not on the agenda
2. Commission executive director report and Department reports (director and Law Enforcement Division)
3. Determine whether listing 19 plants as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) may be warranted
4. Determine whether listing Calistoga Popcorn Flower (*Plagiobothrys strictus*) as endangered under the CESA may be warranted
5. Determine whether listing Mount Pinos Sooty Grouse (*Dendragapus fuliginosus howardi*) as threatened or endangered under CESA may be warranted
6. Department presentation: Report on the status of endangered, threatened, and candidate species listed under the CESA
7. Notice hearing: Department lands
8. Discussion hearing: Mammal trapping consistency with statute
9. Discussion hearing: Commercial use and possession of native rattlesnakes for exhibition
10. California Waterfowlers Hall of Fame
11. Receive and consider wild and heritage trout waters designations
12. Wildlife and inland fisheries petitions for regulation change¹
13. Wildlife and inland fisheries non-regulatory requests from previous meetings¹

14. Commission committee report (Wildlife Resources Committee) and Department reports (Wildlife and Fisheries Division, and Ecosystem Conservation Division)

Wednesday, October 14: Marine-Related and Administrative Items

15. Consider adopting a 90-day extension of recreational gear restrictions for white shark emergency regulations
16. Notice hearing: White seabass recreational fishing regulations
17. Discussion and adoption hearing: Process to conform state recreational fishing regulations to federal regulations, including federal groundfish
18. Adoption hearing: Harpoons and flying gaffs for recreational tuna fishery and gear marking in commercial harpoon swordfish fishery
19. Aquaculture leasing: Receive, discuss and potentially act on a request from Tomales Bay Oyster Company to renew State Water Bottom Lease No. M-430-05, issued to conduct aquaculture in Tomales Bay
20. Consider restricted species permit amendment request from Stanford University to possess transgenic tunicates (*Botryllus schlosseri* and *Ciona robusta*), transgenic painted urchins (*Lytechinus pictus*), and transgenic bat stars (*Patiria miniata*) and the Department's recommendation
21. Marine petitions for regulation change¹
22. Marine non-regulatory requests from previous meetings¹ above
23. Commission committee reports (Tribal Committee, Marine Resources Committee) and Department report (Marine Region)
24. Administrative items
 - a. Legislative report
 - b. Rulemaking timetable updates
 - c. Future meetings – approve next meeting agenda and new business
25. General public comment for items not on the agenda
26. Executive (closed) session

Thursday, October 15: MPA Petitions

27. Discuss and potentially act on MPA petitions and evaluations
28. General public comment for items not on the agenda

Friday, October 16: MPA Petitions

29. Discuss and potentially act on MPA petitions and evaluations
30. General public comment for items not on the agenda

¹ Staff is authorized to remove this agenda item if there are no actionable, referred, or new items, in which case any new regulation change petitions or non-regulatory requests delivered at the meeting will be received under the general public comment agenda items on Wednesday or Thursday.