

Staff Summary for August 12-13, 2026

9A. Tribal Committee (TC)**Today's Item****Information** ☐**Action** ☒

Receive summary and consider approving recommendations from the August 11, 2026 committee meeting. Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| • Commission approved TC recommendation to request the Department complete evaluations for the five tribally led and co-led marine protected area (MPA) petitions with amendments proposed at the April 14 TC meeting | April 15-16, 2026 |
| • Commission regional meetings in San Mateo, Goleta and San Clemente, focused on 2023 bin 2 MPA petitions | April 21, May 4-5, and May 19, 2026 |
| • Previous TC meeting with bin 2 MPA petition evaluations, assessments and recommendations received for the five tribally led or co-led petitions | August 11, 2026; TC |
| • Today, consider approving any TC recommendations | August 12-13, 2026 |
| • Commission expected to consider action on 2023 bin 2 MPA petitions, including tribally led or co-led petitions | October 13-16, 2026 |
| • Next TC meeting | December 15, 2026; TC |

Background

TC works under Commission direction to set and carry out its work plan. Today, the Commission will receive a report on the most recent TC meeting and recommendations, and is asked to provide direction on any referred topics or revisions to TC topics and timing.

Previous Committee Meeting

TC met on August 11 in Sacramento, with options for partner agencies and the public to participate in person or via webinar or phone. Meeting minutes (video) will be posted on the [Commission's YouTube channel](#) in approximately ten days; a link will also be available on the Commission's meetings webpage (fgc.ca.gov/Meetings/2026). A detailed agenda with links to exhibits and presentations are available in the [TC meeting materials](#); an abbreviated summary is included in this document.

TC received updates on standing meeting agenda items, including species management plans, staff and other agency actions, committee cross-pollination, Commission rulemakings, and future agenda topics. One item — *Commission Tribal Consultation Policy* — was held over for discussion at the December TC meeting.

Three topics were discussed by TC:

1. *Tribal Subsistence Definition*. Received and discussed an update from the tribal subsistence definition workgroup. The workgroup is actively seeking additional tribal partners to contribute to developing a draft definition to present in December.

Staff Summary for August 12-13, 2026

2. *Five Tribally Led and Co-Led Marine Protected Area Petitions*. Received presentations and discussed the Department evaluations and recommendations; the Department and California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) staff initial assessment of Question 14 (equitable access) and Question 16 (Commission Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy) of the MPA evaluation framework; and the OPC staff policy evaluation and recommendations.
3. *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.

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. Without a tribal advisor and liaison position at the Commission, staff does not recommend adding any new topics to the work plan at this time.

The updated TC work plan was approved by the Commission in June and staff has suggested only minor changes to what was approved.

Committee Recommendations

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

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

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

Exhibits

1. [TC work plan](#), updated August 7, 2026

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the recommendations from the August 11, 2026 Tribal Committee meeting, and approves changes to the work plan as proposed in Exhibit 1 and discussed today.

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

Updated August 7, 2026

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

Topic / Goal	Type / Lead	Apr 2026	Aug 2026	Dec 2026
CFGF justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan	CFGF Project	X	X	X
Commission Tribal Consultation Policy	CFGF 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	CFGF	X	X	
San Andreas Shellfish Company state water bottom lease application for aquaculture purposes	CFGF			
Coastal Fishing Communities Policy implementation	MRC Project			
Annual tribal planning meeting	CFGF Project	X		
California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)	CNRA			
California Ocean Protection Council (OPC)	OPC	X	X	X
CDFW – Possible items include:	CDFW			
- Marine protected areas <u>petitions</u> - 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	CFGF Committees	X	X	X
Coastal Fishing Communities Project updates	MRC Project			<u>X</u>
CFGF regulatory and non-regulatory updates	CFGF staff	X	X	X

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

CFGF = California Fish and Game Commission

MRC = CFGF Marine Resources Committee

WRC = CFGF Wildlife Resources Committee

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife