



2020 Council Coordination Committee Meeting

Council Communications Group Report

September 23-24, 2020

Video Conference

COVID-19 IMPACTS

- Social Distancing Requirements
- Travel Bans
- Work-at-Home Orders



- Cancelled Face-to-Face Meetings
- Closed Offices
- Impacted Fishing Communities

Necessity is the mother of invention

NEW WAYS TO CONDUCT COUNCIL BUSINESS

- Virtual Meetings
- New Training and Outreach Material
- Enhanced Stakeholder Outreach





- **Newsletter converted to digital format**
- **Incoming phone calls transferred to staff cell phones**
- **Website updates on participating in virtual meetings & on using simultaneous interpretation services**



- **Professional videos instead of outreach meetings to inform for-hire fleet of new reporting requirements**
- **Public comments solicited on COVID-19 impacts on fishery and management measures considered to alleviate those impacts**



- **Increased Webinars, including five public hearings and an extra one-day Council meeting for a Mackerel, Squid and Butterfish FMP amendment**
- **Webinar participation guide, designated staff to troubleshoot during meetings, pre-meeting training sessions**
- **Survey Monkey to hold officer elections**



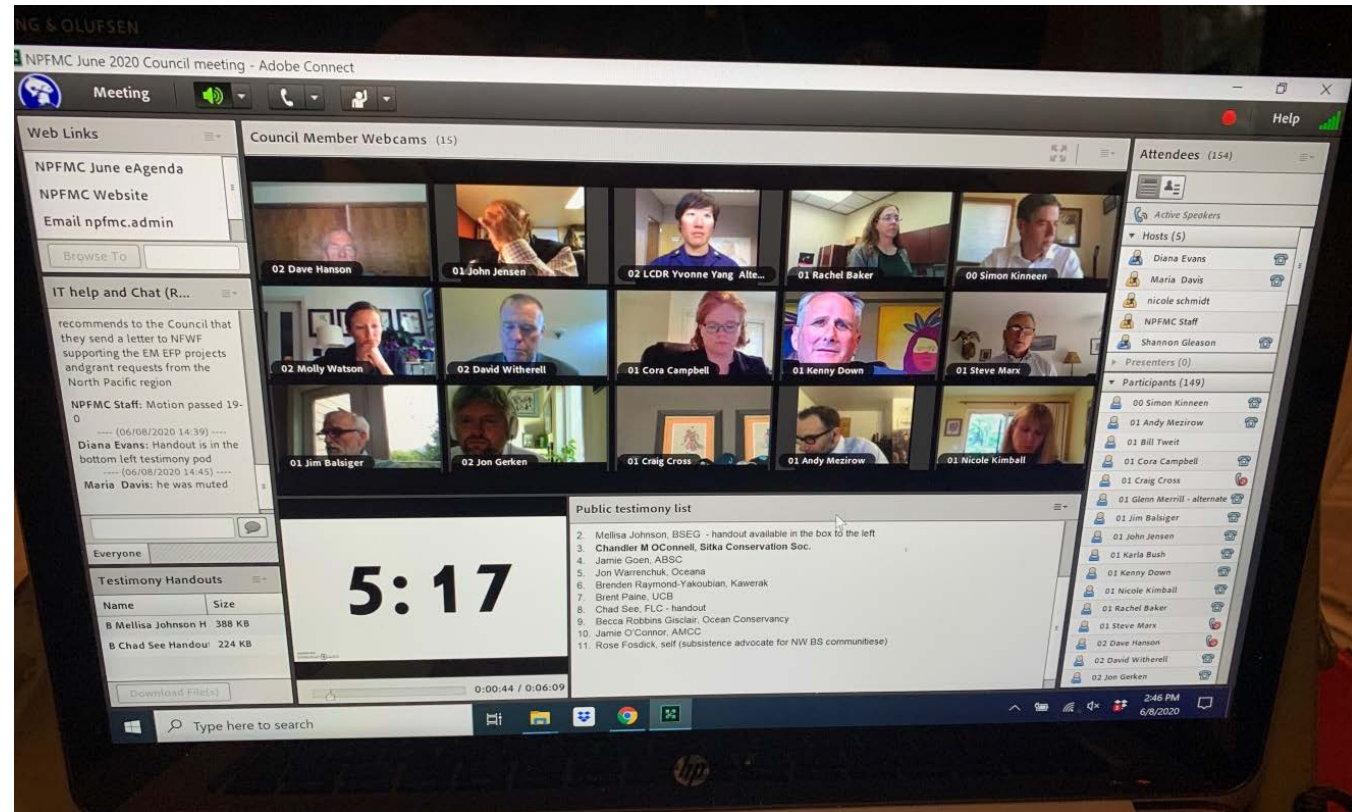
New England Fishery
Management Council



- **Public hearings on important groundfish and scallop amendments by webinar and one in person under a large tent, with great effort, time and expense**
- **Stakeholder training on joining and talking on webinars**
- **Remote Participation Guide and a Help Desk**
- **Additional press releases, Council round ups, targeted emails**



North Pacific
Fishery Management Council



- Multiple practice sessions for Council members and presenters before each meeting
- Participation guides, connection instructions, enhanced eAgenda and future broadcast of meetings via YouTube
- Considering switching virtual meeting program to Zoom or RingCentral as limited bandwidth with platforms that are not video-optimized can result in frozen screens, significant lag times, overall poor performance



- **Workaround developed for NMFS and other participants prohibited from using Zoom or RingCentral**
- **Now broadcasting Council meetings via YouTube for easier public and Federal access**
- **Multiple practice sessions for Council members, advisory body members and presenters before each meeting**
- **YouTube videos on how to participate in virtual meetings**



- **Instructional PPT on GoToWebinar**
- **Council member and staff pre-meeting practice sessions**
- **In-house Process Agenda outlining specific staff responsibilities during a webinar**
- **COVID-19 webpage with information and resources**
- **Spring issue of newsletter dedicated to COVID-19 impacts on data collection, Council operation & individual Advisory Panel members**
- **Delayed Advisory Panel open seat appointments out of respect to hardships to fishing community**



COVID-19 IMPACTS ON REGION'S FISHERIES

Hawaii

COMMERCIAL FISHERY

It is impossible to discern the exact impact of COVID-19 on the Hawaii commercial fishery. The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

RECREATIONAL FISHERY

The recreational fishery in Hawaii has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

CHARTER FISHERY

The charter fishery in Hawaii has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many charter boats have been unable to operate due to the pandemic. This has led to a decline in revenue for many charter operators. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

NON-COMMERCIAL FISHERY

The non-commercial fishery in Hawaii has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON REGION'S FISHERIES

CNMI

As with locations around the world, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) has been grappling with the effects of COVID-19. Since March 8, 2020, when President Trump declared a national emergency, the CNMI government has taken significant actions to contain the virus, including by implementing quarantine and other measures. While most of the industry has been impacted, some sectors have managed to stay afloat. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

ESTIMATED POTENTIAL 2020 REVENUE LOSS FOR LARVAE, COMMERCIAL, RECREATIONAL, AND RECREATIONAL FISHERIES	PEARL AND HERMES	REVENUE	REVENUE	TOTAL
COMMERCIAL	\$10,128	\$1,106	\$10,534	\$10,828
SUBSIDIES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
RECREATIONAL CHARTER	\$6,100	\$10,000	\$16,100	\$16,100
TOTAL	\$16,128	\$11,106	\$16,634	\$16,928

PEARL AND HERMES

The Pearl and Hermes Islands are a small, remote island community in the CNMI. The islands are primarily a recreational fishery. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON REGION'S FISHERIES

Guam

The COVID-19 pandemic in Guam has had a significant impact on the local fishing industry. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

RECREATIONAL FISHERY

The recreational fishery in Guam has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

CHARTER FISHERY

The charter fishery in Guam has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many charter boats have been unable to operate due to the pandemic. This has led to a decline in revenue for many charter operators. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON REGION'S FISHERIES

American Samoa

The American Samoa fishing industry has been severely impacted by COVID-19. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

RECREATIONAL FISHERY

The recreational fishery in American Samoa has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many anglers have been unable to travel to their favorite fishing spots. This has led to a decline in catch and revenue for many anglers. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

CHARTER FISHERY

The charter fishery in American Samoa has also been impacted by COVID-19. Many charter boats have been unable to operate due to the pandemic. This has led to a decline in revenue for many charter operators. The DLNR is currently conducting a survey of the industry. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

- Virtual meeting protocols for Council chair, members and staff
- Single link in Federal Register, newspaper ads, Council website, meeting agenda, social media (Facebook, Twitter) to Advisory Panel meeting
- Virtual Fishers Forum with public scoping
- Virtual international workshop on area-based management for blue water fisheries
- COVID-19 webpage with information and resources
- Spring and summer newsletter dedicated to COVID-19 impacts to regional fisheries

Platforms Used to Hold Meetings during COVID-19

CM=Council meetings

AB=Advisory Bodies (e.g., SSC, advisory panel, plan team)

P=public hearing/scoping

S=staff meetings/communiques

	Caribbean	Gulf	Mid-Atlantic	New England	North Pacific	Pacific	South Atlantic	Western Pacific
Adobe Connect		CM	CM, AB, P		CM, AB			
GoToMeeting	CM, AB			CM, AB				
GoToWebinar		CM, AB		CM, AB, P			CM, AB	
Google Meets	CM, AB							S
Microsoft Team			S				S	
RingCentral					S	CM, AB		
Skype				S				
Webex								CM, AB, P
Zoom	CM, AB		S		S			
In-Person				P				