

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR MARCH 21, 2016

8. PACIFIC HERRING**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Receive DFW update on the 2015-16 Pacific herring commercial fishery and update on planning process to develop a fishery management plan.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)**Background**

Fishery Update: FGC annually adopts commercial herring regulations to establish fishing quotas, pursuant to Section 163, Title 14, California Code of Regulations. Quotas are proposed based on herring spawning population size estimates from DFW surveys. At this meeting, DFW will provide an overview of the 2015-16 herring fishery, and implications for possible regulation changes this fall.

Fishery management plan (FMP): FGC and DFW identified Pacific herring as a priority fishery for developing an FMP as mandated in the Marine Life Management Act. For over two years, a collaborative working group of herring fleet leaders, staff from conservation non-governmental organizations, and DFW staff, has been developing a vision and concepts for an FMP. Today, DFW will provide an update on progress in securing funding necessary to initiate FMP development.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits (N/A)****Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**