

## COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2016

**6B. PACIFIC HERRING FMP****Today's Item****Information** **Direction** 

Receive DFW update on planning process to develop a Pacific herring fishery management plan (FMP).

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| • Receive DFW update on FMP contract         | Mar 21, 2016; MRC, Los Alamitos       |
| • Update on FMP progress                     | Jul 21, 2016; MRC, Petaluma           |
| • <b>Today receive update on FMP process</b> | <b>Nov 15, 2016; MRC Los Alamitos</b> |

**Background**

A critically important forage species in California and the west coast, commercial herring are managed through annual FGC regulations to establish fishing quotas, pursuant to Section 163, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, based on herring spawning population size estimates from DFW surveys.

FGC and DFW have 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, developed a vision and concepts for an FMP, and provided MRC with regular updates.

At the Jul 21, 2016 MRC meeting, DFW introduced the newly-contracted project manager Sarah Valencia, who provided updates on the stock assessment peer review, FMP development, and tribal consultation process relative to Herring FMP completion.

Today, Ms. Valencia will provide additional status updates on the Herring FMP since the Jul 21 MRC meeting.

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